

New Season Start-Up

From the President

Mike Campbell

Hello fellow cross country ski enthusiasts. Another ski season is rapidly approaching, and it's time to get excited about it.

Looking ahead to this coming season our club is in great shape. We purchased a new PistenBully groomer last year, built an addition to the groomer shed and still had money in the bank for the upcoming season. Our membership increased by 150 members to over 900 registrants.



We ended last year on a great note at the club's AGM where we celebrated 40 years of skiing with BSC. We had special guests Bruce and Marcie McGill, Harriet Nixon, and land owner Ron Gatis to share stories of the



first few years of our club's existence.



We also recognized long time club volunteers, Martin Kerr and Andrew Howlett with custom BSC jackets. Martin has volunteered with the club over many seasons, was one of Bruce Ski Club's

first presidents and single-handedly kept the Colpoys Trails up and running. Andrew is also a long time volunteer that has held almost every post in the club executive as well as a long time Jackrabbits volunteer and race timer coordinator.

The club also recognized the retirement of Ken Beauclerc who has volunteered with the club for many years. Ken started his volunteer work with Jackrabbits, then he coached racing and for the last ten years served as a director. Ken and his family have moved out of the area, we wish them all the best in their future endeavors. I would like to welcome Kelly Rogers as our new director.

At the AGM there was general discussion about future projects the club could get involved with, some ideas included expanding the lighted loop,

Coming Events

Nov. 3 - Ski Swap, Love Your Skis and Sawmill Work Day

Nov. 4 - Colpoys Trail Work Day

Nov. 20 - Early Bird Registration Deadline

Jan. 5 - First Jackrabbits Lesson

Feb. 17 - Suntrail Special Race

Feb. 23 - Jackrabbit Carnival

a waxing room, flush toilets, or a Jackrabbits bumps and jumps area. If you have any ideas on future projects of the club, please email me or any of the other club executives.




This year we are offering club members the opportunity to buy a really cool custom BSC toque. If you are interested in purchasing a BSC toque, contact Andrew Howlett at: andrew@howlett.net. I would encourage each member to purchase a toque and fly the club colours. A small portion of each purchase will go towards club projects.

I would like to bring to the attention of club members that have kids in our great Jackrabbit program. We have a real shortage of volunteers to run the program so much so we are considering reducing our enrollment from 100 kids to 75. I would encourage parents to volunteer their time so we can give every child the opportunity to learn this great sport.

Membership fees will remain unchanged this year. The Bruce Ski Club operates the most affordable, accessible and best maintained trails in Ontario. We accomplish this because of the strength of our volunteers. Regardless of how small or large your contribution, you make the club happen.

Special thank you to our many Sponsors and Friends who contribute to make this club affordable for everyone. Thank you to our many Patrons, especially Community Foundation Grey Bruce and Suntrail Source for Adventure. Community Foundation Grey Bruce made a very large contribution towards the purchase of the Pisten Bully Edge. In addition to supporting the club as a Patron Suntrail sponsors many of our events, including the Ski Swap, Men and Women on Skis and Suntrail Special. Lastly, I remind you that the 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 our trails. Pack out your snacks and trash. If you find

trash on the trail, pack that out too. If you meet any of our land owners, please thank them personally for sharing their property. 

Registration

Ruth Scheel


Once again, fall is in the air. It will soon be time to plan your winter activities and join the Bruce Ski Club.

The online registration form will be active as of Oct. 9th and it is very user friendly so don't delay - join soon.

The Early Bird fee is in place until November 20th so take advantage of this and register online before that date.

When registering think about signing up for some of the volunteer options that are listed - or suggest another area where you would be willing to help out.

Our club is only as strong as the volunteers that run it and we have enjoyed great success as a volunteer run club.

Looking forward to seeing you on the trails this season. 

Ed.


Tom Hakala

Well, I'm glad that's over... I'm referring to that long hot, humid, sweaty, exhausting, wet and wild summer. I don't take the heat well, especially when it is 31° while watching fireworks on July 1st at 11:00 at night. I'm looking forward to the polar opposite of that oppressive heat... The World Snow Day on January 20th.

Thanks to Marilyn Suke for enlightening me about this event. It has actually been around since 2007 when the FIS (World Ski Federation) introduced the campaign to encourage children to take part in snow sports. The campaign has grown every year since to the point where massive skiing and other snow events are taking place on that day.



So, I thought it would be fitting that our club get involved. I am proposing that we create our own event for World Snow Day. On Sunday, January 20th, 2019 bring your family out to Sawmill Nordic Centre to ski or snowshoe. To make it even more fun, bring your neighbour or friend that isn't a BSC member to try out our trails. We are all children at heart, so this is open to children of all ages.


Let's see how many we can get on the trails on January 20th! 

Race Report

Ken Clarke

The 24th Suntrail Special is scheduled for February 17th, 2019. We hope you can join us as a volunteer or racer! The process of choosing dates for High School and Elementary races is on going. It takes a great group of volunteers to run great races. To build on our strength of vol-



unteers from past years I hope you will choose 'race volunteer' in the volunteering section of your club membership application. 




Sawmill Nordic Centre

Fred Scheel

Time to get ready for this years Nordic season. Here is hoping for lots of snow for our new Pisten-Bully Edge to groom. Over the next month we will maintain all our equipment and get the trail ready for skiing. We have removed some trees along the fence row at Whispering Pines and will do



some bulldozing in order to make grooming easier.

Our annual get the trail ready work party will be on Saturday, November 3rd from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (It follows the ski swap at Suntrail) We hope many of you will be available to help with this work party. Enjoy, Fred 




Colpoys Ski Trail

Martin Kerr

It's that time of year, the days getting shorter , nights longer and temperatures dropping. Ski season can't be too far away!

There are a few changes happening at the Colpoys trail this year and hopefully all for the better. A new trail Captain and a new groomer are on board for this year. Richard Bonert who has spent years as the captain at the Red Bay trail will be taking over the controls at Colpoys and Neil Sim who has been grooming at Sawmill will be doing most of the grooming. I will be helping them both in this transition year to get things underway and operating smoothly.



We invite you all to come out for a morning on the trail to do some clipping and clearing on Sunday, November 4th at 9 am. We are usually done by noon and it's a good way to both give back and to meet other skiers in the club. See you there! 

Jackrabbits

Jason MacDonald


In the last two years our program has reached a level of unparalleled growth. Given this growth, last year we had to limit our enrolment to 100 kids. This was reached in a mere month and a half and we could have had many more kids in the program if we hadn't chosen to limit it.

With all of this growth, though, we haven't seen a corresponding increase in the number of parent

volunteers willing to coach. Coaching entails 2 hours on Saturday mornings for a 8-9 week session. We take coaches at all levels of expertise and even offer a community coaching course that is fully paid for by the club. Please consider joining our ranks! I really feel that we are lucky to have such an excellent program in one of the best ski facilities in the province. If you are interested, please contact me at jackrabbits@bruceskiclub.ca



Given these circumstances, Jackrabbits enrolment for the 2019 season will be limited to 75 children, with a waiting list being kept beyond that. If it is determined we have sufficient coaching, we will accept a higher number of registrants.

Looking forward to an exciting season! _____ 

Georgian Bay Nordic

Marilyn Suke

Georgian Bay Nordic is up and (literally) running once again for the 2018/19 season.

We had a very successful Pure Grit Trail Run again in June thanks to the dedication and hard work of many volunteers. We received many positive comments from the athletes involved and I expect it is an event we will run for many years to come.


Our numbers are up! Very excited to have several new members interested in joining us this year. We generally offer a trial period at the beginning of the year but it would seem we will have about 18 members heading into the season.

Our first event will be Love Your Skis held in conjunction with the Ski Swap. We will be waxing skis in preparation for the snow season from 0830 - 1230 hours in the parking lot at Suntrail Outfitters. Money raised help athletes traveling to National Championships pay their expenses. This year Nakkertok Nordic in Ottawa/

Gatineau will be hosting the National Championships. Please feel free to drop by the wax bench for tips on caring for your skis throughout the season.

If you are pulling out your equipment and find an excess of poles that no longer fit anyone in your family, you can donate them to GBN! We use shorter poles for running in the Fall and keep them available as well for Jackrabbits to use whose poles are not the correct length for good technique.

GBN is fortunate to have a strong volunteer coaching team to guide, support and instruct our young skiers. As well our Executive and Parents provide fund-raising and logistics support without which we could not achieve the successes we now enjoy.

Looking forward to a long snow season and fast skis. _____ 

Special Teams

by Laura Howlett


In early March 2018, 8 skiers from the Central Bruce and Owen Sound Special Olympics Nordic Ski teams participated in the Special Olympics Provincial Qualifying race at Arrowhead Provincial Park near Orillia. Skiers Jaqueline Gravel, Katie L'Esperance, Anne Howlett, Jon Wardrop, Matt Poste and Derek Morton qualified to attend the SO provincial winter games in Sault Ste Marie at the end of January 2019. Mike Bailey also qualified but will be attending the games with his curling team. Athletes will commence their dry land training in October and look forward to on snow training from the first weekend in January.



We are actually two teams. The original team, The Central Bruce "Smooth Gliders" has been

coached for ten years by Catherine MacKinnon. This team also included an Owen Sound skier, Jonathan Wardrop. Dianne Speed assisted Catherine with the team but had a desire to start an Owen Sound team. When Anne Howlett became too old for Jackrabbits, she and I started skiing with Dianne and Catherine along with the existing Central Bruce skiers. I originally joined to be Dianne's assistant coach but got 'promoted' to head coach on the second weekend!

The Owen Sound Waxwings has been a team for 2 years now. This will be our first year with a formal "dry land" training season as our provincial qualifiers need to get training for the winter games in Sault Ste Marie at the end of January 2019. This will be a first time at the Provincials for Annie, Derek, Mike, Matt and Katie. Jonathan and Jaqueline have represented Ontario at the Nationals in Cornerbrooke, NL. in 2016, and Jaqueline represented Canada at the SO World winter games in Austria in 2017.

Our teams are happy to welcome new skiers, but because we can only ski with a 3:1 athlete to coach ratio, we are always on the lookout for volunteer coaches and assistants. We encourage elementary school aged children with special needs to try the Jackrabbits program first, as several of our (now adult) skiers have come up through the JR program with excellent results. 



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It's time to get rid of them
The BSC Ski Swap
is Nov. 3rd
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The Bruce Ski Club would like to thank

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