### Editorial
The AGM has been and gone, there is a new committee, see the panel above, not a lot different from the last one. There is a fairly pressing need for a new secretary, Kees will not be able to do the job after the winter, please read the article and if you can help let a committee member know. The working with children check is something that needs to be done fairly promptly. It is not such a big deal as long as we have registered teachers who can be named as being in charge, however, in the event of there being none at a given event we need a few people to have undergone the check. If you have any questions contact Kees.
The Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club is on a search for a new Secretary. At the Annual General Meeting of the Club, held on the 15th May, the position of Secretary was not filled. I have been Secretary for the past six years and I need to stand aside, move on and do other things.

The Club holds seven formal meetings each year from April to October. The position of Secretary involves,

- Setting and circulating the agenda for each meeting,
- Recording and circulating the minutes,
- Collecting and presenting all inwards correspondence to the next meeting,
- Dealing with all outwards correspondence arising from the meetings,
- Working with the Treasurer to make sure all accounts are paid,
- Working with the Membership Secretary to make sure all new memberships are recorded,

Write an article every now and then for the Club Newsletter.

The time commitment is about two hours per week with an extra hour or so in the week in which a meeting is conducted. In this age of electronic communications the Secretary needs to be computer literate and familiar with both receiving and sending emails and typing up minutes and agendas. The position is voluntary but expenses (paper, photocopying, envelopes, stamps, etc) can be reimbursed by the Treasurer.

I have agreed to stay on in the position of “Acting Secretary” until the position is filled. I have also agreed to help the new Secretary settle into the position and will be on hand all winter for advice and assistance.

It has been a great pleasure being Secretary of the Club over the past six years and I have worked with some great people. The BNSC is one of the best cross country ski clubs in Australia, if not the best, and over the past 30 years it has delivered quality programs and services to its members and the wider cross country community.

To help maintain these programs and services the Club needs a new Secretary. If you are interested in discussing this position then please contact either Jim Gargan (new President) or Brian Keeble (Acting Secretary) at the contact details shown below.

President Jim Gargan 57541785 gargan@internode.on.net
Acting Secretary Brian Keeble 57544910 brian_keeble@bigpond.com

Brian Keeble
BNSC Acting Secretary
May, 2008.
Working with Children Check.

On the 1st July, 2008, the new “Working with Children Check” (WWC Check) system will be introduced into all “Sporting Clubs” in Victoria – including the BNSC.

This new system helps protect children (under 18 years of age) by requiring those who do certain types of child related work, including volunteer work, to pass a WWC Check.

If the volunteer work involves, or is likely to involve, regular and direct contact with children under the age of 18, and that contact is not directly supervised, then you may need to pass a WWC Check. Direct contact is any contact with a child that involves the following,

- physical contact,
- talking face to face
- being within eyeshot – this means that you are physically able to see them.

If, when you are engaged in volunteer work with the BNSC, you can say “Yes” to any one of the above three points then you need to have a WWC Check unless you qualify for an exemption. You are exempted from a check if,

- you are under the age of 18,
- a police officer who is not suspended from duty,
- a teacher who has current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching,
- closely related to each child you have contact with,
- a visitor to Victoria who does not ordinarily reside in Victoria.
- your direct contact with the children is directly supervised by another person who is qualified under the Act to perform the supervision.

If you are required to apply for a WWC Check then it is your responsibility to do so. It is an offence (punishable by up to two years imprisonment and/or a fine) to knowingly engage in child related work without a WWC Check.

A booklet that outlines the WWC Check (in more detail than expressed above) and an application form can be obtained at a participating Post Office. If you need a WWC Check then you must fill in the form and return that form in person to the Post Office along with,

- proof of identity
- a passport sized and quality photograph
- a fee if required ($71.70 for an employment application BUT zero for a volunteer application)

If you have any questions about the WWC Check, or you need assistance with the application form in any way, then please do not hesitate to contact me for a chat.

Brian Keeble
Acting Secretary.
28th May, 2008.
Race Calendar Review

In the May Newsletter I wrote an article on the Skiing Australia Cross Country (SAXC) review of the Race Calendar. That article outlined the formation of the Race Calendar Review Committee and the seven major issues the SAXC Committee had identified that the Committee should review.

There have been a number of developments since I wrote that article.

Review Committee
The Review Committee has now been finalised and it is Brian Keeble (Convenor), Ben Derrick, Katie Calder, Ronice Goebel and Finn Marsland as technical advisor.

Discussion Document
A discussion document has been developed that looks at the case for, and the case against, all seven issues and looks at some possible changes and solutions. The document is limited to one page per issue and has been written in easy to read dot point format.

Questionnaire
A quick and easy to answer questionnaire has been produced that asks at least one question about each of the seven issues and includes a section for a written response.

Where do you get the Discussion Paper and the Questionnaire?

Hard Copy. I have a large number of hard copies. Just give me a call (57544910) and I will either hand deliver you a copy or post one to you. After reading the discussion paper and filled out the questionnaire just detach the questionnaire and post it to me at the address shown below.

Electronic Copy. You can get hold of an electronic copy a number of ways.

* Either phone or send me an email requesting an electronic copy and I will email one to you.
* A copy has been posted on the BNSC mc2 web page
* A copy has been posted on XC Files on the Hoppet Web site (www.hoppet.com.au).

After reading the discussion paper, fill out the questionnaire and email your response back to me at the email address shown below.

The Review Committee would love to get hundreds and hundreds of responses from a wide range of people from across the country community – junior athletes, senior athletes, coaches, parents, officials, people who compete in citizen races and anyone else who like to have a say.

So please get involved – read the discussion paper, fill out the questionnaire and send it back to me at,

Brian Keeble
PO Box 9
Mt Beauty 3699

Phone: 57544910
email: brian_keebel@bigpond.com

PO Box 9
Mt Beauty 3699
Ski & Snowboard Australia

Membership and Cross Country Race Licence Registration for 2008

Ski & Snowboard Australia (SSA) has released its Membership and Race Licence Registration for 2008. The Membership is divided into two major groups,

A Competitor Membership for those individuals who wish to compete at the elite cross country level in the Australian, NSW and ACT Championships (Juniors, Seniors & Masters).

Please note that SSA Membership and Race Licence Registration is not needed to compete in any of the Victorian XC Ski Championships (Junior, Senior or Masters).

A Non Competitor Membership for those individuals who wish to be a member of SSA but do not intend to compete at the elite level.

If you wish, or need, to be take out a “competitor” or “non competitor” membership of SSA then you need to do this online at the SSA web site – which is www.skiingaustralia.org.au

If you go to this web page and click on the “Membership” link (down the left hand side) you will open up a page that has two major parts.

- **Existing Members.** You click on LOGIN and then follow the prompts.
- **New Members** You either click on “Non Competition” or “Cross Country Skiing”

If you choose “Non Competition” you will have three choices,

- **Junior Membership** – for people born in 1994 or later (a non voting membership)$ 27.50
- **Individual Membership** – people born in 1993 or earlier (a voting membership) $ 55
- **Associate Membership** – a Individual non voting membership $ 16.50

If you choose “Cross Country Skiing” you will open up the Cross Country page with a nice photograph of a cross country skier and with some text down the right hand side. If you wish to find out “Full details of membership categories” then click on the HERE link. You will be taken to the XC Files web page that will give you a detailed explanation of each of the membership categories. If you are confident that you can proceed then just click on BUY NOW. This will open up a web page with a headline “New Registration” and you will have a choice of three registrations,

- **International XC Racer** $121
- **National XC Racer** $ 77
- **Sport XC Racer.- which includes all Junior registration** $ 16.50

You click onto the registration that fits your needs and follow the prompts.

The best of luck.

Brian Keeble
Acting Secretary.
Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club Inc.

Membership Form 2008

Name:  ……………………………………………………………………Date:  …………………….

Address:  ………………………………………………………………………….Postcode:……….  

Postal Address:  ……………………………………………………………………………………….

Telephone:  ……………………………Email:  ……………………………………………………….

Family members (family membership):  ……………………………………………………………………..

☐ I wish to get my newsletter from the my connected community website (mc2.vicnet.au)

FEES

Annual membership fees

☐ Family  $66.00 (including fulltime under-graduates)  ☐ Family 5 year $330.00

☐ Singles  $33.00  ☐ Single 5 year $165.00

☐ Students  $20.00 (fulltime)  ☐ Associate*  $20.00

*Intended for existing members who no longer ski, nor use the club house, but would like to remain club members and receive the newsletter, or for new search and rescue squad members who do not require the use of club facilities.

Please make cheques payable to BNSC and send to:

The Membership Secretary,
BNSC,  
Box 192,  
Mt Beauty 3699

Fees are due on June 1 and are payable by the end of June.

The club offers the following activities and services to members:  • a day clubhouse facility at Falls Creek, a junior ski squad,  • learn to ski days,  • social activities,  • a search and rescue squad,  • races at club, state and national level,  • the annual Worldloppet event, the Kangaroo Hoppet. The club advises the Falls Creek Alpine Resort on XC matters.
ANNUAL CASSEROLE DINNER

6.30 pm Saturday 14th June 2008
Mt Beauty Bush Lodge, Mountain Creek Road
BYO Drinks and Glasses
Bring food to share (singles - a casserole, families - casserole and dessert)

What’s on?
Second hand equipment sale (bring it along, someone may buy it). Videos for the kids
Lots of talk, It’s a great night to meet members & get fired up for the coming season.
New & old members most welcome. No charge: bring along 2008-2009 membership fee (cheque or exact weight preferred) and membership form.

Kerry Butcher
Thanks to Helen for alerting me to the following.
Kerry is currently in the Grace McKellar Centre in Geelong and is slowly recovering after a tragic event nearly 12 months ago.
Kerry was in hospital last June in readiness for a scheduled hip replacement operation. She suffered a "hypoxic event", which is like a double stroke, where she stopped breathing and had to be revived.
She thinks it was due to an overdose of the medication she was given.
Kerry spent some days in a coma, then a long time in rehabilitation, before finally having her hip replaced last March. She still needs an electric wheelchair to get around, but is now able to walk short distances with a walking frame.
Although Kerry doubts she will ever fully recover, those who know her fighting spirit are encouraged by her progress so far, and we send our best wishes to her.
Her two sons, Duane and Clinton, ex-Vic junior squad members, currently live and work in Norway.

Newsletter Delivery
Currently there are two ways that you can receive the newsletter. One is Australia Post, the other is to get it from the mc2 website. I do not email newsletters to individual club members. Even as a PDF the newsletter can get quite big, up to 5Mb. Some ISPs and email clients will not handle attachments as big as that. In one case even the mc2 website required the newsletter to be in two parts, it was that large.
If you have ticked the box on your membership form to get the newsletter from the mc2 website, you will need to have logged on and applied to join the BNSC group on the mc2 website. When you have been accepted to the group you will then receive an automatic email advising you whenever a new file has been placed on the website, or that a new notice has been placed. The system is automatic and will have your correct email address, something I may not have. It is considerably easier for me not to have to maintain a mailing list, but let the mc2 website do that for me. If you wish you can opt out of receiving these automatically generated emails. The mc2 website is: http://www.mc2.vicnet.net.au
Email me if you have any difficulties signing up.

Junior News
We've been having heaps of fun on Sundays with two rogaines and two rollerskii/blade sessions. Today we had 20 kids running around the mtb trails doing a variety of courses. We have had a total of 26 different kids turn up over the last month. Next week we are doing some indoor rock climbing and a run around the Lake Guy at Bogong Village.
Club Calendar

**June**
- **Sat 14** 6:30 pm Annual Casserole Dinner
  Mount Beauty Bush Lodge
- **Sat 28** 11:00am Junior Joey Series 1
  Falls Creek Jim Gargan 03 5754 1785

**July**
- **Sat 5** 11:00am Paddy Pallin Junior (F) 0.5-2.5km
  Perisher Tony Greville 02 4844 5047
- **Sat 5** 10:00am Birkebeiner Classic 2.5/5/10km
  Falls Creek Brian Keeble 03 5754 4910
- **Sun 6** 10:00am Ski de Femmes (F) 1/2.5/5km
  Falls Creek Hoppet Office 03 5754 1045
- **Sat 12** 11:00am Junior Joey Series 2
  Falls Creek Jim Gargan 03 5754 1785
- **Sat 26** 10:00am Vic Sprint Championships (C) Sen/Jun */**
  Falls Creek Judy Bottomley 03 5754 1101
- **Sat 26** 11:00am Junior Joey Series 3
  Falls Creek Jim Gargan 03 5754 1785
- **Sun 27** 10:00am Aust Senior/Masters 15/30 km Champs (C)
  Falls Creek Judy Bottomley 03 5754 1101

**August**
- **Sat 9** 11:00am Junior Joey Series 4
  Falls Creek Jim Gargan 03 5754 1785
- **Sat 23** 10:00am Aust Sen/ Master/Jnr Championships
  Falls Creek Judy Bottomley 03 5754 1101
- **Sat 23** 11:00am Junior Joey Series 5
  Falls Creek Jim Gargan 03 5754 1785
- **Sun 24** 10:00am Aust Sen/ Masters/Jnr Championships
  Falls Creek Judy Bottomley 03 5754 1101
- **Thur 28** 6.00pm Falls Creek Invitation Night Sprints
  Falls Creek Race Secretary 03 5754 1045
- **Sat 30** 9:30am Kangaroo Hoppet (F) 42km CC/FIS
  Falls Creek Race Secretary 03 5754 1045
- **Sat 30** 9:40am Australian Birkebeiner (F) 21km
  Falls Creek Race Secretary 03 5754 1045
- **Sat 30** 9:50am Joey Hoppet (F) 7km
  Falls Creek Race Secretary 03 5754 1045

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**Birkebeiner Bulletin**

Official Newsletter of Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club Inc.

If undelivered please return to:
PO Box 192
Mount Beauty
Victoria 3699