



Kanata Nordic **Annual General Meeting**

March 26, 2015
BYOC (Vail Building)

2014/15 Exec Members Present:	Richard Batty (RB); James McAvoy (JM); Margaret McCombe (MM); David Bentley (DB); Rich Russell (RR); Gene Vigneron (GV); Rory McCormick (RM); Don Warner (DW); Kam Leung (KL); Lily Yip (LY)
Non-Exec Members Present:	Marlene Alt; Ian Price; Eric Johnsrude; Jim Lambley; Harris Kirby; Kaleigh MacLaren; Mike Duivenvoorden; Michel Rochon; Adrian Turcanu; Anastassia Jegoulova
Special Guests:	Blair Carroll (Mush LaRose)
Moderator:	RB
Scribe:	RR

Meeting called to order at 19:05

1. Adoption of Agenda: moved (RB); 2nd (DW); carried
2. Minutes from AGM 2014: moved (RB); 2nd (DW); carried
3. Annual Reports:
 - a. President (Richard Batty)
 - business proposal (to re-locate KN on NCC lands leased by Wesley Clover Parks at 401 and 411 Corkstown Rd) accepted by WCP
 - transition phase underway, featuring grooming operations and on-snow program lessons at both sites
 - new grooming equipment in place at WCP, and new volunteers trained on grooming operations
 - surpassed expectations with 15 km of trail network groomed at WCP, vs initial target of 5 km
 - complete migration of all KN equipment from the Y to WCP will require significant volunteer effort and coordination; LY will recruit accordingly
 - Ottawa 2017 (Canada's 150th) may provide potential funding options which KN could pursue
 - KN Exec turnover: JM retiring from Racing Coordinator; DB retiring from Promotions Coordination; LY retiring from Events Coordination, therefore these 3 positions vacant with no incumbent volunteer
 - b. Treasurer (Don Warner)
 - Reminder that KN's Fiscal Year runs from October 01 through September 30
 - FY1415 balance sheet compared vs FY 1314

- Although increased revenue this year, currently less reserve vs last year, primarily due to increase capital (new grooming equipment purchased)
- Some revenue forthcoming (approx. 2k via Easterns and 2.4k via City of Ottawa)
- After accounting for depreciation, there will likely be a deficit for this fiscal year
- Question regarding GST; our interpretation that no it is not currently required for KN (it would be required if revenue exceed 50k in one quarter)
- Question regarding increases in insurance costs; Answer = yes, because new grooming equipment added to the fleet, and also because we are including collision and comprehensive options on the new equipment

c. Registration/Membership (Kam Leung)

- approx. 500 total members, with 200 in learn-to-ski or racing programs
- most programs have been full, with waiting lists; because growth is predicted with transition to new site which is closer to bigger population, KN needs to increase volunteerism, specifically in the form of additional program leaders
- Question re: insurance, and whether to include it in trail passes; Recommend to not sell season passes, but rather to encourage membership sales (which therefore include both insurance at time of registration, as well as a season pass)

d. Events (Lily Yip)

- it was a landmark year, featuring:
 - open house, with surprise in multiple vendor interest (unsolicited)
 - pretzel race, with great turnout including full slate of master's racers
 - banquet registration is already filling up
 - recognition of new volunteers and appreciation of returning volunteers

e. JackRabbit Programs (Margaret McCombe)

- BunnyRabbit program full, at 31 kids (with wait list)
- JackRabbit levels full, at 77 kids (with wait list)
- DynaRabbit program overcapacity at 15 kids
- Therefore KN desperately requires more leaders and assistants; could also use more 'floaters', i.e., trained leaders available to back-fill at last minute if regular leader calls in sick.
- A few parent volunteers did participate in the Introduction to Community Coaching course (ICC), but there was not enough interest to run the next coaching level (Community Coaching) . . . hopefully next year!
- Suggestion that an ideal time to recruit new leaders might be the end of the ski season (end March/early April), recognizing the ICC course does not require on-snow activities.
- Parent volunteer support for hot chocolate has been difficult, therefore delegating the role out of JackRabbit Coordination portfolio, to be managed instead by the KN Volunteer Coordinator
- Fun Day had great support from Racers, and featured new event of Pony-jouring
- Fun Day pizza worked out well, even though it was more expensive than previous seasons featuring BBQs. Much less demand for volunteer time with pizza.
- Considering how cold this past season was, recommend KN reflect on clarity in policy for cancellation of ski lessons due to weather conditions.

f. Trails

- thanks to the grooming team
- in addition to regular on-snow grooming operations, significant volunteer time was required for the following:
 - trails maintenance, at both sites (several fall work sessions to mow / prune)
 - grooming equipment maintenance and repairs (especially configuring new machines)
 - race course preparation for Pretzel Sprints (significant snow shovelling)
 - spring clean-up and grooming machine summerizing maintenance and upgrades to old machines
- amazing that we accomplished such an increase in trail network capacity (already at Phase II of Business Plan)
- thanks and recognition to the Y, especially for grooming equipment summer storage
- thanks to the snow gods for such a consistent and lengthy season (albeit with a delayed start)
- future goals include the many transition tasks with re-location from the Y to WCP
- recommendation to begin planning the Pretzel race course layout early in the next season, because it will be an all-new site
- Question regarding future trail grooming at Y after KN fully re-located to WCP? Answer = discussion with Peter from the Y indicates no current plans to do so.

g. Promotions (David Bentley)

- signs were placed around Kanata during fall registration period, to promote growth. New signs were made, to add to the fleet of signs.
- Twitter feed initiated, and included photos of trail grooming conditions
- Trail condition reports, for both sites, were updated on the KN website.
- Recommendation to recruit dedicated skiers to report conditions instead of from the grooming operator's perspective

h. Racing Program (James McAvoy)

- program report posted on KN website
- summary of registrations = 13 Racing Rabbits, 9 Junior Racers, 7 Senior Racers
- difference this year was regular attendance at all 3 weekly training sessions (Tu/Th/Sat)
- great snow conditions yielded a lengthy season, with last weekend being the 125th racing team training session
- with new trails at WCP, KN's racing team actually had the luxury of choice among 3 training locations (Y, WCP, Gatineau Park)
- via National Capital District initiative, KN racing members also benefitted from early season on-snow training opportunity at Camp Fortune (via snow-making capacity)
- training season officially ends this week, with April as off-time, then new training season begins in May (roller-skiing, strength & agility, etc.)
- lengthy season with great snow conditions also provided long list of races . . . KN racers participated in 15 races (and with great attendance at training, they were well-prepared)
- new coaches are in training

- future initiative = full-time coach ... currently investigating funding options; recommendation to expand current part-time coach (Kate Boyd) to oversee program development and coach training / recruitment / support.
- also investigating Biathlon Bears program, hoping to offer next season; potential collaboration with Connaught Rangers.

i. Track Attack / Teen Ski Fit (David Bentley)

- Considering re-branding of this program to "Youth Challenge" and to expand to include "Adventure Rabbit" activities, e.g., this season featured an exploration ski adventure, involving bushwhacking to a GPS destination
- Co-lead = Lynn Morgan
- Regional ski events attended included: Gatineau Loppet, Forest Lea, Canada Ski Marathon

j. Adults' Learn-to-Ski (Rory McCormick)

- thanks to all leaders and assistants
- full programs at all levels, with overflow wait list of 15
- DB offered 90 minute custom lessons to a few of the wait list individuals
- Adult ski night was poorly attended

Motion to accept Program Reports: (JM); 2nd (DB); carried

4. Election of 2015-2016 Executive Members

- Proposed Slate features several incumbents, but features nominations of a few new recruits
- President: Richard Batty (incumbent; although RB announced final season)
- Vice-President: Marlene Alt (nominee)
- Treasurer: Don Warner (incumbent)
- Secretary: Rich Russell (incumbent)
- Membership Coordinator: Kam Leung (incumbent)
- Trails Coordinator: Gene Vigneron (incumbent)
- Events Coordinator: Adrian Turcanu (nominee)
- Promotions Coordinator: Kaleigh McLaren (nominee)
- Track Attack: David Bentley (incumbent)
- Racing Coordinator: Jim Lambley (nominee)
- Adult Coordinator: Rory McCormick (incumbent)
- JackRabbit Programs Coordinator: Margaret McCombe (incumbent)
- Past President: Mike Duivenvoorden (incumbent)

5. New Business

a. WCP transition update . . . goals of re-location to the new site include:


- growth in membership
- growth in program registrations
- increase in trail network (distance)
- addition of snowshoe trails

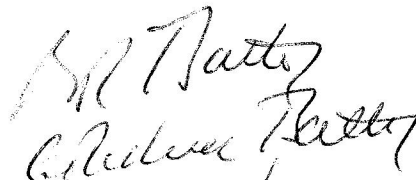
- improvement in trail quality (wider, more level)
- improved signage
- reduced down-time in trail grooming equipment maintenance and repair
- increased indoor storage capacity

b. with upcoming celebration of Canada's 150th, City of Ottawa will be seeking promotion of local events (AKA "Ottawa 2017") . . . KN is currently interested in any ideas members may want to contribute, that could form basis of funding proposal

c. Special Presentation by regional ski-jouring club (Mush LaRose). Discussion about potential club affiliation at WCP, to facilitate dedicated weekly on-snow training sessions. Offer to join KN and contribute back to KN by joining trail grooming team, and specific suggestion to groom following ski-jouring sessions.

d. Motion to Adjourn at 21:10, by Marlene Alt, 2nd by Gene Vigneron. Carried.


DONALD WAGNER
TREASURER


Gilman Betty
President.