



# Kivitski

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SASKATOON NORDIC SKI CLUB

[www.saskatoonnordicski.ca](http://www.saskatoonnordicski.ca)

January 2020



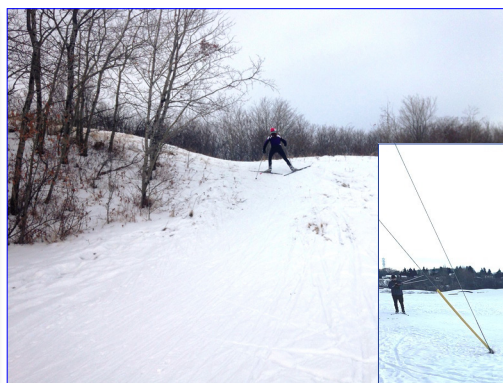
**North Trail Head At Eb's**



**Weekend Skiers at Eb's**  
by Kate Germin



**Heather Bernhard & Vivian Babic**  
by Kate Germin



**"S-turn hill"**  
by Ivan English

**On Holiday Park Trails**



**"North trail junction"**  
by Ivan English

## SASKATOON NORDIC SKI CLUB PERSONNEL

**President**  
Gail Motsi

**Past President**  
Dan Brisbin

**Vice-President**  
Ivan English

**Secretary**  
Susan Wall

**Treasurer**  
Kimberly Dobrowolski

**Financial Secretary**  
Daryl Sexsmith

**Membership**  
Jeff Thorpe

**Youth Programs**  
Kirsten Ketilson and Eric Lamb

**Eb's Trails**  
Vacant

**Communications**  
Vacant

**Touring & Hiking**  
Sheryl Riis

**Instruction/Competition**  
Bruce Simms

**Junior HiPer**  
Alison and Geoff Meinert

**Ski-at-School**  
Jan Sedgewick

**Equipment Manager**  
Brian Anderson

**Blind and Visually Impaired**  
Joanne Ferguson

**Member-at-Large**  
Kate Germin

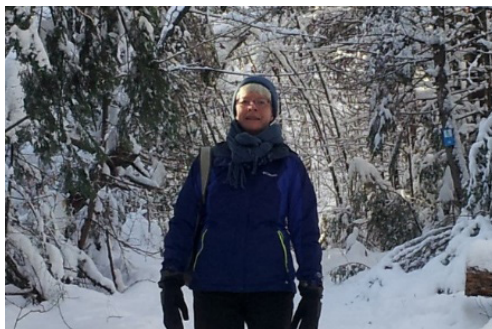
**Newsletter Editor**  
Renate Bishopp 343-0156  
hisrib@shaw.ca

**Contact SNSC via the web!**  
[www.saskatoonnordicski.ca](http://www.saskatoonnordicski.ca)

Box 2062, Saskatoon, SK  
S7K 3S7

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gail Motsi



Things are in full swing for all the Club's programs, and it looks like we will be getting more snow over the next week, although the colder temperatures may affect some activities. Lessons and performance training have been underway for a while; Ski At School started last week; and an introductory ski lesson was given to newcomers this past Saturday.

All our trails in and outside of the City have been groomed regularly, and the City's trails were groomed in early January – so plenty of places to go and ski. You can get trail updates on our website at <http://www.saskatoonnordicski.ca/trails>. Please stay on the trails at the golf courses in order to protect sensitive areas such as greens. We also ask people not to walk on our trails or bring dogs so that the trails are preserved for those who want to ski and we respect the hard work of the groomers.

This year the Club has added a hill loop at Holiday Park, inside the perimeter trail groomed by the City. I was out on the trail in December – it is quite extensive and a lot of fun. Check it out if you haven't already – a more complete description follows in this newsletter. Thanks to everyone for making this happen.

And don't forget to mark Eb's Day on your calendars – Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. It is a great opportunity to socialize around the fire pit with other skiers and members of the Club, and to explore the extensive trails in and around beautiful Nisbet Forest.

---

CCS has Loppets and Sask Ski races on their event calendar. For a list of events and complete and up to date information go to (<https://www.crosscountryask.ca/new-events>)

---





## FACILITIES COMMITTEE By Ivan English

A big thank you to all our groomers who make skiing possible and who put in significant time and effort to ensure we can ski and run our club programs. Kinsmen Park and Wildwood have been groomed multiple times this year, and new for our club we have added Holiday Park golf course as a way to get our members familiar and excited about the move to the Gordie Howe Sports Complex and the improved trails on the golf course next year when the multi-sport building is expected to be operational.

At Holiday Park our club has started to groom a new loop (the "Hill Loop") in cooperation with the city groomers who are still grooming the "Outer Loop" which is similar to their trail of previous years. As well, a connector trail leads from the parking lot along the northern border of the golf course to the Hill Loop which is located along

the eastern aspect of the golf course. The city has decided to keep their trail near ours in the northeastern part of the course, with the trails taking more distinct paths further south (see map). We are hoping to separate the trails further next year as there is some congestion in certain areas.

The Hill Loop has several areas with potential for further development as fundraising permits to either add or improve existing features as reported at the AGM in November. At some point we also hope to add lighting to the trail where it starts out at the north-west corner and continue it along the Hill Loop.

A preliminary 1 km skate trail has also been groomed in the ball fields next to the oval using the hills built for our future Jackrabbit/lit loop, but the tops of the hills still need more snow

before a classic track can be put in. This loop can be accessed from the Holiday Park parking lot as well.

The groomers and the executive ask that all members *please stay on the groomed trails* at both Wildwood and Holiday Park as the city has concerns about skiers (and others) crossing over greens and tee-off areas which are prone to damage and may be covered by expensive tarps. Hay or branches are sometimes placed on greens to deter traffic, but not all sensitive areas may be covered this way. Cooperation with the city will make our future trail development more achievable.

And lastly, we thank all of you who have helped by donating your time or money to the Gordie Howe Sports Complex project as our club plans to move to a new home.



## SUNDAY TOURS 2020 – Winter Update

By Sheryl Riis, Touring Co-ordinator

**\*Please connect on the Nordic Ski Club Touring Yahoo Group, for trail updates, carpooling, and possible activities. Members connect to meet, for cross-country skiing, during the week, and on weekends.**

**\*Sunday Carpooling to Eb's Trails – meet at 9:45 a.m., across from the Lawson Civic Centre, in the Lawson Heights Mall parking lot, by the park, for carpooling (usually return from Eb's Trails, about 3:30 p.m.)**

I have to confess that I have not got out cross-country skiing once, yet. Christmas preparations, travelling, and celebrations, have consumed my Sundays. I also have to confess that I like a bit more snow, for softer landings. Tobogganing has been my winter outdoor activity of choice, lately. The falling distance is a lot shorter. I am starting to

get very anxious to get out skiing, though... especially onto our amazingly beautiful Eb's Trails!

There are some areas of Eb's Trails that we are already able to ski, and people are welcome to walk/ snowshoe, in the forest, and enjoy the volunteer-maintained north, and south huts, complete with outdoor bathroom facilities. Please help keep the groomed areas free for cross-country skiing.

Thank-you so very much to all the volunteers who have been busy, ensuring that our 52 km of Eb's Trails, in the Nisbet Forest, are cleared, packed, and groomed, whenever possible. Now, we just need more snow!

All the best in 2020!!!

Sheryl Riis  
306-382-9462

## Of note ... by Gail Motsi

**Global Gathering Place**, a settlement agency in Saskatoon, brought about 20 newcomers for an introductory lesson provided by the Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club on January 11, 2020. The participants included adults and children who had never skied before.

The newcomers were fully equipped with skis, boots and poles provided by the ski club and used for our Ski At School Program. They received a brief introduction from

our certified instructor on how to ski and had a chance to try it out on the trails that SNSC grooms at Wildwood Golf Course.

The group stayed outside for about an hour and came back to the Clubhouse for hot drinks, with lots of smiles on their faces despite many falls. The Club members who helped with the lesson really enjoyed the experience as well.





## EB'S TRAILS NEWS by Kate Germin

As of Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>, Eb's trails, like most of our ski trails around the city, are awaiting more snow. The full trail system has been groomed but many of the heavier treed areas still have grass showing so the classic tracks were not set everywhere. There are rough areas on the deeper forested trails due to lack of snow and roots showing through. The groomers have shoveled snow around and tried to fill snow in some areas, doing their very best to maximize your skiing experience.

The best skiing can be found on Bog, Porcupine, East Jorgen's, Eb's, Beaverlodge along the fence lines (except for the northwest area by the lake) and the whole of Sask 60.

We will be visited by the Regina Nordic Ski Club on Jan 19th. Please come out and enjoy the socializing with fellow Saskatchewan skiers.

Eb's Day is planned as you see here in our newsletter and we are very thankful to the organizing team. Let's all hope for snow!!

## BLIND AND VISION IMPAIRED SKIERS by Conrad Lange, Public Relations

On Saturday October 19, the blind & low vision skiers and guides had the first of our walks on the Meewasin Trail. We met at the Kinsmen Children's Park at 9:45 a.m., where parking is free. At 10:00, starting at the Nutrien Wonderhub, we walked north across the Circle Drive Bridge and back to the Kindle Cafe by 11:00, to converse while enjoying refreshments.

Saturday December 7 was the Christmas Walk & Potluck Lunch at the Kuntz acreage. It was a cloudy day with a temperature of -12 and no wind. It was an excellent day for walking on George's Ski-Doo tracks. George had packed the snow with his double tracked Ski-Doo to compress it for walking through the bush. We had an excellent turnout of members along with two dogs, Echo and Lola. Most of us walked the 2.5 kilometre trail. Pictures were taken.

Following our walk, we appreciated stepping into the warm cabin to enjoy the variety of food along with visiting. After

lunch we had a short meeting. There are two visually impaired skiers and one guide that plan to attend the annual Ski for Light competition February 3 to 9, 2020 at Kananaskis Park in Alberta.

At this time, we reported on the completion our fund-raising blitz selling Co-op gift cards. This blitz was successful, with members buying cards for themselves and selling to others. We extend a big THANK YOU to the SASKATOON CO-OP for this program, a great financial support for us each year.

Our first ski day at the Wildwood Golf Course has been set for 9:45 a.m. Saturday January 4.

Our club welcomes new blind, low vision people, guides and volunteers of any ability who would like to join us for Saturday morning walks and skiing.

We are looking for a guide for blind skier Stanley Windels, who has re-joined our club after a few years' absence. Stanley has many years of experience as a skier. He has transportation to the walks

and skiing. but does need a guide. The guide would be trained for the Saturday events.

Diagonal stride ski lessons, by a trained SNSC member, have been set at the Wildwood Golf Course for 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Saturday January 18, and Saturday February 22.

Our Family Pizza Day at the Wildwood Golf Course, for members, is on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Our club will continue to post pictures on the Nordic Club Facebook page.

For further information, e-mail Joanne [joanne.ferguson@sasktel.net](mailto:joanne.ferguson@sasktel.net), or Jola, [jolat38@gmail.com](mailto:jolat38@gmail.com)





# Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club

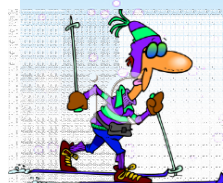
invites you to join us *in the forest* for our

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual EB'S DAY

**Sunday, February 16, 2020**

*(Alternate bad weather date – February 23)*

**10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**



Join the Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club for a day of fresh air, fun and great skiing at **Eb's Trails**. The trails are just ten minutes north of Duck Lake on the west side of Highway 11. Skier signs direct you to either of the two parking lots.

The 13 trails provide a variety of distances and skill levels. Trails have been maintained and groomed exclusively by the Nordic Ski Club since 1977 and are well marked. Maps are available.

Never skied Eb's Trails? This would be a great day to give them a try. Stop by the South Hut for a wiener roast, hot chocolate, etc., compliments of the ski club. For more info:

Val [vlyoung@yahoo.ca](mailto:vlyoung@yahoo.ca)

(306) 945-0092

Bob [bobkat373@sasktel.net](mailto:bobkat373@sasktel.net)

(306) 373-1438

Jeff [l.thorpe@shaw.ca](mailto:l.thorpe@shaw.ca)

(306) 250-9266

visit [www.saskatoonnordicski.ca](http://www.saskatoonnordicski.ca)

