

Snow allows Great Ski Race to return

One of the Sierra's enduring traditions, the Great Ski Race, returns March 6 after being canceled due to lack of snow the last two years.

It is billed as the West's largest cross country event.

The 30-kilometer race began in 1977 with 60 racers. Today more than 1,000 skiers of all abilities participate.

Racers depart in waves from the Tahoe Cross Country Ski Area in Tahoe City, traverse rolling hills, spacious meadows, and groomed trails before heading slightly downhill to the finish at Hilltop in Truckee.

The Great Ski Race is the primary fundraiser for the Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team, a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization.

Registration fees are \$60 through Feb. 20, \$70 from Feb. 21-March 5, and \$110 on race day. For more information, or to register for the race, go **online**.