



## OSC Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date:	<b>Monday, January 23, 2017</b>
Time:	7:00 pm
Place:	Kamloops Youth Soccer Association, McArthur Island

Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm. 26 people were in attendance.

### Agenda Items:

#### 1. President's Welcome and Address – Vesta Giles

- In the early years, the Overlander Ski Club was a group of skiers who got together to have fun and compete, and in order to do so they needed to have groomed trails and a certain structure that required the formation of a formal club.
- Now, 36 years later we are the gatekeepers for a major recreational and competitive sporting venue and tourist destination in the region, but at heart, we are still a group of skiers who like to have fun and occasionally compete.
- I want to offer my sincere thanks to those early boards of directors kept this club alive and thriving. Not only has the membership grown, the scope of the club and what we offer has grown. In the same way that we want to have strong base of snow to support us for a long season, these early boards have provided a strong base that we now occasionally take for granted.
- Our club has no debt, and we are in a financially secure place, but we as a board take that responsibility very seriously. When Dave, our treasurer, is away, Dana and I have been known to go on imaginary spending sprees, but while those are fun, we know we have a membership that is counting on this club thriving and being financially secure for another 50 years and beyond and it is our responsibility to make sure that happens.
- As the club has matured, the requirements for being a club have evolved. We are now in a time of revising and updating our approach to governance, which includes taking a critical look at our constitution and bylaws, roles and responsibilities of board members, our responsibilities as employers and guardians of the trail system. We are also in the process of aligning ourselves with the new provincial Societies Act. These tasks aren't as much fun as planning events or new trails, but they are necessary and they keep us on solid footing for the future.
- Some highlights from this year include our new logo and branding and website. We've increased our membership dramatically this year and as a result, we won a large prize of skis and other merchandise from CCBC and their generous sponsors, we've added even more to our system of lit trails and we've created dog friendly snow shoe trails. We are hosting the BC Championships, the loppet is returning this year, and we are the hosts of the 2018 BC Winter Games cross country skiing events. We also continue to welcome the Polarthon and the Dirty Feet Snowshoe Race to our trails.
- We have a strong contingent of kids coming up through the ranks in our programs and we have new coaches and officials being trained.
- We host over 1,900 students in our schools program. These ski days for the school kids are provided for free and without them many of these children might not have a chance to get on skis or get out in the woods in the winter... or at all. Lisa told me of one day when she had a

class out last year and they came across our resident moose. For many of those children, that experience could be life changing.

- While the long-term benefit of these school programs is often hard to see, I can say from personal experience that they can have a long-lasting impression that may only show results decades later. It was through a school program that I first learned to Cross Country Ski and while my family didn't ski, whenever I had a chance I went skiing and then when I had my own car and lived back in Kamloops it was one of the first things I did.
- I want to thank the board of this past year. They are a group of passionate skiers who all want the best for the club. Sometimes they have different ideas on the route we need to take to get there but they are all gracious, supportive, intelligent, and creative. I have learned a tremendous amount from them in my first year as president. In particular, I would like to thank Neil Steinke, and Bruce and Leslie Tucker who will be stepping down this year. Leslie will remain on as our Social Coordinator. I would also like to thank Sandy Eastwood who stepped down before Christmas and handed the Secretary's torch to Raegan Markel. They have all provided enormous service to the club and have given up many hours volunteering to make sure the club is the best it can be.

## 2. Distinguished Volunteer Service Award

- Awarded to Natalie Manhard.

## 3. Reports

### Treasurer – David Hallinan

#### **Statement of Financial Position**

1. Restricted funds
  - a. Machinery replacement fund
    - i. \$10,000 added to fund -- \$68,000 currently in fund
  - b. Established a Coaching Fund 2013/14 - initial deposit \$5,000 no additional funding added
2. Grants
  - a. Pacific Sport Contributed \$5,000 to support club coaching
  - b. Received an operational gaming grant of \$12,250 to be directed towards OSC's Youth Program
  - c. Additional Grant Received however deferred until 2017-18 year related to BC Games, \$3,000
  - d. Total Grant Funding Received - \$20,250

#### **Long-Term Investments**

1. Further investment in Rental Equipment Program
  - a. \$4,300 in rental equipment – kid skies for the Ski S'Kool program and expanded the number of snowshoes available
2. Light System Extension, this extension which was completed in the current fiscal for at \$15K

#### **Statement of Operations**

1. Trailhead revenue was up significantly, season started early, mid November and concluded in March, by approximately \$40K
2. This condition also influences staff wages with being open on evenings during the week for night skiing.
3. Major cost for the year was considerable repairs required for the Sno-cat due to some issues with the hydraulics system (\$14K)
4. Fuel costs were under budget; this was due to a more settled snow season – gaps between snowfalls.

5. Volunteer contributions to OSC's program were re-estimated – following up on last year's volunteer reporting.
6. Along the same lines, The BC Teck Cup and Loppet contributed positively to the bottom line
7. Revenues exceed expense (again)
  - a. To this point OSC has maintained positive cash flow (excluding depreciation, revenue exceeds expenses)
8. OSC reported a net income position of \$18.K

### **Membership – Joan Bernard**

- 692 total memberships, up from 570 last year
- 64 junior memberships, up from 51 last year

### **Trails – Alan Vyse**

I want to acknowledge the work of the other members of the Trails Committee over the past year: Luc Guilherme, Chris Jones, Klaus Mey, Al Michel, Lisa Palechuk and Garry Plant.

A copy of our annual Trails report to Recreation Sites and Trails BC, which is required under the terms of our contract, can be found the club web site.

We had an excellent ski season last year ....in fact the BEST ever with a long season and many skiers (18,719) and snowshoers (1,802) out on the trails. Revenues were much higher than anticipated and costs were normal despite the major repairs to the snow-cat. The new season began well with early snow and better conditions than many of our ski trail neighbours, however the cold spells have depressed the numbers, and we will not match last year's totals. Nevertheless, everyone seems to be really enjoying their skiing and this makes the work of the committee worthwhile.

Over the summer crews were busy installing the new lit loop on Little Joe and Ponderosa. A few wet spots were fixed at the same time and the value of our "trail smoothing" efforts really hit home in early December when we were able to ski with very little snow base. Late in the year, Vesta spearheaded the new snowshoe dog trail and Les Laithwaite and his trusty crew made sure the trail was usable in a very short time.

The work of maintaining the machines and setting the tracks sometimes seems never ending and we owe a huge vote of thanks to the crews. They include: Chris Jones, Luc Guilherme, Fred Plateel, Garry Plant, Keith McIntosh, Kerry Spear, Peter Voss, Rob Hunter, Tim Cole, Klaus Voss, Mike Stewart-Smith, Peter Findlay, Bill Rideout, Dana Manhard.

There is also the job of maintaining the trails in the summer. This involves lots of volunteers. Klaus Mey and Lisa Palechuk picked up the job that Bob Furseth and his merry band worked on for 25 years, and the snowshoe trails get a fall work over too. Building maintenance is another issue that our volunteers take pride in accomplishing, and Luc deserves special mention for persisting with the water system. I want to make a special point of acknowledging Paul Clarke who has built ski racks and our trophy shelves.

I want to thank our stalwart staff, who represent us all so well. Matt and Lee deserve special thanks. Last season Jordan, Leah and Lisa helped out and for this season we have Julia, Daniel and Paul. This season, Lisa is working with Ellen on the City Learn to ski programs.

The Ski S'Kool program ran well last year with nearly 1,500 students and this year is progressing just as well.

Keeping the trails running is interesting and challenging work. And they certainly wouldn't run without the hundreds of hours that are volunteered. But we always need more help. New blood is needed!

### **Ski S'Kool – Lee Card**

- There were 300 students the first year, and they did ½ day
- Last season had 1,400 students doing ½ ski day and ½ snowshoe, then swap
- This year will have 1,900 students with 38 booked days and 23 schools participating (399 students through as of today)
- We have received letters from schools that are very appreciative

### **City Learn to Ski program – Lisa**

The city program has gone well with a total of 23 people participating. Fees are paid to the city and 75% goes to the club.

10 - first set of Saturday lessons  
8 - Wednesday night lesson set  
5 - second set of Saturday lessons

Due to cold temperatures we did cancel the first Wednesday class, and will do a make-up class on Feb 1.

I also cancelled (and rescheduled) a Saturday class as I ended up with a conflict with CANSI Course. Several make-up class times were made available for folks.

I've had a number of private, semi private and group lessons. Total of 20 folks have taken lessons with GoNordic Skiing. All of these individuals have either a season's pass or paid trail fees and/or rental fees to OSC.

### **Junior Development/Head Coach – Dana Manhard**

- Rich has taken over as Ski League coordinator
- Dana has been able to do one-on-one skill building with coaches
- Seven coaches took ICC
- New outfits are coming (Louis Garneau). Extra jackets were ordered and will sell.

### **Ski League – Rich**

This winter's program is running well, in large part due to the growing number of coaches. Here are some points:

- 64 athletes registered – a bit thin for 14-year-olds, other ages covered
- There is one special needs skier who has been paired up with a coach
- Former Olympic skier Perianne Jones joined classes on Saturday to help with technique
- 13 coaches going through NCCP training.
- Goals are to continue to emphasize training and mentorship for coaches.
- Challenge will be to meet the ongoing needs of the large number of Jackrabbit skiers and the strong Track Attack team as they progress to higher levels.
- Anticipate that team uniforms will be big boost in team spirit. Thanks very much to volunteers leading uniform and to OSC for supporting changeover.

### **Publicity – Vesta**

- After a long and thoughtful process, we now have a new brand identity and a new logo to go with it. The rebranding process took a year to complete but when it was done we found ourselves with a unified identity and a greater understanding of the club and its members.
- The new website is up and running and continually evolving. Reviews have been almost entirely positive. We continue to populate it with information and adapt it to meet the needs of users. It's

definitely a dynamic thing and I want to thank Lee Card who has become our webmaster doing changes and adding information as necessary.

- To launch the logo, we offered each member of the club a toque this year as part of our membership drive. The toques have proven very popular and people are liking the new look.
- The new logo has also prompted the design of new ski suits for the racing teams. We will also be offering jackets and other merchandise for next year.
- In the off season this year I will be concentrating on a new brochure, rack card, fine tuning the website, and creating a three-year marketing and publicity plan.
- Now that the branding and website are launched, we will be concentrating on recreational events that will hopefully encourage new people to come to the trails and hopefully become members.
- One of these programs we are hoping to launch in a month or so... no date set yet. This program will revolve around the popular Stuffie Trail that has been created by Gerry and Claire.

When the map of the stuffie trail appeared last year, it inspired the idea of the Overlander Stuffie Explorers program which will involve a badge and a passport being developed so that kids can go out and find all the stuffies on the ski trails. When they do they will be come an Overlander Stuffie Ski Explorer and receive a badge.

We are also expanding the existing stuffie trails to include the snowshoe trails. New stuffies will be going out on the snowshoe trails in the next few weeks and the Overlander Stuffie Snowshoe Explorer program will be launched.

This all began because Gerry and Claire put stuffies on the trails because it was fun. It has grown from something that simple. Kids and adults enjoy finding them, and we are hoping it brings them up to the trails for some recreational exploration. The idea behind this is that families might come once to try our trails and their kids will want to complete the program. It would be hard for a typical family to finish either of the programs in one visit so it encourages repeat visits.

4. Membership feedback and ideas on club programs, trail management and future directions

Al Michel (Kamloops Thompson Trail Alliance):

- Maintenance on Bushwhacker snowshoe trail has been taken on by KTTA
- Better communication is needed to get volunteers for trail cleanup
- The President and the Volunteer Coordinator should be notified by the KTTA at least a month in advance
- A notice will be added to the website in the future
- More info should be given when seeking volunteers – they may think they need chainsaw experience to participate

Leslie Tucker (Volunteer Coordinator):

- Volunteers are needed for the BC Championships (February 17-19) and the Loppet (February 12)

5. Election of Directors for 2017/2018: Chaired by Bruce Tucker

- No nominations from the floor. Each position was filled by acclamation; empty positions will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Position	Director
President	Vesta Giles
Vice-President	Dave Hallinan

Treasurer	Dave Hallinan
Secretary	Raegan Markel
Trails Committee Chair	Alan Vyse
Publicity Director	Vesta Giles
Ways and Means Director	Maureen Light
Ski League Coordinator	Rich McCleary
Membership/Registrar	Joan Bernard
Junior Development Coordinator	Dana Manhard
Volunteer Coordinator	
Snowshoe Sport Coordinator	
Member At Large	Luc Guilherme
Member At Large	John Grover
Member At Large	Scott Decker
Member At Large	

**6. Motion to accept the nominations above for the 2017/2018 OSC Board of Directors. Moved by Frances, seconded by Jane. Passed.**

7. Door prizes drawn. The grand prize of a 2017/2018 ski pass went to Leslie Tucker.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Please note the following dates for upcoming Director's meetings (7:00pm, Sports Council Board Room):

- Monday, February 6
- Monday, March 6
- Monday, April 3
- Monday, May 1
- Monday, June 5