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DEMPSEY CHALLENGE AND POSITIVE TRACKS ANNOUNCE OLYMPIAN DOUG LEWIS AS 2015 DEMPSEY CHALLENGE SPECIAL GUEST

LEWISTON, ME – The Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing has announced a new addition to the 2015 Dempsey Challenge Weekend (Oct. 17 & 18), special guest and Positive Tracks spokesperson and curriculum consultant, Olympic skier Doug Lewis. Positive Tracks is a national, youth-centric nonprofit that helps young people get active and give back using the power of sport. The Positive Tracks program plugs into charitable athletic events to empower youth of all athletic abilities to learn how and why to make a difference via their own sweat. Positive Tracks, partner to the Dempsey Challenge for five years, also doubles dollars and amplifies awareness generated by ages 23 and under.

Doug Lewis began bombing down Vermont’s mountains at age three and ski racing at age eight. He enrolled at the Green Mountain Valley School Ski Academy in 1978, and won his first title at the Junior Olympics in 1980. The following year, at age 17, he jumped to the international level and competed in his first World Cup at Aspen.


During the winter season, Doug is a broadcast Analyst for NBC Universal Sports. In the summer, Doug, along with his wife Kelley, runs ELITEAM Conditioning Camps in Vermont. In its 22nd year, ELITEAM focuses on educating young athletes on the importance of Sports Physiology, Sports Psychology, and Sports Nutrition. ELITEAM also offers Corporate and Group Team-Building, Leadership, and Risk-Taking programs.

Doug began working with Positive Tracks this past year and has been thrilled with the partnership as their mission to help young people get active and give back dovetails so well with his own work with ELITEAM. “I’ve always been a proponent of giving back as an athlete and when I learned about Positive Tracks, the partnership felt like such a natural fit. Inspiring and educating young athletes to push their limits is so much fun. I love it when I can see an athlete build confidence in front of me when he/she accomplishes something they thought they’d never do,” he said. “I am looking forward to the Dempsey Challenge and have planned a fun, quick obstacle course in the park to show kids of all ages how fun getting active can be.”

Doug will also be preparing a special surprise with Dempsey Center founder Patrick Dempsey on Saturday morning. He added, “All I can say is that you do not want to miss the Challenge this year, because Patrick and I have a surprise that will really get you moving.”
Positive Tracks is a national, youth-centric nonprofit that helps Generation Next get active and give back using the power of sport. The Positive Tracks program plugs into charitable athletic events to double dollars and amplify awareness generated by ages 23 and under. Best news is: Every dollar raised by youth and matched by Positive Tracks goes to our charity partners to benefit the global populations and places they serve. The end result sees youth of all demographics mobilized to move and empowered to give back: starting with themselves, starting in their own backyards. For more information please visit http://www.positivetracks.org/.

The Dempsey Challenge presented by Amgen is a fundraising experience for The Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing in Lewiston, Maine. Comprised of various cycling distances (10, 25, 50, 70 and 100 miles), a new-this-year Two Day Ride, a 5K (3.1 mile) and 10K (6.2 mile) run/walk, participants 18 and over are required to raise $150 (and encouraged to raise even more!) as they prepare for the event. The 2015 Dempsey Challenge is Saturday, October 17 (5 and 10k run/walk), and Sunday, October 18 (cycling), in Lewiston, Maine. Sign up today at www.dempseychallenge.org