

SKI TRACKER

World Snow Day!!!

From the President

Mike Campbell

Greetings fellow ski enthusiasts. To say that we have had some challenges with maintaining the trails this season would be an understatement. Even though we have had very little snow, the Sawmill Nordic Centre has remained open with almost complete snow coverage since mid November. Some of the large hills have very little snow or icy patches and should be skied with caution. I have to hand it to our dedicated team of groomers who have worked their magic to make this possible.



our fingers crossed that the snow machine from Lake Huron turns back on and dumps a couple of feet of snow on our trails.

Perhaps that fact that we are hosting a special event "World Snow Day" this coming Sunday will bring us some snow.

On World Snow Day we are opening our ski and snowshoe trails to non-members for free. We will also be serving food, have a campfire with smores, some basic ski instruction and guided tours of the trails.

So grab your friends and tell them to get off the couch, get those old skis from the closet and come on out to explore our trails, have a snack and enjoy some good family fun.



The Colpoys Trail unfortunately has not received adequate snow to open this season. We have

Coming Events

Jan. 20 - World Snow Day - Free to Ski

Feb. 17 - Suntrail Special Race

Feb. 23 - Jackrabbit Carnival

Free to Ski

Jan. 20, 2019
From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Everyone Skis or Snowshoes FREE for the day at Sawmill Nordic Centre. Non-Members just sign the waiver and you can ski or snowshoe on our trails for FREE.

Tours, lessons and Food. Fun for all.

Bruce Ski Club

Sawmill Nordic Centre
1 km. East of Hepworth on Highway #6

Ed.

Tom Hakala

So far this winter has been a strange one. Someone referred to it as a toilet seat winter, the fellow that writes the trail reports at Highland Nordic called it a Groundhog Day Winter... repeating mild, cold every other day. Whatever is causing it; El Niño, La Niña, climate change or that wind-bag to the south, it has been frustrating for those of us who want to ski.

I live 45 minutes away from Sawmill and an hour and a half from Colpoys, so I would like to know if it is worth the drive before I head out. The groomer's trail reports help, but they don't always tell me what the skiing is really like. One way to get that information is the Bruce Ski Club Facebook page. I try to add comments and/or photos of the ski conditions that I encounter whenever I ski. It is not difficult, just a line or two saying, "It was wonderful skiing today, great snow, thanks groomers." Or, "Conditions were icy today. Not that good."




I know some people do not subscribe to Facebook or are reluctant to post things on a public page. So I am offering you my email: hakalathomas@gmail.com... You can email me with your take on the day's skiing and I'll post it on Facebook under my name.

You can also email me if you wish to help out this Sunday, January 20th, for our World Snow Day event... Free to Ski! I still need some volunteers to do snowshoe or ski tours, help with registration or a sundry of other duties that will crop up. Also, remember to ask neighbours, friends, and family to come and try our trails on Sunday.

AAA Success!

The Awesome Adult Afternoon Ski Lesson was another success on Saturday, January 12th. With 50 skiers looking for tips on how to improve their technique and expert instructors offering their skills, proved that you are never too old to learn new things.

To quote a friend that took part for the first time, "Did a ski lesson with Larry. Was awesome!!! I learned so much!!! Super pumped to get out again and practise."

Thanks GBN for putting this on every winter. — 



Sawmill Nordic Centre

Fred Scheel

We are into week 9 of skiing at the Sawmill. It hard to believe considering the lack of snow we have had to this point in time. Although we have been skiing on a very thin crust and our groomers have had to deal with lots of issues regarding the lack of snow, the ski season is moving forward. We hope to be able to use our big machine once we have a 5 cm. base; which means we need snow. So let's be positive and keep on skiing regardless. Enjoy what we have, later, Fred




Jackrabbits

Jason MacDonald

Jackrabbit season is off and skiing! We have had a tremendous turnout this year with over 80 skiers taking part, and a long wait list beyond that! It truly is amazing to see so much interest in our sport. Having so many skiers is great, but also means that we need to ensure that we have enough volunteers to keep the quality of our programs high. We have been fortunate enough to have many new people step up to be coaches this year, making it our best year for coaching numbers in many years.

Remaining events for this year include the Suntrail Special on February 17th, Carnival on February 23rd and the Awards Ceremony on March 2nd.

Families are encouraged to try the "Family Cookie 400m ski challenge" or a longer distance at the Suntrail Special. Jackrabbit skiers are free!

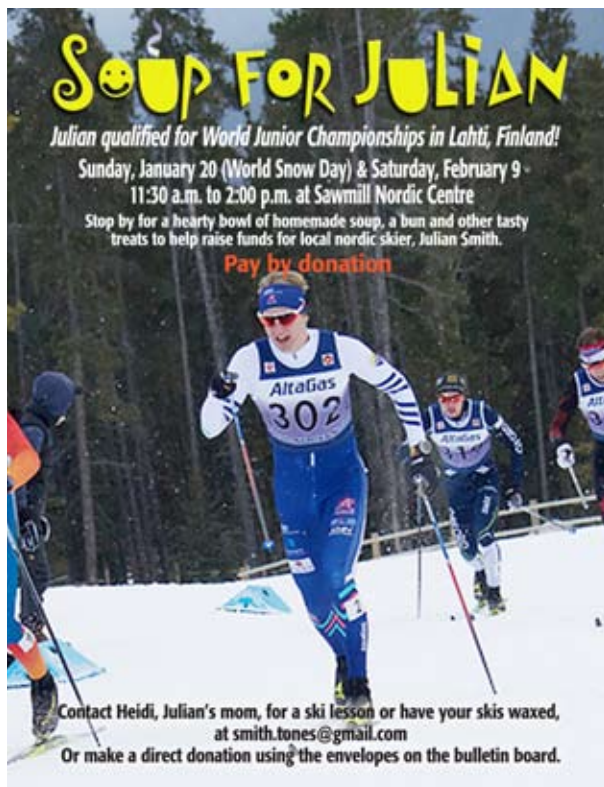
Be sure to encourage those young skiers on the trails- they are our future! 


Julian Heading to Junior Worlds

by Heidi Tones

Julian Smith has qualified for World Junior Championships in Lahti, Finland. This is Julian's third time qualifying (Kazakhstan 2015, Utah 1017)! The World Junior Trials for Canadian athletes were held December 13, 15, 16 at the Canmore Nordic Centre in Alberta. His sprint qualifier was 0.02 seconds behind the winner making him the top U23.


A team of eighteen Canadians is going over to represent Canada: 10 U20s and 8 U23s. First they will train in Norway for 10 days with the new Canadian national coach Eric Bratten as well as legendary and recently retired national team member Devon Kershaw. The team will then go to Lahti and the racing starts Jan 20th.



If you wish to support Julian we will be selling soup during World Snow Day on Sunday, January 20th as well as on Saturday, February 9th at the Sawmill Trails. The money raised will be used to cover race and travel expenses to Lahti, Finland. 

Gerry's Place Open Friday Evenings

Kelly Rogers

Keen skiers have been taking advantage of the extended Friday night hut openings at Sawmill Trail. Grab your headlamp and your ski friends, and enjoy an invigorating night ski on the trails. For those without headlamps, the Jackrabbit loop is lit...just press the button on the front left side of the hut to activate the lights. Or, ski by the light of the moon: Friday, January 18th is only three days away from the full moon. 



Fresh off the trails, these happy skiers are enjoying the Friday night opening of the hut at Sawmill. Every Friday night until the end of the ski season Gerry's Place will be open until 9:30.

Bruce Ski Club



Many Hands Make Light Work

Bruce Ski Club is looking for amazing volunteers to help us keep our club running smoothly and our membership costs down.

We have opportunities for:

-  Trail clean-ups in the fall
-  Sawmill hut cleaning
-  Bird feeding
-  Race volunteers
-  Special event volunteers
-  Special project coordinators

You can sign up as a volunteer when you submit your membership form or send an email to shawn.radcliffe@gmail.com, indicating how you'd like to help out.

Thank you to the following



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