



AGM Meeting 2021

Date: October 29th 2021

Called to order: 7:30pm

Adoption of Agenda: Pat & Dean

Adoption of Minutes: Veronica, Julie & Dean

Attendance: Liz Thorne, Jim Thorne, Sue Bergstrom, Dean Bergstrom, Cathy Vandenberg, Amy Klepetar, Matt Beedle, Robert Onstein, Pat Moulard, Collette, Dan McElheron, Veronica Chinchilla, Lisa Hanna

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30pm

Treasurer's Report

Sue Bergstrom

Start Balance in bank account	\$18,040.27
Current Balance in Operating Account	\$22,230.17
Savings Account	\$21,466.99
Savings Short Term	\$20,000.00

Donations 2021- 2022

Donations from Membership	\$325.00 <i>Oper. Funds</i>
District of Kitimat	1,200.00 <i>OF-Coach Training</i>
Kal Tire via CCBC	Promises \$1500 to TrackAttack program

President's Report

Liz Thorne



- Membership jumped to better than 700.
- Rental shop sold out regularly, sometimes three times in one day.
- Grooming increased drastically.
- There were more beginner skiers than we ever had before.
- Adults lessons underway fully booked and in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.
- The rental Shop opened Thursday's evenings and it was busy.
- Cathy & Liz took turns circulating the lodge hosts every Saturday and Sunday for the entire season.
- Connected with some of board members to ensure their well being. Thankfully everyone said yes!
- By the end of the season Day passes were going out smoothly, renters had a system making sure they arrived when the skis were available, people new where the trails were and stress levels dropped.
- Regular pass checks were performed and not once did we meet anybody who had not a pass.
- The club was open on Boxing day due to the high number of newcomers with low fitness levels that. The dog and the beaver were no longer adequate for beginners' trails.
- In Jan. the Executive meeting was held on the second Tuesday; realized the problem. Signs were made and set up by Friday. Now we have the Green trail perfect for all ages.
- For years we have been one of the smallest clubs in the province with the executives doing most of the job and now with such a large membership that's no longer required and as mentioned in the newsletter committees are the future. The vision is that committees will make most of the decisions regarding their specific area or responsibility and report to the board what they have done. Basically the board will oversee and make the final decision.
- Land claims and treaty: we have spoken with Kitselas negotiator. They have claimed three sides of our trails and the mail trails are not in discussion yet. The Kitselas would like the Dog trail when we are done with it. As long as there is snow on the ground each winter we are OK ..
- CCBC has been extremely supportive again this year have been running different work shops for the clubs.
- Thanks to all volunteers, specially to Colleen and to all Rental Shop volunteers who dealt with the public cheerfully.
- This is my last year as president and I am hoping to leave the club with a solid crowd of energetic people in the executive supported with energetic people on the committees. Looking forward to the season.



Groomer's Report

Dean Bergstrom

- We have been replacing burnt out trail lites with new LED'S and the electrical boxes on the lite poles with a newer design to minimize condensation/blowing breakers. This is a multiyear program.
- We suffered 2 breakdowns on the SnowKitty that involved the wipers and heater that actually put us down for over a week each time and we have decided to try and stock certain items that we think might fail to minimize this downtime. The same goes for the skidoos and new Outlander.
- There has been a fair amount of trail pruning done this year, we were able to get the west side of the Dog done, the Beaver to Moose, the Jackrabbit, .5, Sprint, the Clearwater and Rainbow and with all the logging out there most of the Moose is done. The plan for next summer is to get the part of the Moose between Snowbound and Rainbow done, the Bonsai part on the Moose, south side of the Dog and the snowshoe trail specifically the piece from Cathy's Corner sign to the viewpoint and the return section along the lake to the eastern run of the snowshoe trail.
- Looking forward to the installation and activation of the Nordic Pulse app that will be installed on the SnowKitty and can also be used on the smaller machines so members who install this app on their phones can get up to date information on which trails have been groomed.
- Future plans for the trails is for more machine/hand pruning plus removal of the windrow that the grader had left years ago and widening we can do at the same time.
- Building 2 covered shelters with firepits - 1 at the viewpoint west of the Moose Hut and the other at the viewpoint at Onion Lk.
- High pruning of the trees below the Moose Hut to open up that view.
- The moving/setup of the 2 containers we have to better utilize storage and possible workshop for the different projects we need done around the site.
- We have 13 groomers of various experience on the different equipment we have and although that sounds like a lot we are always willing to train up new operators!

Facilities' Report

Jim Thorne

- Dean and his assistant Doug are doing a lot of work to maintain and improve the facilities around the trails.
- Oversee FB page with Patricia Mouland, feed back is appreciated.



- Currently organizing work parties and wood cutting efforts.
 - The second wood cutting session is to happen Oct. 30th to supply fire wood for the Moose hut.
 - Moose hut current wood supply is low and overnight may not be possible until after Christmas.
- Green trail signage was done last year.
 - It helped improve opportunities for rank beginners.
- Assisted with the Bonsai original layout of the trail with the help of Terry Brown.
 - I am leaving the board.
- Will continue contributing to the best of my abilities for another year doing the to work I have been.
- Water gets regularly tested to stay in compliance with Northern Health Authorities requirements for providing water to our users in the ski club.

Athletics' Report

Jackrabbits Program 2021

Colleen Maser/ Travis Carter

Amy Klepetar/ Matt Beedle

1. Registrations

- Registration was opened at the end of November 2020 when the province was following via Sport Phase 3 Return to Sport Guidelines. The club received registration forms for 57 children and also placed an additional 8 children on a waitlist. These 57 children will be referred to as the "registered families" for the remainder of this report.
- In December 2020, restrictions increased and youth sport now had to follow Phase 2 Return to Sport Guidelines. A coaches meeting was called. Not all coaches were in agreement, but by the end of the meeting a general consensus was reached that it would be difficult to meet the needs of both children and coaches as cohorts were no longer allowed, 3 metre spacing had to be maintained on the field of play between all participants and coaches regardless of mask wearing, and during the pandemic the club had lost approximately half of its coaches making it very difficult to run group sizes small enough to maintain this physical distancing requirement.
- Parents were notified by email that the opening of the Jackrabbit lessons was postponed with the hope of restrictions being lifted by February 6th. When February 6th arrived, restrictions had not been lifted so Jackrabbit lessons were officially cancelled for the 2021 season and lesson fees were returned to parents.
- In lieu of regular lessons, alternative activities were offered to encourage families to ski during the pandemic including the following: weekly jackrabbit challenges, free guided family tours, family lessons, an obstacle course and an outdoor kilometre challenge. Each of these offerings will be further explained below.

2. Weekly Jackrabbit Challenges



- For 10 weeks, Jackrabbit weekly challenges were offered to “registered families”, waitlisted families, and to families that were registered in the 2020 Jackrabbits program. Families received an email each week which contained separate challenges for each age group: Bunnyrabbits, Jackrabbits Levels 1&2, Jackrabbits Levels 3&4 and Track Attack. The challenges were different every week and included skill building activities such as scooter drills and an opportunity for Jackrabbits Levels 3&4 and Track Attack kids to try skate skiing, and fun activities such as a scavenger hunt.
- Families who wished to enter for a chance to win weekly prize draws submitted emails to the coaches with information or a photo indicating that their children had participated in the challenge. Four prizes were awarded each week; one to each age group. One grand prize was awarded at the end of the season. Prizes were donated by Cross Country BC, coaches and were also purchased by the club.
- A total of 40 children participated in the weekly challenges. All of these children received a Nordic skiing participation badge at the end of the season.

3. Free Guided Family Tours

- Family tours took place on Saturday, January 16th and 30th. These tours were not formal lessons, but rather a family skiing experience with a guide who answered questions about the trails and gave a few pointers about ski technique. One guide was assigned to each family. A total of four families participated over the two Saturdays and three coaches helped out with this. Family tours were offered to “registered families” and waitlisted families for the 2021 season.

4. Family Lessons

- On Saturday, March 6th, family lessons were offered to “registered families” and waitlisted families for the 2021 season. One coach was assigned to each family for a formal lesson. The cost of lessons was by donation. Two families participated and two coaches.
- More families were interested in lessons being offered on Saturday, March 13th. These lessons had to be cancelled due to extremely heavy rain.

5. Obstacle Course

- On Sunday, March 14th, three teenage coaches set up an obstacle course in the stadium for all to try during the first week of spring break. It seemed that many families visiting the ski trails participated. The obstacle course was taken down on Saturday, March 20th.

6. Outdoor Kilometre Challenge

- To help reduce the number of families in the lodge, the Jackrabbit kilometre challenge was moved outside this year. A rope was installed on one end of the lodge and kilometre markings drawn on the rope. People were encouraged to put their names on clothes pegs and move their pegs along the rope to keep track of their total kilometres skied. The rope wasn't installed until late January, but 21 children still participated as well as some of their parents. Children who participated received distance badges or stickers at the end of the season to acknowledge their efforts. Anyone was welcome to use the



outdoor kilometre challenge rope as it was set up outside in a public place for all to see and use.

7. Coaches

- A total of 13 volunteers assisted with coaching during the 2021 ski season. These coaches assisted with a variety of tasks such as COVID safety planning, facilitation of coach meetings via Zoom, leading guided family tours, teaching family lessons, designing of the obstacle course and creation of the weekly Jackrabbit challenges.
- Ski lessons for coaches were offered through the Build the North Program on Sunday, February 14th as a professional development opportunity. Lessons were offered in both classic and skate technique.

8. Program Equipment, Clothing & Grants

- Success of the family programs is closely connected with seasonal ski rentals offered by the Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club. Families were offered seasonal ski rentals in December and many of them took advantage of this opportunity.
- This year the club did not qualify for free Jackrabbit Kal Tire Toques and Buffs because the club did not run traditional ski lessons. Parents were offered the opportunity of purchasing toques and buffs from Cross Country BC for the cost of \$12.00 each. A bulk order of 8 toques and 2 buffs was purchased, and the toques and buffs were distributed to the children at the end of the season.
- The Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club applied for and received a grant through the Kal Tire Cash for Clubs 2020-2021 program. Skate ski equipment for the Track Attack and Jack Rabbit Levels 3&4 groups, as well as some field kit supplies such as balls and cones was purchased with this grant money.

Membership Report

Cathy Vandenberg

1. Membership:

- Memberships increased to 713 last season (534 in 2020, 421 in 2019 season and 386 in the 2018 season).
 - Early birds (before Dec. 2): 581 (82%)
 - Regular season members (Dec. 2-Feb.14): 89 (12%)
 - 1/2 season registrants (after Feb.14): 43 (6%) (Last registrant was March 15)
 - New members: 251 (35%)
- About 86% of members signed up online.
- An amazing busy season, with so many members, old and new, more day pass skiers.
 - People found Onion Lake Ski Trails and enjoyed the fresh air and the trails immensely.
- I expect this season to be busy as well, but I've passed the membership reins onto Pat Mouland, who has found herself busy with over 300 members so far this season.



2. Website

- Tara Robinson is our webmaster. Tasks this year: better calendar for booking Moose Hut patrons, and getting people to sign in to MailChimp for email updates themselves. I will continue to work with Tara to keep the website updated with notifications and newsletters, documents, photos, etc.
- Facebook page, very popular for on-the-spot grooming reports and photos.
 - People need to be reminded that it's a public site, one doesn't need to be a member of the Facebook community to view the posts.

3. Ski Rentals

- Another epic year for the rental shed, more epic than the epic year before!
- Most shifts were staffed with 3 volunteers, all rentals were done on the deck of the rental shed because of COVID precautions, and this worked out well enough. A lot of extra running around for the volunteers, and there were lineups out in the snow, but people were overall patient and understanding.
- Our income grew, and on weekends in January and February, most of our gear was out on the trails. Carolyn Watt took over the organizing of the volunteers and sorting out a great system of paperwork (including waivers for the use of equipment) to streamline the rental process.
- Daily rentals almost tripled last season compared to the previous winter.
- JackRabbits kids and other kids (members, age 12 and under) rented gear for the season, increased by 15%

Business Section

Liz Thorne

1. Moose Hut reservations policy is for members only who can have non-members as guests.
 - Due to complaints to Recreations and Trails, Moose hut reservations is open to the general public.
 - It was decided to charge two day passes (\$24.00), plus \$16.00 to bring it up to a total of \$40.00 per night for non-members (Adults).
 - It was proposed for non-members senior/youth/students rate \$30 and children 12yrs old or under \$20.00.
 - The fees are non-refundable.
 - Payment to be collected in advance via daily e-transfer.
 - Members continue to book for free.
 - Tickets must be time stamped.
 - Written policies are required regarding the use of the hut must be communicated.
 - **Moved** Liz **Second** Sue Bergstrom. **carried**
- All in favour.**



2. Committees

- Moose hut committee is small and it can grow it out a bit.
- Snow flake café was active even without a café. Excellent cookies.
- An experienced group of people is required of about three to four members to take turns throughout the season to answer general questions to skiers.
- Facilities committee is looking for members.
- Do we want a new lodge?
 - For this project commitment is required.
 - A committee is required for this project.
 - Data collection is required.
- Recognition Funds proposed.
 - To acknowledge long time board members for their hard work.
 - Budget confirmed \$1000.00
 - Lisa Hanna in charge.
 - Acknowledgement goes to Karen Westby who helped the club for 20yrs.
 - To be further discussed in the next Executive meeting.
 - **Moved** Lisa Hanna, **second** by Dean Bergstrom. **carried**
All in Favour

3. Safety

- Sam Lambright has been organizing emergency equipment and keeping an eye on it over the winter.

4. Election of Officers

President	Elizabeth Thorne
Vice President	Cathy Vandenberg (<i>nomination accepted</i>)
Treasurer	Sue Bergstrom (<i>accepted</i>)
Secretary	Veronica Chinchilla
Facilities Director	<i>Required</i>
Chief of Grooming	Dean Bergstrom
Athletics	Colleen, Travis Carter Amy K, Matt Beedle
Memberships	Patrician Mouland
Director at Large	Graham, Sheryl Brown, Robert Onstein, Lisa Hanna

5. Personal Info

Personal info of board members is required for the Annual Report.

- Full name, Phone, Address, Postal Code.