

**BLACK JACK CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB**  
**NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2007**

To contribute to this newsletter, please email Susan van Asselt at [svanasselt@telus.net](mailto:svanasselt@telus.net)  
For up-to-date snow conditions, phone our snow phone at 364-5445, or check our website  
[www.skiblackjack.ca](http://www.skiblackjack.ca) Also, check KBS in the mornings for up-to-date snow conditions.

**GROOMING**

We regret to inform you that there have been a number of electrical problems with our groomers in the last couple of weeks and as a result, we have not been able to groom as well as we want to. Richie says that everything will be running properly by the end of the week at the very latest. He was able to groom Aqueduct-Roger's Route last week with the LMC and has worked on Mugwump and Spitzee. Our new operators are up to speed, says Richie and once the equipment is fixed, we'll be back on track. The Alpine snowmobile will also be ready this week which means that we will once again be able to use our new Ginzu Groomer. We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused and urge everyone to **donate to our Big Cat Kitty Fund** so we can buy a new groomer that won't break down!!! Contact Kathy Moore ([km@2cats.net](mailto:km@2cats.net)) to donate. We will be applying for a matching fund grant soon so now is the time to donate if you want better grooming next year.

**MASTERS**

**Hold on, we're not done! We just held a NorAm event but from Feb 4-11, Black Jack will once again host another big championship-this time it's the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation Canadian Masters Championships for skiers over thirty. Lots of locals will be racing as well as others from all over Canada and the United States. If you are a Master skier, register now. Our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Loppet, open to all ages, will be held Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. The loppet is for everyone, old or young and we urge you to come out for this race. This year it is a part of the Salomon Marathon Cup Series which means some racers will be eligible for prize money. You can register online for the Masters (now) or the loppet (soon) by clicking on [www.Zone4.ca](http://www.Zone4.ca) or download the race notice at [www.skiblackjack.ca](http://www.skiblackjack.ca). Check our website for more details and also to see our great supporters: Kootenay Savings Community Foundation is our major sponsor and has donated \$15,000 towards our Big Cat Kitty Fund.**

**WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS EVENT. PLEASE TELL THE KIOSK IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING or contact Jen Wyatt at [wyattj@hotmail.com](mailto:wyattj@hotmail.com) or [jen@hogdrivers.com](mailto:jen@hogdrivers.com). (Remember- volunteering can earn you a rebate on your pass price).**

**NORAMS**

Congratulations everyone at Black Jack! We pulled off the largest race ever held at the Club. 310 racers took part in the Haywood Securities NorAm, U23 & World Junior Trials event. Winners of this race qualified for the World Junior Championships in Italy. Dave Nighbor, Brent McMurty, Chris Bulter, Jesse Heckrodt and Phillip Wood will be on the Canadian men's team. Women going to Europe who raced this weekend include

Brittany Webster, Hannah Perry, Sarah Hewitt, and Kate Brennan. Check our website or the Trail Times for details of the race. **Kootenay Cups #1 and 2** were also held at the same time and we had some wonderful local results. Monica Markvardson got a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> podium finish in her age category. The website has all the details, results and great action photos. We could not have done these races without your participation and support. To the many, many volunteers who stood out in the cold for three days, our hats are off to you. To all of you who modified your skiing for the weekend, we also thank you. Officials from CCC told us that we did an excellent job hosting this event. You are part of that! **Proceeds from this race, estimated to be over \$10k, will go towards the new groomer fund.**

### **WINTERQUEST**

Keep your ears and eyes open for a new race being held in our community called Winter Quest: Winter Quest is an achievable 4-7 hour multi-sport adventure race with a twist which will take place in and around Rossland on Feb. 17th, 2007. This fun adventure for ages 14+, will use Black Jack for one segment of the event but our trails will not be closed to recreational skiers.

Winter Quest is designed to promote and support the life-saving role that hospital nurseries play in the lives of our children and therefore our own. Proceeds, net of operating costs, will go toward the purchase of life-saving equipment (such as heart monitors and isolettes) for prematurely born babies in our local hospital.

Racer, volunteer and sponsorship registration is now open. There are many ways of supporting this inaugural event!

More information? [www.kootenaywinterquest.com](http://www.kootenaywinterquest.com) or call John Reed 250 368 1828.

### **NEW TREASURER**

We are sad to report that Stephen Hill has resigned as treasurer of the Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club. Stephen has been spending more time on Black Jack business than with his family and needs to reprioritize. We thank Stephen for getting the club more organized and systemized than we ever have been before. He has made a significant contribution to our organization that is greatly appreciated. Stepping in for the interim is Ethan Meginnes who has lots of experience with money and executive boards. Thanks, Ethan! We will be looking for some professional help such as a bookkeeper or accountant. Contact Kathy Moore if you are that person or can recommend someone. [km@2cats.net](mailto:km@2cats.net)

### **NEW GIBBARDS CABIN LOCATION**

It's official. Gibbards cabin will be built on the flat, turnaround spot at the end of Gibbards trail. Thanks to all who voted. Alison McLeod and Johan Kruus have volunteered to lead this project. Forestry has already donated considerable construction material and we are hoping to have the new structure built before the snow flies next season.

### **ENGINEER WANTED**

We are still searching for an engineer to look at our maintenance shed. We have some drainage issues. If you are this person, please contact Ethan Meginnes at [ethan@pipeline.com](mailto:ethan@pipeline.com) or Kathy Williams at [kathy@dkw.ca](mailto:kathy@dkw.ca)

### **BIATHLON & RABBITS & JUNIOR RACERS**

Check out the website [www.biathloncanada.com](http://www.biathloncanada.com) to see featured a local athlete from Black Jack. We are still hoping a biathlon, Jack Rabbits and Junior Racer member will contribute news to this newsletter. Contact Susan [svanasselt@telus.net](mailto:svanasselt@telus.net) .Photos are always welcome for the website.

### **LEARN AND DO PROGRAM**

This is a group coaching program, facilitated by Lesley Beatson and offered through Rossland Recreation on Mondays at 6:30 in the Library. The intention for the program is to have all participants make significant progress in setting and achieving goals; to get more instead of less of what you want in life. Register with Rossland Recreation.

Happy trails and excellent skiing!