

# SKI TRACKER

## Yes, we will be skiing!!!

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mike Campbell

Greetings fellow nordic ski enthusiasts, I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. Our Executive and Directors have been hard at work getting ready for the coming season with all its uncertainties. The good news is there will be skiing this year! We are proceeding on the basis that the trails will open with social distancing. To achieve this we are going to make the following adjustments to how we operate the club:



**1. Memberships** - All membership registration will be online; we will no longer be accepting paper membership forms and cheques. This will not only make the membership process safer it will save our registrar a great amount of time manually entering membership info and our treasurer taking cheques to the bank. All memberships can be purchased at [www.zone4.ca](http://www.zone4.ca). Go to the link via: [bruceskiclub.ca](http://bruceskiclub.ca).

Early bird special pricing ends on November 20th. Once you have purchased your membership bring your registration confirmation to Suntrail Source for Adventure where you can pick up your sticker for your membership key fob. We ask that club members wear their membership tags when on the trails. Membership fees will remain the same as last season.

**2. Ski Swap** - The ski swap is going virtual through Facebook Marketplace. Just search for BSC Ski Swap on Facebook to go to the ski swap page, you can list items you want to sell and contact club members to purchase items. We hope to return to the old format next year when things return to normal.

**3. Jackrabbit Program** - It is our goal to run the Jackrabbit program again this year, we have three new coordinators that are excited about the coming season. We will have to make modifications to the program.

**4. Warm-up Cabin, Gerry's Place** - In all likelihood the cabin will be closed for the season. Club members will have to come to the trail dressed for skiing similar to the current situation at the Colpoys Trail.

**5. Races** - As our Race Coordinator mentions in his report we will have to be creative in running ski races. Perhaps set up a Strava route of the trails and see who can ski it the fastest during one predetermined day. We are interested in any ideas you may have.

**6. Annual General Meeting** - We cancelled our AGM in the spring due to COVID 19 restrictions. We have rescheduled the meeting to October 29th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held remotely via Zoom meeting. An email will be sent out to the membership in advance of the meeting to all members. We hope to return to our Social / AGM meeting at the Heartwood next spring.

#### Retiring Executive Members.

On behalf of the club I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Jason MacDonald and Suzanne Ruthford for their contribution to our club as our Jackrabbit Coordinator and Secretary the last number of years.

I would like to Welcome Dave White, Jody MacEachern and Erik Proulx as our new Jackrabbit Coordinators.

We are still looking at filling the Secretary's position



- Oct. 24, 10:00 am - Colpoys Trail Clean-Up
- Oct. 29, 7:00 pm - AGM Zoomed
- Oct. 31, 10:00 am - Sawmill Trail Clean-Up
- BSC Ski Swap - Ongoing (Go to: BSC Ski Swap on Facebook)
- Jan. 9 to 16 - Exchange Sauble Beach XC Ski Club
- Jan. 16 to 23 - Exchange Glenelg Ski Club
- Jan. 24 to 30 - Exchange O.S. XC Ski Club
- Feb. 13 to 20 - Exchange Beaver Valley XC Club

on the Executive. The position involves attending seven meetings a year and taking minutes. The Secretary is a member of the Executive and can participate in all discussions. If you are interested in participating in the running of our club this is a great opportunity that does not involve a great commitment of time.

**Patrons, Sponsors and Friends** Thank you to our many Patrons, Sponsors and Friends who contribute to make this club affordable for everyone. Special thanks to Suntrail Source for Adventure and Midwestern Communications. Midwestern prints this newsletter and Suntrail sponsors many of our events, including the Ski Swap, Men & Women on Skis and Suntrail Special.

**Our Land Owners** 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 our 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 property. \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION

Heidi Tones

We are gearing up for another exciting year of skiing, maybe more exciting than usual as skiing is an individual outdoor sport where we can physically distance! We hope you and your family will find it easy to register with Zone4. Go to: <http://bruceski-club.ca>, at the top right, go to 'RATES', A pull down menu shows 'MEMBERSHIP', click on that. On the Membership page scroll down to 'JOIN TODAY'. Click on that and it will take you to Zone4. Follow the easy steps to register.



The screenshot shows the Bruce Ski Club website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Trails', 'Conditions', and 'Rates'. Below that, a text block states: 'Bruce Ski Club members have unlimited access to the cross-country ski and snowshoe trails at the club's locations in Grey and Bruce Counties, Ontario.' It also mentions that membership fees cover the cost of maintaining and grooming the club's cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, and includes insurance and an organization fee. The 'Annual Membership Fee' section lists three options: Individual (\$15 until 20 November, \$80 after 20 November), Family (\$15 until 20 November, \$185 after 20 November), and Jackrabbits (\$15 per child subject to availability of spaces). A note indicates that family is defined as two adults and two children, with a \$10 charge for each additional child. Parents of children participating in the Jackrabbits cross-country ski program can register through Zone4. A 'Cross Country Canada (CCC) fee' of \$10 is mentioned, which is applied to the first club registration. At the bottom, there is a 'Bruce Ski Club Membership Application' section with a 'Join Today' button.

The early bird date, which will get you a discount, is November 20th. You can get your stickers and tabs at Suntrail.

One thing that makes our club so wonderful is the collegiality of our members. People come together to happily fill the bird feeders, wipe down the tables in the hut, clean trails, help races run smoothly, coach...etc. Be sure to check off an area you are interested in helping with. If there is an area that is not listed, email me and I'd be happy to try and make it work out: [smith.tones@gmail.com](mailto:smith.tones@gmail.com)

## ED.

Tom Hakala

After being cut off from my favorite pastime, skiing, early last spring, I resorted to my other favorite, cycling. I rode when there was still snow on the ground and icy cold winds almost blowing me backwards. I just bundled up and rode my bike, since there was not a lot to do. Then I rode through the summer heat and later got caught in some of the many downpours we saw in August and September.

Now it's October and the cycling thing is wearing a bit thin. I am ready to ski! I looked up a few prognosticators and this was what I found. "If you like snow, then you should head out to western Quebec and Ontario, where snowier-than-normal conditions are forecast," says the Farmers' Almanac. That sounds good to me.



With that in mind, you may wish to brush up on your skiing skills. Again this winter, we have experienced skiers and coaches who are willing to give lessons to adults who want to improve. Below is a list of members who will help you out.

*Heidi Tones - is the mother of Julian Smith, who is at the National Training Development Centre and she is willing to help you improve your skiing if you donate to Julian's travel fund. You can reach Heidi at: 519-534-3222 or email: [smith.tones@gmail.com](mailto:smith.tones@gmail.com)*

*Marilyn Suke - is the Coaching Coordinator for Georgian Bay Nordic Ski Team and Marilyn will give you a lesson if you make a contribution to GBN. You can set up a lesson with Marilyn at 519-374-4227 or email her at: [mpsuke@gmail.com](mailto:mpsuke@gmail.com).*

*Dr. Don Eby - I would be happy to provide free*

advice and or mentoring to anyone interested in pursuing a passion for long course loppets. I have completed the Canadian Ski Marathon 4 times, the long course Gatineau loppet about 12 times and last year was recognized as a 'master' (completing 10 long course loppets in 10 different countries) by the World Loppet association. I think having a list to match people is a great idea. 519 371-2720 (H) or 519 373-2535 (C) or email: [d.eby@sympatico.ca](mailto:d.eby@sympatico.ca).

Barbara Gray - My qualifications: Level 2 NCCP, Level 2 Officials course, St. Mary's Nordic ski team coach x 5 yrs., and Jackrabbit coordinator and instructor (many yrs.). I'm not interested in compensation as I just like spreading the fun of Nordic skiing. email: [bmulroy@sympatico.ca](mailto:bmulroy@sympatico.ca).

This information will be posted on our Facebook page and website later. If you wish to add your name to the list, email me at: [hakalathomas@gmail.com](mailto:hakalathomas@gmail.com).



## SAWMILL NORDIC CENTRE

### Fred Scheel

This COVID season brings many new challenges for all. Hopefully everyone will want to ski more. At the Sawmill we have added some new equipment to improve our grooming. In July we took possession of a Flail mower which can be pulled with our ATV, and we proceeded to cut all of our summer growth on the trail. Hopefully we will now be able to manage our weeds on a regular basis.




The flail mower

Our small groomer, the G2 is 12 years old and needed a back-up. We decided to invest in a new Yellowstone groomer to pull with our ATV or Ski-doo. This piece of equipment should arrive before the ski season.

It is our hope that the Lit Loop will be extended a little this season. Fred Schlenker will initiate the

construction of the loop in October and he will need volunteer help to do this. If you wish to help Fred with installing the lights, email him at: [schlenkerfred@gmail.com](mailto:schlenkerfred@gmail.com).

Our annual work party to get the trail ready for this season will be Saturday, October 31st at 10:00 a.m.

Looking forward to a fabulous ski season. Your trail captain, Fred. 



## COLPOYS SKI TRAIL

### Richard Bonert

Thanks to our land owner Ron Gatis, who is welcoming us back for the winter.

Your team of Richard, the trail captain and Neil, the groomer are looking forward to their third year to have the trails in shape for you for the new season 2020/2021. We

are excited that the ski club decided to replace the falling apart tent-shelter for the snow machine and groomer with a more durable structure. It is on order and we hope it will arrive in early November.

To get the trails in shape, a work party is planned for Saturday the 24th October at 10 am, meeting at the trail parking lot. I hope for as good a turnout as last year, so we can get the work done in about 3 hours.



If you think of helping at Colpoys, please send me an e-mail: [richard.b-bsc@bell.net](mailto:richard.b-bsc@bell.net) so I can plan the work party a little bit. As the pandemic will be with us for the next season, we ask you to exercise the established rules for outdoor social distancing. For visitors and day users we will have still the option to pay at the site using cash. The club executive is still discussing other options for paying with your

phone. When and if this comes about, we will let you know.

As usual the BSC website will post the trail condition: when we start grooming, plowing the parking lot etc. Please check the website, in particular if you have a longer drive to Colpoys, to know what to expect.

Looking forward, hopefully, to a good steady winter with lots of snow and sunshine and skiing in a wonderful, natural winter landscape.

See you on the Colpoys Trails. Your trail captain, Richard. \_\_\_\_\_ 

## RACE REPORT


*Ken Clarke*

Hi All, this is normally the time of year when planning for this season's races begins. Races have always been a celebration of our sport by coming together to face a common challenge and shared



experience. The current situation requires that we look at offering new ways to share our experience (perhaps virtually) and different types of challenges. This is of course an opportunity to be creative in our approach, to innovate; and most essentially to communicate. So even before I ask you to check off race volunteer on your membership registration, I am asking you to think about how you would like to celebrate our sport. And share your ideas either with me: Ken Clarke [kcclarke@gmail.com](mailto:kcclarke@gmail.com), or any member of the club executive.

Safety of volunteers and participants is top priority. If there are any events, details of all safety measures will be in place well in advance and those who have selected race volunteer can choose to decline at that time.


Here's hoping we can come together as a ski community to celebrate our love of skiing! \_\_\_\_\_ 

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

*Laura Howlett*

The Owen Sound and Port Elgin Special Olympics Nordic Ski teams are beginning their return to sport program applications using the guidelines established by Special Olympics Ontario. Owen Sound will be moving our fall dry land training to outdoor hikes, and look forward to helping out with the Sawmill and Colpoys trail clearing events.



Our winter training will be similar to years past, but respecting physical distancing restrictions and likely not using Jerry's Place. Owen Sound looks forward to working with our new volunteer, Ange. We are so fortunate to be able to access the BSC trails, when so many other activities can't be enjoyed this year. \_\_\_\_\_ 

## GBN

*Marilyn Suke*

GBN is very much alive and thriving this season. After a summer of meetings primarily on Zoom for chats and strength training we ended with the "Hoppet". This is a race held annually in Australia where skiers compete courses in multiples of 7 km. With Covid the race went on line and they had, for just \$10 Au. massive international registration. About a dozen current and former GBN members entered and we ran, biked and roller skied our multiples of 7. It was great fun and we are excited to receive in the mail our finishers 'Buffs' with the Hoppet logo.



We also held our Year End gathering outdoors in the summer. Sadly we had to forgo our usual fabulous pot luck but we were able to present our

annual awards. Heart of a Skier to Genevieve Du-beau and Team Leader to Reid Locking.

With the return to school we also started in person training. The difference is that the athletes from Southampton and Hepworth schools train with Coach Tim Smith starting from the Hepworth School. Athletes who attend Owen Sound schools are meeting at a central location and training primarily in Harrison Park. These practices are led by Coaches Ken Clarke and Matt Nelson. This plan eliminates the need for athletes car pooling and seems to be working well thus far. While it requires constant vigilance to maintain our 2m distance, it is worth the effort to be able to train with your team mates. We continue to do our strength workouts on Zoom led by Coach Jack VanDorp. Coach Bella Waterton has been also leading an intensity session for the High School skiers leaving directly from OSDSS. From time to time we are meeting as a team on the weekend.

Currently we have 20 members registered with the club. Six are new members. So great to see such an enthusiastic group of athletes who love to come together in the pursuit of athletic and person excellence. Our members range from Year of Birth 2001 to 2010.



We do not know what the racing season will look like. We do know we are all hoping for early snow and plenty of it!

If you or someone you know is interested in joining GBN, email me, Marilyn Suke at: [mpsuke@gmail.com](mailto:mpsuke@gmail.com).

## JACKRABBITS

*David White*

Jackrabbits would like to express their thanks to Jason MacDonald for coordinating for the past 4 years. Thanks should also go out to Tabitha as she helped out on the administrative end of running the program. When Jason started as coordinator there were 80 athletes in the Jackrabbit program. Now there is a maximum capacity of 100 athletes. It is great to see more young people out and enjoying the winter. As coordinator he was able to find ways to increase parent involvement. There are now more parent coaches than their where when he started as coordinator. Jason has worked to build on the strong program that he took over. Clearly he has made improvements that have more young people enjoying their time being outside in the snow. Thanks Jason!

The new coordinators for this year are Jody MacEachern, Erik Proulx and myself David White. We look forward to continuing to build the Jack-rabbit program at the Bruce Ski Club.

At present we are working through creating a return to play plan for Jackrabbits. With COVID-19 restrictions the program will look different than previous years. Please stay tuned to the Bruce Ski Club web page, Facebook or the Bruce Ski Club Newsletter. We will find a way to get the information out there. If you have questions about Jack-rabbits email me: [dhlwhite@hotmail.com](mailto:dhlwhite@hotmail.com) or call: 519-378-9917.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

*From Cross Country Ontario*



Cross Country Ski Ontario continues to work through the challenges faced by everyone during the COVID-19 Pandemic. We encourage everyone be positive and focus on WHAT WE CAN DO! Resources and plans with respect to COVID-19 will be communicated as conditions change in the province of Ontario. We encourage everyone to stay safe and healthy by following Public Health Guidelines in your area.

The Safe Return to Sport document will be re-evaluated and updated as conditions change and restrictions are eased or tightened.

For more information and details on Cross Country Ontario's policy go to: <https://xcskiontario.ca/safe-sport/covid-19/>

# Thank you to the following



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The Power Workers Union  
Midwestern Communications  
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Whispering Pines Campground  
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van Dijk Family

## Bruce Ski Club Executive

President - Mike Campbell	519-477-1098	mike@bruceskiclub.ca
Vice-President - Shawn Radcliffe	519-935-9905	shawn.radcliffe@gmail.com
Secretary - <b>Position Open!</b>		
Treasurer - Andrew Howlett	519-376-2203	andrew@howlett.net
Registrar - Heidi Tones	519-534-3222	smith.tones@gmail.com
<b>Trail captains</b>		
Colpoys - Richard Bonert	519-371-0711	richard.b-bsc@bell.net
Sawmill - Fred Scheel	519-376-1484	fscheel@bmts.com
Jackrabbits - Dave White, Jody MacEachern, Erik Proulx		jackrabbits@bruceskiclub.ca
GBN Liaison - Marilyn Suke	519-374-4227	mpsuke@gmail.com
Race Coordinator - Ken Clarke	519-371-5034	kcclarke@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor - Tom Hakala		hakalathomas@gmail.com

## Our Landowners

Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (<http://www1.greysauble.on.ca/>)  
Ron Gatis  
Kiwanis Whispering Pines Campground (<http://www.camponario.net/>)  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
(<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-natural-resources-and-forestry>)  
The Spencer Family  
Laura McNamara & Bevan Ratcliffe

**VIRTUAL ONLINE**  
**BSC SKI SWAP**  
Now until  
**Dec. 31, 2020**  
Because of COVID-19 the swap will be on Facebook. Go to Facebook and type BSC Ski Swap... Click "JOIN" and when admin approves your membership you can buy or sell skis, boots or other equipment.  
**Bruce Ski Club**

The Bruce Ski Club would like to thank

**MIDWESTERN**  
COMMUNICATIONS

for printing of this newsletter.