



Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing

POWDER TECHNIQUES AND TIPS

OCT 2011 - KEEPING IT FRESH FOR FALL

Waking up to fresh snow in the mountains is an exciting time in Blue River. Sure, there is some resistance as shadows grow longer, leaves change and the air grows cooler, but it also means winter is right around the corner.

Another change fall brings is the arrival of our new skis at the shop. We are one of the few heli resorts that can honestly say we have new skis coming each and every year. Part of this is Mike's commitment to quality and service but also because of the incredible changes seen in skis each year.

These changes, which I have talked about on several occasions, include design features that truly improve the beginner powder skiers experience and take the advanced and expert powder to incredible levels of performance.

We can look back to the mid 80's and meetings between Mike and Rupert "Killy" Huber of Atomic to the real origins of fat skis. Those meetings fueled by too much beer, just enough schnapps, lots of cursing and some incredibly creative thinking lead to the first Atomic Powder Magic later called the Powder Plus and eventually the Fat Boy. This spawned a generation of fat skis as now every manufacturer produces several variety of fat skis and some produce nothing but powder orientated skis.

It wasn't easy getting those skis made. Many at Atomic wanted nothing to do with this giant (115mm waist) powder only ski. Once people tried them however, and after the Wogelmuth brothers sporting Fat Boys annihilated their competition at the Powder 8's, most skeptics where sold. Powder was now a pleasure and attainable feat for anyone interested in trying.

Some highlights from our ski fleet:

Atomic Century

Last year's star in our fleet, the women's Atomic Century returns for another winter. This is Atomic's first female specific powder ski with a 100mm waist, Power tip rocker and a light lively flex. This ski was a great addition to our fleet and very well received.

Atomic Atlas

With a waist width around 125mm, tip rocker and asymmetrical powder design, this skis rips deep, powder and floats with easy and makes skiing effortless.

Atomic Bent Chetler

Sporting some of the best graphics in the industry (you will catch yourself checking out the top sheet as you ski), the Bent Chetler redefines what a powder ski can do. Flotation, speed, and easy linked turns in any condition comes up the essence of this ski. Everyone loved their powder days on the Bent Chetler last year.

See you in the mountains.

Tim McLean - Senior Lead Guide

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