

THANK-YOU SPONSORS

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BLACK JACK ANNUAL SKI SWAP AND SNOW SHOW

WHEN: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2007

WHERE: PRESTIGE RESORT IN ROSSLAND

EQUIPMENT DROP OFF: 8:30 -10:30 am

SWAP STARTS: 11:00AM

REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS ETC: 9:00 AM

PICK UP EQUIPMENT: 1:00PM

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BLACK JACK CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB

Volume 1, Issue 1

SEPTEMBER 2007

New Cat On The Way

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Big Cat Kitty in previous years, including Teck Cominco, Kootenay Savings Community Foundation and KBS. We are happy to announce that Black Jack has bought a new Cat machine. It is a Piston Bully 280D which was bought from Big Red Cats. We will be keeping the LTC for parking lot plowing and our second choice machine for grooming will be the Bombardier. Along with this purchase, we have worked out a deal with Big Red Cats whereby they will provide grooming services for the winter. This winter, you'll see all of Black Jack's favourite groomers including Guido, Richard, Mark, Graham, and Tom out keeping our trails in tip top-shape all winter. They have agreed to provide 3 full grooms, 2 half grooms and 2 touch up grooms per week. They have also committed to having this grooming done in the morning

by 7AM. They, along with your trusty Black Jack Executive are committed to providing quality grooming service on a consistent basis. Big Red Cats has also agreed to provide grooming updates each day on our snow phone, KBS, the white board located outside the kiosk and also on the website. Please let the executive know how this arrangement is working during ski season. Richie remains on standby if he is needed throughout the winter.

We have also bought a new snowmobile with our Big Cat Kitty money. This means we will be able to get the Ginzu Groomer out on a more consistent basis for touch ups by our volunteers and the staff at Big Red Cats. This purchase was also made possible by generous donations from all of you to our Big Cat Kitty.



FEES FOR 2007

Day Passes

Adult \$10
 Junior \$6
 Family \$22
 5 Day Pass \$45

Memberships

	Early	Regular
Adult	\$130	\$155
Junior	\$45	\$55
Family	\$290	\$350
Single Parent		
Family	\$160	\$195

All prices include GST and accounts for the slight increase

Other Developments at Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club

If anyone has been out to Black Jack this summer, you will notice lots of changes happening. The City continues to plug away on its Reservoir, doing some blasting of rock. This opens up ideas for new terrain and perhaps more beginner/intermediate terrain. We will keep you posted in this regard.

Also new out at Black Jack this summer is a nine hole Frisbee golf course. Feel free to check it out. This course was set up by Blaine of Adrenaline Adventures and each hole was sponsored by businesses and individuals in the community. It's free and you can buy the Frisbee Golf discs at Ross Vegas in Rossland. The only request we

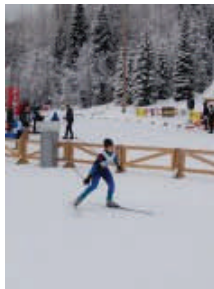
have is that you pack out what you pack in when you play.

Chris Manhard and his coaching team have been creating and preparing a new terrain park to be used for lessons with Junior Racers and Jack Rabbits this winter.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

“My spirit is always lifted by the sensations cross country skiing provides. Many days it’s magical.”
Fred Bushell



WHAT MAKES CROSS COUNTRY SKIING FUN?

By Fred Bushell

I can still remember the first time I cross country skied. It was a family outing in the Gati-neau Hills. We only had a couple of pairs of snowshoes in the basement so we drew straws as to who would use the rental cross country skis. It didn’t take us long to figure out that the skinny skis were a heck of a lot more fun than the snowshoes. There was no looking back.

Since that first experience I have skied on the high school ski team, on the university team, at provincial and national championships and in the world masters championships. I have skied in Europe, on glaciers in the Rockies and Alaska, on Baffin Island and to the top of Canada. I have helped with Jack Rabbits and coached our

Junior Racers for years. And it’s still just a heck of a lot of fun.

I think my love for the sport comes from the wonderful feeling of freedom cross country skiing provides. Gliding, the physical exertion, the challenge of the climbs and descents all combine in an exhilarating sensation. It’s physical to be sure, but it’s also more than that. Some days when you are just plain tired, a trip to the ski trails may seem like an effort. But I don’t think I have ever had a bad day of skiing. My spirit is always lifted by the sensations cross country skiing provides. Many days, it’s magical. You know, the fast skis, the fresh tracks, the energy you didn’t know you had!

And now, it’s my turn to give back. My one hope when

working with young skiers is that they will love to ski. It’s easy to be involved with our Junior Racers because I see myself in their faces. The joy. Always learning. Always striving to be better. Just having fun.

The people involved in our sport are tops. I’m sure everyone comes to cross country skiing from a different angle but I know we all share a common bond and that is our love of the sport. Volunteers are the backbone of our clubs and associations. Great people who make things happen, from facilities, races, coaching, indeed, almost every aspect of our sport. Everyone who skis knows the exertion required by our sport and should take pride in their efforts. Cross country skiers are a breed unto themselves. Ours is a true life sport.

Other News

JUNIOR RACERS

Junior Racers have started their fall training. Check the hotline at 364-5445 for up to date information regarding where and when the Junior Racers are training. Check with them at the Snow Show and Ski Swap where they will be providing waxing sessions and displaying a fundraising initiative in conjunction with Ferraro Foods.

SKI SWAP

Black Jack Annual Snow Show/ Ski Swap will be held on Saturday November 17th at the Prestige in Rossland, 8:30 AM-1:00PM. Membership Registration (early bird discount!), Ski Swap, Program Information and Registration, Trail Grooming info, Bake Sale, waxing plus much more. Mark the date on your calendars! Contacts: Diana Wilkes 362-7717 and Sue Bennie 362-2116

BIATHLON NEWS

Biathlon has been awarded the BC Cup Race in December. Gord Gibson and the biathlon team will be providing more details as we approach December. With the money they have been awarded from Columbia Basin Trust, they will be widening the trails to allow our wider grooming machine access to their trails.