

**Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club
Committee Meeting
7.30 pm, Wednesday 20 September 2017
Hoppet Meeting Room, Information Centre
Kiewa Valley Highway
Mt Beauty**

MINUTES

1. Attendance

Ronice Goebel (in the Chair), Ann Bellingham, Nick Wright, Michelle Forrer, Brian Keeble, Ewen Silvester, Doug Hamilton (Secretary).

2. Apologies

Penny Goebel, Tony Keeble, Allan Marsland, Jim Gargan, Julie Smith, Blair Hume, Kerry Lucas.

3. Minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 19 July 2017

Motion:

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

Moved: Ronice Goebel

Carried.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

The committee asked as to the progress of the MOU on timing equipment usage. Ronice responded that the draft had not progressed further due to the winter event workload. Ronice, Ann and Marg Trnka will meet in the second week of the school holidays to develop it further.

5. Correspondence

The secretary advised that only accounts for payment and bank statements had been received since the last meeting.

6. Business arising from the Correspondence

None.

7. Reports

7.1. Treasurer's Report

The meeting noted the Treasurer had prepared the Financial Summary Report and the Profit and Loss Report. Brian Keeble remarked that the significant income from race fees paid for the races themselves and expenses such as the athletes' grants. This reinforced the value of the Race Committee to the club.

Motion: That the committee thank the Treasurer for the reports and the reports be accepted.

Moved: Ewen Silvester.

Seconded: Michelle Forrer.

Carried.

7.2. Search and Rescue

The committee noted that the club search and rescue group had been called out to a recent search for a missing walker on Mount Bogong, who was subsequently found near dead on the top of the ridge.

7.3. Race Committee

Ann noted that the races had been completed successfully this year and her next big task for was the preparation of the race calendar. The committee's view is that the Birkie Classic, a significant classic event, may have to be moved due to it frequently being cancelled because of inadequate snow.

7.4. Junior Committee

Michelle spoke to her previously circulated report. She particularly noted her conclusion that for next year a plan for junior participation should be developed and that could include a considering how to deal with donated money. Also, Miles Havlik's suggestions as to junior participation should be included. She said the Junior Subcommittee should meet before the next meeting.

7.5. Kangaroo Hoppet Race Committee

Nick Reported the Hoppet Race Committee had a successful debrief following the Hoppet. There was much good feedback on the level of volunteering. Ronice Goebel noted that some Birkebeiner race competitors nearly went the wrong way near the drink station in the Park. Nick said that this had been noted and the signage and routing would be addressed for the next race. The committee asked whether there could be a smaller race for very young racers at a different time on a short part of the course.

Ewen noted that the Merino Muster had a familiarisation program on their race course and asked Nick to raise whether the Hoppet could as well.

Brian Keeble said he would like the Hoppet to start at midday. Nick suggested he write to the Kangaroo Hoppet Committee putting his reasons.

7.6. Clubhouse

The circulated report was taken as read.

7.7. Social

The circulated report was taken as read, and the committee agreed to the date Saturday 18 November for the end of year barbeque. Ronice suggested that the report be revised to note the event where Paul Kovacs slides of his time overseas were shown.

7.8. Newsletter

No report.

7.9. Membership

The committee remarked on the status of Regonline as the provider of membership services. Ronice will check with Helen L'Huillier on this. It is thought that Regonline still uses the CBA account for forwarding membership fees. Paul L'Huillier will be asked to check whether any pages of the website still quote CBA bank accounts.

8. General Business

8.1. National Team Travel Grants

Ronice said the committee needed to decide how much money should be allocated for grants, but the exact composition of the National Team is not yet known. Application will be due in on 8 October 2017. The criteria include:

- that the money will be spent on an overseas race preparation and race program, not just a ski tour;
- that an important point will be their level of contribution to the life of this club;
- and that their level of support financial and in-kind support from other sources should be considered.

8.2. Alpine Resorts Restructure

Brian told the committee that the government's proposal for restructuring the Alpine resorts involves creating a Northern Division with Falls Creek, Mount Hotham and Mount Buller resorts and based in Benalla, and a Southern Division with Lake Mountain and Mount Baw Baw. This might have no effect on Falls Creek, but issues such as grooming and trail fees are potential changes that may be announced over summer. Notice of consultation on changes might be found through the Falls Creek website or engage.vic.gov.au. Brian asked if a watch group could be found consisting of members of the committee who would not be away much over summer. Doug and Ewen volunteered and it was suggested Allan Marsland also may like to be involved.

8.3. Working Bee Dates

Doug advised that Blair Hume had raised this item. He had spoken with Geoff Sorensen about having at least one more working bee over summer. At the next meeting a date would be considered and Geoff would be advised. The date could be publicised through the Victorian Cross Country Committee to attract more volunteers.

8.4. Feedback Letter from Miles Havlik

Miles had advised that he thought it a waste his skills to teach first time skiers and this should be undertaken in some other way. The committee observed it was inappropriate for Miles to be left with school students who were first timers while teachers skied off with more skilled students.

He thought there could be a club coach who could manage the juniors and undertake dry land training. This could be considered by the Junior Committee in its mid-school holiday meeting.

8.5. Child Safety Standards

Ronice will use templates from SSA to assist in developing the club's position on this. Ronice will commence the work with a risk assessment.

Regarding maintaining a list of WWCC'ed volunteers, Doug advised that although he had records about members who had been issued with WWCCs he did not have a complete list, nor was this checked against members who were volunteers. Ewen will send Doug a list of the club's volunteers.

8.6. Item

Ronice said members thought the clubhouse heating was not adequate in the colder times of winter. A reverse cycle air-conditioner was being considered as an option. Members are exploring other options and this matter will be considered further.

9. Other business

Ronice has volunteered and been accepted as a volunteer to assist paralympians at the 2018 Korean Winter Olympics.

Ann said Jules is needs to have all expenses receipts submitted to her so she can allocate each expense to a line in the accounts. All members are reminded to ensure Jules get the relevant receipts.

Brian asked whether the club was in any sense 'affiliated to the SSA. Doug advised that the payment made to SSA had a pro rata by number of club members' component and a fixed cost which may relate to administration or some sort of 'membership' or affiliation cost. He will investigate further and advise the committee.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18 October 2016.

11. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.