



TEAM MONARCH

Meet the Coaches



Kyle Blakely

Head Coach

Kyle Blakely brings over 20 years of Freeride skiing experience and six years of coaching expertise. A former Lake Eldora Race Team competitor, he transitioned to Freeride competitions during his time at CU Boulder. Now at Monarch Mountain, Kyle holds an IFSA L200 certification and is pursuing his L300, prioritizing safety and skill development.



Meghan Robertson

Ski Coach

Meghan, originally from Ohio, competed in multiple sports before joining the USA Women's Raft Racing Team, participating in national and world events. She started her ski coaching career at Telluride before moving to Salida, where she teaches special education and coaches at Monarch. Certified in IFSA L100, Meghan has coached Monarch for three seasons.



Annie Cordova

Ski Coach

Annie grew up skiing with the devo team at Buck Hill in Minnesota, excelling in high school and USSA racing before competing with the Winter Park Competition Center and qualifying for the Junior Olympics. A DU graduate and certified IFSA L100 and USSA L100 coach, she now coaches Team Monarch and supports local youth programs.



Jen Hodgekiss

Ski Coach

Jenn first skied at 12 in Pennsylvania before attending college in Utah and settling in Salida, CO to ski Monarch Mountain. Starting as a ski instructor in 2011, she earned PSIA certifications and joined Monarch's Freeride Team in 2020. A classroom teacher in Buena Vista, Jenn also races kayaks, SUPs, rafts, bikes, and runs.



Dani Dougherty

Snowboard Coach

Dani started snowboarding at Big Boulder and Jack Frost in Pennsylvania, later teaching while earning degrees in exercise physiology and psychology. After moving to Colorado in 2015, she coached Team Summit's 100 and 200 level snowboard programs. Certified in IFSA L100, USSA/USASA 200, AASI Level 2, and Freestyle 1.



Scott McCreery

Ski Coach

Scott, from Cody, Wyoming, began skiing at 3, skiing Jackson Hole and Big Sky. After attending Montana State, he skied at Bridger Bowl and worked as an outdoor educator with Outward Bound. Now an Upper Elementary teacher at Salida Montessori, Scott coaches Team Monarch and is certified IFSA, CPR/First Aid, and SafeSport.



Gabbi Krichling

Snowboard Coach

Gabbi began riding in the Poconos before traveling to Park City, Sun Valley, Stevens Pass, and Tahoe. After working at Breckenridge and Copper Mountain, she settled in Salida to ride at Monarch and raft the Arkansas River. Now a Team Monarch coach, Gabbi's certified IFSA L100 and holds safety certifications. L100 coach and holds multiple safety certifications.



Hank Evans

Ski Coach

Hank started snowboarding at Winter Green Resort in Virginia, then moved to Summit County to teach skiing at Breckenridge. He's skied Arapahoe Basin, Keystone, Copper, and Loveland. A Radford University graduate, Hank enjoys travel, rafting, biking, fishing, surfing, and hiking. Certified IFSA L100, Safesport, First Aid, and CPR.



Sophie Jensen

Ski Coach

Sophie, daughter of an avalanche forecaster, began skiing before she could walk. She competed in Freeride with the AltaBird team before shifting to alpine racing in Jackson Hole. A former national champion rower, she now coaches freeride at Monarch. Certified IFSA L100, CPR, First-Aid, and WFR, Sophie also works with AmeriCorps.



Chris Ledger

Ski Coach

Chris started skiing at 8 at Snow Bowl near Missoula, MT. He improved his skills at Big Sky, skiing the Big Couloir and A-Z Chutes. Chris also worked and lived at Taos Ski Valley, competing in Schlitentaug and Pond Skim events. Certified IFSA L100, Safesport, CPR, First-Aid, and a former EMT and search and rescue volunteer.