

## SBSEF 2009-10 Season Highlights

**The 2009-10 was a productive and exciting season for the Snowbird Ski and Snowboard Teams.** Our athletes trained and competed all across the United States, Canada, South America, New Zealand and Europe. The following are highlights from the 2009-10 season.

### **National and International Highlights:**

Following an outstanding season, long time Snowbird skier Brennan Rubie is named to the 2010-11 United States Development Team. In addition, Snowbird Ski Team alumni Jared Goldberg and Rose Caston were also named to the D Team.

Two of our alumni competed in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. Chirine Njeim competed in the alpine events, representing her home country of Lebanon. Faye Guilini, former Snowbird Snowboard Rider of the Year, competed in the snowboardcross, and placed 12<sup>th</sup>.

Brennan Rubie placed top ten overall and was the top junior in Nor Am Super G competitions, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> best junior in the US National DH, beating several USST and 2010 Olympic team members.

Three athletes qualified for J2 Nationals, (Bronson Wright, Jake Benda, Emma Naatz). Bronson took home two silvers and a bronze medal. Emma had several top ten results, including a 6<sup>th</sup> in the combined, and both were key contributors in helping the Western Region win the Regions Cup.

Former Snowbird Ski Team Skier of the Year Angel Collinson retired from racing and joined the World Freeride Tour for the 2009-10 season. In only her first season of competing, she won the overall tour, highlighted by victory in the final competition of the season, which was held in her own backyard at Snowbird.

### **Regional Highlights:**

Snowbird athletes dominated Western Region Elite FIS series earning several podiums. Brennan Rubie was named to the 2010 Western Region Elite Ski Team. Bronson Wright was named to the 2010 Intermountain Junior Team.

**Divisional highlights:**

Snowbird skiers won numerous victories and podiums at Intermountain Division races in every category, including J4-J5 South Series, Intermountain Championships, J3 Olympic qualifiers, the Intermountain Cup series, and the Western Region Junior Championships. 12 athletes qualified for the Western Region Jr Championship Team and 7 athletes qualified for IMD J3 Olympic Team.

**National Age Class Rankings:**

Snowbird skiers are ranked in the top 10 in the nation in their age in 17 different disciplines, including Brennan Rubie who is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in both SL and SG, also 12<sup>th</sup> in the world in SG.

**Freeride Ski Team Highlights:**

In addition to Angel Collinson winning the overall World Freeride Tour, the Snowbird Freeride Ski Team dominated the Junior Freeskiing Tour with Grant Howard placing 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the tour's 12-14 age group. John Collinson, after successfully completing his climb of all seven summits in a year, was still able to win the overall tour's 15-17 age group, and Leo Ahrens was the runner up.

**Measure of success:**

More importantly than the medals, (and much harder to define, but what I consider the true success of our program) is the type of experience our athletes get out of this program. Our goal is that every athlete has a safe, positive, enjoyable, learning experience through participation with our team, regardless of ability level.