

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, MAY 2016

Welcome everyone.

2015/16 has been another busy year with action on all fronts, and it does not just happen in winter! BNSC continues to be valued for its friendly atmosphere, efforts to promote XC Skiing and provide opportunities to enjoy the sport at any level. The collective volunteer effort of our club members ensures we thrive and get things done. BNSC is an advocate for XC Skiing in Victoria sending representatives to SXCV, works closely with FCRM and often makes deputations and submissions in the interest of cross country skiing. Several members who represented Australia at World Junior and U23 Championships in Romania, and World University Championships in Slovenia received club grants for overseas competition costs. Eight junior BNSC members participated in the 4 week Victorian Junior training camp to Silver Star, managed by Ronice Goebel and coach Jean Claude Legras.

During the past 12 months BNSC has successfully conducted many events and projects including:

- Annual casserole dinner held at Outdoor School Bogong, with guest speaker, David Etheridge on science expeditions (and skiing) in Antarctica and Greenland.
- Presentation of the Ian Ryan Award to JIM CREBBIN
- Ski de Femme
- Research of, and subsequent purchase of NEW TIMING SYSTEM
- Provided some input into the new cross country trails signage project at Falls Creek
- Coach Education opportunities – increasing coaching capacity of BNSC
- Junior Joey on-snow fun days,
- Junior Birkie coaching days each Sunday
- Organisation of The Birkebeiner Classic that was unfortunately cancelled.
- OS Coach Project (Eric Storvall from Finland took on role of junior coach)
- XC Ski clinics midweek and weekend for adults
- Mid-year dinner at Roi's Restaurant
- Nic Blackwell and Jarrah Forrer each received a \$500 Vic Talent Award
- The Australian XC Ski Championships
- Australian Junior XC Ski Championships
- 25th Kangaroo Hoppet International ski race
- End-of-year BBQ by the lake in Mount Beauty
- Cub working bees for trail infrastructure and club house
- 9 members of BNSC selected to Junior or Senior National Team.
- Athlete grants allocated to National Team members
- Submissions and responses to the Planning Permit Application for an Altitude Training Centre by FCRM for the Nordic Bowl.
- Administration to ensure governance requirements fulfilled.

A FEW THANKS

Thanks to those who showed up. Recently, the club has held working bee days, clearing trails, cutting a new access path to the club house, installed a new fuel tank in the skidoo, sanding and painting windows on south side, and cleaning or improving the clubhouse. Thanks to DOUG AND PAUL for liaising with FCRM. Please appreciate these efforts when you enjoy the club house this winter!

DOUG HAMILTON picked up the reigns from Trish Cross and has been excellently amicable and diligent in maintaining records and minutes, handling all the correspondence, and generally ensuring everything gets done.

Our membership secretary HELEN L'HUILLIER is maintaining our register grappling fearlessly with the online membership system and always looking at ways to make this challenge seamless and improve efficiency.

PAUL L'HUILLIER is our broadcaster and editor of the newsy Bulletin. BNSC has regular monthly newsletters from May to November, a website which has been updated regularly, a Facebook page, posts and emails to members highlighting coming events. Paul is also the BNSC race volunteer coordinator that keeps the cogs turning.

MICHAEL TRNKA our timing guru who along with the race committee manages timing for our races that are world class in organisation and must meet FIS rules. In particular Michael has persevered and seen through the project of testing, purchasing and developing a new timing system (in Trnka's lounge as well I believe to say nothing of timing non humans) Michael has a timing team and has pursued training to fine tune system knowledge to support future use, including the Kangaroo Hoppet for 2016.

Treasurer ANNE BELLINGHAM, handles the MoneyWorks system and efficiently tracks our finances and advises the club on budgeting issues, along with assisting race organisation and Ski de Femme.

Vice President BLAIR HUME who has picked up the reigns and has actively promoted the working bees. Thanks to Blair for taking the Chair tonight.

ALLAN MARSLAND, long time committee member who continues to provide wise council and advice on any number of matters including our dealings with Skiing Australia, Falls Creek Resort Management, SXCV and of course continues his role as Race Director of the Kangaroo Hoppet.

TONY KEEBLE and MEGAN BENNE for overseeing the highly valued and comfy Birkie Club house. The 2015 Winter trialled a new club house layout after renovations and feedback has been positive. Tony continues to respond in a timely manner to any issues that arise.

Social secretary, KERRY LUCAS, organises BNSC social events, venues and highly engaging guest speakers. She is currently chairing a subcommittee to explore the production of a new club jacket.

NICK WRIGHT has clocked up the most kilometres driving the BNSC skidoo ferrying gear and people and ensuring our racecourses are set up. He also helps facilitate the hospitality arrangements for our Birkie OS Coach Project ensuring our guest coach is looked after.

ALICE HAMILTON took on the lions share of organising the Ski de Femme day and did a wonderful job organising the Hoppet presentations.

MICHELLE FORRER organises our Junior Joey program and pre season event calendar. Unfortunately the ever popular Junior Birkie camp in July was cancelled again. It will be rescheduled for later in July to maximise chances of an on snow camp.

IAN FRANZKE co-ordinates the Search and Rescue arm of BNSC, maintains the skidoo and ensures members are qualified to drive the thing. JIM GARGAN also continues to provide wisdom and expertise to the BNSC S&R operations. To all S&R volunteers, your efforts are valued and have been gratefully appreciated by those affected.

Penny Goebel for picking up loose ends and supporting Ski de Femme.

The RACE COMMITTEE, Paul L'Huillier, Michael Trnka, Nick Wright and Marg Trnka as Race Secretary, can be relied upon to hold highly organised races. We thank our other Committee members for their input into

making decisions and assistance in conducting club events and doing all those bits and pieces that contribute to making our club what it is.

To all of our general members who help out at our many and varied activities in many big and small ways responding to requests to help out, a big thank you one and all. Lastly, may we have a brilliant snow cover for this ski season, continued camaraderie and enjoyment for our club members.

Ronice Goebel

President,
Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club
10 May 2016
