



**HOLLYBURN**  
Cross Country Ski Club

**MINUTES – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HOLLYBURN CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB  
Wednesday, October 5, 2014, 8:00 to 10:08 pm  
Deep Cove Outdoors, Lynn Avenue, North Vancouver**

**Call to order**

Meeting called to order 8:15pm

**Welcome and introductions**

Dirk Rohde, President, welcomed all present.

**Election of Board**

By acclamation:

President: Dirk Rohde

Vice-President: Morna Fraser

Treasurer: Moira-Ann Handford

Secretary: Byron Henry

Coaching Coordinator: Mark Johnson

Jackrabbit/Bunny Program Coordinator: Nancy Hill

Track Attack Coordinator: Andrea Hay

Racing Program Coordinator: Jake Weaver

Directors at Large: Birgit Weaver, Kurt Foellmer, Yoel Gutmann, David Morris

**President's report**

**1) 2013–14 Events Review**

- a) Coast cup #1 – The season began on a challenging note last year, with no snow. Accordingly, this race was postponed, and re-scheduled to the end of December.
- b) The annual Lantern Ski was a success, as usual, with a good number of families participating.
- c) 2014 P'ayak. The club assisted with the hosting and organization of this event, which was formally put on by Callaghan Valley Cross Country.
- d) The mini Birkie session, for Jackrabbits, was again a popular event for these younger skiers.

**2) 2013–14 Successes**

- a) Nakkertok exchange – This sports exchange proved to be a great success. The young skiers from the Nakkertok club in Ottawa came to Vancouver last December; our Hollyburn skiers completed the exchange by visiting Ottawa in late June/early July.

- b) Biathlon Day at Callaghan – a great many club members took advantage of special event and day pass pricing to try biathlon.
- c) The club hosted the BC Winter Games cross country events this past winter. Yoel Gutmann served as Chief of Competition. An added challenge was the fact that the Games took place the same weekend as the P’ayak.
- d) Coast Cup aggregate championship – our club skiers won the total points in this series competition, and took home the banner.
- e) Race team – this group keeps growing and improving under the leadership of Jake Weaver.
  - i) Over 40 athletes aged 13 on up to UBC students participated.
  - ii) Several training camps were held in various locations including Osprey Lake, Whistler, Canmore, and Stake Lake.
  - iii) The BC Cup race series saw many Hollyburn skiers win medals.
  - iv) Western Canadian Championships – five medals won by club skiers.
  - v) Nationals – club skiers won three gold and one silver medal, an outstanding showing.
  - vi) At season’s end, Hollyburn was the sixth-ranked junior club in Canada.

### **3) 2015–15 Key Events/Initiatives**

- a) 2014 Teck Coast Cup #1 – November 30 at Whistler Olympic Park.
- b) 2014 Haywood NorAm/World Junior/U23 Championship Trials – December 20/21 at Whistler Olympic Park. (This event also serves as Canada Winter Games trials).
- c) 2015 Sigge’s P’ayak – February 28 to March 1, Whistler Olympic Park.
- d) Level 2 Officiating Course – coming up in mid-November; a good overview of how to run events.
- e) Teen coaches – this initiative looks to be a great success; the club now has the most coaches ever signed-up for the coming season.
- f) Fee increase – the club implemented a slight fee increase this year, and also aligned kid and adult fees. The increase came about as a result of increased CCC/CCBC costs to the club.
- g) Coast Cups 2 and 3 were added to the regular club program, and take place January 18 and 19 at Whistler Olympic Park.
- h) Long-term strategic Plan – The current strategic plan is coming to an end. Morna Fraser has taken the lead on beginning the process of generating a renewed strategic plan for the club. Morna noted that an October 26 preliminary meeting is open to all club members, and will take place at the Delbrook Community Centre from 2:30 to 5:00pm.

## **Financials**

### **4) 2013–14 Financial Statements**

- a) Presented by Mo Handford, Treasurer.
- b) Revenues and expenses – from the statements, the club appears to run “in the red” due to the fact that we are working down to a comfortable surplus. Consequently, the costs of volunteers and kids are somewhat covered.

Registration was up last year, so loss not as big as originally planned. The race team also brought in additional sponsorship funds.

- c) Questions from the floor:
  - i) *Where did surplus come from?* Originally from gaming grants from the province.
  - ii) *Why not keep fees as they were?* Gaming grants and sponsorships are not guaranteed. So it is more prudent to adjust our fees; in the past, the government has stopped giving grants, and this situation could arise again.
  - iii) *What can't the club use grant monies for?* The rules and requirements around grant funds are now quite broad and fairly flexible. The club can use these funds for equipment, coaching, and travel expenses; they cannot be used to pay individuals.
- d) Balance sheet discussion
  - i) The club is sitting in a very healthy situation, with just under \$50,000 in cash, a van worth about \$30,000, and a waxing hut of a similar value (although essentially non-depreciating).
- e) Motion to accept the 2013–14 financial statements
  - i) Moved by Morna Fraser; seconded by Dave Morris; passed.

## **5) Budget for 2014–15**

- a) Gaming grant – the club has once again applied for a gaming grant. Having requested \$55,000, we have just received \$43,000. The Board has engaged in a great deal of discussion as to how best to utilize these funds.
  - i) Equipment – an expenditure of about \$20,000 is envisaged, including a big upgrade of skate skis for Jackrabbits
  - ii) While the club will not have a TA coach, it will look at bringing in professional coaches for short stints to work with the race team, or conduct waxing clinics, for example.
  - iii) The club will better support volunteer parents by covering more of their costs (to attend and work at races, for example).
  - iv) Safety issues – the club will purchase respirators for wax technicians/volunteers.
  - v) New coaching vests will be bought.
  - vi) The club will buy one or two new tents/canopies to replace the current, aging ones.
- b) The club will look to run a deficit of approximately \$8,000 this year. Currently, about \$45,000 is in the bank; \$10,000 will go to team van replacement in roughly three to five years.
- c) Motion to accept the proposed 2014–15 budget:
  - i) Moved by Birgit Weaver; seconded by Martin Richardson; passed.

## **6) Program reports**

- a) Skill development program – as Nancy Hill was unable to attend the meeting, Alison Heath (the former coordinator) provided the report.

- i) The club has a strong skills development (Jackrabbit) program – one of the three largest in Canada. Sessions run Saturday and Sunday mornings, and Sunday afternoon; no Saturday afternoon session. The coaching shortage was helped last year by teen volunteers; the club is now working with paid youth coaches.
  - ii) This year, the club has adjusted the program model, and two Coast Cup events as well as the P'ayak are now officially part of the series. These additions will provide kids with good exposure to racing/sport experiences.
  - iii) There will now be two session coordinators for both the Saturday and Sunday morning sessions.
  - iv) Special event days will continue – *eg* mini Burkie, biathlon days. The club wants to make sure it is fostering the fun and enjoyment of the sport. The winter Lantern Ski will also continue.
  - v) Nancy Hill has agreed to serve as the new skill development coordinator. She and Alison will conduct the all-coaches meeting at the end of November.
  - vi) In closing, Alison thanked the Board for the pleasure and privilege of serving club over the past number of years.
- b) Track Attack: Andrea Hay
- i) This program had 59 participants and 13 coaches. A total of 23 skiers went to larch hills midget, where the club placed sixth overall.
  - ii) A program review took place at season end as a means to help strengthen the program. Results include the addition of an off-season dry land training component. A Track Attack social was held at Sutherland secondary school, and the race team assisted by leading games and activities.
  - iii) Summer dry land training sessions saw an average of 10 to 12 kids attend. A total of 16 attended the Teck regional training camp in September. The intention is to maintain a strong dry land component right up to snow time.
  - iv) The club hopes to improve participation at Coast Cup events, and the Midgets championship at Strathcona (Mount Washington) in February.
  - v) A total of 60 skiers have registered for Track Attack this year.
- c) Adventurers: Morna Fraser
- i) This program is designed for those skiers who are not interested in racing, but wish to stay involved in skiing and the club. In this program, participants ski, build snow caves, snowshoe, etc. Some of these skiers have moved into teen coaching, leading to a drop-off in total registration.
- d) Racing program: Jake Weaver
- i) This year, 40 skiers joined the team. The team is now half way through 2014/15 year, as training began in early May and continued through a busy summer with special camps. A number of club racers will be going to Canmore for the Western Canadian championships, and Thunder Bay for the nationals. Lots of races will also take place around BC.

## 7) Special guests

- a) Mike Thomas from Cypress Mountain provided an overview of several recent developments.
  - i) Upgrades have been made to washrooms; more lights have been added to the parking area; some re-grading has been done in the snow play area.
  - ii) The website will be improved with more information for the cross country section. A webcam has been added in the alpine area; if that experiment works, Cypress will also add a webcam to the nordic area.
  - iii) The lack of a Sunday afternoon groom will be addressed; Cypress has two cats with tracksetters.
  - iv) Next summer, plans are in place to rebuild Hollyburn lodge thanks to funding from the resort, the province, and West Vancouver municipality. The new lodge will retain some of the rustic flavor, and will be a bit bigger.
  - v) *Question about a day lodge at the base?* Mike responded that, long term, this is something Cypress would like to address, and is part of the master plan.
  - vi) *Question about an electrical upgrade to the waxing hut?* This was taken care of over the summer.
- b) Bob Putnam from Deep Cove Outdoors
  - i) November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> will be “jackets for jasper” days at the store. By making and selling quality down jackets, this initiative helps pay for kids’ education in Nepal.
  - ii) The store will have a sale on November 21; all club members invited.
  - iii) Bob is looking for a volunteer to run the Tuesday Night Races program at Cypress.
  - iv) Waxing clinics will take place December 3, January 15, and February 23; details will appear on the shop website.
  - v) Demo days on Cypress: January 17 and February 14. Fischer, Madshus, and OneWay products will be featured. Also, this year the shop will have a rental/demo fleet for skate skis.
  - vi) Bob expressed his appreciation for the support club members have given the store, and noted that he likes to be involved in the community.
  - vii) Bob also provided a number of tips and advice related to ski equipment for children.

## 8) Adjournment and draw prizes

- a) The names of a number of individuals were drawn for various prizes, including P’ayak gift certificates.
- b) Meeting adjourned at 10:08pm