

Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, MAY 2022

Dear BNSC members

The last two years of skiing have become somewhat a blur due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and reasonably poor snow conditions. We had a few weeks of 'normal operations' at the beginning of the 2021 ski season – and it was great to see our ski friends on the snow. Unfortunately, the majority of the season was impacted by access limitations. Maybe this year will be better.

Despite the disappointing past two years, Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club remains financially sound. The BNSC committee continued to meet all through 2021 and 2022, continuing to work in the interest of both our members as well as the broader XC community. Thanks to all committee members for their contributions to the operation of the club (for a full list of the BNSC committee and key volunteers – see next page).

Despite the difficult year, BNSC still managed some significant achievements in 2021-22.

Achievements

- Renewal of the clubhouse lease (thanks to Allan Marsland and Ronice Goebel for getting the documentation and insurance in place)
- Six BNSC athletes competing in northern hemisphere races (world cup, continental cup) and supported (in part) by BNSC funding. Note that all of these athletes received further funding from Mount Beauty Rotary Club – matching that provided by BNSC!
- Two BNSC members (Phil Bellingham and Casey Wright) representing Australia at the Beijing Winter Olympics
- Second edition of the 'virtual kangaroo Hoppet' (through Hoppet committee)
- Successful delivery of the Junior Birkie Camp (thanks to Bronwyn Gray and Cath Richardson)
- Birkebeiner Classic race (the only race run by the club in 2021)

Let's hope for a normal season – we deserve it.

Ewen Silvester
President,
Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club
1st May 2022

Committee members and key volunteers

BNSC is entirely dependent on the work of the volunteer efforts of our club members. To thrive and get things done depends on our friendship, goodwill and willingness to help out where we can. With that in mind, I would like to highlight the following contributions from members in the past year:

MICHELLE FORRER, vice-president of BNSC and Secretary of the Junior sub-committee.

RONICE GOEBEL has done an admirable job as BNSC Secretary, handling minutes and correspondence and ensuring that everything got done when required.

JEANETTE MC LAREN, as club treasurer, has continued to manage club financial processes and expertly advised the club on budgeting issues.

ANN BELLINGHAM, as race secretary, has continued to oversee the organisation and delivery of BNSC races.

PAUL GRAY has taken on the junior development programs.

NICK WRIGHT has managed membership records, renewal and payment processes.

PAUL L'HUILLIER has maintained the club website, Facebook page and news.

MICHAEL TRNKA, our timing guru who, along with the race committee, has managed timing for our races that are world class in organisation.

ALLAN MARSLAND, a long-time committee member who continues to provide wise counsel and advice on any number of matters, including our dealings with Ski and Snow Board Australia, Falls Creek Resort Management, SXCV and of course continues his involvement in the Kangaroo Hoppet.

PETER SMITH for looking after the Birkie Clubhouse.

BRIAN KEEBLE for managing the Race Hut and providing sound policy background to ongoing projects.

BLAIR HUME for coordinating our working bees and liaising with FCRM and Parks Vic to ensure our ski tracks are ready for snow.

WARREN SANDERS (SHEEPY) who coordinates the Search and Rescue arm of BNSC. To all S&R volunteers, your efforts are valued and have been gratefully appreciated by those affected.

BRONWYN GRAY and CATH RICHARDSON for organising the Junior Birkie camp

ELAINE THOMAS in the role of social secretary over the past year

KATE PREST and STEPHANIE GERMANCHEVA as general committee members.

ALL MEMBERS who have contributed to club functions and race days. Thank you for stepping up to make these events a success.