

**Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club
Committee Meeting
7.30 pm, Wednesday 21 September 2016
Hoppet Meeting Room, Mt Beauty**

MINUTES

1. Attendance

Ronice Goebel (in the Chair), Marg Trnka, Penny Goebel, Allan Marsland, Ann Bellingham, Jim Gargan, Ian Franzke, Alice Hamilton, Blair Hume, Michelle Forrer, Doug Hamilton (Secretary).

2. Apologies

Kerry Lucas, Nick Wright, Tony Keeble.

3. Minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 20 July 2016

Motion:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be acknowledged as a true and proper record.

Moved: Blair Hume.

Seconded: Marg Trnka.

Carried.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Matters arising will be addressed in subsequent items.

5. Correspondence

Doug tabled a list of correspondence.

6. Business arising from the Correspondence

An additional letter received with membership fees from Juel Briggs was noted. She donated \$300 minus her membership fees to be used as a prize for next year's Ski de Femme, she said "preferably as a prize for 'Senior Skier' or 'most improved senior skier – but if that isn't possible just put it towards whatever you need for Ski de Femme". Doug gave Alice a copy of the letter.

7. Reports

7.1. Treasurer's Report

Ann tabled a report and noted the financial position is reasonable. She noted the donation above and another of \$1000 for the Junior Birkie Foundation.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Moved: Michelle Forrer

Seconded: Penny Goebel.

Carried.

7.2. Search and Rescue

Ian advised that the steep snow and ice training for BSAR members on 29 to 31 July was not blessed with the best snow. Topics covered travelling in alpine environments, snow and ice safety, rescue techniques, using crampons and ice axes and sled haulage on steep terrain and 20 people attended.

The club is still looking for a person to fill the position of Field Officer.

7.3. Race Committee

There was discussion about some requests for the Rocky Valley Rush to be a skate race. RVR was considered a warmup by many skiers for the Nationals classic race the following week. A decision for RVR technique in 2017 will be considered. The assistance from ASADA and TD Allan Serrano was appreciated. The TD's report is yet to be received. **RG to contact Alan Serrano.** Serrano noted the Timing system is now not FIS compliant as a light beam is required. **Options to be explored by Timing group.** Further work will need to be done on the timing system to ensure it is FIS compliant as they require a light beam to be broken by racers.

Marg and Ann will work on a report of the breakdown of race costs for the next meeting.

7.4. Ski de Femme

Alice reported the event was a big success with 98 participants and 15 coaches. Michelle Armstrong Communications helped with the publicity. Thought is being given to refining the registration process for next year.

7.5. Junior Committee

Michelle advised the last 'snow game' had 12 participants, with a BBQ. Jarrah Forrer is now in the Junior National Team.

7.6. Kangaroo Hoppet Race Committee

Allan advised that there were 27 countries involved in the Hoppet this year, and participant numbers were up on last year. The TV coverage was better this year with the video of the race going live into northern Europe.

At the post-race evaluation meeting Alan said of note was discussion of the paucity of volunteers for pack up after the race, the need to replace the aging tents, and the rethinking of the cut off times to reduce the wait around time for the pack up volunteers.

Doug, Nick Wright, Jim, Ian and Blair will meet to develop a set of proposals on what might be done to improve volunteering for the Hoppet.

7.7. Clubhouse

Doug read from Tony's report. Blair said he disliked the way some collective plastic bags of rubbish had been left in the club house overnight, and some people had not cleaned some of the kitchen equipment. The meeting agreed an email should be sent to members just before the beginning of the 2017 season saying:

- People should take their own rubbish home.
- The Clubhouse should always be locked by the last person out no matter what the time of day.
- Users should clean up their own mess in the kitchen.
- No equipment should be left in the clubhouse overnight.
- Asking all members to volunteer in some way to keep the club working well.

Otherwise the meeting said it was happy with the way the Clubhouse had operated this year.

7.8. Social

Doug read from Kerry's report and the meeting agreed to the proposed date of 19 November for the end of year BBQ.

The meeting noted that the reported lower attendances at earlier social events this year could be due to there not being enough early publicity.

Doug will develop a club events calendar to anticipate upcoming events and thus publicity needs.

7.9. Newsletter

Items for the newsletter should be with Paul L'Huillier a few days before the end of the month.

7.10. Membership

Jim advised there are 153 memberships. The meeting reviewed the list of non-renewing members.

Jim will send a reminder to some identified past members who have not renewed.

8. General Business

8.1. Mount Beauty Half Marathon

The item was held over to the next meeting.

8.2. BNSC Policy Review and two new life memberships

Ronice proposed that all the club's policies should be reviewed and particularly the policy related to life membership.

Ronice, Michelle and Allan will meet to discuss and revise the policy on life membership.

Ronice will consider the other policies in her forth coming time of convalescence.

8.3. Overseas Teams Grants Policy

The policy has to be revised to ensure the money provided is spent on overseas travel.

Ronice and Marg will review the wording of the policy to that end and it will be sent to Paul L'Huillier for inclusion in the next newsletter.

8.4. Upcoming grants programs

Grants are now or will be soon available from:

- Bendigo Bank – Ronice will seek money for roller skis
- Women leaders in sport – **Doug will send the advice of this to all relevant woman**
- Victorian Athletes Pathways Travel Grants – **Jim will work up an application for Brianna Oldis and Nicola Smith and submit it tomorrow.**

8.5. Falls Creek Cross Country Advisory Group

Blair advised that this meeting discussed:

- That the new TV screen in the Windy Corner shelter which now only has grooming reports might contain BNSC advice.
- There was talk of providing a single ride lift ticket up to top of the Mackay Road for XC skiers.
- A new trail from Sun Valley to the Pretty Valley Road avoiding the steepness of Boomerang.
- More trail works near Conrod Straight and Langford's.
- Working bee work on drainage, bridging water courses.

8.6. Birkie Junior Program Proposal

This item is to be carried over to the next meeting pending further advice on cost.

8.7. 2017 Coach selection process

It was agreed this position would be advertised now, with expressions of interest due by the end of October.

Ronice will revise the advertisement and it will be placed in Facebook, the Club Website and other contacts as available.

8.8. Snow Mobile for grooming

The meeting discussed replacing the Bearcat snowmobile with a more powerful one now available second hand. This would be able to tow the Ginzu groomer without overheating and allow the club to do its own track preparation.

Blair will work up a proposal expanding on this idea for the next meeting.

8.9. Ski de Femme Signs

Alice said the event needed more signs prepared.

Allan and Alice will discuss procuring these using the Hoppet supplier.

8.10. SSA Request for personal information

Doug backgrounded the meeting on SSA's request for the names of all members of the club. He said his advice is the club should not do so noting its privacy obligations. Allan suggested SSA may be under pressure from government funders to demonstrate the number of participants in the sport.

Doug will further correspond with SSA asking them for the reason for their request.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 19 October 2016.

10. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 10.26 pm.