



New BSC Logo/New Design

From the President

Mike Campbell

Greetings from the President's office. After a year as your President, and spending time in the corridors of power, I've come to understand what a great club we have. Did you know that our club has been around for over 30 years and maintains 40 km of classic, 11 km of skate, and 9 km of shoe show trails spread out over three great trail networks?



We can keep our membership costs low because of the great dedication of our volunteers. Over 200 members of our club have indicated a willingness to volunteer their time and expertise in every aspect of running the club. Our volunteers take care of everything from the maintenance of trail grooming equipment, trail building, hosting races, to running Jackrabbit Programs. Our club house, maintenance garage and other structures on our trail systems were all built with 100 percent volunteer labour.

Our Club has a very active youth program modelled under the National Jackrabbit Organization. Each year our program has over 80, 5-14 year old children. To run this program requires 20 trained coaches and 10 additional volunteers.

Youth skiing is also promoted through the four high schools and six elementary schools that use the club facilities for their programs. The Sawmill trail is also home to Georgian Bay Nordic our local competitive youth ski racing team.

It's been an eye opening experience to see the inner workings of a great organization. Lets keep it going for another 30 years!

Now back to business! Your executive have been busy over the past few months. One of our initiatives is to do a bit of a re-branding of the club. This involves coming up with a new club logo, renaming the Sawmill Trail to the Sawmill Nordic Centre, and new logos and signage at all three trails systems.

The goal of renaming the Sawmill Trail to the Sawmill Nordic Centre, is to recognize the fact that this facility has three trail systems (Skate, Classic and Snowshoe) and a warm-up hut. It was felt that many people unfamiliar with the trail, drive past not realizing what facilities exist on the site. With re-branding we are hoping that we can attract more day visitors and new members. A similar situation exists with the Rankin and Colpoy's Trails systems, these are great trail networks that have really poor signage. Unless you know specifically where these facilities are, you could drive right past them. The existing signage also does not mention that these facilities are operated by the Bruce Ski Club. It's going to take a few years to complete the re-branding exercise. In the end, we hope to generate more people usage of our trails.

Another area that we are really excited about, is that the our club is hosting the Ontario Masters Ski Championship from January 29-31, 2016. I would like to encourage all club members over the age of 35 to participate in this great weekend. I have participated in three Masters Championship in the past. I indicated that I "participated" and not "raced" because I can hardly be called a ski racer. I do it because it is a fun event and it gives me a training goal. It would be great if we had lots of club members "participating" in this fun event.

All the trails and grooming equipment are in great shape and ready for the start of the season. I would like to thank the record number of volunteers that came out for the trail clean up days. And a special thanks to our Trail Captains (Martin Kerr at Colpoys, Richard Bonert at

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 2 - Jackrabbit Program Start

Jan. 7 - WHSS Invitational

Jan. 24 - Awesome Adult Afternoon Ski Lesson

Jan. 29 - 30 - Ont. Masters

Feb. 14 - Suntrail Special

Feb. 17 - CWOSSA


Feb. 20 - Moonlight Ski

Apr. 14 - AGM

Rankin and Fred Scheel at Sawmill). And thanks in advance to our dedicated team of groomers.

I would like to thank Suntrail Source for Adventure for again, hosting our club run ski exchange. This is a great event that enables people to get into the sport of skiing in an affordable way, it is also a fund-raiser for the club.


Please keep in mind that much of the land our ski trails are situated on are privately owned, and we are guests of the land owners. Without the generosity of these owners we would not have the great trail systems we enjoy today. Please stay on the trails and leave no trace except ski tracks.

Club Membership tags are being mailed out with this newsletter, I would like to remind club members to wear their membership tags when on the trails. _____ 

Registration

Phil Johnston

Zone4 registrations have been a bit of a learning curve for all of us. Thank-you to everyone who tried the online system and thank-you to the veteran executive members who are helping me to understand the needs of the club with regards to membership. So far we have sold 82 family memberships and 181 individual memberships, with 66 people registered in our Jackrabbit program. We have a grand total of 577 individual members to date.

One small issue that we have had to work around is Jackrabbit registrations that were not included on the initial membership form. We also have to improve the online interface with regard to donations. As always feel free to contact me if there is a problem with the system or if you have an idea for an improvement to our interface. Best wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season. _____ 

Ed.

Tom Hakala

So you noticed... at least I hope you noticed the club has new logo(s) and newsletter design. The new logos and



Bruce Ski Club


branding are the result of a request from el presidente, Mike. He felt that it was time for the club to break out of its past and reach out to more people. I was given the task of building a new image for the club.

I decided that the main corporate logo needed to be more then one thing. I looked at Coke for inspiration. Depending on the situation Coke may use the full name Coca-Cola while in other circumstances just plain Coke works. So our main logo is simply BSC, but there are times when the full Bruce Ski Club is more identifiable. Our letterhead will carry the BSC while outdoor signs will tell a more complete story with Bruce Ski Club.



The three trail systems will be identified by their own logos as well as the corporate logo. This will give each trail system a stronger identity. As signs, maps or other printed matter needs to be replaced the new logos will be used. So in other words the transition should not cost the club anything, but it will take awhile to fulfill.

While I was at it I decided to tweak the newsletter design as well. I was starting to regret my use of the type fonts in the previous design... The words started to look like little worms crawling all over the page (yuck!). So I switched to a sans serif font that is easier to read, but still has style and softness. On the other hand I wanted the headings to be bold and stand out. Only time will tell if this design will work. Let me know your thoughts. I hope this re-vamp is more successful than that mess they made of the local paper.

Lastly, we are working on a new and improved website. We should give Shawn Radcliffe credit for building a new BSC site that will be more user-friendly and easier for other contributors to have input and make changes. The website is still in the working stages so it may take a while before it is ready for the world to see. We'll keep you posted. _____ 

Race Coordinator's Report

Ruth Scheel

Dates are set for our races. We are hosting two high school events - January 7th and February 17th as well as the Ontario Masters Championships- January 29th, 30th and 31st and the Suntrail Special on February 14th.

Thank you to all the members who indicated that they are willing to help with the races. I will be contacting you in the month of December to confirm the dates that you are available .

If you would like to help and have not been contacted in December please feel free to contact me at fscheel@bmts.com ; we can use lots of help with these events. -



Sawmill Nordic Centre

Fred Scheel

Hey all, hope for snow soon. The trail is ready for another season. Since the beginning of October we have:

1. Bush-hogged the trail.
2. Serviced all the equipment.
3. Repaired hydraulic issues on the PistenBully.
4. Replaced a repaired windshield wiper motor on the PB.
5. Had our trail work party. Thanks to the 60+ volunteers who helped out.
6. Fred Schlencker and DJ Perrin have serviced the Lit Loop.
7. Trevor Stokes and the staff of Suntrail prepared snow-shoe trail.
8. All fallen logs as of today have been cleared from the trail.
9. Deanne Atherton, Dave White and Dawn Hollyer have put up all trail signs for the 2015-16 season.

All we need now is some snow that will be around for the next 3 months. All the best for the season. Later, Fred. -



Rankin Ski Trail

Richard Bonert

First a big Thank You to all the volunteers who helped with the new trail, the trail improvements at the lower Beattie Lake loop and the Fall trail clearing.

Skiing at the Rankin Trails gets even better this season.

The new Sky Lake loop in the south east has a length of 3.3 km. It removes the long 2.2 km entrance track from the Red Bay Road in the south. Just 1 km from the Red Bay Road and you reach that loop. You can ski that loop also from the Red Bay Lodge, it connects to the Fun Hill loop. Due to these changes, new trail maps have been posted throughout the system.

On weekends this winter, you can again have breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Rankin Trails at the newly renovated Restaurant and Bar "Tilted Antlerz" at the Red Bay Lodge. The new Restaurant and Bar is open Thursday and Friday 4:30 pm to 9 pm and Saturday and Sunday all day 8:30 am to 9 pm, see the ad in this newsletter.

As the Lodge is not open seven days a week, there will still be a port a-potty at the skier parking lot like last seasons. Parking for skiing will be the same as in the past, please do not use the parking for the Restaurant when you are skiing. Snow clearing for parking: The main access to the Rankin Trails at Red Bay Lodge will be plowed regularly by the BSC. This includes the parking lot for skiers at Red Bay Lodge and the access road to it.



Restaurant winter hours


Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday closed
Thursday, Friday 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday, Sunday 8:30 am – 9:00 pm

462 Huron Road
South Bruce Peninsula
1 (519) 900-6009
www.redbaylodge.com
info@redbaylodge.com

The new owner of the Red Bay Lodge, supports the BSC and the way we run the Rankin Ski Trail using the Red Bay Lodge property as the main access point. A big thank you to him and his manager.

Grooming? We groom typically twice a week, Grooming will be done early Friday or Saturday mornings for the weekend and in the beginning of the week Mondays or Tuesdays. We groom extra after really big snowfalls. If you want to know the state of grooming before you come out to the Rankin Ski Trail, check our website www.bruceskiclub.ca. Going to the website you see immediately the Rankin Trail report. The report is updated immediately after grooming by our groomer Peter, look at the date and time of the report and you get an immediate picture about the state of grooming at Rankin, before you set out for a drive to Red Bay.

I am Looking forward to even better skiing at the Rankin Ski Trail, and do not forget to check out the new facilities of the Red Bay Lodge.

Hope to see you on the trails, Richard. _____ 



Colpoys Ski Trail

Martin Kerr

A sunny and mild November Sunday saw eleven keen members turn out to help get the trails in order for the upcoming season, one couple drove from Mildmay! Thanks to you all.


Winter looks to be arriving a bit later this year and as this is written the last days of November show ground that is still soft and brown.

If you're new to skiing or to the area, here is what you might expect to happen at the trail in the next few weeks.

As the snow begins to accumulate expect there to be skiing at the Sawmill trail almost immediately, as the sandy base allows skiing and grooming with just a few inches of snow. Colpoys is a different beast and if you've never walked the trails when they are bare you may not realize how rocky it is on certain parts of the trail. In other words we need lots of snow before we can begin grooming without breaking equipment. I'd say at least 18 inches is required and closer to 24" to groom Ron's trail. The Rankin Trail also requires more snow than Sawmill but sometimes gets going before Colpoys.

Most people enter the trail system by heading east through the field to the gates and continue on to the Beaver pond loop or up Bert's boulevard. If the wind is really blowing an alternate entry can be made by going north and taking the short crossing of the fields and onto the trail system that way.

This year we will endeavour to keep the trails trackset as much as possible (and it's not always possible!), when the weather and conditions allow. Usually grooming begins by 8 a.m. and is complete by 10:30. The track in the exposed parts of the field will sometime blow in quickly but in the woods tracks are longer lasting. We try to keep the conditions posted on the website up to date so please check before you head out for updated trail conditions.

Happy and safe skiing, Martin. _____ 

Jackrabbits

Keith Day & Aimee Vereecke

Thanks to all who have registered for Jackrabbits this season, we are already 66 skiers big. We continue to accept registrations; spaces are limited so register now! Just a reminder that JR registrations will close on Dec. 18; any registrations at that point will be organized via email (jack-

rabbits@bruceskiclub.ca). At this point, JR fees are \$60.00 plus the BSC membership.


Please mark your paper or digital calendars. JR season starts on January 2nd. No lessons on Jan.30 due to the Ontario Masters race at Sawmill. Our JR race day is SUNDAY February 14th.

We would like to thank our JR instructors. Jackrabbits would not be a success without our dedicated volunteers. We are always looking for a variety of skills to help run a great season. If you feel you would like to contribute on the snow please let us know, we are always building our team of instructors. If you prefer to work behind the scenes, we could use your help. Our costs remain very low, we can continue to provide quality instruction and a great program only with your volunteer support. Coordinators will be in touch soon to confirm your volunteer commitment. Thanks ahead of time for your support.

Do you have a high school student who needs to complete their secondary school volunteer hours? We have a great placement for them! We have roles both on snow and off. Contact the JR email for details.

Lessons start at 10:00am. Please have your skiers ready to go 5 min. prior to the start of the lesson.

Skiers are presently being placed in instructional groups, parents will be contacted during the week prior to the first lesson with details regarding routines and coaches.

For further information or if you have specific questions contact us at: jackrabbits@bruceskiclub.ca
See you out on the trails! _____ 

Georgian Bay Nordic

Timothy Smith

GBN has been busily preparing for the race season. Head coach Bryan Dubeau and assistant, Dave White, have been putting the O-Cup and Focus Owen Sound Teams through an extensive dryland routine since September. Several team members have travelled to Forêt Montmorancy in Quebec for some early on-snow sessions. Marilyn Suke has been coaching the Development team, and they managed to get one on-snow session after a recent snowfall. Everyone is excited to get racing. The first event of the season will be on December 19th at Highlands Nordic in Duntroon, for the Yuletide Blast.

GBN will host two wonderful events this





winter at the Sawmill trails. The first, on Sunday January 24th, is the Awesome-Adult-Afternoon Ski Lesson. This is a terrific opportunity to improve your skiing skills and be coached by some of the premier skiers in our club. There will be snacks, prizes and excellent instruction. See poster for more details.

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Phone 1-888-364-1963
Fax 1-888-364-1958
Web www.midwcom.com

On Saturday February 20th we will host our loveliest event of the year: the Moonlight Ski. Join us for a catered evening of food, fun, friends and magical skiing through the moonlit woods. See poster for more details.

Thanks to those who took part in our first ever online auction. The auction closed on December 1st and helped raise over \$1200 for our aspiring racers.

Keep up on what is happening with GBN races, results and events at our website: skigbn.ca 



Remember last winter when
the Pisten Bully broke down
and was stuck at crossroads
and you couldn't get through...

DONATE NOW TO THE NEW SAWMILL GROOMER FUND!

Check the Sawmill Groomer box when you register online or send a cheque to BSC, Box 2, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5P1

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GBN PRESENTS
AWESOME ADULT AFTERNOON
SKI LESSON
Formerly 'Men and Women on Skis'
Sunday, January 24, 2016
1:00 to 4:00 pm
Snacks, Drinks & Door Prizes
Early Bird Rate
Before Jan. 16 - \$35 After \$50
(\$5 discount for BSC members)
Equipment included, if needed
Free Babysitting available
(Book in advance) 519-534-3222
Hosted by
SUNTRAIL
SOURCE FOR
adventure
Event is a fundraiser for Georgian Bay Nordic Ski Team.

The Bruce Ski Club would like to thank

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for printing of this newsletter.