

**Snowboarding is a gift that offers true freedom.**



*Snowboarding - Lucas Grossi- representative for the Adaptive Division of USA Snowboard Assoc.  
Photo: Eric Elnhorn*

***“Snowboarding is the greatest thing I have ever done. There is nothing like leaning back, pointing the nose of your board and laying out some big ol’ roosters in two feet of fresh snow. Snowboarding is a gift that offers true freedom. I would like to share this gift with all of you.”***

“When I was 12, I was in a car accident and my left leg was severed below the knee. I was really on the down and out for a couple of months because I couldn’t do anything. Then my brother Jake came home from a skateboarding competition. He saw a kid there that was a bilateral above-knee amputee who sat on a skateboard and pushed with his hands. So I gave it a try.

The winter came and it was time to get on the snow. First I learned how to three-track in the Tahoe Adaptive Ski School, and then I raced for a few years. Three tracking was fun but there was definitely something missing. So I went to my prosthetist and he helped me rig up my fake leg for snowboarding.

We got to the top of the chair and I asked how to do it. My friend Stefan said, “Point it!” I did just that and ended up taking out a tourist about a hundred feet later! (This is why all of you should take a lesson with a professional adaptive snowboard instructor when you decide to try it.)”

“It has been fifteen years since that first run and I can still feel the excitement.”

People with various types of permanent physical disabilities are able to make snowboarding work for them. Below-knee and above-knee amputees ride with a little rigging to their prosthetic and sometimes using outriggers. People with partial paralysis can use restrictive knee braces and outriggers to shred down the hill. Some paraplegics snowboard with a dope ride called a “sit n’ jib”, which is kind of like a mono ski. Blind snowboarders are shredding with and without the help of a guide. Arm amputees are also snowboarding in much the same fashion as able-bodied folks. These methods are tried and true. I am sure that a lot of you have already working them out. It just takes the right attitude and a little trial and error.” Lucas Grassi.

*To find out more about snowboarding, or if you would like to be involved in an adaptive snowboard high performance team, please contact your local Disabled Snowsports Branch or the DSNZ National office. Look up Lucas Grossi’s website [www.original-gimp.com](http://www.original-gimp.com) to find all about his fit into snowboarding or see how the Canadians snowboard - [www.csf.ca/sportdevelopment/asnowboarding.html](http://www.csf.ca/sportdevelopment/asnowboarding.html)*



*Storm Blacklock, Brent Matthews, Adam Hall, Ant Field, Jack Woods, Gillian Hall.*

### 2006 Disabled Snowsports Awards

Presented by Gillian Hall at the  
2006 Festival Awards Dinner 28th July

*Branch Attendance Trophy Otago Branch*

*Army Trophy awarded to the person who has shown enthusiasm, personality and commitment, and improvement, in their skiing or snowboarding.* Jack Woods

*Boyd Orr Trophy for Service Above and Below the Call of Duty* Libby Blackley

*Grant Campbell Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Achievement* Patrick Cooper  
Ed Bickerstaff Peter Baddeley

*Viv Martin Trophy for The Most Outstanding Female Skier* Storm Blacklock

*Elliot Cup - Men’s Champion 2006 National Championships* Ant Field

*The ACE BDR Award National Men’s Snowboard Champion* Brent Matthews

*Hall Trophy for National Service* Jane Stevens

*Disabled Snowsports New Zealand Skier of the Year* Adam Hall



A huge thank you to all volunteers, sponsors, participants and supporters who contributed to the

## 2006 Disabled Snowsports Festival and Cardrona National Championships.

22-28th July

Fun, Festival & Competition.

[www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz)

The Disabled Snowsports Festival and Cardrona National Championships 2006, held at Cardrona Alpine Resort July 22-28<sup>th</sup>, was a fantastic fun week with skiers and boarders with disabilities from around New Zealand, joined by 2006 Paralympians Adam Hall and Ant Field and past NZ Disabled Ski Team Members.



Taking advantage of great conditions at Cardrona, opening night on Saturday was followed by an action packed week of racing, coaching, instruction and fun events, and celebration of 30 years of Disabled Snowsports in New Zealand.

Recreational skiers/boarders and elite skiers all had a wonderful time, with ski/board skills sharpened and some great racing. The festival was also a great opportunity for families to have great week together.

The National Championships, sponsored by Cardrona, included Slalom, Giant Slalom and Super-G events for elite and social racers, a gravity-X team race and a Friday Festival Fun race.

Après ski in the evenings included relaxing at the Oakridge Spa Resort, a movie evening and bar-b-que, culminating in The Festival Awards Dinner on Friday night.

The achievements and successes of the week, and year, and 30 years of Disabled Snowsports in New Zealand, were all celebrated at the Awards Dinner in style. Participants, family, friends, volunteers, instructors, past members and DSNZ staff and board members were seen dancing into the night to the great band, Lucky Legs Experience.

Full race results, sponsors and photos from the Festival are available on the DSNZ website [www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz)

Come and join us in 2007 for The Disabled Snowsports Festival and National Championships.

### Lost Property from DSNZ Festival

Brown with Black Strip Size 14 Track'N Trail  
Black sunglasses frame-up  
Blue Brooks drink holder with waist band  
*If they are yours please let us know - phone or e-mail.*

### Sponsors of the Festival

Race Sponsor - Cardrona Alpine Resort  
Volunteer supporter - Central Lakes Trust  
Instruction Sponsors - The Callis Trust  
Bendigo Valley Sports & Charity Foundation  
Drinks Sponsor - Coca Cola  
Helmet Sponsor - Leedom  
Eyewear Sponsor - Dirty Dog  
Sunscreen - Be sunsmart in the snow  
Prize Sponsors - see our website.

*Please support our sponsors as they support us.*

### Festival Photos

see [www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz) for more photos



## The Grant Campbell Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Achievement

This was awarded to three athletes who have shown outstanding achievement over the 30 years of DSNZ. All three are past members of the NZ Disabled Ski Team.

Peter Baddeley competed at the World Winter Games for the Disabled, 1980 - Norway.

## Varian Dickson - Rotorua



My name is Varian, from Rotorua. I have been skiing for three years, since I was seven, and was taught by Roy at Whakapapa. I have one leg, but this doesn't stop me. Rather than using two skis and poles, I use outriggers.

I like skiing because it is fun and I can go fast. I ski at Whakapapa, on Happy Valley.

Asked what he would like to do in the future with Snowsports, Varian's answer was simple, ***"I would like to enter a competition and win."***

## The B.O. Less Serious Trophy - for dedication and above and below the call of duty.

Awarded in 2006 to a member of the DSNZ staff. Out on a photo shoot, for some pictures for a "gone skiing series", a prosthetic leg was propped up on a post (with the owner's permission).

A huge gust of wind picked up the leg and it flew through the air, to land softly in the snow over the Whitestar cliff. A ski instructor was called for to ski off the cliff, retrieve the leg, ski with it down to the bottom of the chairlift, a chair ride up and return. A big adventure. Unharmful, but packed with snow, a very gutted staff member spent the next half hour drying the leg under the hand dryer, before 'fessing up to its owner !!! Sorry Storm.

Ed Bickerstaff (LW6/8) competed at major events in 1984 - Austria, 1986 - Sweden, 1988 - Austria, 1990 - USA, and at the 1992 Paralympics - France, 1994 - Norway.

Paralympian Patrick Cooper (LW4), won 4 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze medals at major events from 1986 - 1996, competing in the Super G, Giant Slalom and Slalom, and was coach to the NZ Disabled Ski Team, 1998 - 2002.



Patrick Cooper, Ed Bickerstaff, Peter Baddeley.

## Adaptive Co-ordinators



### Joe Hurrell DSC @ Mt Hutt

Joe can be seen up at Mt Hutt or driving the Disabled Snowsports Canterbury van up to Mt Hutt three days every week this season.

Fresh from Andorra, Joe has joined DSC as their Adaptive Instructor for 2006, straight away rising to the challenge and fitting in with the crew as coach, instructor, driver and equipment fixer.

Joe has many years experience as an instructor.

As for two legged races - Storm and Joe came a close second in the DSNZ Festival Fun Race.

### Bob Williams, Whakapapa - DSNZ Board

DSNZ welcomes Bob as a new member of the Board. Bob is a skier and snowboard instructor based at Whakapapa, involved with the adaptive programme on the field for the past three seasons.

Off the field, Bob works with evaluating and improving both government and voluntary sector programmes, mainly in the health arena. He has been the treasurer of the NZ Public Health Association for 5 years. DSNZ looks forward to Bob's input into our organisation.



### Jim Gilligan @ Whakapapa

Jim's been skiing since 16, and not long after became a ski instructor. One of his first jobs was in the Birmingham on a dry ski slope. "If you can ski on them you can ski on anything, if you fall over on them you learn not to fall over again."

Jim became involved in adaptive instruction after seeing a member of the "Uphill Ski Club" flying down the very short dry slope hill, in a sit ski.

From there he has worked in Europe, NZ and for Back Up NZ in summer. Jim loves the challenge of adaptive instruction.

Asked for a highlight of his work, Jim umm'ed and ahh'ed. "I can't think of just one as I have so many, that's why I keep doing this, as you don't know who will come through the door next." From the feedback we have had at the DSNZ office, Jim's doing an awesome job at Whakapapa.

Be sure to catch up with Jim if you are up at Mt Ruapehu.

e-mail:: [adaptive@mtruapehu.com](mailto:adaptive@mtruapehu.com)

## Notices

### Equipment Purchases - do you want any gear?

DSNZ will be putting in an equipment order this summer from North America. If you wish to order equipment for yourself (outriggers, mono-skis etc), and take advantage of any bulk discounts and shipping, please let us know. E-mail or write, with specific details (size, type etc) of what you require.

For more details on equipment see our website for links.

[www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz/adptiveEquipmentSuppliers.htm](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz/adptiveEquipmentSuppliers.htm)

### Attitude T.V.

Featuring Disabled Snowsports and starring four of our members, these programmes were filmed at the DSNZ Festival and National Championships.

Don't forget to watch on:

Attitude TV - TV One Sunday 9.30am  
Scheduled to air on  
1 October 2006 and 8 October 2006

### Outward Bound



Outward Bound run a number of excellent courses for people with disabilities.

Horizons for 16 years and older who have an intellectual disability. (8-15 Sept 06)

No Limits for 17-27 year olds with and without a disability. (18-25 Nov 06)

Starlight for 18 years and older who have a physical disability (13-20 Feb 06)

BIA for 18 years and older who have acquired a brain injury (4-11 Mar 07).  
For more details phone 0800 OUTWARD or [www.outwardbound.co.nz](http://www.outwardbound.co.nz)

### 50% off Marmot Clothing



Disabled Snowsports NZ Members are offered 50% off RRP for Marmot clothing for the remainder of 2006.

Product can be viewed online at [allsportsgear.co.nz](http://allsportsgear.co.nz) or [www.marmot.com](http://www.marmot.com)

If you would like to buy, please order via Libby @ DSNZ with your membership number :: fax 03 443 4084 or e-mail [libby@disabledsnowsports.org.nz](mailto:libby@disabledsnowsports.org.nz)

### DSNZ Development Squad

Hi there snow lovers. Ever fancied getting into ski racing, felt like improving your snowsports skills and learning to maximise your speed on the slopes, or even had dreams of one day becoming a Paralympian and representing New Zealand at the Winter Paralympics, if so then read on because this is for you!!

### Race training camp :: Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th September at Cardrona.

The camp is designed to develop individual's snow sports skills with specific reference to racing techniques, which could put you on the course to becoming an elite athlete, and defiantly enhance your skills and confidence for high speed skiing.

The three days are open to all DSNZ members with a physical disability that can ski or snowboard independently down a groomed blue run or greater. Check out the DSNZ website

[www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz) for info on the costs, camp schedule and an application form, or e-mail:: Jamie McCulloch - DSNZ Development Team Coach [jamie@disabledsnowsports.org.nz](mailto:jamie@disabledsnowsports.org.nz)  
Application forms need to be in by 19th September.

### 2006-2007 Canadian Adaptive Snowboarding Competitions Canadian Event (February 4-5 2007)

Adaptive Snowboarding pilot event in conjunction with the PGS NorAm Cup in Alberta

### International Event (March 15-18 2007)

Adaptive Snowboarding pilot event in conjunction with the FIS World Cup Finals in Stoneham, Québec

### For more information contact Canadian Snowboard Federation

Email: [sportdev@csf.ca](mailto:sportdev@csf.ca) or DSNZ National Office.

### South Africa Enabled

United Travel Wanaka and Kumuka Worldwide are delighted to offer the opportunity to "experience" South Africa with the thrill and adventure of an Overland Trip in Kruger National Park!

8 DAYS Year round departures \$2,295 adult \$1,610 Child (<12 years)

For more information please contact Nicki at: United Travel Wanaka 99 Ardmore Street, Wanaka Phone 03 443 7414

[nicki@unitedtravel.co.nz](mailto:nicki@unitedtravel.co.nz)



PO Box 395  
Lake Wanaka  
New Zealand

Ph: +64 3 443 4085

Fax: +64 3 443 4084

[info@disabledsnowsports.org.nz](mailto:info@disabledsnowsports.org.nz)

[www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz](http://www.disabledsnowsports.org.nz)

### Come Riding, Get Going...

Education  
Recreation  
Rehabilitation  
Competition

### National Office

Claire Lawson (CEO DSNZ)

Frankie Dean (Admin & Finance)

Libby Blackley (Admin & Promotions)

### DSNZ Board

Gillian Hall :: Janine Elliot

Heather Clay :: Jane Stevens

Ashley Light :: Bob Williams

Gayle Hall

Patron :: Sir Roy McKenzie

### Branch Support

Auckland :: Bay of Plenty

Canterbury :: Manawatu

Otago :: Wairarapa

Wellington

### On Mountain

Adaptive Programmes

Cardrona :: Mt Dobson

Mt Hutt :: The Remarkables

Snow Farm :: Whakapapa

### DSNZ Funders 2006

Sky City Community Trust - Queenstown

Sargood Bequest

Canterbury Foundation

SSNZ PNZ

SPARC NZSSC

Microsoft

Central Lakes Trust

Otago Masonic Charitable Trust

Callis Charitable Trust

Bendigo Valley Foundation

Southern Victorian Charitable Trust

Community Trust of Southland

Unison Trust

Community Colleges

## Snowsports for All

Celebrating 30 Years of Disabled Snowsports in New Zealand

