



KNSC Nordic News October 2010

2010-2011 Membership

Membership registration forms are now available on the KNSC website. Go to <http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/membership.php> to download the registration or check your inbox or mailbox for your personalized form. Fill it out and send it in before December 1, 2010 to take advantage of the 'Early Bird' discount.

Youth Program Registration Open

Registration for Jackrabbits, Track Attack, and ADP has opened. Jackrabbits and Track Attack are fun, learn-to-ski programs for children aged 5 through 12. The programs run on Saturday afternoons



beginning on January 8, 2011 through to February 26, 2011. Registration forms are found at <http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/event.php>. Space is limited so register early. Registration will close on December 1, 2010 or when our cap is reached.

ADP is a program that brings together a team of youth skiers aged 13–18 who will ski as part of a KNSC Athlete Development Program. These skiers will train and have fun together and represent KNSC or their school at a series of races throughout the winter. A registration package can be found at <http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/event.php?id=35>. Or check out www.athletedevelopmentprogram.weebly.com for more information about ADP.



Kawartha Nordic Events

(see <http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/events.php> for more details)

Mark the dates:

November 27th : Introduction to Community Coaching course: Stage 1 of the Cross Country Canada Coaching Development model. All coaches at KNSC must complete this course. KNSC will cover the cost of the course for any coaches who commit to an entire season of leadership in our Youth Programs (<http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/event.php?id=34>)

December 4th & 5th : Community Coaching course: Stage 2 of the Cross Country Canada Coaching Development model. (<http://www.kawarthanordic.ca/event.php?id=34>)

January 8th: Opening Day for KNSC Youth Programs

January 18th: Kawartha Sprints High School Invitational Race

February 5th: 4th Annual Kawartha Enduro

February 26th : KNSC Youth Festival

Dates still TBD: Sunday Adult Lessons, Intermediate & Advanced Technique Development with Gord Salt, Master's Ski Training, and Member's Apres Ski Fondue.

Friday Night Roller Skiing

The ADP group meets Friday nights at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School from 5:45pm to 7:00pm for roller ski workouts. KNSC members are invited to bring their roller skis, helmet, light, and appropriate outdoor athletic clothing and join in. Experience roller skiing is necessary as sessions will include various workouts or training drills. For more information contact Jon Grimwood at jackrabbits@kawarthanordic.ca



2010 Annual General Meeting

Thanks to all the KNSC members who attended our AGM at Peterborough Collegiate. Our outgoing president, Diane Rogers, presented the president's report (attached at the end of this newsletter). Thanks to Diane for all the time and effort she has dedicated to Kawartha Nordic Ski Club. She has been an asset

to our club management team for a number of years and we are grateful for all that she has done. KNSC is now pleased to recognize David Rutledge as our new club president while Diane will remain on in the role of Past President. Also at the AGM, Mike Evans reported on KNSC's financial situation, the Board of Directors was elected, and a question-and-answer period took place.

Your 2010-2011 Board of Directors are:

David Rutledge, President
Diane Rogers, Past President
Mike Evans, Treasurer
Jon Grimwood
Bruce Wurtele
John Hart,
Peter Lawless
Vince Way-Nee
Kent Todd
Neil Hannam
Casey Humphrey



Welcome Neil And Casey

KNSC would like to welcome Neil Hannam and Casey Humphrey to our Board of Directors. Neil brings energy and experience to the club's fundraising initiatives while Casey will be involved with the club's public relations and events coordination.

Thank You Walter And Monica

KNSC is extremely grateful to Walter Shephard and Monica Gillespie for their contributions. Walter is a life member of KNSC and has served the club in almost every and any capacity. Monica was involved with coaching and youth programs for a number of years. Both Walter and Monica have stepped down as board members and we wish them well and thank them for helping make KNSC a great ski club

And Thank You To Our Executive Team Of...

The following club members are back for 2010-2011 giving their time and efforts to making KNSC a great place to be.

Dave Woodfine, Trails
Peter Tiesma, Maps and Signs

Todd Harris, Website
Aileen Hadfield, Secretary

President's Report

Thank you for coming to the Annual General Meeting for the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club. We decided to move the AGM to the fall for a couple of reasons. It has given the Chartered Accountants *Collins Barrow* enough time to complete the financial audit for us - spring is a very busy time for them. It has also given us time to discuss this past season in greater detail, and take a hard look at the club's finances. As a result of these discussions, we were then able to go to the membership with a survey to get your feedback. We had a 42% response rate to the survey and overall the results indicated that we are on the right track.

I would like to start by thanking the members of the executive for their dedication and hard work this past year and pay special recognition to Walter Shephard who handed in his resignation this past spring after 36 years. Barrie Diceman, a past president and director for many years with the club and Dave Woodfine, also a past president and current member of the executive, were recognized this year for their endless hours of dedication and volunteerism at Kawartha Nordic. Both Barrie and Dave were recipients of Jeff Leal's Celebrate 2010 Award which was given out to local sports heroes that have made a big difference in the lives of our athletes and communities. They have both had a big impact on the quality of cross country skiing up at the club. Dave was also the successful recipient of the 2010 Cum Laude Award from the Southern Ontario Division of Cross Country Ontario. This award was presented in recognition of outstanding contribution to the development of cross-country skiing in Southern Ontario over a period of years.

I would also like to recognize and thank Peter Keitel and all of the members of the KNSC Ski Patrollers for their time and efforts on the safety front for the club. As well, thank you to John Earnshaw and all of the volunteer cabin keepers – especially those who were brave enough to cabin keep on a Saturday when the WOODfine chalet was taken over by our enthusiastic youth program skiers and their families.

Both adult and youth learn to ski programs were well received again this past year and positive feedback flowed steadily from all involved. The youth programs continue to be very successful and popular. This past year we had

over 80 youth in the Jackrabbits and Track Attack programs combined with another 23 participating in the Athlete Development program. As a club we were honoured to receive the Jack Rabbit Award from the Southern Ontario Division of Cross Country Ontario for the 2nd year in a row, an award that is presented to the club that contributes significantly to the development of skiing through leadership in the Jack Rabbit Program. Congratulations and thank you to Jon Grimwood and all of the volunteer instructors. They are an enthusiastic and qualified team of adult and high school student volunteers who developed and delivered outstanding programs once again, and it sounds like many of them are keen and already gearing up to volunteer again for this season. Speaking of volunteers, we are a receptive crew to all new recruits so feel free to talk to anyone on the executive about how you can get involved. We were pleased to be able to accommodate another group of energetic youth up at the club this past season during the week. These were the 518 students, plus the staff and parent volunteers from the Warsaw Outdoor Education Centre. This was a very successful partnership, with many glowing reports about students getting hooked on cross country skiing. We hope that Warsaw will be able to use our club for their programs again this season.

The number of memberships for the 2009/2010 season topped out at 385 (362) representing 790 (787) skiers of all ages and abilities. I would like to thank Bruce Wurtele for keeping the club very well organized from the membership desk as well as keeping the lines of communication open to our members through the email bulletins and newsletters, and responding to queries from members that we receive via email. The reality of our budget discussions; however, dictate that in order to maintain our existing quality of trail conditions and facilities, and balance the books, we need to increase our membership fees this year. 85% of members who responded to the survey did say yes – that they would support these fee increases. The fee increases will be in effect when registration details come out first of October.

We have debt to pay down and a capital fund to create and start saving for. Currently we owe \$42,000 on the mortgage to a member of the club and \$47,000 that we have borrowed from the ski patrol. Our biggest expense is grooming and maintenance of the machines. We have two grooming machines. The Pisten Bully that we own will need replacing in the near future. The Bombardier snow cat, which we rent for a nominal amount from a club member, realistically should be owned by the club – or similar machine capable of grooming the narrower classic trails. The initial steps have been taken for our third Trillium Grant Application, which is how we purchased the Pisten Bully but these grants are getting harder and harder to get. We will also continue to fundraise and seek out other sources of grant money available to clubs such as ours for capital projects.

Besides membership fees, the other main source of revenue that we rely on is from day use fees. It has become increasingly apparent that many skiers are using the club and not paying the day fee or not paying the full amount. We have had many discussions about this topic and I acknowledge that we did talk about this at last year's AGM but nothing has been done about it yet. The other topic that has come up quite a bit is the availability of ski rentals at the club. The results of the survey showed 41% in favour of a rental program 35% had no opinion on this topic but many people wrote comments that reflected the executive's reality: that a rental program would be beneficial but would be way too much for a volunteer run club like ours to take on without outside help. The way that we have decided to take on day use fees and rentals is to seek out a partnership with a local retailer. We are in the process of finalizing a request for proposals from interested parties. We will be asking for the day fees to be collected for us and they would then have access to the KNSC property to offer ski rentals, and perhaps lessons, food concession, etc. to generate revenue.

The beauty of the expensive Pisten Bully is that it has really been effective in grooming the trails through ice, freeze, thaw, snow, rain, etc. Thank you to our talented and dedicated grooming team: the trail conditions were great last year, despite the minimal snowfall. Thanks to Todd and Jeff Church, from Haultain Service. They continue to be our caretakers, keeping an eye on the club for us as well as grooming and maintaining the trails and the equipment.

Logging obviously had a big impact on our northern trails last season. We certainly missed having the full Tanney Cabin Loop around the Owl and back down the Kawartha, but got it back late in the season, and many members were able to get in a few loops before the snow melted. I want to thank members for their patience on this one. The reality is that the club does not own any of the land that is being logged but we do have trail use permits for these areas through the MNR. I want to assure you that we have, and continue to be, in regular and direct contact with the MNR (Gord Brown, Bancroft) and the logging company (Lou at Freeman Forestry). The update as of last week looks like this: There are still a few areas to be logged this fall. A small area on either side of the Kenner between the Wolf and the Tanney Cabin, a patch up on the PL Road and then north of the PL Road along the Kawartha. The plan was to go in this summer and cut these areas but they ended up not being able to cut because of the Blanding Turtle habitat. The Blanding Turtle is a species at risk. As it stands their start date is now Oct. 1st and they are promising to be done before the snow falls. If this is true, in order to reopen the Kawartha North, the Otter and the PL Road, two significant bridges will have to be built and trail work to smooth out deep ruts and remove slash in a couple of areas will have to be done. The agreement with the MNR and the Logging Company is that the trails are to be left in skiable condition. We will be negotiating as soon as the loggers are back in the area 1st of October for them to fix a few areas where the trail was left in an unacceptable condition

or compensate us for what it will cost to repair the trails ourselves. Research into bridge possibilities has already begun. We remain ever optimistic that in the long term, the club will benefit from trail improvements including better drainage with bridges and culverts, and smoother trail beds. These improvements will help with grooming and trail maintenance, and will allow more snow fall directly on the trails, ultimately providing better skiing for our members.

We are excited about the upcoming season and hoping for a good solid snow pack this year. I hope that many of you will be able to take part in the Kawartha Fall Tour that is happening Oct 2nd and 3rd either as volunteers or as participants on the tour. All proceeds from this event go to the club so pass on the word. Those of us on the executive continue to have the membership's best interests in mind in the running of KNSC, and as always are open to your concerns, comments and suggestions which we will get to tonight, after a couple of other items of business.