

Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club
Annual General Meeting
Old Church
May 8, 2012

Executive Attendees: Jill O'Neill, Peter Tweedie, Brant Dahlie, Laura Bakermans, Steve Osborn, Liz Holdijk, Leslie-Jean MacMillan, Leanne Helkenberg, Dave Pellow, Jill Krause,

Non-Executive Attendees: Jane Woods, Kate Woods, Alex Woods, Gabriel Price, Bill Price, Andrea Scarth, Maria McMillan, Dave McMillan, Ken Eng, Theresa DeGroot, Bryan Swansbury, Agrian deGroot, Kirsteen Laing, Frank Guillon, Kevin Kriese, Irene Ronalds, Al Gamble, Fred Oliemans, Virginia Cobbett, Rosemary Barnewall, Dennis Courtliff, Debbie Courtliff, Teresa White, Dave Bustard, James Cuell

Call to Order: 7:08pm

Slide show presentation for Ski Nationals by athletes Kate Woods and Gabriel Price

Talk from Leanne Helkenberg about her presentation to the CCBC AGM

- CCBC looking at a system to establish a "Clubs of Excellence" rating standard to use across the province. Cost \$180, one time fee to apply for, not sure how it would benefit clubs. Possible it could be a point to make in sponsorship proposals.
- Clubs across the province are all having issues with coach and volunteer recruitment and there has been a noticeable increase in athlete participation.

1. Business Meeting:

a) Adoption of the Agenda:

- Call for additions to the Agenda - none
- Call to adopt to agenda -Moved by James Cuell. Carried

b) Approval of 2011 Minutes

- Call to approve the 2011 minutes. Moved by Alex Woods. Carried

c) Director's Reports:

Report from the Chair (Jill O'Neill)

- This is the 2nd largest per capita club in BC
- The year had funding challenges. The executive and programs have very hard to overcome these challenges.
- Questions the board looked at; what service do we provide to our members, how broad do we strive to meet goals.
- The board looked hard at funding; discovered that there are many different ways to raise funds.
- Newsletter- is this the best way to communicate? How do we best communicate with the membership? Jill posed the question to the room "go out into the membership and ask how best to communicate with the membership?".
- Thanked the board members for their efforts.

Membership (Jill Krause)

- 2011-2012 Membership up by 3 to 701.
- Ticket booth sales (2011-12) \$5290.29 vs. (2010-11) \$5639.59, store sales (2011-12) \$ 4343.75 vs. (2010-11) 3975.00. Cold weather and increased season's passes may be responsible for ticket sales drop.
- Thanks to ticket checkers Jerry and Jan Pinkerton, Dave Bustard, the Courtliffs and many others .

Lodge and Area (Brant Dahlie)

- We were skiing from Nov 9th on. Lots of snow and resulting increased fuel coats.
- Trail work; expanded dog trail, trail maintenance
- Brian Fuhr looked after the mowing of the trails
- New "Wetzinkwa" trail connects the bottom end of the lit trail to the demo forest-very popular.
- Logging last year on the Pine creek side. Likely to be more next season due to Beetle.
- Lodge had problems with smoke in the lodge. Likely a problem of overloading of the furnace causing the wood to smolder.
- A new flue was installed to reduce creosote build-up
- Look at installing a new external furnace - people are invited to participate if desired
- Possible there might be new logging on the Dahlie trails this year
- Comment from the floor-"How much does tracksetting cost? We should tell members how much setting costs so they understand the costs?" The tracksetting costs >\$35,000 last season, with fuel, maintenance and honorarium. This was a low cost maintenance year so this cost could have been higher.
- Attendees showed appreciation for the website posting updates on tracksetting.

Athlete development (Liz Holdyk)

- Defined what ADP was for the benefit of the attendees.
- Chris Werrell returned as the paid club coach.
- Chris was involved in all ski programs in the club, from school to Masters.
- ADP will be morphed into the "Nordic Skill Development Program"
- Liz recognized coaches of the various programs
- Larry McCulloch was the ADP coordinator
- Liz, Jill O. and Alex Woods were the coach management committee for the paid coach
- Ski Boosters (Kathy Wilford and L-J MacMillan) organized kids events, fundraising. A great support group for the programs.
- Early in the season we lost two large grant funding sources, causing a shortage of funds.
- ADP looked at all possible fundraising options.
- One innovative effort was a Health and wellness program for the BVCU. In exchange for a donation, select people offered 3 ski sessions to BVCU staff.
- The ADP hosted the fall northern ski camp-at short notice. A success.
- We have 5 athletes on provincial development and talent squads.
- Liz recognized the fine efforts Kate and Gabi at the Nationals.
- The youth athletes had a great season; attending many cup races, had fun and great results.
- Look forward to having Chris Werrell back

Biathlon (Peter Tweedie)

- Program had 15 youth and approx. 6 adult Masters
- We have 14 targets in place for the season.
- Club had participants at all Biathlon BC Cup races; with good results and lots of fun.
- Two club athletes and a coach attended the BC Winter Games in Vernon.
- Range upgrade and expansion continues. Hope to complete in summer 2012.
- New grant money to build new biathlon warming hut

Rabbits and School program (Leslie-Jean MacMillan)

- School program was a success.
- Karen Mitchell, who has run the program for approx. 8 years, has stepped down. The board recognizes her efforts with appreciation and extends Thanks to Karen.
- See presented report.
- The rabbits now integrate the BV Marathon (Wetzinkwa Loppet) into their program.
- Rabbits coordinators Al and Jesse wanted to thank the Board, Chris and ADP for their help and support.
- Extensos thank Brian and Kathleen for the new trail "Zipper Twister". It's a lot of fun.
- Rabbits need many new coaches next year
- Rabbits is looking for new program coordinators for the next season.

Race Events (Steve Osborn)

- Steve is backing away from being the race coordinator. We need a new one.
- We had 6 race events throughout the season.
- Racers appear to be holding steady in numbers and increasing a bit.
- There are approx. 25 volunteers helping at races.
- Concessions organized by ski boosters
- Good cooperation with neighbouring clubs.
- Good policies set up by previous boards help the board manage the club.
- The board has also developed some new policies to help the club function. (e.g. Key positions policy, Coach training policy)
- Strategic Plan reviewed and updated

Backcountry (Dave Pellow)

- Looks after Starr Creek and Harold price cabins.
- Dave has taken on the task of talking to snowmobile clubs to organize use, reduce use conflicts between skiers and sledders (snowmobilers).
- The goal of the board is to encourage use of the cabins and come to joint use arrangements with the snowmobile clubs. The snowmobile club has done maintenance on Starr Creek; work not easily done by skiers without helicopter access. Cut firewood, replaced chimney cap.
- It is hoped that the new RAMP will reduce conflicts in the long term. Without snowmobilers helping out the club won't be able to afford the cabins.
- Harold Price - no registered overnight users. Not much use noted.
- Dave would like to have a Club representative on the Winter RAMP.

Promotions (Leanne "Big girl pants" Helkenberg)

- Extends thanks to Tlell Glover, Virginia Cobbett and Lorretta Malkow for their efforts in getting the newsletter out.
- There were a few Club social events (e.g. Pancake breakfast, potluck social)
- Women's ski fest was a hit; 40 attendees.
- Good newspaper coverage this year, on club events and athlete performance.

Finance (Laura Bakermans)

- Recognized the grant shortages early in the season.
- ADP and the exec worked hard to find alternate sources of funding.
- The club hired Kirsteen Laing as the club book keeper. She conducted a overhaul of the books and got things organized. This was a big help and is budgeted for next season.
- Expenses were higher, particularly in tracksetting.
- Received a Wetzinka grant of \$10,000. Helped offset costs.
- The club received a \$102,000 grant through a Regional District grant from the Northern Sport Initiative. This money is specifically earmarked for a new (to us) tracksetter and a replacement biathlon hut. The grant was intended for capital projects but we were able to argue that the groomer is key to our operations.
- Laura reviewed the Club Profit & Loss statement.
- We have a budget forecast deficit.
- Jill O'Neill spoke to the topic of the grant situations. The board had a learning curve on applying for grants. The gaming grants will be applied for. We will apply for all available grants and opportunities as they are found.
- Steve O.; Noted that the club fees support the basic operations of the club. Programs are self-sustaining but there are provisions for the club to support a program to some extent if a program has a financial crunch, but not to the detriment of the core club operations.
- Assets: Reviewed Club Assets statement.

Resolution regarding a need to audit (review) the books

- The question is posed to the room on the feelings of whether the Club should have a formal independent review of the Club financial books.
- Discussion regarding the need for a review versus a full audit.
- Motion Kevin Kriese "Be it moved that the membership waive the need for a review of the clubs financial books" All in favour. Carried.

Misc.:

Ski Boosters: Leslie-Jean mentioned that there were two significant fundraising events warranting special mention. BV Wholesale supplied the food for the marathon concession, which allowed this event to raise significant funds for Ski Boosters. Also, the club partnered with Ford of Canada in the Drive-One4 your community fundraiser. This raised approx. \$3300.

Promotion materials: Kevin Kriese suggests the club update the trail map and promo materials for the club.

2. Plans for next season and open discussion.

- The large grant has made some funds available for other projects. Completion of the ceiling has been mentioned a possible project to which to direct funds.

3. Election of Officers for 2012-2013

- Leanne listed the new and returning candidates standing for the board. (9)
- Leanne called for nominations from the floor. No new nominations.
- Being that there are 9 candidates for 10 board positions, all 9 candidates are elected by acclamation.
- The new 2012-2013 BVCCSC board: Jill O'Neill, Brant Dahlie, Dave Pellow, Peter Tweedie, Jill Krause, Ken Eng, Virginia Cobbett, Andrea Scarth, Rosemary Barnewall.

4. Chris Dahlie Award:

- Liz Holdyk was awarded this award for her long service to the club and youth programs.

5. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.