



BLACK JACK CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB OCTOBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

Questions and comments welcome! Email: svanasselt@telus.net

FEES

While it is true that fees for this year have gone up, we want to make sure everyone knows why. This increase is due to rising fuel costs, rising insurance costs, rising CCBC rates, and the fact that we have not been breaking even with our fees in the past. This year we want to run the club based on the fees your membership and day passes generate. The Exec consists of recreational and racing skiers and we make every attempt to balance the needs of all members. With the potential reopening of Gibbards this year, we hope to have more terrain accessible for beginner & recreational skiers. We realize that excellent grooming is the number one priority for our members. We endeavor to provide this on a consistent basis. If you have questions and concerns about grooming or other issues please contact the Exec (see www.skiblackjack.ca for contact info).

SKI SWAP & SNOW SHOW!

The Ski Swap & Snow Show is on November 19 in the Prestige Hotel. Equipment drop off starts at 8:30 and the swap begins at 11:00. Sue Bennie has super ideas and has graciously agreed to organize this event. She and her team of intrepid volunteers will be on hand to help you find the equipment you need to make your ski season a memorable one. Representatives from all our programs will provide lots of information and sign-ups. Get your season memberships before the price goes up on Dec 1. Questions? Contact Sue at: SueDave_Cook@shaw.ca

\$50,000 NELSON & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION GRANT

We have been chosen as one of the four finalists for the Rossland Credit Union's \$50,000 give away. If we win, we will apply for matching funds for a new groomer. If you are a member of the Credit Union, you can vote, so get out and vote on November 21-December 1, 2006. If you aren't a member but you think this is a worthwhile cause to support, buy a membership for \$25 and then vote! Black Jack Cross Country Ski area is a facility that appeals to young and old, recreational and racer skiers; male and female. It draws people to our town in the winter, contributes to the economy and helps Rossland be a member of the Active Communities group of British Columbia. And, with 642 members, we are indeed a vibrant Club but our groomers are getting old and decrepit.

SKIER DEVELOPMENT NEWS

We are very pleased to announce that Chris Manhard has been hired as head coach of our skier development program. Chris has many years of experience at all levels of cross country skiing, including the national level, and has a wealth of knowledge to share. Welcome Chris!!! Chris's position is 100% funded by grants from Haywood Securities, CCBC and participant fees. Your membership fees are not used to fund this position or the skier development program.

All are welcome at a waxing clinic at Gerick's on November 15 at 7:00 PM for beginner and intermediate waxers. The 16th will be for advanced waxers. Contact Chris at ski-life@hotmail.com

Biathlon has been busy: 14 athletes have been practicing Saturdays, 10 am at Hanna Creek with coach Gord Gibson. The first competition will be Dec 16-17 at Sovereign Lakes. This will be both a BC Cup and a NorAm Cup featuring some of the top biathletes in North America.

UPCOMING RACES

The Haywood NorAm, Canadian U23 & Junior World Trials comes to Black Jack on January 4-7 and will incorporate Kootenay Cups 1 & 2! Open to skiers of all ages. We need volunteers for these events. Please contact Jonas Sandstrom to get in on the fun. sandstrom@telus.net (or Kathy Moore at 362-3319 km@2cats.net)

February 4-11 is the Canadian Masters Championships. This week will culminate with our 25th Annual Loppet – now included in the Salomon Marathon Cup Series. Check www.skiblackjack.ca for details. Guaranteed to be a fun-filled week of skiing, Masters events are open to skiers 30 years and better. The Loppet is open to everyone. We are recruiting helpers now. Please contact volunteer coordinator Alex Loeb alex_loeb@msn.com (or Kathy Moore at 362-3319 km@2cats.net) to see how you can get involved.

KATIMAVIK VOLUNTEER

Katimavik is coming to the Trail area for nine months. Black Jack has requested a volunteer to help with a variety of tasks at the Club. Patricia Senecal has agreed to supervise. We'll let you know if we get approval for this project.

ACCESSIBILITY CHAIR

An accessibility committee had formed to help the Club become more welcoming to people with disabilities. We are hoping to modify some of our facilities and trails. Unfortunately, our Accessibility Chairperson has had to step down and we are looking for a replacement. If you are that person, please contact Kathy Williams: 362-2133

GIBBARDS TEAR DOWN....

An era has ended and Gibbards has been torn down. Thanks to Deb Dovgala, Dan Derochie, Susan van Asselt, Kathy and Dave Williams for doing this messy job. There is still some debris that needs to be cleaned up.

....& **GIBBARDS REBUILT...**Potentially we have a construction crew (Selkirk or Trail) who could do the job, and Forestry had designated some material for us but we need a project manager to liaison with the Exec and spearhead the effort. Without someone stepping forward Gibbards cabin will not be rebuilt. For more information contact Kathy Moore km@2cats.net or 362-3319

SPECIAL RESOLUTION CANCELLED

We have GREAT news. The vote on the Special Resolution is no longer necessary. Ed Mayer has been doing a lot of the work out at the club. He has been clearing dirt and reorienting the stadium off the relocated Deschamps Rd right-of-way. New ditches filled with rock will carry off much of the melt. Milos Hinterberger has agreed to do the survey in exchange for a lifetime membership. Leigh Harrison has agreed to do the legal conveyance for free. Many thanks to everyone who donated their time and energy for this project.

ROGER CRISFIELD MEMORIAL

Roger Crisfield was a beloved member and founder of Black Jack. In honor of his memory and his many contributions to the club, we have decided to rename Aqueduct as "Roger's Route - Aqueduct Trail". This was a trail near and dear to his heart so it seems fitting to rename it for him.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

We have had an excellent fundraising campaign this fall- watch the next newsletter for our big thank you to our donors this year. It takes strong community commitment to have a great ski club and we get terrific support! Get your company involved. To learn about our generous corporate recognition program contact Kathy Moore km@2cats.net or 362-3319

It's never too late to donate! We need more matching funds for our grant application for the new groomer. Donations payable to the United Way for Black Jack are tax receiptable. (United Way keeps 5% so please be generous). A recognition plaque will be on display in the trailhead cabin. See www.skiblackjack.ca for details.
Individual donations: \$500= Gold \$250= Silver \$100= Bronze \$50= Friend

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

Several families and individuals are taking advantage of the great lifetime pass offer. \$5,000 for families and \$2,500 for individuals. Cross country skiing is a lifetime sport- this is a good deal! See website for details.

GROOMING & KIOSK NEWS

We are currently accepting resumes for grooming and kiosk people. Please send resumes to BJSC Box 1754 attention Richie Mann (grooming) Stephen Hill (kiosk)

See you on the snow soon!