



Birkebeiner Bulletin

6th September 2022

In this issue:

1. National Junior Championships Report
 2. End of Season Dinner – Sat 17th September
 3. Birkie Bits by *Nordic Ned*
 4. Falls Creek Lakeside Development - the club's position
 5. The Petition - 4,588 signatures now
-

National Junior Championships Report



Over 50 of the best up-and-coming junior cross-country skiers competed in the National Championship races at Falls Creek over the weekend of the 3rd and 4th of September. The weather was brilliant and the track setting and courses were top-notch. Freestyle sprints were contested on Saturday and classic distance races on Sunday

were contested on Saturday and classic distance races on Sunday.

The **sprint** races began with a time trial, followed by quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals depending on the number of entrants. In the Open Junior class, there were close battles for the podium places. *Maddie Hooker* from Falls Creek won the U20 women's final, ahead of *Heli Laajoki* from Canberra and *Olivia Schubert* from Melbourne. In the men's final *Jayden Spring* from Melbourne won out ahead of 2020 Youth Winter Olympian *John Mordes* from Melbourne and *Noah Bradford* from Sydney.

The **distance** races were held using an individual start, where skiers start every 30 seconds and all skiers race against the clock. The women's 5km was won by 2020 Youth Winter Olympian *Zana Evans* from Jindabyne ahead of *Maddie Hooker* and *Heli Laajoki*. The men's 7.5km saw a tight race between *Noah Bradford* and *John Mordes*, with *Bradford* pulling away at the end for the win and *Boris Stanish* from Mt Buller taking the bronze.

Thanks to all the competitors and families for their participation and to the many who volunteered to enable the races to be held over the weekend.

This signals the last of the cross-country skiing competitions to be held at Falls Creek in 2022. Thanks must go also to our many **sponsors** who help to make the racing season viable and to the **Falls Creek groomers** who keep our cross-country trails in fabulous condition for all to enjoy.

Ann Bellingham
Race Secretary

RESULTS

Overall Junior XC SPRINT Champions for 2022

Male

1. Jayden Spring*
2. John Mordes*
3. Noah Bradford

Female

1. Maddie Hooker
2. Heli Laajoki
3. Olivia Schubert

Age groups champions

U16 Boys

1. Isaac Spring*
2. Edward Woodhouse-Bedak
3. Matthew Wilby

U16 Girls

1. Damika Morton
2. Rosie Franzke*
3. Chilli Sparke

U14 Boys

1. Alberto Allan
2. Eli Spring*
3. Beau Duggan*

U14 Girls

1. Sarah Baxter
2. Evelyn Armitage*

U12 Boys

1. Austin Moszczynski
2. Eli Marsland-Chapman*

U12 Girls

1. Carmen Cullen-Croke*
2. Bethany Franzke*
3. Jade Findlay

Overall Junior XC DISTANCE Champions for 2022

Male

1. Noah Bradford
2. John Mordes*
3. Boris Standish

Female

1. Zana Evans
2. Maddie Hooker
3. Heli Laajoki

Age groups champions

U16 Boys

1. Edward Woodhouse-Bedak
2. Tj Bradford
3. Isaac Spring*

U16 Girls

1. Rosie Franzke*
2. Damika Morton
3. Satara Moon

U14 Boys

1. Alberto Allan
2. Beau Duggan*
3. Liam Cullen-Croke*

U14 Girls

1. Sarah Baxter

U12 Boys

1. Austin Moszczynski

U12 Girls

1. Bethany Franzke*
2. Carmen Cullen-Croke*
3. Jade Findlay

*Birkebeiner NSC member

To see a full list of results visit Michal Trnka's
<<http://www.alpinetiming.com.au/results/r200/>>

End of Season Dinner - Saturday 17th September

With **special guest speaker Senior Sergeant Greg Paul**, who oversees the **Victoria Police Specialist Search and Rescue Squad**. He has witnessed first-hand what can happen when people tackle outdoor adventures without proper preparation. The unpredictable alpine region is one area that keeps them busy throughout the year. **Read Greg's Profile** [\[HERE\]](#).

- **When:** Saturday 17th September 2022.
- **Time:** 6:00pm for a 6.30pm meal.
- **Where:** Roi's Restaurant – 179 Kiewa Valley Highway, Tawonga.
- **Cost:** \$35.00 per head (the meal is partly subsidised by the club), pay for your own drinks.
- **Numbers are limited** – be sure to **RSVP** early so you don't miss out!

Please **RSVP** with any dietary requirements by **Sunday, 11th September to Mary Hall**. Email: anmhall@yahoo.com, mobile: 0492 960 885 or text.

As a courtesy to Roi and Sue, they need to know what to cater for so please let Mary know ASAP.

Birkie Bits by Nordic Ned

1, Ski de Femme – a thank you

Dear Ronice

I just wanted to express my gratitude to all involved in the weekend's Ski de Femme.

At 60 years old this was my first time at the event, and I loved it. Such enthusiasm for Cross Country skiing is infectious, we were all made welcome regardless of skill level.

I was lucky enough to be in a group of only five with coach Anna working on our Classic Kick Double Pole technique, something I'd

working on our classic kick double pole technique, something I've never heard of before.

I can't say I excelled at this but with Anna's wonderful can-do attitude (« you are all amazing ») I was back out there in the afternoon practising.

So can you please thank all those involved and encourage them to do it all again next year?

Heike

2. From the USA Ski Team Coach – Jason Cork

Hello Ronice!

Thanks to you and the Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club for all your help these last three weeks. I left a thank-you note in the wax room at the Bogong Outdoor School (along with one for Roger) a bit ago. There's also a bib *Jessie* signed for you to do as you wish. Might be cool for the clubhouse, might be a good thing to auction off, and might make a nice tea towel.

It has been a blast for everyone seeing them out on the trails and having 'recovery time' in the clubhouse. An even greater thrill for me is to have the team sign the PETITION and prepared to have a voice!

If you did not see it - the last edition of the **USA ski journal FASTER SKIER** has a great account of their stay here and includes accolades for Falls Creek and BNSC.

Read all about their visit – [Three weeks down under – Diggins and Kern find snow in Australia](#)

Jason Cork

US Team Coach

3. Merino Muster (NZ) - Sat 3rd September 2022 - a Worldloppet Event.

We had many Australians making the trip across the Tasman to compete in the Merino Muster (NZ) following their participation in the 30th Kangaroo Hoppet.

Congratulations to club member **Ross Hamilton** (AUS) who finished

Congratulations to club member **ROSS HAMILTON** (100) who finished second in the 42 km event behind *Campbell Wright* (NZ). Campbell finished second in the Kangaroo Hoppet.

Read all about the event including full results.

<<https://www.merinomuster.com/>>

Falls Creek Lakeside Development

The club has a Page on our website that sets out our position. **Click [HERE] to view.**

The Petition

NOTE – *As of 6th September 2022 there are 4,588 signatures.*

Hi All

Kate Prest (part of our Action Group) has just put up a petition on www.change.org. If you value the World Class XC Skiing that Falls Creek currently offers please sign the petition (link below) and share it far and wide. If you have time, please also fill out the reason for signing.

<https://chnng.it/MdtvnKHJLQ>

Yours in XC skiing

Paul Gray

<paul.gray.ibag@gmail.com>

Note – The Petition page explains the cross-country skiing position.
