

HOW CAN I GET IN SKI-SHAPE?

By Kelly Cunningham, MD, Sports Medicine specialist and Founder. Austin OrthoBiologics

Dr. Cunningham spent 15 years as a traveling doctor for the men's Olympic downhill team, accompanying the athletes throughout the US, Canada and Europe on the World Cup tour. He was able to pick up tips from some of the world's finest altitude athletes and their trainers.

Ski conditioning begins about 6 weeks prior to travel, and involves three phases:

Muscle training Stamina Agility

Muscle training for the skier or boarder utilizes stretching, closed & open-chain strengthening exercises, and emphasizing the core muscle groups of the spine, hips, quadriceps & hamstrings. For most recreational athletes, low-weight/high-repetition sets will be best. Another option may be a personal trainer or workout club pro to help you design a program to strengthen your core without overstressing your joints. Join pain is a common skier injury so muscle training will aid in prevention.

Stamina is crucial for a recreational athlete, especially at altitude. (That's another discussion for later!) Cardio conditioning can be as simple as running, jumping on a bike or elliptical, preferably using "interval" periods to increase your heart rate. Sports like tennis, swimming, and basketball have built-in interval training as part of the sport.

Speaking of sports, these are great for honing the athletic agility that helps prevent ski injury, especially at the end of a long, fatiguing ski or snowboarding day. These are "ski-adaptive" sports. "Ski-specific" training involves side-to-side training tools that focus on the specific ski muscles and coordination. Slide boards, closed-chain waist belt regimens, in or out of ski boots, are popular.

The goal is to decrease fatigue-related injury but also to increase your enjoyment, help you relax, and enjoy the sport!

If you have a history of joint pain or arthritis (DJD), consider your options before you head to the slopes—perhaps 3 to 4 weeks before your trip, you might want to explore PRP or stem cell injectable treatments in Austin as a autologous, potentially regenerative medicine alternative to steroids to ensure that you get the most out of your trip.

Austin, Texas, resident Kelly Cunningham, MD is board certified by the American College of Orthopedic Surgeons, and an active member of the Arthroscopy Association of North America and the International Cartilage Repair Society

HEART GALLERY OF CENTRAL TEXAS



It's a new year and time for new beginnings! The children featured in the Heart Gallery of Central Texas are waiting for their own new

beginning - a forever family! Meet 12 year old Jonathan! Jonathan loves sports, especially football. He enjoyed his summer football camp and was even named Most Valuable Player by his team! Jonathan does well with his schoolwork and enjoys making friends at school.

Learn more about Jonathan as well as foster care and adoption here in Central Texas by visiting our website: heartgallerytexas.

Photo taken by Volunteer Heart Gallery Photographer Laura Acton

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SPECIAL NEEDS FORUM PRESENTS

How Much Savings Do I Need to Help Provide for my Child's Lifetime?

The Special Needs Forum continues its free workshop series designed to educate families who have a loved one with special needs.

The next Special Needs Forum live event of the 2017-2018 school year will be held on Thursday January 11, 2018 and on the topic; How Much Savings Do I Need to Help Provide for my Child's Lifetime? Many people with

a child with special needs are concerned and want to know how much savings is needed to ensure their child is cared for a lifetime. Learn from professional financial advisors about how much savings and social security your child will require.

Location: 6200 Bridgepoint Parkway

Building IV, 2nd floor

(take right off the elevator and main room will

be immediately on the left)

Austin, TX 78730

Date: Thursday January 11, 2018

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Fees: Complimentary

The Special Needs Forum is an educational resource for families who have a loved one with special needs. During the workshops you will socialize with other families, get to know businesses who specialize in helping the special needs community and learn valuable information.

This year's lineup includes a Panel of special education experts, admissions directors from various residential communities and a specialist from the Social Security Administration.

Parents and guardians of children with special needs as well as those who teach and work in the special needs care industry are invited to attend. Each Special Needs Forum workshop includes an informative presentation by a keynote speaker and a question and answer segment.

To register and to view upcoming sessions, visit specialneeds forum. org.



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