

Ski Tracker

A Snowy Forecast for 2018

From the President

Mike Campbell

Greetings fellow ski enthusiasts! We have two great announcements to make! Our club has received a \$20,000 grant from the Grey Bruce Community Foundation towards the purchase of our new groomer. Thank you Community Foundation!

With these funds plus the many generous donations club members have made so far this year, we have enough money to purchase the new groomer! Paid in full! Lock, stock and barrel! This machine should be able to serve the club's grooming needs for the next 15-20 years.




If you were considering donating towards the purchase of the new groomer, we encourage you to make a donation to the club. We will need to build up our club reserves again to deal with any unanticipated expenses with equipment and buildings the club maintains.

In other news we had a great turn out at the ski swap and trail cleanup at the Sawmill. This is a testament to our dedicated membership when we have so many show up to help maintain our trails. Next weekend on November 12th at 9:00 am we are looking for volunteers to help out cleaning up the Colpoys Ski Trails. Please bring along some pruning shears to trim back the trail.

Registrations through Zone4.ca are going well. If you have not yet registered, I would like to remind everyone that the early bird special pricing ends on November 20th. Once you have purchased your membership you can pick up your sticker for your membership keyfob at Suntrail Source for Adventure in Hepworth or Bikeface in Owen Sound. Please support these two great businesses that help our club with registration. I would like to remind club members to wear their membership tags when on the trails.

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. 



Coming Events

- Nov. 12 - 9:00am, Colpoys Trail Clean-up
- Nov. 20 - Early-Bird Registration Cut -Off
- Jan. 6 - Jackrabbits 1st session
- Jan. 15 - Great Wolf invitational
- Feb. 11 - Suntrail Special
- Apr. 26 - BSC Volunteer Night & AGM


Registrars Report

Ruth Scheel

The early bird registrations have been coming in regularly. Just a reminder that the deadline for early bird registrations is November 20th.

As of early November we have 371 registered skiers for the 2017-2018 season.

Registering online through bruceskiclub.ca is fast and easy but you may also register by filling out a paper form from Suntrail Outfitters in Hepworth or Bikeface Cycling in Owen Sound.

Looking forward to a great season of skiing - don't miss out on being a Bruce Ski Club member. 

Ed.

Tom Hakala

It's time for my 2018 winter prognostication... In a phrase, 'LOTS OF SNOW'. That seems to be the consensus across the board. David Phillips, the senior forecaster for Environment Canada, said that with the combination of high water levels coupled with mild fall temperatures, there will be heavy lake effect snowfalls for our region in December and January.



The venerable *Old Farmer's Almanac* says this, "Precipitation and snowfall will be above normal in the east and below normal in the west, with the snowiest periods in late November, mid- and late December, and early to mid-March. April and May will be a bit cooler than normal, with near-normal precipitation." While the upstart *Farmer's Almanac* states, "From the Great Lakes going east across Quebec, and into the Maritimes, snowier-than-normal conditions are expected. Winter temps should also be 1-2°C below normal over the eastern two-thirds of the country."

Our friends at the Weather Network go even further with, "Good ski/snowmobile season is anticipated in

the east, especially from January into March due to a higher number of snow storms. However, the winter is not expected to be unusually cold."


What this means is that our new groomer will be kept very busy, making the trails like a magic carpet for us to enjoy. It also means that it is time to go to our website and register for your 2017/18 membership before the Early Bird Deadline on November 20th. It is easy to find at: <http://bruceskiclub.ca/membership/> 

Treasurer's Report

Andrew Howlett

Thank you to the many members of the club who donated to the groomer fund. So far this year we have received \$8,300 in donations. Over the past ten years we have saved \$133,000, so that means our club members have raised \$141,300. The total cost of the new groomer, modifications to the grooming shed and some other expenses adds up to about \$160,000.




So we should all be very, very thankful to Community Foundation Bruce Grey who approved our grant application for \$20,000. With the support of the Community Foundation we can fully fund the new groomer from our cash and savings. I invite everyone to learn more about Community Foundation at www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com 

Race Report

Ken Clarke

Mark your calendars. Dates are set for the two races BSC will host in 2018: The Great Wolf Invitational High School Race will be on January 15 (weather date January 16th) and The Suntrail Special will run on February 11.



Thank you to all the members who have already indicated they are willing to help with races. I will begin contacting you in December to confirm dates and availability. If you haven't yet registered as a BSC member please consider choosing 'Race Volunteer' in the volunteer section of your application. No experience necessary, and as always: the more the merrier. 




Sawmill Nordic Centre

Fred Scheel

We are ready for the season. Our trail clean-up is complete thanks to the many members who came to help. Ralph Suke bush hogged the trail in the middle of October. Deanne Atherton and Dawn Hollyer put up all the trail maps and Fred Schlenker and DJ Perrin wired up the Lit Loop. The Staff of Suntrail have looked after the snowshoe trail.



We are in the process of prepping for our new Groomer. This involves building a 10X20 addition to our Shed and selling our old Pisten Bully (both in Progress) Enjoy , later, Fred 




Colpoys Ski Trail

Martin Kerr

The trail clearing for the Colpoys trail will be on Sunday November 12th . We will meet at the Colpoys trail parking lot at 9 a.m. and be done by noon. The main focus of the morning will be to try and widen some of the double track (Bert's Blvd.). We have gradually been losing a few inches a year on this section an it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide two sets of tracks on that section of trail.

We all are hoping for an early start to the season but typically skiing begins at Colpoys around

Christmas time. The trail has many rocky sections and requires a foot of snow at least before we can start taking the snowmobile out to pack. Once a base is established it becomes easier to groom without damaging equipment (yours or ours) and a good base helps to get us through mild spells that almost always occur throughout the season . I would also encourage skiers to check the website for trail condition updates as we do our best to keep the trail reports current and accurate. This will be my last year as trail captain and we are in need of a replacement. If you think that you would like to learn more about this volunteer club position please drop me a line at: ma247kerr@gmail.com with any questions you might have. See you on the trail. 

Jackrabbits

Mark Avery and Jason MacDonald

Not long now! We are already 86% full with about a month left to the registration deadline (December 16)! We can't wait for lessons to begin in January! We would like to welcome our coaches for the upcoming season :

Bunnies : Michelle LaFleur and Rob Straby

Level 1 : Leona Cunningham, Andre Steinman, Eric Proulx

Level 2 : Sonja Ostertag, Ashley Burgess, Tabitha Burrige

Level 3 : Dave Abbott, Matt Nelson


Level 4 : Spencer Vreugdenhill-Beauclerc, Lila Yuhasz-Bell, Mark Avery

Wolverines : Jason MacDonald

Track Attack : Tim Smith, Bob Groh, Marilyn Suke, Ken Clarke

Your coach will contact you prior to the start day on January 6.

A reminder that lessons start promptly at 10am. If you signed up to help with snacks or another aspect of Jackrabbits, someone will be contacting you in the next month.

In preparation for lessons, please check to make sure your child has proper fitting skis, poles and boots. It is also important to have breathable clothing as our little and big skiers do sweat out there. 

Georgian Bay Nordic

Marilyn Suke

Enjoying the warm and mostly dry Fall weather our team has been training well two or three days per week.

Love Your Skis went well with over 20 pairs of skis waxed in just two hours.



The Ontario Race schedule is set and we are planning our training and travel with renewed vigour. The dusting of snow reassured us we will be on skis soon. If you have a Track Attack skier in your household, why not consider our enhanced Track Attack program


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through GBN? During December Track Attack skiers join us for (hopefully) on snow practices with sessions on correct training practices and ski preparation. We play lots of games, work hard and have a lot of fun. The cost is \$25.

If you are interested please contact Ken Clarke (kclarke@gmail.com), Tim Smith (smith.tones@gmail.com) or Matt Nelson (nelsonfam@rogers.com) for details. Program would start Tuesday December 5.

We are thinking of organizing an alumni and current GBN member ski over Christmas. Maybe December 26 at 9am? What do you think? If you are interested please contact me. mpsuke@gmail.com 

BSC
Early Bird Registration
ENDS NOV. 20

Thank you to the following



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