



President's Letter

29th October 2020

Dear Member

2020/21 Opening Revised due to Covid

“Cresta Riders, this is the moment you’ve waited for....”

I am delighted to let Members know that your Committee have approved a plan to **open this winter Season on Tuesday 29th December**, in time to ride in the Marques de Portago Challenge from Stream and then carry on into the New Year. Depending upon circumstances **we aim to close on Sunday 28th February**. Regrettably, with the certain absence of The Royal Navy and The Army, we are unlikely to open Top.

The Committee decision has been reached after a considerable amount of logistical thought, not to mention financial modelling, to mitigate what will be a substantial loss. We know St Moritz and Celerina will be generous with their assistance and I am extremely grateful for the overwhelming offers of support from Members. Unfortunately, even though Switzerland removed their quarantine rules on entry yesterday, such is the uncertain variety of practical travel and operational restrictions, we forecast only running at 25% capacity. We know from the Members' survey that two-thirds of the respondents are desperate to ride this Season; hopefully, circumstances will improve before Christmas, even though Switzerland is now suffering a severe second spike, and France and Germany have enforced a second lockdown until the end of November.

More happily, skiing has already opened on Diavolezza; Corviglia and Corvatsch will open on 28th November. That said, many of the usual St Moritz winter Season highlights - White Turf, Polo on Ice - have already been cancelled, making us more determined than ever to support our friends in the Engadine and once again to showcase the oldest natural iced run in the world. It will be an unusual Season for sure, but please can I encourage Members able to travel to St Moritz to bring lots of their friends. It could be the perfect Season to be a Beginner on the Cresta Run, most likely segregated from interruption by Members' riding.

Our plan is based upon what we know today about the Covid situation and rules currently in place. These, in the canton of Grison, were updated this morning: <https://www.engadin.ch/en/covid-19/>. For example, masks are now compulsory in many outdoor environments (not chair lifts), and indoors when not seated in a bar or restaurant; closed groups of 50 sporting participants will be allowed in addition to the organisers; training groups are limited to 15; the Cresta Clubhouse bar area will be seating only, in tables of four unless a family group. We will do our best to update Members as soon as any significant changes occur, and before the Season opens the Secretary will set out the extensive measures, rules and regulations we will be implementing to protect all riders and their families from Covid.

Sadly, we cannot be together two weeks' time for our traditional November Cocktail Party. The Committee meeting will still be Zooming ahead when, amongst other things, we will discuss the survey to which 640 Members contributed so enthusiastically and positively.

Trusting this decision is as welcome as will be Annual Report 100, soon to land on your

doorstep, let's all raise a glass on November 11th to *"The Cresta Run, the greatest show, we light it up, we won't slow down"*!

Yours ever



P.S. Final chance for any Member wanting to purchase last Season's wonderful photographic album - please email melissa@crestarunphotos.co.uk.



The 2020/21 Season Badge - celebrating Charles Knapp

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