



61st World Airlines Ski Championship - Big White, BC, Canada Qantas Snow Team Trip Report

Between 1 and 6 March 2020, 19 members of the Qantas Ski Club attended the 61st World Airlines Ski Championship at Big White, British Columbia as the Qantas Snow Team. The event was attended by around 35 airlines and 350 aircrew from all over the world and featured competitions in Alpine (Slalom and Giant Slalom); Snowboard Cross; and Nordic (Sprint, Distance and Relay). There were also organised social events including a theme party and Gala night as well as a fun race, all of which our team attended with spirit.

The event as a whole was a huge success. Races were well organised and run to a professional standard. Whilst we did not have any racers make placings, the opportunity to represent Qantas in all disciplines (minus Nordic) was relished by all who competed. The introduction of Snowboard Cross to the racing was enthusiastically taken on by 3 of our snowboarders who all performed well. The theme parties were also well attended with positive feedback for the venue; Big White Hillbilly theme as well as the food and beverage.

Snow conditions as well as weather were fantastic and the mountain itself provided a variety of terrain and features for all levels. The feedback from the team was overwhelmingly positive and a return to Big White encouraged.

Accommodation exceeded members' expectations and considered well priced. The outdoor jacuzzi was a highlight and the living areas spacious and comfortable.

Myself and Rob Schellartz (DHL Team Captain, former Etihad Team Captain and my Alternate Director/right hand man on the IASF Board) hosted a 'World Airlines Team Dinner' at our apartment on one of the first nights which offered Qantas Snow Team members the opportunity to connect with other airline teams from our region including but not limited to Etihad, Emirates, Japan Airlines, ANA, Fiji Airways, Virgin Australia and Air New Zealand. The team enjoyed free

pizza and beers and robust conversations on skiing and aviation. Later in the evening more teams from other regions joined us and we partied until late that night. Everyone was respectful and the apartment was left in good condition. I would like to thank my teammates for their invaluable assistance in making this evening a success.

The following evening our team had our own private team dinner at 'The Woods' - one of the finer restaurants in the village. We enjoyed local Okanagan wines and a hearty dinner then proceeded as a team to watch the Nordic Sprint event - always a highlight at the WASC. I would like to thank the club for its contribution of \$500AUD to our dinner. I chose to put this towards the alcohol for the table for which I subsequently received feedback was not the normal way to do so and that it may have been better spent on subsidising the team's meals. Notwithstanding this the dinner was well enjoyed by all and a nice way for us all to connect given the hectic and sometimes disjointed schedule at WASC.

I am pleased to report that there were no serious injuries during WASC. One member had a fall during the snowboard cross race but after being tended to by a member of the Ski Patrol regained his spirits and continued the week without further issue.

An additional \$705.53 was contributed as a result of additional funds from 19th member and extra pax in private room. This was all put towards groceries and alcohol purchased on first day of trip.

Financials:

Accommodation:

3 x 3 bedroom apartments with mix of shared and private rooms.

Total \$9283.19 CAD (approx \$10,490 AUD or \$550 - \$660pp depending on room type)

Transport:

Kelowna Airport to Big White Private Shuttle and return on shared shuttle.

\$86.85 AUD pp

Contribution from Ski Club:

\$500 AUD + \$705.53 AUD = \$1,205.53 AUD (thank you again!)

Many thanks to Greg Haig and Amanda Peatey for putting together the video of our team's attendance at WASC! Follow the link to watch it! <https://youtu.be/fux5KBUtKPc>

I would like to once more thank the entire team for their contributions in making this a fantastic event and for their team spirit and dedication to not only the Qantas Ski Club but to our aviation community as a whole. Let's keep our aim high and make our domestic ski week as well as the next WASC in Tromsø as successful as this one.

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