

Promotions/Special Events Yearly Report 2011

This year we had 5 events outside of regular races.

In October we had the Ski Swap put on by the Athlete Development Program, which had a pretty good showing and raised over \$600.00.

In January we had the Women's Ski Clinic, which had an excellent showing of close to 50 women. The weather turned out to be quite mild, which made for a great day to improve your skiing skills.

Also in January we had Buchfink Lodge Day. Instead of the standard lodge day we added a new 'Spot' Race, which was a fun race that allowed for everyone to participate.

The BV Marathon was held in February this year, due to conflicting out of town events in March. Don't worry the Marathon will be placed back in March for 2012. The Marathon dinner took place on Friday night and was accompanied by the famous 'Desert Night'.

The 9-hour relay fundraiser was held again this year in March and was followed by a potluck dinner. The fundraising efforts were put towards replacing the ceiling in the Buchfink Lodge.

In late February, Snowseekers from Calgary AB came to Smithers in late February to do some filming of the various ski areas in Smithers, the BV Nordic Centre being one of them. They spent the day touring around the centre and filming. Chris Werrell was their tour guide and did an outstanding job.

<http://www.snowseekers.ca/> check out their website and see if you can pick out the BV Nordic Centre.

Racing/ Athlete Development Team

The athlete development program was comprised of 43 athletes including:

- 18 extended rabbits (7-9 years)
- 20 Track Attack/Multi-sport (10-14+ years)
- 5 ski-focus

There were 11 volunteer coaches and a paid head coach for 8 months supporting the athletes. There were also Rabbit and Biathlon programs (each covered under a separate report) as well as the Masters program and School program – each with their own group of coaches. It is worth noting that racing and biathlon have further integrated their programs as the ADP budget now encompasses income and expenses for biathlon and the racing program. Of the 14 biathletes 13 were also track attack athletes.

We welcomed Chris Werrell as our head coach this year and he further worked on our ADP program where Lisa Perry left off. Chris began his career as skier in Burns Lake and is well acquainted with the challenges and issues of training and racing in the North. Chris was a member of the Junior National team for one year and the National Development team for three years. Chris' focus during his career racing at the international level was of the sprint discipline. Our volunteer coaches compliment Chris' skills and achievements and are as follows:

- Extended Rabbits: Amy Copland, Sandra Nash, Shannon Finnegan, Linda Robertson, Marlene Thimmer
- Track Attack/ Multi-sport: Jane Woods, Anne-Marie Findlay, Steve Hug, Irene Ronalds
- Ski-Focus: Larry McCulloch, Alex Woods

Jill O'Neil and Brian Fuhr were the Coordinators for the coaches committee and Liz Holdijk was our representative on the Club's Board of Directors. The coach Management team was comprised of Jill O'Neil, Larry McCulloch and Liz Holdijk.

Funding for the program came from the following sources:

1. CCBC coaching grants \$5,400
2. Haywood Grant \$15,900
3. BC Gaming Grant \$11,400
4. Wetzinkwa \$3000
5. GM grant \$1000
6. ADP support \$7000
7. Club support *

*Last spring, the club committed \$9000 to allow the hiring of the head coach before all funding sources could be confirmed. The club executive made the commitment recognizing the value of the head coach to the whole club. The executive also acknowledged that in the past, the ADP's fundraising has

generated surplus funds for the club. As it turned out, ADP's fundraising and budget management for 2010-2011 was so successful that the club's \$9000 was not used.

The athletes and their parents were very involved in the fundraising effort in order to support the ADP and also to target events such as Nationals and Midget championships. Some of these fund raisers were the ski swap/ pies sales, dessert night, Telus phone book distribution, marathon wax support and Labour Day weekend bottle drive. At this time we would like to thank those who assisted the athletes in their fundraising. Theresa White, Lorretta Malkow and Jill and Haley Krause, among others, baked for the dessert night which was a huge success.

The key elements of the ADP are described on the BV Nordic website. Activity levels for each group range from once or twice a week from when the snow flies through to March for the Extended Rabbits - up to year round training for the Ski focus athletes. We generally follow the long term athlete development model sanctioned by Cross Country Canada.

This past season our athletes attended some or all of the following races:

- Norams (Rossland) December
- BC Cup #1 Prince George
- BC Cup#2/ Western Canadian Championships Kelowna
- BC Cup #3 Club Championships Kamloops
- BC Midget Championships Callaghan Valley
- Omenica Open Burns Lake
- BV Open and Chris Dahlie Open Smithers
- National Championships Canmore

Our club also hosted the Winter Regional Camp and looking forward to hosting the Glacier camp once again this year.

Three of our senior skiers, Kayleigh Cuell, Kaileen McCulloch and Craig Osborn, are graduating this year. Provincial team members are Kaileen McCulloch BC Team, Kate Woods Development team and Gabriel Price, Stephanie Wilson, Cody Askew and David Walker are on the talent squad. By the middle of April provincial teams for the upcoming season will be chosen and by May the summer training program will begin for the ski focus athletes. A less demanding program will be available to younger skiers who wish to remain fit over the summer months.

With Chris at the lead and with the support of the volunteer coaches and of course the continued participation of parents, the skiers made great progress this season. Each athlete improved technically and as a result many achieved personal bests. At the club championships this year our athletes earned 8 aggregate awards ; 5 golds, 1 silver and 2 bronze. At the Western Canadians they received 3 aggregate awards.

This year we had the largest contingent of club skiers participating at Nationals in a number of years. In addition to our 3 senior athletes, 7 younger athletes were introduced to a high level of racing. It was a highly motivating and very positive experience for these younger athletes

On behalf of the ADP team I would like to thank all the volunteers and parents for their support and hard work in making this a successful season.

The ADP coaching committee is actively pursuing funding opportunities in order to bring Chris back to work with us next season.

Liz Holdijk

Athlete Development Team Board of Directors Representative

Bulkley Valley Biathlon

Annual Report 2010/2011

Bulkley Valley Biathlon has had a successful 2010/2011 season. Interest in our club continues to grow. This year has seen membership grow to 15 youth and 8 masters members. Our coaches this year were Jill O'Neill, Frank Guillon, James Cuell, Geoff Recknell, Kevin Kriese and Peter Tweedie. Our group also has a high level of parental involvement and support.

The biathlon season ran from the first weekend in December to the end of March. We sent teams to three BC Cup races this season and with the assistance of the race committee, also hosted two regional races, with participants from Terrace to Vanderhoof in attendance. Our biathletes continue to show skill and ability growth through the season, having lots of fun and collecting a few medals along the way.

Our range upgrade program continues. We were able to acquire three new targets last fall and completed a significant part of the range upgrade earthwork. The upgrade program will continue in 2011, putting the finishing touches to our current expansion plan.

Going forward, in 2011 BV Biathlon has the following goals:

- Complete our range upgrade
- Complete maintenance on the warming hut
- Upgrade range signage
- Conduct fundraising for the final phases of our upgrade and expansion.

I would like to thank all the coaches and parents for their hard work and support in making this program the success it was. Most importantly, I would like to thank the athletes for their interest, energy and enthusiasm in being a part of BV Biathlon.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Tweedie
BVCCSC Director - Biathlon

Race Events Report for the April 19, 2011 Annual General Meeting

This year, our club hosted four race events.

January 2, 2011 - Bulkley Valley Biathlon Regional Open

33 biathletes in 10 categories. 14 participants from neighbouring clubs

January 9, 2011 - Chris Dahlie Open

80 registered including 20 from neighbouring clubs

Free technique, interval start, short-distance race. Afterwards, race times were used to send skiers out in reverse-pursuit fun race. The result was an exciting mass-finish! Feedback was very positive; even from the skier who broke his leg.

January 30, 2011 – Bulkley Valley Open

67 registered including 17 from neighbouring clubs.

Classic technique, mass start on a challenging race course.

February 12-13, 2011 - Bulkley Valley Marathon

126 skied the classic marathon on distances from 51 km to 1 km. All Rabbits were included in the event this year and gave the event a great start with their Rabbit parade.

30 skiers completed the skate marathon on the following day; only 2 skiers from out of town.

In the Chris Dahlie and BV Open:

- 21% of participants were under 9 years old
- 31% were 9-12 years old
- 21% were 13-17 years
- 27% were adults.

Due to the number of skiers in the 9-12 age range and the difference in size and ability of skiers in that range, we revived the mini-midget category in the BV Open. It seemed to work well so we will try to use it for future, non-sanctioned club races.

In the last two years, we have been sharing wireless timing equipment with the Omineca Ski Club. Last year, Snow Valley (Kitimat/Terrace) purchased some new equipment and joined the cooperative effort. The three northwest clubs can now handle races of almost any size.

A recent member survey provided lots of feedback and suggestions including the following highlights:

- 95% are either satisfied or very satisfied with this year's events
- 51% want the same number/types of races next year, 25% want more social/fun or evening races
- 71% want the first race to be a reverse pursuit (mass finish) race like this year's Chris Dahlie Open.

SCHOOL SKI PROGRAM

Report

15 March 2011

This is the program's 7th year. Six schools in grades 3-12 participated. Eleven classes booked lessons. Three classes used the trails without lessons, to ski and snowshoe. In all, we had 594 student visits.

Trail fees were \$2/visit. Lessons were \$3/visit. This year six students used the Town's Affordable Recreation Fund, which was donated by McBike's 2008 12-hour relay.

The great coaches this year were Debbie Courtliff, Monica Howard, Nellie Dow, Duncan Gibb, Karen Mitchell, Liz Holdyk, Kathy Fraser and Chris Werrell. The coaches, teachers and students all had good things to say about their time on the snow.

Encouraging our young skiers to become certified coaches has benefited the club and the valley students. Without them, we would have had to decline ski lessons to some classes this year. I hope that the club continues to encourage young skiers to train as coaches.

The lodge itself, and the great variety of trails near the lodge, is excellent for this program. Generally, the schools are able to provide their own equipment, but they usually need more poles. Any small, second-hand poles would be welcome in the bin at the lodge.

All schools in School District #54 are asked to book lodge use, trail use and ski lessons through Karen. This ensures good communication between the tracksetter, the lodge manager and the school program.

report submitted by Karen Mitchell
School Ski Program Coordinator
BV Cross Country Ski Club