



Photo: Michael Morris

Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club 2022-2023 Annual Report

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2023 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club Annual General Meeting

7:00 PM June 22nd, 2023

@ RNSC Lodge, in person

Quorum Established:

Board Members Present:

Staff Members Present:

Regrets:

1. Call to order
2. Establish Quorum
3. Welcome and Introductions
4. Approval of AGM Agenda
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** *That the agenda be adopted as presented.*
5. Approval of the AGM Minutes from June 9th, 2022
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** *That the minutes of the previous AGM, held on June 9th, 2022, be approved as presented.*
6. Approval of the General Meeting Minutes from Dec 7, 2022.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** *That the minutes of the General Meeting, held on December 7th, 2022, be approved as presented.*
7. There is no unfinished business from the last General Meeting that needs to be dealt with.
8. Reports & Questions
 - a) Finance (Betsy Evans)
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** *That the financial statements be accepted as presented.*
 - b) President (Michael Morris)
 - c) Executive Director (Bridget Daughney)
 - d) Lodge Manager (Paula Martens)
 - e) Operations (Duane Dukart & Ken Gibson)
 - f) Coach (Zach Hill)
 - g) Athlete Development (Chad Smith)
 - h) Membership (Carolyn Lorrain)
 - i) Health and Safety (Bridget Daughney)
 - j) Questions for Directors/Staff
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** *That reports be accepted as presented.*

9. Election of Directors

10. New Business

a) Finance (Betsy Evans)

- **PROPOSED MOTION:** *A motion to adopt a fee increase to annual memberships fees as follows: \$20 for each of the individual earlybird and regular memberships; and \$25 for each of the family earlybird and regular memberships.*

Note: There is no suggested change to the youth membership.

11. Membership Draw

12. Adjournment

President's Report

Once again, the club has provided the community with an excellent season of Nordic skiing. The combination of ample and timely snowfall, dedicated volunteers, and talented staff gave us the kind of skiing experience we have come to accept as normal. Still, we should not take it for granted.

A club of skiers in one form or another has been providing community-based skiing here since 1891, ever since local merchant Frank Wells imported skis from Minnesota. Obviously skiing as a sport evolved over the decades and so have our circumstances. We moved our base of operation from Mount Revelstoke to Mount Macpherson in 1991 and decided to build a lodge in 2008 when our membership stood at 325 persons. Before 2008, the Fingers were known to only a few alpine ski tourers and there were no established snowshoe trails. This year, there are 1239 members, as well as thousands of day users, both local people and visitors from around the world using our trails and parking area.

We now maintain about two million dollars of assets, groom thirty kilometers of trail for classic and skate skiing, six kilometers of which is lit for night skiing. We have five staff and three contractors, plus volunteers that provide more than 3500 hours per year towards our operation. Most notable are the volunteer groomers who put in a four-to-six-hour shift on a nightly basis. There are more than a hundred children in our various programs, some who compete at an international level. We also cooperate with the Revelstoke School District to provide a series of lessons with free rental equipment to all children who need it.

Our thirty kilometer trail system started by volunteers who renovated logging roads and skid trails. Over the years we have installed many culverts to improve drainage and thinned trees as needed. Much of the work has been accomplished with donations of time and equipment and with the cooperation of Ministry of Forest staff and local industry. More recently we have been the beneficiaries of grants, particularly from the Columbia Basin Trust.

Over the two years of the pandemic, use of our area has continued to increase. Beyond recreation and sport, many people have gone out of their way to tell us how important getting outdoor activity has been to their mental health.

Looking to the future, what we will need is an overarching land use prescription for our trail system, which has a modest footprint of about 400 hectares. The Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club is the largest community organization in Revelstoke, and it contributes to Revelstoke's position as an international destination. This has not happened by accident but rather it represents the efforts of many generations and can continue to do so indefinitely with our continued efforts.

However, the authority over the land base, and therefore the ultimate responsibility for it, resides with the provincial government.

The same can be said for the mountain biking, mountaineering, and rock-climbing opportunities nearby. Together with winter activities, the Mount Macpherson Recreational Site is an outstanding example of what life in British Columbia is about and why we live here. We should take an interest in how the province manages this area so that it is conducted in a manner compatible with our club's long-term ambition to continue as a premier skiing opportunity.

Michael Morris
President

Financial Report

Thanks for the support of board members, Finance Committee members, and staff as I continued in the role of Treasurer this year. Thanks also to Brendan MacIntosh for his ongoing excellent work as our bookkeeper.

Our fiscal year has historically been April 1 to March 31. In 2022, we received permission from the Canada Revenue Agency to change our fiscal year to May 1 to April 30, so that each fiscal year includes one entire ski season. To make this change, we had a fiscal 'year' that consisted only of April 2022, so that we could start a new year on May 1. While this change has temporarily added slight difficulties in comparing year over year results, in the long-run it will be good for the club.

For the 2022/23 fiscal year, the club budgeted for a loss of over \$23,600, because we knew that we would be spending some grant money that had been received the previous year, and we'd accumulated a lot of savings in the past few years. At year end, we had a loss of \$17,371.70. This loss isn't a bad news story - over \$19,500 of our costs can be attributed to spending of grant money received the previous year but not yet spent due to delays in trail maintenance work caused by forest fire risk. And we had accumulated a large amount of money through the COVID years, so decided to hold membership fees steady despite a projected loss. We also funded summer trail work from our bank account. A good news story is that Ski League revenue exceeded expenses by \$8,267.35. A large percentage of Ski League revenue comes from fundraising and grants. ['Ski League' is an overarching RNSC term that encompasses all programming, volunteering, actions and finances taken by the Athlete Development Committee, and its sub-committees, volunteers and the RNSC staff that report to the ADC.]

This winter, membership fee revenues were similar to the previous two years, but day pass sales revenue increased, partly because of great ski conditions, and partly due to an increase in our day fee from \$12 to \$15. Like all businesses and families, we have seen increases in costs; we spent over \$9,000 more on fuel this year than the previous year (partly due to a very long ski season, and partly due to high fuel prices).

We finished the fiscal year end, April 30, 2023, with \$191,053.26 in current assets (i.e., cash and cash equivalents), which is a decrease of about \$42,000 from March 31, 2022. We have \$8,753.87 in total liabilities (to be confirmed by BDO), which is a decrease of about \$3,000 from

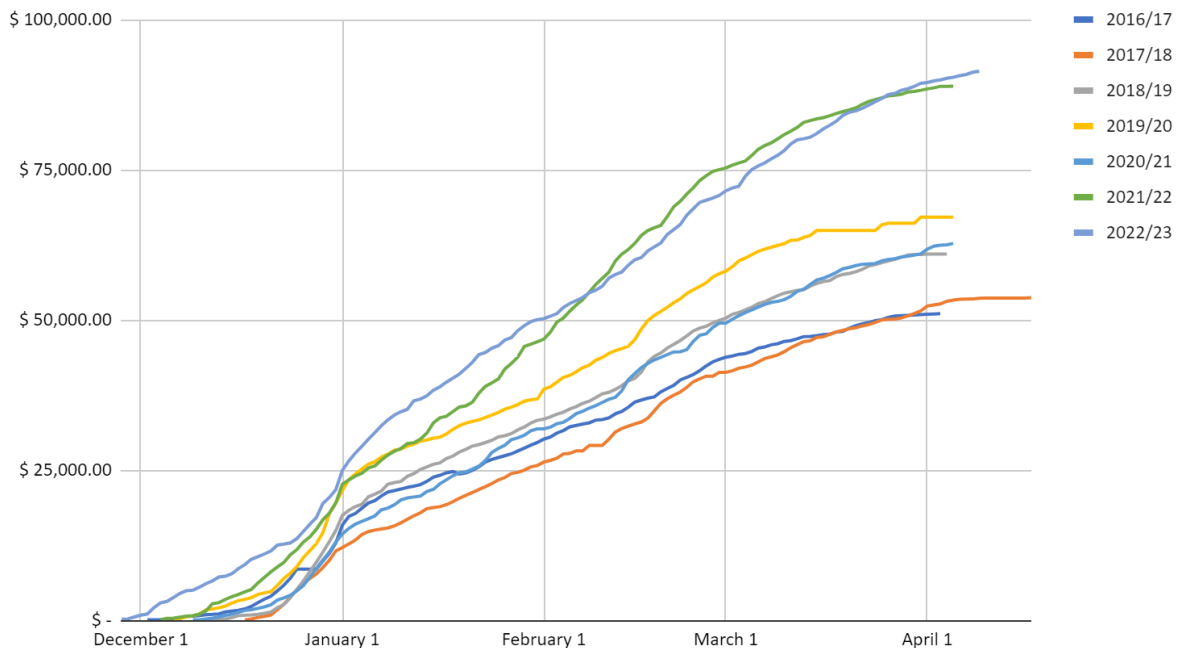
March 31, 2022. See above regarding the change in our year end, which complicates year over year comparisons. Overall, the RNSC is in a solid financial position. Because of this, in 2022/23 the Board authorized continued funding of our groomer reserve fund. [A reserve fund is money set aside for future planned purchases or unexpected/unbudgeted costs]. We did not spend any reserve funds in 2022-23, so still have \$120,000 set aside for future purchases of a groomer, a rental ski fleet, and unexpected operating expenses.

Regulatory Filings

The club hired BDO Canada LLP this year to support us in regulatory filings to the Canada Revenue Agency. A BDO representative will be present at the AGM to answer questions.

Day Operations

Lodge Sales



Above is a comparison of lodge sales across the previous seven years. Lodge sales include day passes, ski and snowshoe rentals, and day backcountry and snowshoe fees. Exact details can be found in the "Income Statement". In 2022/23, we collected about 4% more day revenue compared to 2021/22.

Budgeting For The Future

In the past year, costs have been rising faster than revenues. We anticipate much higher wage costs next year due to increased costs across the board, including the need to hire a new operations employee to support Duane Dukart. The Board has approved increases to day fees

and rental fees, and we are requesting an approval to increase membership fees for the first time since 2014. In 2018 we reduced early bird fees. See motion in the AGM agenda regarding rate increases.

The club is budgeting for a \$13,600 deficit for 2023/24, based on the assumption that rate increases will be approved.

Sincerely,
Betsy Evans, *Treasurer*
Brendan MacIntosh, *Bookkeeper*

**** The 2022-23 financial statements are currently being reviewed by BDO and will be added in here when they are ready. ****

Executive Director's Report

What a season, what a club! The RNSC is filled with dedicated volunteers and staff who create a fantastic community that I am fortunate to be a part of. It is amazing what this community accomplishes each season as well as putting in the ski miles. A big thank you to all.

There are many accomplishments, reporting, and community events mentioned in other reports. The following are a couple of further notable mentions from this past season:

- During our fiscal year we were able to secure \$66,694.45 in grant funding above program grant funding. This includes funding for asset purchases, wages for summer trail crew, and funding for community outreach, to name a few. We also completed the \$22,271 CBT Trail Enhancement grant we had previously received that had been delayed due a strong fire season. We would also like to recognize the enormous donation of time, in-kind, and expertise by our community partners. Please visit our website for a full list of our sponsors/donors over the years. As a non-profit this funding helps keep our membership fees affordable.
- A big hats off to Duane, our Operations Manager, who has the experience and knowledge to see what needs to be done and does it. This past summer, with the help of Community Basin Trust funding and a trail crew, he undertook trail maintenance work that has truly made a difference to the grooming capabilities, snow quality retention and skiing trail experience.
- While snowshoeing is not a purpose of our club it is an activity that many of our members and visitors enjoy. We have completed updates to this network with the help of funding from the BC Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program.
- This past year we updated our bylaws. While perhaps not the "flashiest" accomplishment it was a necessary step to keep them current and inclusive. They were ratified at a special fall members' meeting.

- Various committees have, or are currently, updating our policies. The RNSC is working on updating all sections and then having annual reviews of them so policies can stay current. This work can be dry at times and we are fortunate to have some good minds willing to take up this task.
- We continue to be a leader in the cross country BC ski club community with many clubs contacting us as they grow and develop to learn from the RNSC's sustainable growth.
- Our neighbours, the Hislops, among many great "neighbourly" gestures, generously allow the club the use of the connecting section between the stadium and Roadway Ramble, support leaving some snow across their driveway and handle lost visitors driving up to their house looking to ski. For this we thank them and look forward to many more years of being neighbours.
- Thanks to a partnership with Revelstoke Tourism again this season we continued to expand our digital presence. In particular with the creation of our dog webpage and social/events webpage. While there are many digital options for people to peruse, the RNSC website continues to be the hub of RNSC information. Ashley once again helmed our social media presence as we continue to post real-time relevant information there.
- The RNSC volunteer board is a huge strength of our club. Numerous decisions need to be made over the year and we are fortunate to have a group of passionate people bringing expertise and knowledge to our discussions, our club would be much less without them.

As mentioned in other reports it was fantastic to welcome our members back into the lodge in its full capacity. The casual conversations held at the lodge and on the trail help connect our community and steer our club. I personally welcome and appreciate hearing from our members.

This upcoming fall we will be renewing our 10 year Partnership Agreement with Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) for use of the trails on crown land. While the agreement is a necessary documentative step it is important to highlight the word "partnership". Our local RSTBC employees can often be seen skiing on the trails and therefore have a strong understanding and support for what the RNSC brings to the Revelstoke community. We are fortunate in that this translates to a strong positive working relationship between our two organizations.

Having completed our longest season ever combined with our highest club membership numbers since our creation, it is fair to say the RNSC is doing very well. Again, thank you to all and we'll see you next season on the ski trails.

Sincerely,
Bridget Daughney
Executive Director

Lodge Manager's & Recreational Program Coordinator's Reports

A good season at the Nordic Club once again. It was so nice to have the lodge fully functional and see a return of members enjoying the upstairs space. We gained so many new members

during covid and many people had only come to the window instead of coming inside! Our ticket office ran smoothly thank you to Bridget Daughney, and our new staff member Andres Suarez, who both did a great job this season. We have had a record number of members at 1239 this year. The Nordic club was as busy as ever with 3,390 day passes sold, 1,341 adult rentals and 233 snowshoe passes between the months of December and April. In the beginning of the season we saw low numbers of ski tourers to the area till the very end of the season due to poor and low snowpack. However, last season we had 478 back country day passes and within a short period of time we had 452 backcountry day passes purchased in late February and March. We partnered with Tourism Revelstoke for another season of a one time offer of free day passes and rentals if you booked directly with a hotel and stayed more than one night. We had 194 visitors come with this offer and many had never been to the Nordic club or Nordic skied before.

With the lodge open we had the opportunity to have more social gatherings such as senior's tea, masters time trials and the option to be inside for our third Poker Ski and annual Lantern Ski.

We continue to offer free rentals for youth which is, of course, received so well and brings families to the club to ski a little more often.

As well as working as the Lodge Manager this season I took over the position as Recreational Program Coordinator (RPC) which I enjoyed very much and kept me on my toes!

This season was successful for the RPC role. All of our school programs ran smoothly as well as early season dryland training, technique clinics, masters series and public lessons. Also, Mike Greenberg initiated and led a successful masters training group during the season.

Over many years we have had high school and elementary school grade 4s come and have fun learning how to Nordic ski. This year we had 333 high school students come through the season and 360 grade 4 students. Many grade 4's had never been on a pair of cross-country skis and some had never been on skis at all. They went from learning to stand and balance on skis, to being proficient at diagonal stride, herringbone, and snowplowing down hills. Each year is so fun to see these amazing leaps and bounds take place over only a 4-week period.

Our relatively new Ski After School program, which is partnered with the Stoke Youth Network and all the elementary schools, was once again a huge success. In total there were 325 elementary students from grades 4-7 who voluntarily came to have fun on their skis afterschool. The Stoke Youth Network covered the cost of the 3 coaches as well as provided snacks for the skiers, and SD19 provided the transportation. I want to thank all the volunteer teachers and parents who make this program a success.

In total the Nordic club had 1018 students come to ski with school programs this season!!

Nyssa Thomas, Maja Jacobs and Robyn Thomas offered a dryland training series to get started for the Nordic season. We hope to keep that going this upcoming fall.

Our master's technique clinics and series were great this year. We had two budding instructors Nyssa Thomas, who is part of the Junior Development race team, and Marlie Molinaro, who is a Senior Development racer, put together a classic and skate clinic in December. Aside from the cold weather challenges they were well attended and successful.

Blake Paton hit the ground running and ran multiple 6-week series of beginner to intermediate and advanced. Many skiers learned new techniques for skate and classic, and how to improve their skills over the 6-week period.

On Wednesday evenings we also had a volunteer-based training masters series run by Mike Greenberg, where the group met for higher intensity evening workouts. There were typically 6-10 people who came out on Wednesday evenings. Ann-Marie Gill was a huge help with training plans. Several from the group finished off the season with the Sovereign to Silver Star ski race(s). I believe this group has just found their feet and will be growing next season!

Also, we had 5 paid instructors during the season who came out to instruct public lessons during the season for club members, community members or visitors to the town. In total we had 65 public lessons during the 2022/23 ski season.

Thank you to all the instructors this season for making everything work out so smoothly.

There are no words to say how much I enjoy being part of the Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club. I can't thank all the members, volunteers, and old and new visitors who come through and sprinkle my day with joy.

Thank you once again for a lovely season of Nordic skiing,
Paula Martens
Lodge Manager & Recreational Program Coordinator

Operations Report

The winter of 2022/2023 proved to be another fabulous season for the Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club's operations! It was a record year on a number of fronts: earliest start to full grooming with the Big Groomer, longest grooming season (great skiing on May 1st), best overall grooming conditions, and most rain free winter days!

The dry autumn allowed us to do the summer maintenance work that we had budgeted for in the previous year; we were unable to do the work because of fire restrictions that summer. We were able to get a lot of the canopy trimming finished on BCIT, Short Hop, Ellie's and Easy Al's. Roadway Ramble was leveled and drainage improved with one new culvert and some ditching. There were also some problem trees removed, and some trail surface and ditching/drainage improvement. We trimmed the canopy on Mickey's and did a short section of widening with one new culvert. On Main Loop we did a couple of sections of trail widening on the upper section, and a couple of new culverts were installed. All of this summer work paid off well,

adding to the quality and length of season in those locations. This work was carried out by Duane, our Operations Manager, and our CBT funded trail crew of two.

Our grooming equipment has slowly been updated with more fuel efficient, quieter, and lower maintenance machines to provide dependable grooming. Maintenance of this fleet, as well as summer maintenance of trails/facilities, is largely performed during the off-season to provide you, our members, with well maintained, safe trails.

In preparation for each season, Duane Dukart, Operations Manager, spends much of his fall maintaining our fleet of grooming equipment (2016 Prinoth BR350, 2018 Skidoo Skandic, and 2017 Polaris Sportsman quad, plus implements of roller and Ginzu groomers). Our Polaris quad is due for a replacement for next season to avoid costly repair bills and untimely breakdowns.

It seemed like there was a lack of early season snow until the weekend of November 19th/20th. Rolling and Ginzu trail prep began on the 22nd of November and Duane and the volunteers did their best to pack down the snow and get it to Ginzu groomed skiable condition by the 23rd. The snowfalls that arrived after that were cold and steady. We did not get the usual rain events that destroy the early season base. Thus, the first day out for the snowcat groomer was on Nov 28th, just 5 days after we started skiing on the Ginzu groomed snow! While this was the same as the previous year, the difference was there was 40 cm plus of new snow on the higher trails. Then there was some more snow, enough so that we could get to all the trails by Nov 30th.

We had excellent skiing until the last week of April, with May 1st being the last day of Big Groomer operation! More than 30 keen skiers came out for a May Day treat. After April 15th, we went down to a couple days a week of the big groomer, with a few Ginzu grooms in between. With day time temperatures reaching into the 20's and night time temperatures barely freezing; Mickey's, Roadway Ramble and lower Main Loop were showing major dirt patches and poor snow conditions by May 1st. However, Log Roller still had 40 cm of packed snow and will be Ginzu groomable for a few days yet.

This year, like most years, a team of dedicated volunteer snowmobile/quad groomers along with staff spent many hours preparing and packing trails for regular grooming. This begins just after the first substantial snowfall (usually we can begin packing trails with as little as 10 cm on the ground), and continues until the snowcat can safely groom trails without risking costly damage. This kept Duane very busy with training, repairs and maintenance.

We put 520 hours on the snowcat this season. This is about 90 hours higher than the average for the last few years. This, and the fact that we had more regular fresh snowfalls, as well as the jump in fuel prices, is reflected in the fuel expenses which are----- \$ higher than last season. There were no unexpected large repairs required on any of the equipment this year, so expenses were pretty much in line with budgeted amounts. The snowcat had a couple of hydraulic hose ruptures during the grooming season; these are anticipated with the machine starting to show its age. Fuel expense for the snowcat groomer was up about \$4000 over last season reflecting heavier snowfall amounts and higher fuel costs.

Each fall, Duane coordinates a team of volunteers to brush each trail to provide quality early season skiing. Most of the trail brushing is done with a tow-behind self-powered brusher (Thank you to the CBT Community Initiatives grant). This is towed with our quad for a number of days in the fall. You may have noticed the lack of sticks poking through the snow as soon as we had a few inches of snow. It has proved to be a great asset to our fleet of trail equipment. Last fall, a team of dedicated volunteers used brush saws, clippers, loopers, pole saws and shovels, and also ran the trail brusher. It was especially important for this season as the hardworking Revelstoke Fire crews, who usually help out immensely, were busy with the exceptionally intense and long fire season. Thank you again to our amazing volunteers.

Summary of 2022-2023 Operations

- A dry summer /fall allowed us to achieve a large amount of trail summer grooming.
- We have 10 dedicated volunteer snowcat operators for grooming and 6 more volunteers for the rolling and Ginzu grooming with the snowmobile and quad.
- Our quad is due for a replacement this summer.
- Groomer fuel (snowcat) used was \$--- vs \$--- last season.
- Approximately 520 hours on the snowcat this season vs average of 400 to 430 from other years.
- Increased fuel cost due to higher price, longer grooming season and numerous generous snow falls.
- The cost of groomer maintenance parts jumped substantially this season.
- Other maintenance costs were roughly in line with budgeted amounts.
- Last day of snowcat grooming was May 1st for a total of 158 days vs 129 last season.
- Ginzu grooming continued after May 1.
- More summer maintenance is anticipated (manpower and funding dependant) on the trails in 2023 to reduce the problem of overhead branches, water control, and trail surface and width.

Thanks to paid staff, volunteers and members for another stellar season! Our operations depend on dedicated staff and a robust membership to maintain and enjoy our trails.

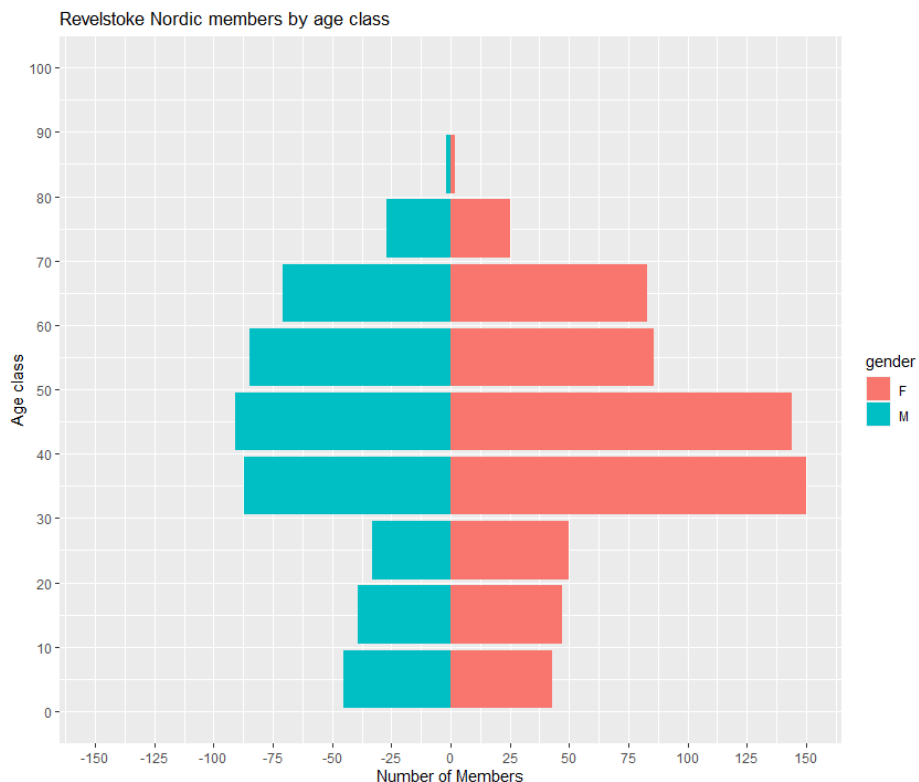
Duane Dukart, *Operations Manager*

Ken Gibson, *Operations Director*

Membership and Communications Report

We've had another excellent season, and possibly the longest season yet with the best continuous conditions in memory. It's late April and they are still grooming. There has been a lot of happy skiers!

Everyone appreciated the day lodge being fully operational this year. It was warm and welcoming inside and nice to reconnect with everyone. It also made it more pleasant to hold events such as the Membership day, Poker Ski, Seniors Ski & Tea, Team Scream, and Headlamp Heroes.



The January 1st Lantern Ski was a huge success this year with the most participants we've ever had. It was a great evening of fun thanks to all those who participated and to the many, many volunteers who made it possible.

This season we tried something new. We held dog training sessions. Lynn Gagnon ran early season dog training lessons for our members with furry friends. The focus was on skiing with your dogs on & off leash, and recall to make skiing more safe and enjoyable for all. It was a success and we hope to be offering more training sessions next season.

Once again we are the largest club in Revelstoke with a new record number of members at 1231. The ages range from infant to mid 80s. It demonstrates our love of fitness and the great outdoors (and great groomed trails!). Below is an interesting graph showing the ages of our membership (thanks to Rob Serrouya). We also put out a survey this year. Thank you to those that completed the survey. It was good feedback for us and will help inform the club going forward.

Membership sales will now start online in July with our switch to follow Nordic Canada's insurance year. We also hold a membership day in October for those who would prefer to purchase their membership in person (and avoid online fees). The early sales benefit our club by providing cash flow to prepare for the upcoming season and early bird prices save you money.

All events, including races, happen due to our volunteers. Please remember that we are a club. We are only as good as our club membership and those people who are willing to step up as volunteers. It's pretty amazing that all that great grooming is done by volunteers.

We are thankful to the City of Revelstoke for including our club in their shuttle services on the weekends.

Finally, this season we had success with Revelstoke Tourism offering a promotion of free Nordic passes & rentals to out of town visitors who booked accommodations in town over the winter.

Carolyn Lorrain
Membership Director

Coach's Report

This past year, Skill Development and Race Team participants totalled 108, with a record number of 63 participating in at least one Cross Country BC (CCBC) race event. Operations at the lodge returned to normal this year, with the membership and Race Team utilizing the facilities after 2 seasons with the lodge closed to the public.

The 2022-23 season was highlighted by a number of our older athletes qualifying for national and international race opportunities; and a huge increase in race participation by our younger athletes. Our training season kicked off in May with organized dryland and strength training, athlete meetings and the development of individual Yearly Training Plans for the U16 and older athletes. As Head Coach, I continued to develop, deliver, and monitor Junior Development training plans through the use of Training Peaks. This technology is essential for team communication and technique development. In-person training continued to be well-utilized throughout the entire season once group sessions resumed.

Our team continued to access our IST (Integrated Support Team), including local physiotherapists and the athletic therapist team at Keystone beginning with our spring Functional Movement Screenings, as well as consulting with Didie Hamel-Jolet on strength training and technique. I continued to consult with Physiologist Jess Kryski on applying and interpreting lactate testing results using the lactate testing infrastructure that we acquired this year through a grant from ViaSport. It was utilized to perform periodic incremental lactate tests as well as frequent spot field tests to help athletes correlate Rate of Perceived Exertion, heart rate and blood lactate levels, and monitor training loads.

The RNSC hosted 2 race weekends during the 2022-2023 season with the hopes of boosting race engagement within our Skill Development Program which was achieved with a record level of participation. At the December 17th regional Okanagan Cup, we saw a total of 60 registered



Revelstoke Athletes Alexandra Luxmoore and Marlie Molinaro celebrate after winning the 2023 Team Sprint National Championship. Photo by Nordiq Canada



Photo by Maja Swannie Jacob

participants for Revelstoke, among 240 total racers. At the February provincial BC Cup, we had over 40 participants from our programs. In the next year we are graduating 6 skiers from Track Attack to our Junior Development Program.

Our team was able to build on the consistency of the previous season and explore some new opportunities for many of the athletes, while working with other clubs whenever possible to increase information flow between coaches, and increase social bonds among athletes from different clubs and regions. In total, 16 skiers and 6 coaches from Revelstoke participated in provincial team camps with CCBC across the summer and fall. The team was also able to participate in the Nordiq Western Prospects Camp that we helped host in Revelstoke, providing a valuable opportunity to work with a diverse group of coaches and train with some of the top junior athletes

from Western Canada. We also collaborated with the teams from Larch Hills Nordic, Sovereign Lake Nordic, and Foothills Nordic for training camps and time trials in August and September.

We returned to racing in November and December at the season opening Western Canada Cups, and enthusiasm was high. Revelstoke skiers participated in races nearly every weekend throughout the winter, including 2 race weekends hosted in Revelstoke. We had 63 different junior skiers and 11 masters taking part in racing at events ranging between Okanagan Cup, Track Attack Champs, Loppets and Nationals.

The winter was a huge success for Revelstoke athletes and club alike. Season highlights include:

- 4 Athletes named to the BC Team for Canada Winter Games - the most of any BC Club;
- 3 Athletes named to the Canada World Junior Team - the most of any club;
- Alexandra Luxmoore and Marlie Molinaro - Team Sprint National Champions;
- Alexandra Luxmoore - 29th 10k Skate, 30th Classic Sprint, and 6th in relay at World Junior Championships;
- Maeve MacLeod 44th 10k Skate at World Junior Championships;
- Marlie Molinaro 39th 10k Skate at World Junior Championships;
- 4 podium finishes at Canada Winter Games, including 2 skiers on the Relay Winning BC Team;
- 1 skier named to CCBC International Tour Team traveling to Sweden to compete in Swedish National Championships;
- 3 different athletes with podium finishes at BC Winter Games;



Ruby Serrouya lunges for the line at an early season Nordiq Cup at Sovereign Lake Nordic. Photo by Maja Swannie Jacob

- 8 Individual Aggregate Awards for the BC Cup Series;
- 5 different athletes achieving podium finishes at Track Attack Champs.

A major highlight of the 2022-2023 season was the collaborative efforts between our team and a number of other BC Teams at National events. Revelstoke teamed up with the coaching staff at Telemark Nordic (Kelowna, BC) and Strathcona Nordic (Courtenay, BC) at both Nordiq Trials in Prince George, BC and at Nationals in Thunder Bay, ON. We helped support athletes that were not able to send coaches from a number of clubs around BC and Alberta including Nelson Nordic, Bulkley Valley Nordic, Fernie Nordic, Toby Creek Nordic, Williams Lake Nordic, Wapiti Nordic and Overlander Nordic.

Revelstoke athletes of all age ranges qualified to participate in a number of events around Canada and the world this year. The RNSC qualified 3 athletes to attend World Junior Championships in Whistler, BC, the most of any club in Canada. Our team also qualified 4 athletes to the BC Team at Canada Winter Games in Prince Edward Island, the most from any single club in BC. We also sent 6 athletes to compete at the BC Winter Games in Vernon, BC that had been postponed from 2022. Maeve MacLeod was also selected to attend the BC Ski Team trip to Swedish Nationals, gaining valuable international experience. Additionally our Head Coach, Zach Hill was named as the Assistant Coach for the BC Ski Team for the 2022-2023 season.

Alexandra Luxmoore was named to the Silver Level of the National Team for 2023-2024 after being on the Development Team during the 2022-2023 season.

Lastly, Alexandra Luxmoore was renewed as a Future Olympic Fund Award recipient by the Canadian Olympic Foundation for a second year, and Maeve Macleod was named a recipient for the same award in 2023. This is a prestigious award that is only given to 8 athletes each year across all summer and winter Olympic sports and our club is honored to have two of them. Maeve will be receiving support from the COF for the next 2 years to further her development in High Performance sport.

As we move into spring the skiers and coaches are looking forward to a productive summer of dryland training and working on planning for a great winter of skiing next year. A huge thanks to the club and all of the countless people that help make the skiing in Revelstoke so great.



Photo by Maja Swannie Jacob

Zach Hill
Head Coach

Athlete Development Report

Team Vision: Athlete Centered, Coach Directed, Parent Supported

Introduction

The 2022 / 2023 season was a busy one that saw us eagerly revert to our regular operations during the slow transition to a post-Covid environment. It was once again a successful year, with Head Coach Zach Hill settling into his role as the leader of our community of Nordic athletes and volunteer coaches. Although we are seeing challenges in future volunteer coach recruitment, through Zach's leadership and the support of the Athlete Development Committee, our program was once again able to thrive.

We continued with the concept of hiring additional staff to fill the Skill Development (SDPC) and Recreational Program Coordinators (RPC); however, it was decided to officially split these into 2 separate positions. The RPC would report to the Executive Director, and the SDPC would continue to report up through the ADC. Paula Martens took on the role of the RPC last fall with Maja Jacob's exit, and thankfully also decided to refill the role of the SDPC once the season started to ramp up with winter's approach. We are very fortunate to have Paula step up into

these roles as her focus on these programs and associated workload is so welcome and appreciated!

This past year, the RNSC successfully hosted not one but two (!) races – an Okanagan Cup in December, and a larger BC Cup in January. Under the leadership of the Race Team Committee, we welcomed over 400 athletes to our little town for the BC Cup and proudly delivered an event that ran as a well-oiled machine.

Below is Paula's report from all things SDP related:

Skill Development Program

SDP section author: Paula Martens

Another great season for our youth programs. The youth programs, which includes Bunnies, Jack Rabbits and Trail Blazers, had 66 youth participate this season. We had 13 volunteer coaches who put in 240 volunteer hours over the sessions as well as many parents who helped out with the sales of Save-On-Foods cards, Le Marche cards, hot chocolate and much more during the season. All were very much appreciated! Supported by the RNSC, the volunteer coaches completed online courses from Cross Country BC as well as Nordiq Canada. A few coaches completed more advanced courses such as Learn to Train and Community Coaching. It's from this volunteer dedication that we can run such fantastic Nordic programs.

The goal for each Bunny and Jack Rabbit skier over the sessions is to have fun on their skis while developing skills for life. This season the Athlete Development Committee(ADC) encouraged and supported youth to participate in some of the BC races. We had 26 racers enter the BC Cup and 10 racers from our younger youth programs! While the ADC encourages youth to join the races it is not necessary.

As well as the dedication of the volunteer coaches the older athletes, known as Junior Development, helped with the younger skiers during the season. Sometimes this requires the older athletes to be on their skis in the morning to help out and head out to train in the afternoon. The help from the Junior Development athletes is such an inspiration for the younger skiers.

Each year the Club holds different events for all of the youth programs to participate in. This season we had our annual Little Dippet Loppet, Mini-Olympics, and an end of the season maple taffy and jumps session. These events are part of the growing and learning for the youth programs. Our Little Dippet Loppet is a fun introduction into racing, the Mini-Olympics combines a dress up fun atmosphere that allows the skills learned during the season to shine, and our annual maple taffy and jumps is just plain old fun and kids get to show off their jumps on skinny skis! Thank you to the volunteer effort from the coaches and many parents who make these events possible.

The RNSC has worked hard to be able to offer loaner skis to many of our younger skiers for the duration of the season, making it easier and more affordable for families to be involved. This year the club loaned out 41 skis and boot sets to the youth. The club is looking forward to receiving some new gear for the youth programs this fall.

Thank you to all the volunteer coaches and parents who put many hours into making the Skill Development Program a huge success for another season. I am looking forward to seeing all the returning Bunnies and Jackrabbits.

Events:

Pancake Breakfast: Dec 5 Ski League Opening day

Little Dipper: Loppet Feb 13

Mini Olympics: Mar 12

Fire day/jumps/maple taffy: Mar 25

Race Team Program Highlights

A few of the many highlights from the season:

- The Ski League was awarded a \$29,000 BC Gaming grant and a \$15,000 National Winter Sports Development Association grant which paid a large portion of the Head Coach's salary.
- Hosted an OK Cup and BC Cup, under Race Committee leadership.
- Significant fundraising was once again completed by the Race Team and parent families.
- Our Race Team had many accomplishments this season with numerous skiers achieving personal bests. Specific achievements can be found in Zach's Head Coach annual report.
- As in past years, we achieved a budget surplus (~\$7000) which will provide opportunities for upcoming Race Team purchase needs, and allow us to contribute back to the club for fuel costs and trail investment.

The Athlete Development Committee (ADC) is a group of volunteers that meet monthly to plan and implement the delivery of youth programs. In the 2022/23 season, the ADC consisted of:

Chad Smith, Chair

Zach Hill, Head Coach

Brendan MacIntosh, SDPC Liaison and number cruncher

Bruce Granstrom, Race Team Support & Liaison

Cindy Maloney, Race Team Support & Liaison

Robyn Thomas, ADC Grant Committee, RNSC Finance Committee, Race Team support

Rory Luxmoore, fundraising, Race Team support & liaison

Natalie MacLeod, fundraising, accommodation, Nationals & Volunteer Coordinator

Kendra Von Bremen, Race Team support, team clothing

Maja Swannie Jacob, Coach Training Coordinator, Race Team support

The ADC will continue to work through the off-season to ensure fundraising and programming tasks are completed, including:

- Focus on recruitment of new coaches and ADC members as retirement occurs.
- Continuing training for Track Attack and Junior Development athletes over the summer. To accomplish this, Head Coach Zach will develop training plans and coordinate training activities with the help of volunteer coaches: Bruce, Mandy, Rory, Marnie, Ann-Marie, Chad, Maja, Brendan, and Robyn.
- Planning programs before advertising in the Fall Recreation Guide.
- Planning for National Coaching Certificate Program(NCCP) coaching & official courses in the fall.
- Determining volunteer, fundraising, and equipment requirements for next season.
- Writing grant applications (BC Gaming, viaSport BC, Pacific Sport, and National Winter Sport).
- Raising funds through various fundraising opportunities.

Challenges and Focus

Over the past few years, the demographics of our program participants (athletes, coaches, and parents) have been “aging.” This is to say that we are seeing some of our athletes leaving the program simply due to the graduation process of finishing grade 12 and heading off in a variety of new and exciting life directions. Additionally, we have found retention of athletes up into the older race team categories challenging, likely due to (but with no data to attribute to) the many competing sporting options in Revelstoke. An associated phenomenon is a loss of parents and coaches when athletes leave or graduate; we expect to lose 3 ADC members this year. And lastly, we do not have nearly as deep a pool of athletes coming up into the race team from ski league.

Not to say that this is not something we can’t handle. It may simply be a random blip of lowered numbers, or it could be a trend that may continue – we just don’t know. Registration in our younger ski league participants (Bunnies and Jackrabbits) is certainly not waning currently, and in fact increased during Covid.

Needless to say, new volunteer coaches, ADC participation, and parent recruitment is top of our list in terms of priorities. We are a small group that needs to ensure that this is our focus so that our programs, from Bunnies up to Senior Race Team, are sustainable; we would ask that the Board recognize where our efforts need to be, and understand that we simply may not have the horsepower to take on as much as we have in the past.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks on behalf of the ADC and the RNSC Board to all the parents, coaches, and volunteers who have invested in our Athlete Development Programs!

Chad Smith
Director of Athlete Development

Health and Safety Committee Report

The RNSC has always had a strong culture of safety and support for its members, volunteers, staff and program participants. Over the years this can be seen by the addition of safety packs out on the trails, a shelter (the lodge) being built, an AED being purchased and the continuous discussions as concerns arise as our club has grown. Following this culture, the RNSC board in April of 2022 evolved the pre-existing COVID Committee, that had formed in response to the pandemic, into a Health and Safety (H&S) Committee with a broader scope. Over the past year the H&S has been working on moving our existing practices into a written scope, identifying potential hazards in need of understanding, and creating procedures where needed. As with all organizations, the H&S's work is an ongoing process open to discussion and change as merited. The H&S Committee welcomes RNSC members to raise any health and safety concerns with them.

Thank You Supporting Organizations and Individuals!

Each season, many organizations and individuals support RNSC through volunteering efforts and funding grants. We would not be the club we are today without this continued community support. This year was no exception, and we cannot thank everyone enough. We try to mention our volunteers as much as possible in our newsletters, day to day chit chat, social media, and in the annual reports above. While we respect the many volunteers who prefer to just quietly step up and then hit the ski trails we inevitably miss mentioning someone. So a heartfelt thank you to everyone who makes our club special, makes it run smoothly and most of all, makes it a great community to be a part of!

This past season we have been fortunate in receiving funding and in-kind donations from many organizations and would like to do a big “shout out” for all their support. Thank you to:

- BC Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program
- BC Forests Firefighters
- BC Timber Sales
- BHEX Contracting
- Cheers Liquor Store
- City of Revelstoke: CBT Community Initiatives Funding
- Columbia Basin Trust
- Downie Timber Ltd
- Ed's Gas Club
- Emcon Services Inc.
- Flowt Bikes and Skis
- Grizzly Auto Repair
- Jake-Jay Construction LTD
- La Baguette/Le Marche
- Mt Begbie Brewing
- Mountain Goodness Natural Foods
- National Winter Sports Development Association (NWSDA)

- Province of British Columbia (Community Gaming Grants Branch)
- Recreation Sites and Trails BC
- Re/Max Revelstoke Realty
- Revelstoke BC Wildfire Service Crews
- Revelstoke CBT Community Initiatives
- Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation
- Revelstoke Credit Union
- Revy Outdoors
- Save On Foods
- School District 19
- Skookum Bike and Ski Ltd
- Southside Market
- Stella-Jones
- Stoke Hotel
- Stoke Roast Coffee Co.
- Stoke the Fire
- Tourism Revelstoke
- Wild Flight Farm
- Woolsey Creek Bistro
- Youth Network

2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club Annual General Meeting

7:00 PM June 9th, 2022

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Quorum Established: 27 members present

Board Members Present: Jeff Wilson (Chair), Michael Morris, Catherine Craig, Carolyn Lorrain, Chad Smith, Sharon Woods, Laurel Corrigan, Ken Gibson

Staff Members Present: Bridget Daughney, Zach Hill, Duane Dukart

Regrets: Paula Martens

Call to order: 7:06 PM

1. Welcome and Introductions

Noted the change in the BC Societies Act due to a ministerial order that allows the AGM to be conducted virtually due to COVID-19. Jeff welcomed everyone, and introduced and thanked the board and staff. Jeff called the meeting to order. Michael confirmed that we did have a quorum of at least 10 voting members present. Voting will be done through online polls and texts to the Executive Director if unable to poll online.

2. Approval of AGM Agenda

Modifications:

- Added section: J - Questions for Directors
- Changed order to f) Membership, g) Head Coach, and h) Athlete Director.
- Finance proposed motion wording added family pass information: *"That the Board have discretion to increase the 2022-23 adult membership fee by \$10 for early-birds (before December 1), and \$15 for after December 1, and the 2022-23 family membership by \$20 for early-birds and \$30 for the regular season, if deemed necessary in September 2022."*

MOTION: *That the agenda be adopted including the 3 stated modifications.*

MOVED: Michael Morris

SECONDED: Sharon Woods

CARRIED Unanimous

3. Approval of the Minutes of the June 17, 2021 AGM

MOTION: *That the minutes of the meeting of June 17, 2021 be approved as presented.*

MOVED: Sharon Woods

SECONDED: Carolyn Lorrain

CARRIED Unanimous

4. Reports

a) President

(Jeff Wilson)

Jeff presented a brief summary of his report, thanked everyone for a great season. Spoke about his enjoyment of working with the board and all at RNSC for the past 6 years. In stepping down he will miss this engagement but will be available to help with transition. There were no amendments.

b) Finance

(Betsy Evans)

Betsy thanked everyone for being so welcoming in her first year; especially Brendan and Bridget in answering her questions. Proud of the club's commitment this year to the Living Wage. Currently the club is trying to change the fiscal year end to April 30th but due to CRA delays this will most likely affect next year's fiscal year. We have a reserve policy in place and funds set aside for future needs.

Member Comment: Happy to see the living wage up front, it speaks to the priorities of the board and club. The report is well organized.

MOTION: *That the financial report be accepted as presented.*

MOVED: Catherine Craig

SECONDED: Michael Morris

CARRIED Unanimous

Second finance motion presented with discussion points:

- The club would like to hold off till the fall on a decision about membership fees due to the current inflation trend and uncertainty on where it will land, as well as the rising costs of items such as fuel.
- We have applied for some grants to cover some operation costs and will hear back from them in the summer.
- The club has not raised its fees in many years.
- In giving the board the ability to raise membership fees it is not a decision to raise membership fees. There will be robust discussion and considerations considered before a decision is made.

Member question: Is there consideration to raise the day fee?

Betsy: Yes, we do not need membership approval to do so and we asked Recreation Sites and Trails BC for the ability to do so last fall. The decision has been made by the board to raise adult day fees next season to \$15. There will be no change to youth day fees.

Member question: How many grants are you waiting to hear on? And if they come through will the fee still see an increase?.

Betsy: We have applied for Gaming Grants to cover the new coordinator roles as well as the Head Coach again. Diesel prices and inflation are going up so these are also considerations as well, not just the Gaming Grant acceptance.

Member: Thank you for the skill and leadership. Follow-up comment: We have finished our seasons with accruing net since 2019. We also have amazing fundraisers. It is great we have set aside a bunch of money for reserve. Currently I do not see the rate of inflation causing a need to justify rate increases as we currently have good savings. Even if we have a deficit this year and have to cut into our cash flow.

Jeff: Looking at our Asset Management plan we are looking forward to a large asset replacement such as the groomer. This is another element that is being considered in the fee increase. We are also conscious that grant funding can dry up. Very happy to hear these concerns as this will bring good points for the discussion in the fall.

Duane: As an example of costs, the cost of a groomer windshield wiper was \$1300 for replacement this spring, three times the cost it was before. We are maybe looking at some larger maintenance as the groomer gets older. Recently we have been dealing with a newer machine.

Member: Good comments from Duane and Jeff. Currently we have been accruing so if we have one year of deficit we can handle it and adjust the following year accordingly. I hold respect for the board in the consideration of these matters.

Betsy: Reiteration that an increase to membership fees is not a foregone conclusion. The member's concerns are also represented on the board and are being brought forth in discussion. An additional point to add to costs is we are currently revisiting our health and safety practices which may also incur some expenses.

Member: Sports are more and more out of reach for many Canadians and are becoming more out of reach. As a teacher she sees this in her classroom. Perhaps our lack of club diversity is due to this financial gap.

Jeff thanked the member for their comments and their participation and work with the after school program.

Bridget: Thank you to the Revelstoke Community Foundation for funding to help underprivileged folks to get out skiing this season.

Betsy: In looking at other club membership fees they are the same or more except Toby which is inexpensive.

Member: Our groomers are volunteers so we do not incur the costs associated with this wage which can bring down our membership fees.

Jeff: Thank you to the member for pointing out that our groomers are volunteers. We appreciate and thank our groomers.

MOTION: That the Board have discretion to increase the 2022-23 adult membership fee by \$10 for early-birds (before December 1), and \$15 for after December 1, and the 2022-23 family membership by \$20 for early-birds and \$30 for the regular season, if deemed necessary in September 2022.

MOVED: Betsy Evans

SECONDED: Michael Morris

CARRIED 14 yes - 8 No

c) Executive Director (Bridget Daughney)

Thanks to the board, staff and volunteers for a great season. Thanked grant donors and community partners, and encouraged people to look at our website donation page. Particular mention to the city and Revelstoke Tourism for the shuttle pilot program again this season, the Columbia Basin Trust for all they do, as well as the Revelstoke Community Foundation grant to enable outreach to get people skiing. Mention that Cross Country BC highlighted the RNSC in its annual general meeting for its innovative adventure trail and ability to grow in a sustainable healthy manor. Appreciative of the enthusiastic reception to a more regular Canine Nordic Newsletter, and for Lynn Gagnon's contributions.

Jeff: Lynn is a great example of members joining committees and serving in other capacities and this is very welcomed by the board and appreciated.

d) Lodge Manager (Bridget Daughney for Paula Martens)

Bridget relayed for Paula that she really enjoyed having members come say hello and is looking forward to next season hopefully being a bit more social. Jeff mentioned that the backcountry membership fee next year will be scaled back due to lower uptake.

e) Operations (Ken Gibson & Duane Dukart)

Duane gave a brief summary of the report and noted the great snow we had through the season. Thank all the volunteers and groomers noting that more experience is making better and easier grooming. Mentioned that the summer trail work is paying off, allowing grooming to take place with a thinner layer of snow. Duane is looking forward to next season.

Ken - Recognized that the groomers are an amazing asset and strength of the club and we really appreciate these volunteers.

Jeff had everyone unmute and do a loud round of applause for our groomers.

f) Membership (Carolyn Lorrain)

Thanks to all the volunteers. Mentioned that we had COVID again in 2021-22, but that didn't stop us from hosting great events - even the poker ski in the rain! Thank you to Miranda Murphy and all the volunteers for organizing these events. The Membership Committee and club are always keen to hear from membership, please send us your thoughts. Special thank you to Catherine and Bridget for all their help with the learning as a first year board member.

Betsy - We are the biggest club in town!

f) Head Coach (Zach Hill)

Thank you to everyone at the club, especially the volunteers in town and the ADC. A warm welcome made his first year a great one for him and his family and he is happy to be here. Strong appreciation of the high caliber grooming that took place all season, despite the incredible amount of snow that fell down. Zach then recapped the report highlighting the

achievement of athletes and the team, and noting the athletic and mental health benefits for the athletes was incredible. The team is back out training and having fun; give them a cheer if you see them on Airport Way.

Jeff: Thanked Zach personally and on behalf of the club for his dedication and enthusiasm for the programming. An impressive first season.

h) Athlete Development (Chad Smith)

Chad complimented Zach on his first season with the club and is excited to have him as Head Coach going forward. Thanked the ADC for their behind the scenes work through fundraising, organizing, and time. Highlighted the success of hiring the Program Coordinators.

k) Questions for Directors

No further questions. (Phone in members were verbally checked.)

MOTION: *That the reports are accepted as presented.*

MOVED: Sharon Woods SECONDED: Catherine Craig CARRIED Unanimous

Information presented by Jeff in regards to the proposed logging in the area. Appreciation of letters already shared with the board by members, and invitation of further questions or thoughts from members. None were brought up.

5. Election of Directors - Conducted by Jeff Wilson

Jeff thanked outgoing board members. Laurel for friendly demeanor and welcoming interest in the board as well as appreciation of her commitment to the club, specifically the membership committee during a difficult time with the pandemic. Catherine for her great ideas/perspectives, dedication/laser vision in editing, and for being an instrumental volunteer for events. It has been great having both on the board.

Michael - Thank you to Jeff for his past service of 6 years. Jeff stepped up while Rob, as President, was away, and this helped the transition from Rob to Jeff as President to be seamless. When Jeff joined the club it was a simpler affair and since then it has grown with many new hires. Jeff has been a large part in this successful growth period and in it being easy. We know and appreciate that Jeff is still ambitious and will be a part of our club going forward.

Jeff - Acknowledged the past board members as successful which helped him going forward. In particular Rob Serrouya who helped train him up. His time on the board has been very enjoyable. Thank you to board members past and present.

MOTION: *I motion that Jeff Wilson reports the slate of qualified directors and the running of elections for the board of directors.*

MOVED: Catherine Craig SECONDED: Betsy Evans CARRIED Unanimous

Jeff thanked the board members continuing forward in their terms and outlined their new roles if applicable. The slate of nominations prepared by the Nominations Committee was presented with the knowledge of the number of board positions available. Nominations from the floor were called for three times and there were no additional nominations. Thus, all nominees were elected by acclamation.

Elected Directors for 2 year terms: Chad Smith, Ken Gibson, Sharon Woods, Jennifer Wild

Note that further board members, to fill in empty spots, can be added over the year with board approval. Members are also encouraged to join committees.

MOTION: That the 2021-22 Executive be: President – Michael Morris, Vice-President – Carlyn Lorrain, Treasurer – Betsy Evans, Secretary – Sharon Woods

MOVED: Robyn Thomas

SECONDED: Sharon Woods

CARRIED Unanimous

Jeff thanked everyone for working through the cumbersomeness of this being a virtual meeting and recognized that hopefully in the future this can be done in-person.

6. Draw for 2022-23 Membership

Sarah Newton was randomly drawn as the recipient of the 2022-23 complimentary adult membership.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion to Adjourn at 8:43 PM.

MOVED: Patti Hill

SECONDED: Carolyn Lorrain

CARRIED Unanimous