

Revelstoke's NORDIC SKI REPORT

Volume 12 Issue 1

Box 1618 Revelstoke BC V0E 2S0

November 2008

www.revelstokenordic.org

President's Message

Greetings to all Nordic Skiers! There's definitely a chill in the air which means winter will be here soon, and hopefully so will another great Nordic ski season on Mount Macpherson. Last year some of us were lucky enough to ski on good conditions right into May, so let's hope this trend continues.

Once again the Nordic Club has been busy over the summer making improvements to our trail system. I would be more accurate in saying that Al McInnes has been busy making improvements to our trail system. Al spearheaded construction of a new ski trail designed by Brian Abear. The new trail is linked to the Mickey Olson Loop and is approximately 1.3 km long on gentle terrain. When combined with the Mickey Olson Loop it measures out at almost exactly 5 km, which is a great distance for racing and should be very useful for our Ski League and Junior Development program.

In addition to constructing this new trail, Al also made some improvements to Little Dippet which is our new sprinting loop located where the old Jackrabbit trail used to be. And finally, Al spent considerable time grading portions of the entire ski trail system by widening and smoothing out many sections. These improvements will contribute to easier and faster grooming, as well as better early and late ski conditions. Hats off to Al and Evelyn McInnes for putting in another big effort over the summer!

I should also mention that we received generous support from Gary Schiller of Schiller Contracting who donated his operating time for the construction of the new loop, and from Dave Mair who loaned us his grader. This type of support is much appreciated and is what makes Revelstoke such a great community.

I would also like to mention that once again the Board of Directors is seriously looking at the

possibility of constructing a trail head day lodge. An excellent funding opportunity has come up through the City of Revelstoke along with the Columbia Basin Trust, which makes the development of a day lodge (and maybe more) a real possibility. Dave Kaegi has joined the Board to spearhead this initiative and we hope to have an information display at Membership Night to give members an idea of what the proposal involves and what some options maybe. This is an exciting opportunity for the club to provide some additional amenities to members. So stay tuned, and please contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Finally, I would like to mention that we have a new fee hut co-ordinator for this season. Susan Knight has graciously offered to take on this position which is critical to our revenues. You can really help out the club, and make Susan's job easier, by volunteering to put in a shift (or two) at the hut. Please consider signing up at the earliest opportunity to help out at the hut.

See you at Membership Night!

Robert Mohr, President

Membership Night

Wednesday, November 12

7:00 p.m.

Revelstoke Community Centre

- Renew your club membership
- Register for Ski League Program
- Hear what's new for this year
- Volunteer sign up
- Ski swap for kids



Groomer Brian Abear reports on last winter

Revelstoke has not had an annual snowfall of more than 500 cm in more than dozen years. In the winter of 2007-08 we had 505 cm, yet the length of our season was only slightly longer than average at 125 days. Grooming started December 3, 2007, due to lack of snow in November. At season's end we had logged 204 hours on the groomer and had groomed the trails 48 times. By comparison the 2006-07 season was our longest on record with 155 skiing days and a record grooming of 56 sessions.

There were only a few breakdowns this season. An oil pressure sender malfunctioned in December and a steering potentiometer failed in February. The potentiometer was replaced at no charge by Prinoth. There were two breakdowns as a result of broken welds on the lift frame and track setters. These were both repaired locally. The club has purchased a diagnostic tool that enables us to read the error codes logged by the onboard computer. While this will not fix a particular problem it will tell us exactly what the fault is and enable us to check the appropriate wiring harness or order the correct parts. At season's end there were no faults recorded.

The new double walled fuel storage tank was a huge improvement. The tank came with an automatic shutoff nozzle. This enabled the drivers to clean and inspect the groomer while the tank was filling without having to stand over the pump. The pump is powered by a connection to the groomer. The 2200 litre storage tank was filled three times during the winter. There is approximately 1100 litres remaining to start next season.

Summer maintenance will include oil and fuel filter changes, torque and brake hub oil changes, complete lubrication and inspection. There is an exhaust leak in the elbow leading to the muffler. This pipe will need to be cut out and replaced. There are also some comb elements on the trailing edge of the tiller that need to be replaced.

The following chart provides an annual comparison of season length at Mount Macpherson and snowfall measured in centimetres Revelstoke.

Year	First & Last Setting	Ski Days	Snowfall
2007/08	Dec 3 - April 6	125	505
2006/07	Nov 4 - April 8	155	465
2005/06	Jan 10 - April 1	81	224
2004/05	Nov 25 - Mar 5	100	221
2003/04	Nov 20 - April 3	135	409
2002/03	Dec 28 - Mar 29	91	198
2001/02	Nov 30 - April 9	130	377
2000/01	Nov 26 - April 1	126	299
1999/00	Dec 7 - April 9	124	330
1998/99	Dec 11 - April 4	114	417
1997/98	Dec 20 - Mar 20	90	231
1996/97	Nov 16 - Mar 30	134	584
1995/96	Nov 12 - Mar 31	140	349
1994/95	Nov 20 - Mar 25	125	263
1993/94	Nov 27 - Mar 19	112	291
1992/93	Nov 28 - Mar 19	123	374
1991/92	Nov 29 - Mar 14	106	344
average		118	346

Board of Directors 2008-2009

Rob Mohr	President
Keith McNab	Vice President and Secretary
Bruce Granstrom	Treasurer
Karen Bray	Membership
Cam Molder	Ski League Coordinator
Mary Clayton	Ski League Coordinator
Michael Morris	Newsletter
Wade Viznaugh	Director
Dave Kaegi	Director

- Trailhead Hut Coordinator: Susan Knight
- Trail Crew: Brian Abear, Allan McInnes, Mickey Olson
- Webmaster: Jackie Morris
- Lantern Ski Coordinator: Brendon MacIntosh



In case of emergency

You are responsible for your own safety when skiing the Mount Macpherson trails. You can help yourself and others by carrying a cellular phone. Should a situation arise where you or someone else requires assistance, contact Revelstoke Search and Rescue. This volunteer group maintains a snowmobile with a toboggan, and have members trained in first aid. They can be reached through the RCMP by calling 911. Calling ahead to the hospital, 837-2131, to let them know you are coming will help them prepare for your arrival.

While waiting for the snowmobile to arrive (this will take awhile), *it is extremely important to keep the victim warm.* The club provides backpacks containing insulating pads, blankets, and first aid kits. These are kept at the Ole Sandberg Hut and at the trailhead booth in the parking area. The groomer also carries first aid materials.



Ski League Registration

Ski League representatives will be on hand at Membership Night to explain children programs. Sessions run Saturday mornings from January 3 to March 7. All levels emphasize fun and are led by qualified coaches.

Bunnyrabbit is for kids aged 4-5 and introduces cross-country skiing through organized activity and play.

Jackrabbit is for kids aged 6-9. The objective is to learn basic cross-country ski skills (both classic and skating) and to instil a lifelong interest in the sport.

The **Track Attack** program is for 10-12 year olds and aims to help participants become technically competent skiers and to use those skills to explore a range of ski activities.

The **Junior Development** group is for keen skiers age ten and up. This group trains at least twice a week and attends a number of race events in southern BC each season.

Meet Nikki Norrie

Last season saw the remarkable addition of Nikki Norrie to our team of Ski League coaches. Nikki was a member of Canada's National Biathlon Team, competing in five world championships and in the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. She is one of only a handful of women in Canada to qualify as a Level 3 biathlon coach.

Nikki led the Track Attack squad, which are the skiers ten to fourteen years of age.

"I love promoting cross-country skiing, and getting the kids out for a good time on Saturday mornings," says Nikki.

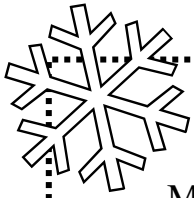
"She brings experience to our coaching team and has a patient and relaxed manner with the kids," remarks Junior Development Racing Program organizer Sally Thomson who appreciates Nikki's participation in dry land training session. Nikki would like to expand the off season use of roller-skis. She finds that it improves balance and muscle memory.

After ten years based in Canmore where she trained and coached the Alberta team, Nikki moved to Revelstoke with her ski-guide husband Paul and their year-and-a-half-old son. She operates her business, *Revelstoke Massage and Bodywork*, from her home in Arrow Heights. Watch for her on the Macpherson trails, one of a growing number of parents pulling a child in a sled.

Ski Swap for Children's Gear

- Bring your items to Membership night with prices marked.
- If you have any skis that belong to the Ski league, please return them on Membership Night.





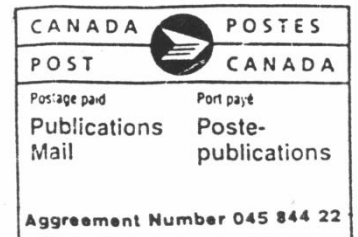
Important dates

Membership Night	November 12	7 pm	Community Centre
Ski League Registrations	November 12	7 pm	Community Centre
Lantern Ski	January 1	6 pm	Mount Macpherson
Team Scream Relay Race	February 14	11am	Mount Macpherson



Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club

Box 1618 Revelstoke BC V0E 2S0



Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club

Snow phone

For updates on trail conditions call:

250-837-7303

Web site

Trail map, local ski history, and more!

www.revelstokenordic.org