



Birkebeiner Bulletin

6th October 2022

In this issue:

1. Race Results Australia **Timing** Conference
 2. Bill Little – thank you
 3. XC National Director update - *Finn Marsland*
 4. Birkie Bits by *Nordic Ned*
 5. 2022 Social Happenings
 6. Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing
 7. Ella Jackson's interview with Jessica Diggins (USA)
 8. Falls Creek Lakeside Development
 9. The Petition - 5,142 signatures now
-

RACE RESULT Australia - Timing Conference

Heya Birkies,

We've had a fantastic winter of racing this year with the club successfully conducting the Birkebeiner Classic, Rocky Valley Rush / Sun Valley Ramble, four national championship races across seniors and juniors and of course the Kangaroo Hoppet.

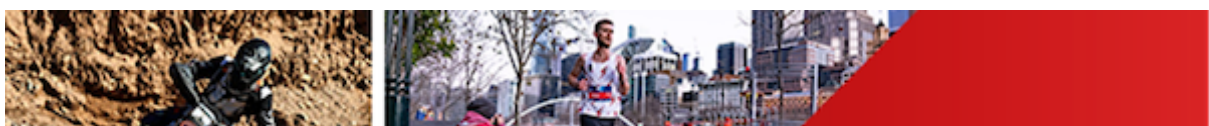
Conducting races is a key activity for our club as it provides us with the opportunity to fulfil a number of the club's objectives, particularly promoting the development of cross country ski racing. Hosting and organising races also provides funding to the club which we use to provide our members with our fantastic programs and services.

Ronice Goebel (Hoppet Volunteer Coordinator) and I (Volunteer Coordinator for all the others) have been rapt with the response we have received this year when we have put the call out for volunteers. We are keen to keep this momentum going, and during the break we will be working on a number of strategies to ensure we have a pipeline of individuals for all race official positions.

A very important race official is the **Chief of Timing and their team**. This year, as with past years, we have had *Michal Trnka*, ([Alpine Timing](#)), *Bill Little* and *Jesse Fowler* as the core timing team, but we are keen to expand this group. As you can see below, **RACE RESULT**, the company behind the timing system that we use, is **running a 2-day conference** in Melbourne and the club would be happy to fund attendance at this conference for any members interested to learn more about being part of the Timing Team for future races. **It is possible to just do the first day only, which covers the most pertinent course content for our races.**

If race timing is something that interests you, I would love to hear from you! I can be contacted via stephanie.germancheva@gmail.com or 0408 599 114 and I'm happy to hear from anyone – people who want to attend the conference, people who can't attend but are keen on race timing and people who aren't sure about timing and need more information before committing.

*Thanks & Cheers,
Steph Germancheva*





DATE : 26th & 27th October 2022

RACE RESULT is the fastest-growing timing solution provider in the industry – so if you are curious about timing and interested in software systems, remote timing solutions and hardware best practices, for instance, this is for YOU!

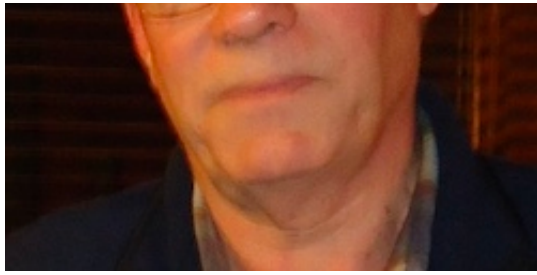
Don't miss the chance to network with other timekeepers, clubs, and sports and hear from guest speakers. It's an excellent opportunity to learn more about **RACE RESULT** and find new ways to improve your event timekeeping, results and competitor experience in this new world event environment.

Location: the conference will take place at the Courtyard by Marriott Melbourne Flagstaff Gardens in the Melbourne CBD. You will receive complete information on how to get there and book accommodation and parking in your registration confirmation email.

For any questions, please contact us at info@raceresult.com.au or phone +61 3 9553 5800

Bill Little





Birkebeiner NORDIC SKI CLUB

Bill Little has been a member of Birkebeiner since 1982. He is a life member. Bill has always been involved with club activities and committee positions. In the past, he has been secretary and Bulletin Editor and took over from Chris Heberle as the club's Chief of Timing and did that for many years until Michal Trnka started his Alpine Timing business. He now works alongside Michal, assisting him with all modes of race timing (ski, bike, run, etc). Bill has also been a club representative on the Hoppet Board for a number of years.

The club formed a Search & Rescue Unit in 1982, thanks to Bruce Vine who is also a life member. Bill joined this group, and for over 40 years has been on close to 30 exercises and searches either in the field or as a PLO (Police Liaison Officer). He has decided to retire from being a PLO with the Bush Search & Rescue (BSAR) organisation.

Bill, the club thanks you for your dedication to the S&R unit over all those years.

XC National Director update – Finn Marsland

- [Provisional National Team Selection](#)
- [Australian Junior Cross Country Ski Championship 2022](#)
- [Falls Creek XC Spring Camp](#)
- [2022 Cross Country Continental Cup Winners Crowned](#)
- [US Sweep the Podium as Hoppet Fires Again at Falls Creek](#)
- [Hugo Hinckfuss Awarded Sport Australia Hall of Fame Scholarship](#)
- [Cross Country Interschools Ignites Spark for Moon and Walker-Broose](#)

Birkie Bits by *Nordic Ned*

1. Conquestathon Call for Organisers

The **Mt Bogong Conquestathon** is in a state of uncertainty following the decision by the Upper Kiewa Valley Lions Club not to continue to organise the annual event. The Lions Club has done a great job to keep the event going and facilitate so many people to enjoy the great alpine environment. However, with an aging volunteer group, they feel it is time for someone else to take over running the event.

This is a general call out for anyone who might be interested in putting the event together in 2023. The key will be to get 5-6 core people that can share the lead-up administration requirements over the next few months so the event can proceed next year.

Traditionally the event is held on the March Labour Day Long Weekend however, due to the Peaks Challenge it would be prudent to consider a better date that allows for more community focus.

If you are interested in flagging an interest, please send a quick email to **Warren Sanders**, warren.sanders@ymca.org.au and we can look at the viability in the future.

Cheers, Ben Derrick.

2. Snow Trek & Travel – Wodonga

The *Cranage* family has decided to close their *Snow Trek & Travel* store in High Street Wodonga after providing cross country skiers with gear since 1978.

Originally the store operated as Moloney's, then Mountain Sports, then Snowgum and finally Snow Trek & Travel. There would not be too many cross country skiers who have not purchased 'something' from the Cranages over the years. They have been a huge sponsor of our sport and also of the Biathlon discipline.

and also of the Biathlon discipline.

Thank you, Bob, Norma, Lynn and Peter for your contribution. The family started the Telemark Nordic Ski Club in 1972, the first dedicated cross country ski club in Australia.

Please be reassured you will be still able to purchase and receive all your cross country skiing and expert advice and equipment online from Peter at www.crosscountryskier.com.au

Peter closed the shop doors on the 30th of September 2022.

3. Telemark Mini-Series Report

Click [\[HERE\]](#) to read the 2022 Mini-Series Report from Coordinator Lynn-Maree Cullen.

2022 Social Happenings

End of Season Dinner at Roi's

Date: Saturday 17 Sep 2022

(Apologies to all Collingwood and Sydney supporters for the date selection)

30 people attended, 26 of these were BNSC and/or BSAR members, the remaining 4 from Vic police (2 local Mt Beauty cops, 1 from Wangaratta, and guest speaker Greg Paul - Senior Sergeant Vic S&R).

Greg Paul gave an informative talk on **Vic Police Search & Rescue** and the roles various other groups have in S&R operations. He thanked local members of BSAR for their valued assistance. He also thanked BNSC for their contribution to cross country skiing.

The cost for the main course and dessert was \$50/person with BNSC subsidising \$15/person. Total cost for club = \$450

Notes: This event was a replacement for the mid-season dinner, which was cancelled for Covid related reasons and the cancellation because

was cancelled for Covid-related reasons, and the cancellation because of illness by the guest speaker (*Greg Paul*) for the Queen's B-day casserole dinner at Bogong Village. Greg contacted the Club to apologise for cancelling and was keen to do his presentation at some point before the end of winter.

Queen's Birthday Casserole Dinner at Bogong Village

Date: Saturday 17 Sep 2022

Approximately 40 members attended.

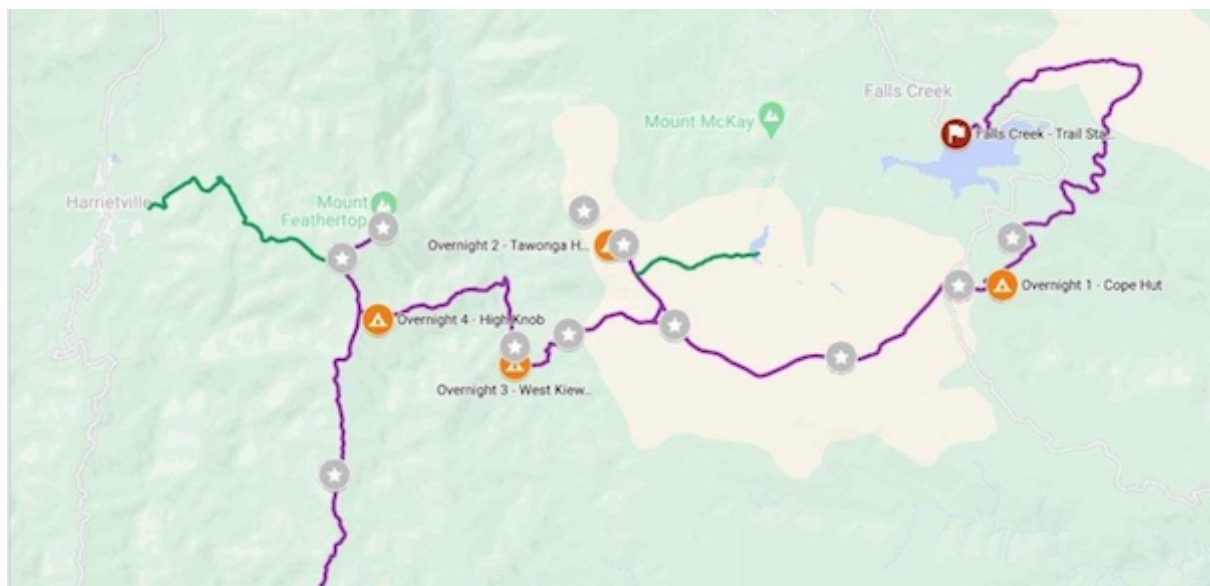
Ewen kindly stepped in as a last-minute replacement for our guest speaker. He spoke about the proposed ANARE – Lakeside Re-development Project.

Rob Boland was awarded the **2021 Birkie Award** for his contributions to the Club in various capacities including Search & Rescue, Hoppet, Race Hut and Clubhouse construction.

Yummy food made and consumed by all.

Mary Hall
Social Secretary

Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing





The **Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing** is a proposed 57 km walk through the Alpine region of Victoria, combining and upgrading an existing track network. The final Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing will be a **5-day 4-night hiking experience** through the unique alpine environment, from Falls Creek to Mount Hotham.

Ella Jackson's Interview with Jessica Diggins (USA)

This week, I had the honour of interviewing a very influential figure in the cross country skiing world. This woman is effortlessly effervescent. A strong, sunny-side up skier who wears her warpaint of grit and glitter proudly as she sets off on her skis that seem to fly even faster up close than what you see on your TV. **She is of course the recent Beijing Olympic Games Gold Medalist from the USA, Jessie Diggins.** [Read More](#)





From left: Julia Kern (USA-second in Hoppet), Ella Jackson (interviewer & Birkie club member) & Jessica Diggins (USA-Hoppet winner)

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 October 2022 there are 5,142 signatures.*

Hi All

Kate Prest (part of our Action Group) has 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.ihag@gmail.com>

paul.gray.bug@gmail.com

Note — The petition page explains the cross-country skiing position.

Paul L'Huillier - Editor

Copyright © 2022 Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of the Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club or have been placed on the mailing list as a valued club supporter

Our mailing address is:

Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club Inc.
PO Box 192
Mount Beauty
Victoria 3699
Australia

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can update [your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

