Bruce kiClub Box 2, Owen Sound www.bruceskiclub.ca SKI TRA CKER

The New Old Look

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 the new realities of living in the midst of a pandemic.



Many of the Covid Strategies we applied last year will continue into the 2021 - 2022 season. The good news is there will be skiing again this year, and for this we are truly thankful.

1. Memberships

Again this year 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 and will save our registrar a great amount of time manually

COMING EVENTS

20 Oct 2021 - Registration opens 25 Oct 2021 - Ski Swap drop off begins 27 Oct –7pm - BSC Virtual AGM 30 Oct - 10am - Colpoys Trail Cleanup 6 Nov -10am - Sawmill Trail Cleanup 13 Nov - 10am - Ski Swap! 20 Nov 2021 - Early Bird Registration ends 9-15 Jan 2022 - Trail Exchange Sauble SC 16-22 Jan 2022 - Trail Exchange Glenelg SC 23-29 Jan 2022 - Trail Exchange OSCCSC 13-19 Feb 2022 - Trail Exchange Beaver Valley SC entering membership info and our treasurer taking cheques to the bank. All memberships can be purchased at:

http://bruceskiclub.ca/membership/ Early bird special pricing ends on November **20**. Once you have purchased your membership bring your registration confirmation to Suntrail Source for Adventure where you can pick up your sticker and or your key fob. We ask that club members wear their membership tags when on the trails.

Membership fees will remain the same as last season. However now that memberships have grown past the HST threshold we will now be charging HST on each registration.

2. Ski Swap

We had decided to return to the old Ski Swap formula. The ski swap will be held at Suntrail Source for Adventure on November 13th 2021. Details are contained in this newsletter.

3. Jackrabbit Program

It is our goal to run the Jackrabbit program again this year. We are looking for some new coaches to fill some vacancies. Please look at the Jack Rabbit report in this newsletter for details

4. Warm-up Cabin, Gerry's Place

We have decided to keep Gerry's Place closed this winter. The cabin is poorly ventilated and we do not have the resources to implement a Covid passport system for the cabin. Club members will have to come to the trail dressed for skiing similar to the current situation at the Colpoys Trail.

5. Races

It is uncertain whether we will run any races this season. We are still looking to fill a vacancy on the executive for a Race Coordinator to coordinate our three annual races. If you are interested in filling this position please let us know, our past coordinator is available to coach

the new candidate.

6. Annual General Meeting

We cancelled our AGM in the spring due to COVID 19 restrictions. We have rescheduled the meeting to October 27th 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.

New Executive Members and Vacancies

The trail captain's job at the Sawmill Nordic Centre has been split into a Grooming Captain filled by Ron Downie and Facilities Manager filled by Fred Schlenker.

We are still looking for a new race coordinator and newsletter editor.

Please keep in mind that we cannot run our club without volunteers, without a race coordinator we cannot run races, without Jack Rabbit Coaches we have to restrict the number of kids we take into our program. And without a newsletter editor we cannot communicate effectively with our membership.

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact me for details of what the job entails. (mike@bruceskiclub.ca)

Patrons, Sponsors and Friends

Thank you to our many Partons, 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, Awesome Adult Afternoon and Suntrail Special.

Our Land Owners I would like to 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.

Special Recognition

Normally we recognize club members that have made a special contribution to the club over the years at our AGM.

A year and half ago your Executive agreed that we should recognize the contributions of Tom Hakala and Ken Clark to the club with the coveted Bruce Ski Club Jackets.



Unfortunately we have had to cancel the last two AGM. The Executive decided to award Tom and Ken their Jackets at the last Executive Meeting.

Both Ken and Tom have dedicated many years of service to the club.

Ken has volunteered as a Jack Rabbit Coach, Georgian Bay Nordic coach and as our Race Coordinator for many years.

Tom is a talented Graphic designer that has edited our Newsletter, rebranded the club and produced many posters, trail maps and any other graphics you see at the Sawmill Nordic Centre and Colpoys Trails.

Registration

Heidi Tones

Another season of wonderful skiing is fast approaching! The early bird date for a

discount is Nov 20th, so don't delay! Please go to <u>zone4.ca</u> and click on Join Bruce Ski Club 2021or go to the Bruce Ski Club website, click on MEMBERSHIP and click JOIN TODAY.

Be sure to check off some volunteer activities as many hands make light work. Once you have registered, pop into Suntrail to pick up a red sticker (and ski fob if you lost yours) and wear it proudly to indicate you are a member in good standing.

If you are unable to access <u>zone4.ca</u>, there will also be an iPad set up at Suntrail, where the staff are only too happy to help you!

If you need any help, or have any questions please email me at <u>smith.tones@gmail.com</u>

See you on the trails, Heidi

Sawmill Nordic Centre

Fred Schlenker

The annual trail cleaning party will be held on Saturday November 6th, starting at 10:00 a.m. The goal is to remove all loose and fallen wood and to trim any vegetation that is encroaching on the trails that has not already been removed. There is also a need for some raking in a few spots. There are a few special projects as well. If you can bring a rake, handsaw or pruners, they can be put to good use. *NOTE: Masks must be worn in groups!*



Trail Report: A special thanks to the Day family (Keith, Claire Brent and Pat) and the Mackay Family (Gregg, Ewan and Thomas) Ron Downie and Dan Kleiman for their help with a trail improvement project on the Christmas Tree Loop. With their help this trail has been slightly widened and the overgrowth has been put in check. There have also been improvements to Grunt, Harpin and the straight a-way along the Kiwanis fence. It will be easier for our groomer to make the rounds this winter.



Logging activities are anticipated sometime next summer on the Grey Sauble Conservation, land which will help further improve the space required for grooming. If all goes well, we will be able to add two connectors between Jackrabbit and Paperclip.

Colpoy's Ski Trails

Richard Bonert

Thanks to our land owner Ron Gatis and Bevan who are welcoming us back for the winter.

Your team of Richard, the trail captain and Neil, the groomer are looking forward to their fourth year to have the trails in shape for you for the new season 2021/2022.

The new solid shed we got last winter is great and we can now also store all the posts and signs on site. Many of you likely remember the bad flooding we had at the north end of the Beaverpond Trail which forced us to make on short notice a detour, which we could only pack but not track set.

Although the flooding was exceptional we will work with the support of our landowners on a trail change in that corner (around point G) to have a groomed and track set path around the area, should we get more water than snow. Watch out for the map change in that northwest corner.

To get the trails in shape, a work party is planned for Saturday the 30^{th} October at 10 am, meeting at the trail parking lot. I hope for a good turn out as last year, so we can get the work done in 2 to 3 hours.



If you plan on helping at Colpoys, please send me an email: richard.b-bsc@bell.net, so I can plan the work party a little bit, thanks. As the pandemic is still with us, we ask you to exercise the established rules for outdoor social distancing. For visitors and day users, we will still have the option to pay at the site using cash.

As usual the BSC website will post the trail conditions: 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 Colpoy's Trails, your trail captain, Richard.

Ski Swap!

Andrew Howlett

Yes, we will do a ski swap this year. Bring your stuff to Suntrail between October 25th and November 11th. Make sure all your equipment is well marked with your tag number and that your name and telephone number are on the tag. The ski swap will be on Saturday November 13th. MASKS ON AT ALL TIMES, NO EXCEPTIONS. There will be LOTS OF HAND SANITIZER on site... USE IT. If you are sick THEN DON'T COME. People who don't follow the rules or are visibly sick will be asked to leave. Other than that, same procedure as previous years: we start handing out numbers at 8am. Ski swap volunteers will set up the gear and groups of buyers will be allowed in to the equipment area between 8:30am and 9 to look at the stuff, check sizes. At 9am we start calling numbers. Two sets of gear allowed per person. We accept cash, cheque and interac email transfer. No IOUs. Read the full list of rules and conditions at Suntrail when you drop off your equipment.

Unsold gear will be available for pickup between 12 noon and 4pm. If you remembered to write your phone number on your tag then I will phone you around 1pm to let you know that you need to pick up your stuff. If you don't pick up your stuff then Bruce Ski Club will dispose of it as we see fit. If you forgot to write your phone number on the tag or don't answer the phone.... Too bad, so sad.



Due to COVID Suntrail must limit the number of people in the store. It might be good to schedule a drop off time: (519) 935-2478, <u>info@suntrail.ca</u>. During the ski swap entrance to and from the store will be limited. It will be more difficult to mix and match stuff from the store with stuff from the ski swap.

See you in November, Andrew.

Race Report

Ken Clarke

Bruce Ski Club is planning on holding races this coming winter, but it will all depend on how the Covid situation improves. The Suntrail Special is scheduled for Sunday February 6th 2022; and we will need race volunteers so please consider choosing race volunteer when becoming a member.

Jackrabbits

David White

The Jackrabbit Coordinators are excited that this season we will return to normal with a single 2-hour session every Saturday. Start time for lessons will be 10:00 am. The first lesson will be on January 8. The final lesson will be on March 12.

Registration will open for Jackrabbits on October 20. Participant numbers are limited this season as we lost some coaches to retirement. Please sign up early to ensure you have a space. Registration for club memberships and Jackrabbits is through Zone 4. You must be a Bruce Ski Club member to register for Jackrabbits.

Coaches are wanted. We will be able to expand the number of participants with more coaches. Please reach out to your Jackrabbit coordinators if you are willing to coach. Coaches get guaranteed placement for their children in Jackrabbits, Jackrabbits is free for coaches' children and the Bruce Ski Club will pay for coaching courses.

We are always looking for volunteers to help run the program. Please reach out to the coordinators if you have some time.

GBN

Matt Nelson

The GBN athletes have been training all summer and are now increasing intensity into the fall with the anticipation of snow. This year, GBN has about 28 athletes from ages 10 to 18. During the non-snow months, athletes prepare by roller skiing, dryland and fitness training, as well as branching out to other sports. Currently, we are training twice per week (Tuesday and Thursday) and have had the opportunity to attend several Regional Ski Camps that typically take place over a weekend.

You will likely still see Marilyn Suke around, but we are sad to say she has officially retired from GBN. To deliver the best program possible, we have transitioned to a "coaching team". We have six coaches: Ken Clarke, Jack VanDorp, Bella Waterton, Sonja Ostertag, Tim Smith, and myself.

The athletes certainly skied a lot of km last year with the great conditions and lockdown, but are looking forward to getting back on to the SOD and OCUP race circuits in 2021/2022. We are always welcoming new athletes. Email <u>gbnpres@gmail.com</u> if you would like more information.

Skate Ski Lessons

Heidi Tones

I will be giving skate skiing lessons again this year. Please contact me

at: <u>smtih.tones@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in learning to skate ski, or to make improvements. As in the past, donations will go towards Julian Smith's training expenses and race fees as he prepares with the National Training Development Centre up in Thunder Bay, for the 2021/2022 season of racing.



This photo is Julian doing high altitude training in Mammoth Lake, California, September 2021.



Special Olympics

Laura Howlett

The Special Olympics Waxwings and Snow Gliders cross country ski teams are looking forward to an in-person, on-snow season for 2022. Team Waxwings in Owen Sound will start with 6 weeks of dry land training in Harrison Park and look forward to reuniting with old friends and coaches. Some of us have not seen each other for nearly 2 years. For our athletes, this year will be a building year, as it would normally be a provincial games qualifying year. We've been directed by the provincial office to just get out there and stay fit as it is unlikely there will be any races. We're looking forward to a few time trials and hope that if XCSO runs another challenge, we can all join in. National Training Team member Annie Howlett has been busy with daily training and nutrition tracking since spring 2021 in preparation for the Kazan Special Olympics World Winter Games in January of 2022. These games are now postponed until 2023 and Annie has recommitted to the training program for the 2023 event. The postponement of the games was both a disappointment and a relief, as planning to travel with the large Canadian contingent during pandemic felt at times like a house of cards. The majority of coaches and athletes are happy to wait for 2023. Cheer Annie on as she kicks her Dad's butt for another season of training at Sawmill.

It is YOUR turn to be the newsletter editor!

BSCNewsletter FOR

YOU CAN DO IT!

I have set up the newsletter as Word[®] Template. As long as your computer has Word[®] you can simply drop in each article or photo. I will help you learn how to do it.

Contact Tom at: hakalathomas@gmail.com

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The Bruce Ski Club would like to thank



for printing of this newsletter.