

BRUCE SKI CLUB



Box 2, Owen Sound, N4K 5P1

www.bruceskiclub.ca

SKITRACKER

From the President


Andrew Howlett

Hello again and welcome to another interesting ski season. We have a new trail. Bruce Ski Club and The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula are working together to open a ski trail at Lindsay Tract. Jack Van Dorp leads this project. Jack will provide some details later in this newsletter. We have a new event, "How Far Can You Ski?", on Sunday 26 January. The idea is to ski as far as you can (or as far as you want!) in one day. It is a social event, not a race. You can ski, stop for a while, eat some cookies, talk to friends, ski some more, take a lunch break, then ski again. The event starts at 8am and ends at 4pm, and we will maintain an Honour Roll of skiers who achieve 100km. We have a new race, our first High School Invitational. Of course, all our traditional events and trails will continue so our club members have lots of opportunities for outdoor adventure this season.

The membership fees remain the same this year and early bird cutoff is 12 November 2013. Last year there was a problem with our mailing, so this year we will mail our registration forms two weeks earlier. You may also register at Suntrail Source for Adventure and Bikeface which conveys the added benefit that you can check out the latest equipment during your visit to the store. Jack-

rabbit fees have increased to cover the increased cost of Cross Country Canada registration and equipment. Our new Jackrabbit leaders delivered a great program last year and we look forward to many exciting Saturday mornings. Day pass rates remain \$5/individual, \$10/family and \$2/skier/day for groups. In my opinion, Bruce Ski Club operates the most affordable, accessible and best maintained trails in Ontario. We accomplish this because of the strength of our volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helps out, regardless of how small or large your contribution, you make this club happen.

A special thank you to our many Sponsors and Friends who continue to make this club affordable for everyone. Thank you to our Patron Suntrail Source for Adventure. In addition to supporting the club as a Patron, Suntrail sponsors many of our events, including the Ski Swap, Men & Women on Skis and Suntrail Special.

Lastly, I remind you that Bruce Ski Club does not own any of the trails on which we ski. We owe a great deal to the landowners who generously allow us to ski on their property. Dogs are not allowed on Rankin, Sawmill or Colpoys trails. Pack out your snacks and trash. If you find trash on the trail, pack that out too. If you meet any of the fourteen landowners, please thank them personally for sharing their big backyard. 

COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Saturday 9 November | Ski Swap |
| Saturday 9 November | Sawmill Trail Maintenance Day |
| Sunday 10 November | Colpoys Trail Maintenance Day |
| Tuesday 12 November | Early Bird Registration Deadline |
| Saturday 16 November | Rankin Trail Maintenance Day |
| Wednesday 1 January | Enduro |
| Saturday 4 January | First Jackrabbits Lesson |
| Sunday 12 January | Men & Women on Skis |
| Tuesday 14 January | High School Invitational |
| Saturday 18 January | Moonlight Ski |
| Sunday 19 January | Colpoys Loppet |
| Sunday 26 January | How Far Can You Ski? |
| Thursday 6 February | BAA |
| Saturday 8 February | Jackrabbits Carnival |
| Sunday 9 February | Suntrail Special |
| Sunday 23 February | Geocaching at Rankin |
| Saturday 1 March | Last Jackrabbits Lesson |
| Thursday 17 April | Annual General Meeting |


Ed.

Tom Hakala

As the new editor of the newsletter, I am still feeling my way around this job so I hope you forgive any type gremlins that may creep in. One of my goals is to promote the club to new and former members. This should not be difficult as I think this club offers more than any cross country ski club anywhere. How many clubs can boast four venues in such a beautiful setting as the Bruce?

This year the Bruce Ski Club is opening up the early bird registration even earlier than in the past. We hope that this will give everyone time to pay the lower rate and not be disappointed.

Also, at some point I would like to see this newsletter

go electronic. As it turns out there are a few hurdles to overcome before we can do this. In the end it will save the club money in printing and mailing costs, save trees as well as *not* having the newsletter lost in some dark corner of the post office. I would like to know how you feel about an e-newsletter. Please send me an email on your thoughts on this to: hakalathomas@gmail.com. _____ 




Insurance Changes and the Capital Reserve Fund

Hector Lazzarotto

At the end of last season, a valuation of assets for insurance purposes showed that we were over insured on equipment and underinsured on buildings. With the rebalancing, the overall cost of insurance remains about the same.

However, the substantial increase in building values suggests that it is desirable to raise the target for our Capital Reserve Fund to allow for the eventual smooth replacement of the buildings.

Last year, with total membership was down somewhat, we were not able to meet our targeted amount designated for the Capital Reserve Fund. However, with ongoing support via membership from all former/new members, we trust we can achieve our target this season.

Thank you all for your past and ongoing support. _____ 


Registration

Barbara Gray

Hello Skiers, Welcome back to the ski season. The BSC registration form is fairly straight forward with only a few minor changes this year. EARLY BIRD date as posted. The second most important item is to please PRINT CLEARLY.

It makes my job so much easier, especially if I need to contact you. Adult members **MUST** sign the waiver. All Jackrabbit parents, please remember you need to submit both forms, with full payment in order to have your children registered.

Registration will be available at Suntrail Outfitters during the Annual Ski Swap and Sawmill Trail cleanup on Sat. Nov.9/13.

Registration forms are available throughout the season: on-line, at Suntrail Outfitters in Hepworth and at Bike-face in Owen Sound. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: 519-376-6928. Hope to see you on the trails... sooner rather than later. _____ 


Race Report for 2013/14

Ruth Scheel

This year's ski season will soon be here. We are planning some race events this year; but not as busy as last year. We are hosting our first High School Invitational Race on January 14th with the alternate date being January 15th. The Suntrail Special this year will be held on February 9th with the alternate date being February 22.

We will also host the High School BAA meet at the Hepworth Trail on February 6th with the alternate date being February 19th.


Last year we had a wonderful group of volunteers who helped to successfully run a very busy race schedule. I would like to take this opportunity to invite them back to help again this year.

I would also like to encourage anyone else who is interested to join us. There are always jobs for everyone - you do not need to be an avid skier to help run a race. While filling out your membership applications take a look at the volunteer options at the bottom of the page and be sure to check off any area that you are interested in. "It takes a club of volunteers to ensure that the Bruce Ski Club has another great season." _____ 

Colpoys Trail

Martin Kerr

Please consider coming out to the trail-head at Colpoys on Sunday, November 10 at 9:00 a.m. for a two or three hour working hike of the ski trail.

Long handled clippers and gloves are the best tools to bring along for the morning's work. I hope to see many there. _____ 

Sawmill Trail

Fred Scheel

The Sawmill trail has had a wonderful off-season and is ready for snow. Our equipment and buildings are in very good shape, new trail signs are ready to put up.

Soon Reg will bush-hog the trail to remove all the summer growth. Our trail work-party is scheduled for Saturday November 9th at 10 am (The Suntrail ski swap will be that morning at around 8 am). Please put the work-party date on your calendar, we need lots of help that morning to get things ready for skiing.


Enjoy the rest of your fall, later. _____ 

Come Ski at the Lindsay!

Jack Van Dorp

Bruce Ski Club is pleased to partner with Bruce County, the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula, and the Peninsula Adventure Sports Association to launch trail facilities at the Lindsay Tract! 4-5 km of trails will be open in the first year including a dedicated skijoring (ski with your dog!) loop.

The Lindsay Tract is an 8,000 acre forest that is owned and managed by the County of Bruce. The trailhead is just 10 minutes north of Lions Head on the west side of Highway 6. Stay tuned and check <http://bruceskiclub.ca/lindsay-tract> for more information about volunteer trail clearing days and opening.

This means that your membership/day use fee now gives you access to four great Bruce Ski Club trail systems. 

Rankin Trail at Red Bay

Richard Bonert

I hope every one had a great summer - with this good summer weather! Lets hope for a great cross country skiing winter at the Rankin Trail at Red Bay.

The trails are generally in good shape, but little improvements can help increase the skiing experience. Last year we did some small reroutes to take out some sharp corners and a wet spot. This year we are planning to go after some notorious "wet spots", these are areas which are slow in freezing over or thawing early and therefore restrict skiing, if the winter is as unsteady as we had it in the past years.

We will have some small work parties in the coming weeks, for which I will email the Rankin volunteers. We are planning a general Trail Work Party for Saturday, 16th November

9:30 to 12:30, we will meet at the Red Bay Lodge.


The main trail access with parking will be the Red Bay Lodge (skier parking) again. The access to the parking lot will be ploughed regularly.

Grooming is typically before and after the weekend and after heavy snow falls, look up our trail report on the Bruce Ski Club website before heading out for a longer drive to the Rankin Trail. We update the trail reports immediately after each grooming, look at the date of the posting and you know the state of the trails and when we groomed the last time.

Maps are posted throughout the system, but if you would like to have one in your pocket go to the Club website, click 'Trails' then click 'Map'.

Fun Again this Year

We plan the 4th "Geo-Caching at the Rankin Trail at Red Bay" - it was a lot of fun last season! Look for details in the 2nd news letter and on the Club's website, but you can already mark your calendar for: Sunday the 23rd of February at 13:30. Start location will be at the Red Bay Lodge skier parking lot.

I'm looking forward to a great winter and seeing you on the Rankin Trail at Red Bay. _____ 

Jackrabbits


Aimee Vereecke

Jackrabbits is a program for skiers as young as 4 and as old as 15. Our goal is to provide ski instruction in a fun setting that focuses on skill development in both classic and skate techniques. We follow Cross Country Canada's program, which is based on 5 Levels. The goals of this program are:

- Encourage FUN and participation,
- Develop agility, balance, coordination and speed,
- Frequent cross-country skiing during the season,
- Good technique habits developed through repeated practice
- Well-structured programs
- Develop a team/social atmosphere
- Encourage social, skill and fitness orientated ski activities

Our program is run entirely by volunteers. All of our parents contribute to make our program a positive experience for our club's youngest skiers. If you are interested in becoming a leader, helping with events or want to contribute in a new way, please let us know (jackrabbits@bruceskiclub.ca).

The Jackrabbit program is a great way to learn to ski (for both kids and parents) and a great way to make new friends. Join us for the fun! Our season starts on January 4th, 2014. The number of skiers we can program for is directly related to the number of leaders we can recruit, register early. All Jackrabbit participants are required to be a member of the BSC. Not sure what level your child should be in? Wondering about equipment? Contact us for further information at jackrabbits@bruceskiclub.ca

Stay tuned to the website for information and the new registration form for the 2014 season. _____ 

Georgian Bay Nordic

Joanna Bottrell

Do you have a son or daughter age 10 or older that has experience in both skate and classic skiing? Or, that has graduated from the Jackrabbit Program? If your son or daughter would be interested in joining a competitive Nordic Ski racing team, then the Georgian Bay Nordic Ski Team is for them. Children who are interested should come for a dry land training day at Sawmill Trails in Hepworth, Tuesdays from 4:15 to 6:00 to check out the team and meet the coaches. Just give me a call and let me know you are coming. GBN will be hosting it's annual registration/potluck event at the Sawmill Trail's Hut this year on October the 20th at 4pm. The skiers will participate in a fun game on the trails, followed by a potluck dinner and small presentation about the team. Please come out and join us if your skier is interested in racing. If you happen to miss registration, come to the late registration date of December the 3rd at the hut at 4pm. Alternatively, contact Timothy Smith at 519-534-3222.


It looks like an exciting season coming up; GBN has been training through the summer and are ramping it up this fall, starting with the Training Camp at Highlands, Duntroun on November the 28th-30th.

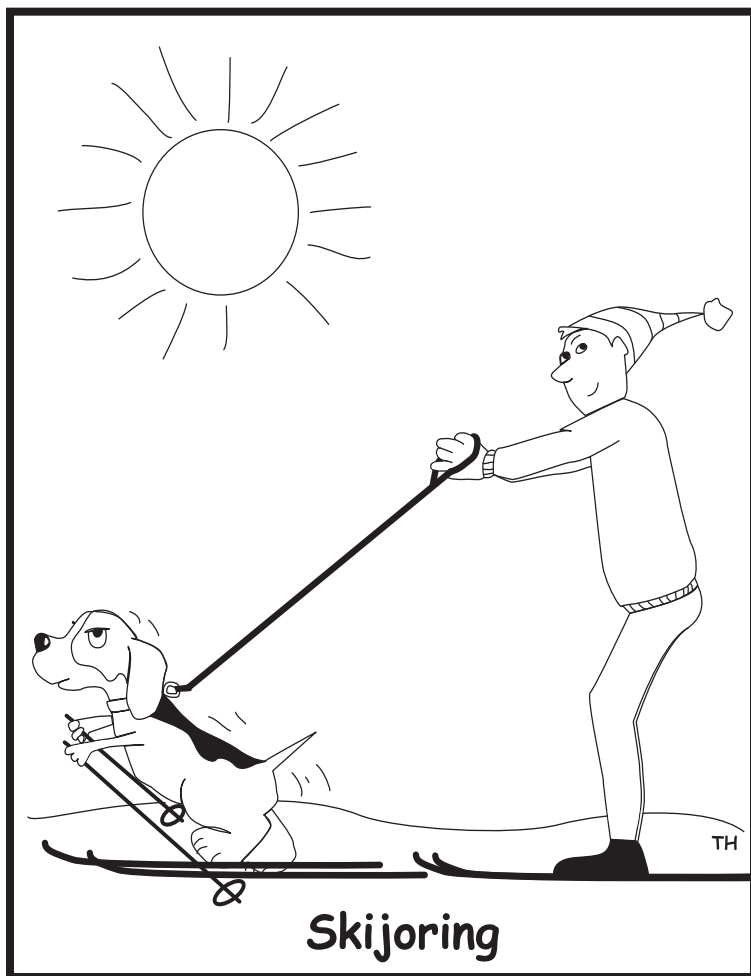
GBN will be organizing three fund-raising events this winter: the ever popular Enduro race which sees past members re-grouping, and new skiers alike, forming relay teams and having a friendly competition. This year the date will be the afternoon of January the 1st. Watch for updates closer to the time. We will also be holding the new and improved Moonlight Ski, complete with catered food and hot drinks on January the 18th. The Colpoys Loppet promises to please this year on a day yet to be determined.

We are proud to announce that two members of our team, David Askwith and Julian Smith, have been named

to the prestigious Ontario Racing team by placing top three in their age categories in the province. Julian Smith and Logan Hong will attend 'Frozen Thunder On Snow Training' in Canmore Alberta in October; an opportunity to have some early on snow training with other Nordic athletes. David and Julian will be training and competing in NorAm races in November, at SilverStar, B.C.; Julian and David are going to World Junior Trials, January in Canmore, Alberta, and, the racing team will be going to Corner Brook Newfoundland for Nationals in March.

Did you know we also have an award winning coach?! Marilyn was nominated for and won the award for Cross Country Ontario's 2013 Heinz Niederhauser Coaching Award. She was also honoured by the Coaching Association of Ontario with the Good-to-Great Coach Award (Female) at the 2013 Ontario Coaching Excellence Awards in Toronto. Check out <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0fxoJHLogA> to see Marilyn in action!

Don't forget about our "Love Your Skis" event! Bring your skis along to the Suntrail Ski Swap and Bruce Ski Club registration day on Saturday November 9th to have them waxed by GBN skiers and glide smoothly into a new season! _____ 



Thank you to the following



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Join us under the light of the moon for a...

MOONLIGHT SKI or SNOWSHOE

JANUARY 18, 2014

6:00 PM - 11:00 PM (COME AND GO)

SAWMILL SKI TRAILS, HEPWORTH

APPETIZERS AND DESSERTS LOVINGLY PREPARED BY
MARKETSIDe IN OWEN SOUND.

TICKETS:

\$20.00 EACH FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRUCE SKI CLUB
NON MEMBERS OF THE BRUCE SKI CLUB WILL HAVE TO OBTAIN A TRAIL
PASS. (\$5.00 FOR ADULT, \$3.00 FOR CHILD)

CASH OR CHEQUE (PAYABLE TO GEORGIAN BAY NORDIC)
(LIMITED # OF TICKETS AVAILABLE)

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR GEORGIAN BAY NORDIC

Tickets on sale December 1st at:

Runner's Den 801 2nd Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON (519) 371 1577

Marketside 813 2nd Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON (519) 371 7666

Suntrail Source for Adventure Highway #6, Hepworth, ON (519) 935 2478