

## News Bulletin — 25th July 2021

### Update – Vic Junior & Australian Senior Championships

**Australian Senior Championships** — Saturday 31st July & Sunday 1st August 2021 – Falls Creek.

**Registration and payment is online** <<https://alpinetiming.com.au/rg227>>

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**Victorian Junior Championships** rescheduled to Saturday 31st July & Sunday 1st August 2021 – Falls Creek.

*Existing entrants have been sent an email to roll over their entry to a new date or get a refund.*

**Registration and payment is online** <<https://alpinetiming.com.au/rg225>>

**Please note** — These races will only go ahead if the current COVID-19 restrictions are lifted this week and the Falls Creek Resort is allowed to operate. Please keep an eye on the news reports on TV and Radio so you can make a decision about attending.

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**Birkebeiner Classic Race Report – held Sun 4th July 2021**

## BIRKEBEINER CLASSIC RACE REPORT – HELD SUN 4TH JULY 21

Thanks to the fantastic efforts of the groomers and Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club volunteers, we were able to run the Birkie Classic last weekend after the postponement from the week before.

It was a great team effort and I would like to thank all those who helped out in the many and varied jobs prior to the day, on the day and afterwards. COVID safe operations and procedures were established and implemented, online entries through Alpine Timing, QR code tracking was in operation and social distancing encouraged. Well done everyone.

It was also great to see some of the best skiers in the country competing. There were a total of 44 participants in the three distances – 10km, 5km and 2.5km.

### Results were as follows:

10km	MALE		FEMALE	
	Phil Bellingham	28:53.17	Ella Jackson	36:23.48
	Nick Blackwell	29:29.64	Anna Trnka	39:50.41
	Mark Pollock	29:46.26	Michelle Forrer	53:25.80
5km	John Mordes	16:43.4	Casey Wright	16:58.6
	Matthew Wilby		Maddie Hooker	
	Jason Slingo		Rosie Franzke	
2.5km	Hamish Retchford	12:08.7	Sarah Marriott	10:43.42
	Alec Franzke		Bethany Franzke	
	Archie Gould		Evelyn Armitage	

Full Results click <<https://www.alpinetiming.com.au/results/r221/>>

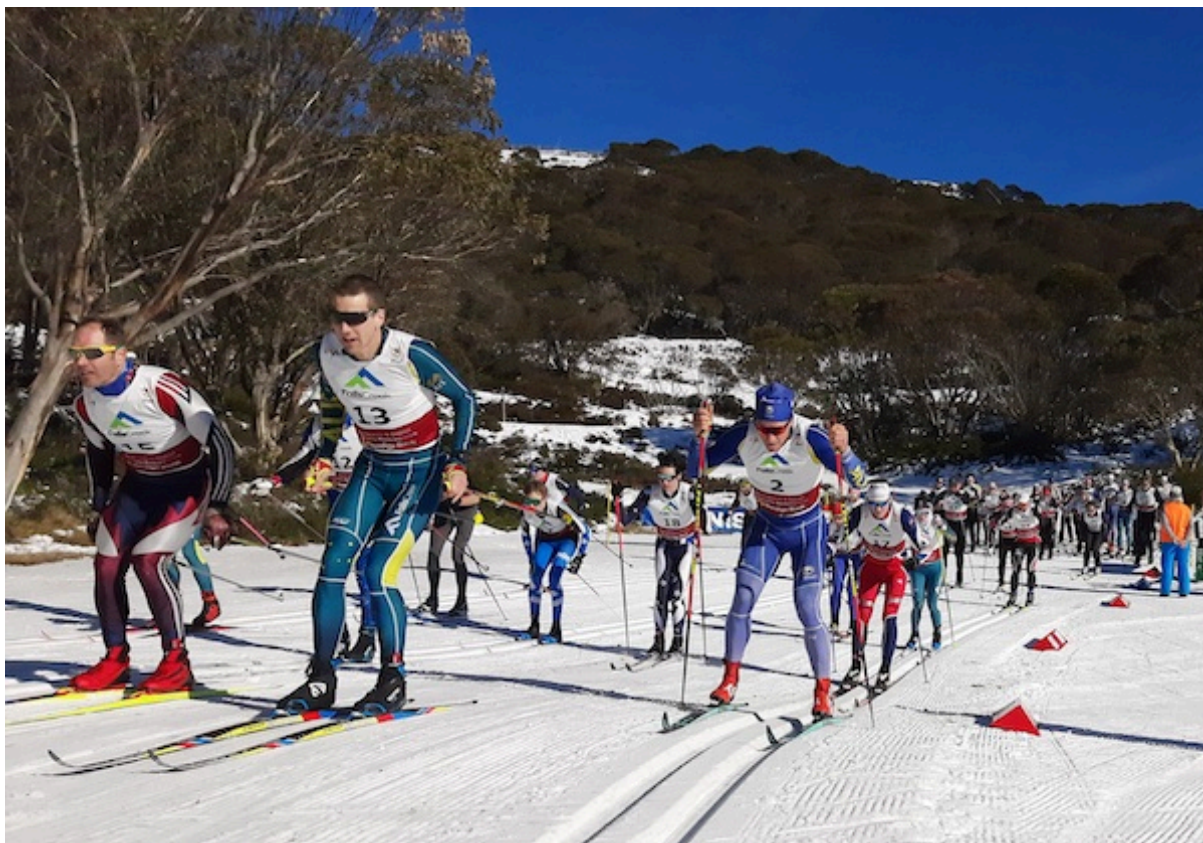
Prizes were given in the following categories:

2.5km – **U14** Hamish Retchford & Bethany Franzke

5km – **U18**: Matthew Wilby & Maddie Hooker; **Open**: John Mordes & Casey Wright; **Masters**: Jason Slingo

10km – **Open**: Phillip Bellingham & Ella Jackson; **Masters**: Michelle Forrer & Kevin Tory

*Ann Bellinham (Race Secretary)*



*Start of the 2021 Birkebeiner Classic - perfect day, enough snow, great tracks (thanks to Geoff Sorenson & the Falls Creek grooming team) and 45 starters. The 2019 and 2020 races had not been held due to lack of snow and COVID restrictions.*

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## **Junior Birkie Development Camp – held 10th-11th July '21**

After a hiatus last year, we were very fortunate to have timed the weekend of the 2021 Birkie Junior Camp with great snow, wonderful weather and no lockdown. One week either side would have been a different story!

We had 22 enthusiastic Birkie juniors ranging from beginners to racers. Saturday had a skating focus and Sunday a classic focus, with eight of the juniors racing both mornings in the High Plains Tour and the Birkie Classic.

Saturday night we stayed at Outdoor School - Bogong Village and were entertained with activities organised by Zoe Gray.

A big thank you to our many supporters:

**Coaches** - David Vandas. Tim Retchford. Paul and Dean Grav. Helen Gough.

*Matt Flanagan, Anna Trnka, Clancy Harvey and Leuwin.*

**Food** - a big thank you to *Kate Prest* for organising and preparing the food assisted by *Emily Harvey, Mary Curnow, Bron Gray and Helen Gough.*

**Bus driver** - *Jarrold Paine* and also our host at Outdoor School - Bogong.

**Falls Creek Resort Management** - for offering free bus entry on both days. Much appreciated.

*Cath Richardson* for helping set up the snowgaine course.

Parents/kids - for providing yummy treats for the camp.

Without all of this wonderful help, the camp would not have run so smoothly and was greatly appreciated by all the juniors.

We look forward to seeing the juniors out on the snow over winter, and to join us for future events.

*Bron & Paul Gray*

*Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club*



*Birkie juniors and instructors – the club has been conducting this weekend since the early 1990s*

## 2021 Kangaroo Hoppet

After the success of last year's virtual Kangaroo Hoppet which saw just over 1900 participants from 37 nations across all seven continents take part in the event 'their way' using a physical activity of their choice at a location of their choice, the organising committee was faced with deciding how to hold the 2021 event in a world where skiers from overseas are unable to enter Australia, and those of us in Australia may, or may not, be able to get to Falls Creek depending on the level of Covid restrictions in place across the nation on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The solution - **Do It Our Way** or **Do It Your Way**, or if you like, pay your money twice and try both. Participants in both events will receive a colourful 'Buff' style neckwarmer thanks to ski accessory brands, Rojo and Elude.

If you **do it Our Way**, you will take part in either the 42km, 21km or 7km event on cross country skis at Falls Creek on the fourth Saturday in August. This year marks a special anniversary for the Hoppet – the thirtieth running of the event. **Entries opened** at [www.hoppet.com.au](http://www.hoppet.com.au) on July 1 with the **earlybird prices extended** to 19th August 2021. Late fee applies from the 20th August.

If you choose to **do it Your Way**, you have a two week window from 14 - 28 August when the options are limited only by your imagination and maybe fitness level, with the proviso that your activity of choice must be people powered. Some examples from 2020 to get you thinking are the usual running, walking, mountain biking and cycling, together with activities such as canoeing, roller skiing, unicycling, exercise machines, and swimming.

**Virtual entries** — 1st - 29th August.





*Peter Schickenrieder (GER) Doing it His Way in 2020.*

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