

Whiteshell Cross Country Ski Club Trail Descriptions

Disclaimer

The Whiteshell Cross Country Ski Club does not accept any responsibility for the use of the ski or other trails. The trail map and these notes are provided for information only. Skiers use the trails at their own risk.

Trail Name	Distance (km)	Difficulty	Hills
Golf Course Trail	7.0	Easy	Mostly easy, some moderate
Lighted Trail	1.2	Moderate to Difficult	Challenging
Red Trail	5.0	Moderate	Moderate; some steep
Derek Martin Loop	0.7	Moderate	One steep hill
Red Extension	2.0	Moderate	One steep hill
Blue Trail	4.2	Moderate to Difficult	Moderate to challenging
English River Trail	6.4	Moderate to Difficult	Several steep hills
Jones-Graham-Gauthier Freeway	3.6	Difficult	Some very steep challenging hills
Orange Trail	9.5	Difficult	Challenging

Trail Heads

There are two main trail heads. One is located at the *end of Highway 211* and the other at the *Manitoba Hydro transformer substation*, located on the north side of Hwy 211 between the first (Aberdeen) and second (Vanier) entrances to Pinawa.

Golf Course Trail

Our most popular trail consists of a 5-km loop north of Hwy 211, and a 2-km loop south of the highway on the Pinawa Golf Course. This bi-directional trail is our easiest, but offers little protection on cold windy days. It is also crossed by the Lighted Trail and has connections to the Red Trail. The north loop can be accessed from the parking area at the end of Hwy 211 or from the transformer substation on Hwy 211.

Lighted Trail

This short lighted trail starts near the transformer substation and crosses the Golf Course Trail. It is about 1.2-km long and makes optimum use of the hills on the Pinawa Golf Course. It is connected to the Golf Course and Red Trails.

Red Trail

The Red Trail is our oldest and one of our more popular trails consisting of a system of 4 overlapping or connected loops. The main trail consists of a 5-km loop; a 2.5-km cut-off for those desiring a shorter ski; and an optional 2-km extension to provide a combined 7-km ski. *The 5-km loop is double-tracked for both classic and skate skiing.* This is a very scenic trail passing through both conifer and deciduous forest thus offering good protection from wind. The optional Derek Martin Loop offers a challenging hill and corner for expert skiers and crosses over a beaver dam. A warm-up cabin is located near the return junction of the 2-km extension. The main trail head is at the end of Hwy 211.

Blue Trail

This is the favorite of many Club members and more difficult than the Red Trail. It has more hills, and is more scenic, passing through forest and marsh areas, and over rock outcrops and beaver dams. The trail head is at the end of Hwy 211.

English River Trail

This scenic and interesting trail is only accessible from the Blue Trail (see above). Passing through typical spruce and pine forest over rock ridges, it offers periodic views of the Winnipeg River; which is often ice-free all winter. A warm-up cabin is located where the trail reaches English River, close to the junction with the Jones-Graham Freeway. If you have the time and skills, this is the trail to try!

Orange Trail

The Orange Trail is a long, winding and difficult trail that passes through mixed forest, over rock ridges and through a black spruce swamp. A challenging trail, it has some of the biggest and toughest hills although all, alas, are short. Our oldest warm-up hut (a dodecahedral dome) is located a little more than halfway around, just after the junction with the Jones-Graham Freeway. This trail starts at and returns to the Red Trail and is just over 9.5 km long. Its total distance from the Hwy 211 trail head is approximately 10 km.

Jones-Graham-Gauthier Freeway

This trail links the Orange and English River trails. It is an interesting trail, cutting through both forest and large marshy areas. This is one of our only two bi-directional trails. It also has some very difficult hills, arguably our most difficult.