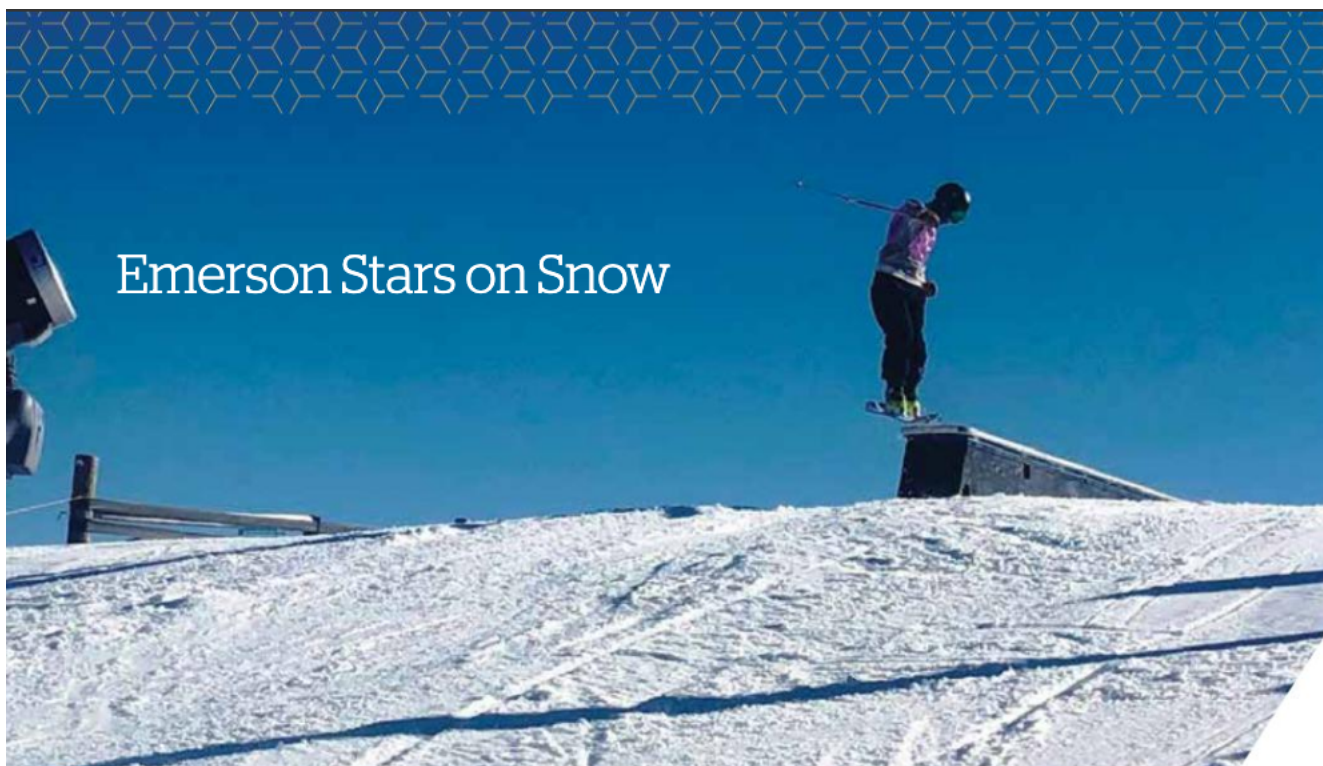


# Emerson Stars on Snow



*Emerson Facer (Year 10) on his silver-medal run in the Division 2 Boys' Slopestyle Ski.*

**By Nicole Roache, Snowsports Coordinator**

Geelong College Snowsports had a wonderful season in 2019. Momentum and numbers have been building, but with 60 students from Early Learning to Year 12 on the slopes and fifth place overall in the Coeducational School category at both the Victorian and Australian Championships, this year was one for the ages.

But the most exciting news came when Year 10 student Emerson Facer was selected as a member of the shadow squad for the Winter Youth Olympic Games in Switzerland, in February 2020. He has to wait until December to find out if he will make the final team and is waiting and hoping for that email to arrive.

"It would be an honour to wear the green and gold. It's taken a lot of work. Being at school all week and then training hard all weekend. I feel like this is a reward for all the cold, early starts. I've been through two rounds and officially have an Olympic profile, but I just have to wait and see," Emerson said.

"I'm off to Austria to train at the High Performance Academy in Leogang for nine weeks. The academy has a reputation for producing great skiers. If I make the team, I will go to Switzerland for the two weeks of the Youth Olympics. Worst case, I keep training and getting better in Austria."

Alongside his personal training and racing, Emerson is an integral part of The Geelong College Snowsports Team. With teammates Andy Deans, Jasper Atkinson, Alex White and Rory Kearns, he won medals in every event in their division at the Victorian Championships except Ski X, which they saved for the nationals.

"It's a bit difficult juggling both school and racing obligations. Sometimes races clash, that happened this year, but I chose the College team first. Usually I just race as an individual so to be part of a team is great," Emerson said.

"One of the best things is that we are from all different year levels, but all get along. Skiing and boarding does that. I enjoy sharing my experiences with the little kids and watching them improve. I also know that lots of people are interested and invested in my success at the school.

"My first goal after the Olympics is to be part of an elite Aussie crew known as the 'Carving Kooks' who do the NORAM and Europa Cup circuits. If that goes well, then World Cup. To make a career out of skiing would be a dream."

Good luck Emerson!



*Emerson Facer (Year 10), Andy Deans (Year 10) and Alex White (Year 9) won the Division 2 Boys' Snowboard Teams event at the Victorian Interschool Championships.*