



Birkebeiner Bulletin

9th September 2022

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Falls Creek Lakeside Precinct Update



Falls Creek Lakeside Precinct Survey

FCRM has recently published a survey to seek feedback and opinions on the FALLS CREEK LAKESIDE DEVELOPMENT.

FCRM has requested that BNSC share the link to the survey. (See below) FCRM states "The Falls Creek Master Plan 2016 and further strategic development plans, including the Victorian Alpine Resorts Visitor Economy Development plan, have highlighted this project as a transformative priority development" At this point, BNSC has had no response to the concerns raised in the Position Paper sent in July.

As background, in response to the June announcement that the Summer Activation of the ANARE Lakeside precinct would include clearing of BHP Rd and parking in winter from 2023, a [BNSC Position Paper](#) was developed and submitted to FCRM in July this year. Acknowledgement of our Position Paper was received and FCRM CEO Stewart Smythe indicated that FCRM will "respond directly to your communications and the attachments in due course." This is yet to happen.

Since then, an extended community of cross-country skiers including other ski clubs, schools, lodge members, Falls Creek apartment owners and other stakeholders have been engaged in discussion and conversation amongst themselves. A new association, the [Cross Country Ski Association Victoria](#) (XCSAV) with a current membership of 300 has been incorporated, an informative website has been established and a petition XCSAV in opposition to the BHP Rd winter clearing has garnered 4,633 signatures.

Problematic, among many issues identified is that the 2016 Falls Creek Master Plan did not indicate the BHP Rd would be cleared in winter or that Lakeside would become a destination accessible by vehicle or bus in winter.

When the 2016 Falls Creek Master Plan was published, BNSC and the Kangaroo Hoppet made a well-thought-out joint submission and continued to work productively with FCRM by supporting a 2020 Grant

Application for an Altitude Training and Nordic Bowl Development. Significantly a joint \$70,000 contribution should it succeed was committed. Again, as recently as the Falls Creek Stakeholder meeting of 21 October 2021, NO mention was made of any plan to clear the BHP Rd.

At this stage, FCRMB released a statement on July 28th 2022.

Extract: Whilst the FCARMB has not made a decision with respect to clearing snow from the road and will not be doing so in its remaining term, community feedback is being sought on a range of opportunities for the activation of the lakeside precinct. This includes working with clubs and user groups on the widening of other cross-country access options and new trail development to compensate if future changes are made to the current trail network. This feedback will inform future strategic planning around the lakeside and its activation. In addition, the FCARMB will be recommending to the incoming ARV Board that a strategic review of XC skiing be undertaken as a priority project.

BNSC has recommended a well-funded Strategic Management Plan for Cross Country skiing should be developed. To our knowledge, no other clubs or schools have been contacted.

FYI, if you have completed the Monkey survey, this is MARK 2 which has been modified. Whilst some club members have concerns about parts of the survey, you can mark 'prefer not to say' etc and make further comments to support your views in a comments box.

LINK to Survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LakesidePrecinct>



2022



MINI SERIES

Falls Creek Event Dates

Date	Start Time	Technique
Sunday 07-08-2022	11:00am	Classic
Saturday 10-09-2022	11:00am	Freestyle

Note:

- Classic technique is permitted in Freestyle events
- All age classes will be mass started at various intervals
- Race registration is preferred via the following link:
<http://www.tnsc.com.au/event-registration.html>
OR from 9:15AM on the day at Windy Corner Day Shelter, Falls Creek.

Distances and Age Grouping

Under 8	.5km
Under 10	.75km
Under 12	1.0km
Under 14	1.25km
Under 16 and Under 18	2.5km
ADULT	2.5km

Entry Fee

Child \$15 per event
 Adult \$20 per event

OPEN TO: All children under 18 years of age at the 31/12/2022 who are NOT members of the National X-C Ski Team. All Adults from beginners to seasoned tour skiers welcomed.

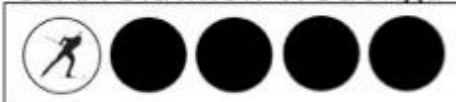
- At the last miniseries event a diploma will be awarded to all participants.
- **Contact/Enquiries:** Lynn-Maree Cullen – 0409592226 or lmc0511@gmail.com
www.tnsc.com.au



Final Mini-Series for 2022 this
 Saturday 10th September starting at 11:00 am (F).



SSAA Biathlon Wodonga



COME AND TRY BIATHLON- NE VICTORIA

WHAT:	Come and try biathlon
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WHO:	Cross country skiers, biathletes, shooters wednesday training sessions
WHEN:	17th September 2022
WHERE:	Biathlon Range, Whiskey Flat Mt Hotham
TIME:	Biathlon: 10.30am – 12.30pm instruction 12.30 pm – 1.30pm Lunch 1.30 pm – 3pm fun relays
COST:	\$25(rifle and ammunition included)
HOW:	Biathlon Shooting instruction, fun relay sprint challenge- try your shooting skill with a higher heart rate.
RSVP:	Wednesday 14 th September – for organisational purposes to ssaavicbiathlonwodonga@gmail.com or Bob Cranage on 0418 568657

Supported by:



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. FIS Instagram video re USA Team visit

Ronice says "This is a fab montage and advertisement of their stay at Falls Creek. Jessie Diggins has 60,000 followers so you can be guaranteed a few OS skiers will see Falls as a fab destination".

[View it HERE](#)

2. Your Race Fees at Work

View a table [\[HERE\]](#) that explains what your race fees pay for. You will be surprised!

3. USA Ski Team Down Under

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 Und snow in Australia](#)

Falls Creek Lakeside Development

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

[\[HERE\]](#) to view.

The Petition

NOTE – *As of 9th September 2022 there are 4,633 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://chng.it/MdtvnKHJLQ>

Yours in XC skiing

Paul Gray

<paul.gray.ibag@gmail.com>

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

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