



**CROSS COUNTRY NWT
Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023 – 7:00 PM
Zoom Meeting**

BY ZOOM

David Mahon, President
Shawne Kokelj, Director
Lisa McShane, Director
Tess Forbes, Inuvik Ski Club representative
Tania Hercun, Yellowknife Ski Club representative
Ashley Coombs, Hay River Ski Club
Sarah Pruys, Administrator

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

2 Approval of Minutes (January 10, 2023)

The minutes of the regular board meeting minutes of January 10, 2023 were approved.

ACTION ITEM: Administrators to update and post January 10, 2023 minutes on nwtski.com and distribute minutes to the CCNWT board and clubs.

Action Items (January 10, 2023)

Board members noted the progress of the January 10, 2023 action items.

3 Arctic Winter Games & Canada Winter Games

i) AWG

The Arctic Winter Games were held over January 29-February 4, 2023. Some cross country ski races were shifted around due to temperatures but all races were held. The 2004-006 boys' relay team received bronze ulu.

Since the international committee decided to create some overlapping age categories following the deferral of the last games, our athletes were on the younger side as we chose to ensure the maximum number of athletes had a chance to participate.

Ashley noted Fort McMurray did a great job hosting and overall it was a very well-done event.

ii) CWG

Canada Winter Games is being held in PEI this winter, with cross country skiing running during the second week (February 28-March 4). CCNWT is sending 10 athletes.

ACTION ITEM: Administrators to add team photos from AWG and CWG to the nwtski.com website.

iii) Territorials

Cross Country Skiing Territorials will be held over March 25-26, 2023 in Hay River. Ashley noted planning is underway and she will share the invitation once it is completed.

CCNWT does set aside some funding for skiers to attend territorials. Watch for the call-out to apply!

Meanwhile, Yellowknife's Ski Races will be held March 10 (and possibly March 11).

iii) Club Events

Send in your club event reports for events funded by Cross Country NWT.

ACTION ITEM: Administrators to determine if photo permission forms should be used for event participants (particularly children).

4 Coaching

i) Professional Development Schedule

CC - Fort Smith - December 3-4, 2022 - Completed

CC - Yellowknife - November 26-27, 2022 - Completed

L2T - Yellowknife - February 10-12, 2022 with Allison McArdle - Completed

Advanced Classic and Advanced Skate Skiing with Allison McArdle - Completed

CANSI - In Hay River in January or February with the Madsens.

Adult Ski Training - Inuvik - March 11-12, 2022 (Yellowknife instructor - Jennifer Stranart has been confirmed.

ACTION ITEM: Administrators and Hay River to liaise to determine best option training courses for Hay River.

ACTION ITEM: Coaches must have licenses for the new season:
<https://zone4.ca/register.asp?id=29372>

5 Nordiq Canada Equity Funding

All five events are progressing well, now working on booking other communities' youth to travel to our host locations (Nahanni Butte for example, looking to fly to participate in Fort Prov, lots of logistics to coordinate). We are comfortably within budget though travel requirements are coming in now, so that might adjust the situation. Either way, we are not going to have a shortfall that threatens any of our goals.

The nature of Sport Canada's requirements being what they are, likelihood is we will hand full sum of funding over to Spirit North by March 31 so that Spirit North can handle all payments into new fiscal if need be (given some of our events go into late April/start of May). Spirit North is obviously happy to do that and we don't want any of that funding on our books after March 31 but we will make sure there is a clear plan and reporting mechanism in place between us and Spirit North so that all of our aims are delivered upon.

All facilitators are confirmed. Mike Argue needs some follow-up as Annika hasn't heard from him regarding how he wanted to participate so I'll work on that while we are at CWG, nice to have him involved where we can.

Nearer the time we'll figure out which events are easiest for us to get to for photo/video and what budget we'll need.

Lutsel K'e has taken over from Fort Resolution for one of the five host locations. The likelihood is that one will only have Lutsel K'e skiers but they are really excited and committed so it sounds like it could be quite an impactful event.

ACTION ITEM: Administrators to draft and send press release announcing the program.

6 Strategic Plan update

No update – meeting with facilitators and executive will be planned soon.

7 Hay River trails update

Six locations within the trail system were damaged, and the majority were cleared in the fall. Some sections (400-500m) that were big tangled mess required the use of contractors. Some additional areas near the riverbanks that took major hits (became 6-7ft drops) still need more work, but were inaccessible before freeze-up.

8 Club news and updates

Fort Smith Ski Club

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Yellowknife Ski Club

- Held NWT Ski Day on Feb 12
- Races coming up soon (first weekend of March break)
- Also upcoming: Frostbite 50, Nordic Cross, Loppet
- Just started fundraising initiative to update grooming equipment
- Track Attack youth heading south for Alberta Youth Championship
- Some skiers heading to Nationals in Thunder Bay

Inuvik Ski Club

- Did some trail clearing two weeks ago (fallen trees, etc)
- Have Spirit North arriving March 31-April 2 for Equity Funding programming, Loppet will also be held that weekend
- Jennifer Stranart from Yellowknife to running programming over March 11-12

Hay River Ski Club

- Jackrabbits running
- Birding Ski held recently
- Waived trail fees on World Snow Day
- Paint Day fundraiser
- Planning underway for PABs/Territorials
- Next year (2024) the club's 50th anniversary
- Held Chase the Ace to raise money to replace the roof of the chalet
- Planning press release to highlight the need for legacy funding

9 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8 at 6-7pm.

Action item: Administrators to confirm next board meeting date with clubs and encourage clubs to send an alternate to the meeting if a club representative cannot attend.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.