

## Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club -Annual General Meeting May 2021

### Race Committee Report

After a short few weeks where we were given a brief chance to get on skis in 2020, with the Resort coming on-board and grooming tracks around the village we, of course, went into lock-down and the ski season hit an abrupt end!! Even when the snow fell we weren't able to get up the hill to take advantage of it. I hope this leaves us all itching to get into it this year.

Our junior and senior athletes, and many of our members, have continued to train hard. Many entered and completed the virtual Loppet events and rollerski races. We had two intrepid members brave the pandemic to compete in World Cup and Visma Classic events in Europe – Kat Paul and Phil Bellingham. Both had some good results and with many PCR and rapid COVID tests under their belt I'm sure they will provide some valuable experience and knowledge to help with our management of the upcoming season and COVID regulations and restrictions.

### **Looking towards season 2021**

**Organisation** for the season will see the races run under the current State and FIS regulations. Basically:

- Promote handwashing, respiratory hygiene and social distancing.
- Enable quick, rapid contact tracing
- Have a medical response plan

**Volunteers** – getting people to nominate for roles as they pay their membership is a good initiative and will help spread the load a little more, especially on race days.

**Online entry** system worked well in 2019 and will continue this season. Michal and his team at Alpine Timing are very professional and we are lucky to have his expertise in this area.

The qualification period for the next Olympics has begun and our elite athletes will be hoping to perform at their best and we wish them well in their endeavours.

The **2021 draft race calendar** lists the following races which the club is likely to run.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am - Birkebeiner Classic – 2.5/5/10km classic (C)

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 9:30am – AUS Open Sprint Champs – classic (C)

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 9:30am – AUS Open Champs 5/10km Freestyle (F)

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 10am - Ski De Femme

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 10:30am - Rocky Valley Rush/Sun Valley Ramble 15/7.5km (F)

**\*\*Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August 9:30am – Kangaroo Hoppet 42/21/7km (F)**

I wish to thank all those members who put up their hand to be on the race committee - Ewan Silvester, Peter Smith, Ronice Goebel, Michal Trnka and Paul L'Huillier. Thanks to Marg Jowitt who offered to share the Race Secretary role last year and again this year.

I am looking forward to a more active year in 2021.

*Ann Bellingham*

Race Secretary