

SNSC Annual General Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2022

Venue: Zoom

Registration: 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Executive Present: Gail Motsi, Susan Wall, Kate Germin, Brian Anderson, Ivan English, Geoff Meinert
Regrets: Robin Robinson, Sheryl Riis

Members Present: Rob Howse, Nancy Howse, Joanne Ferguson, Toni Villiers, Rob Katarynych, Norma Gunningham-KKapphahn, Daryl Sexsmith, Ann Popoff, Bill Kapphahn, Lisa Brundage, Arnold Shaw, Randy Chapman, John McLean, Alison Meinert, Ken English, Scott McGibney, Lindsay Tumback, Darrell Lutzko, Colin Whitfield, Dan Fuller, Jelmer Wiersma, Graham Brown

1. **Briefing on Zoom Controls:** meeting will be recorded in case notes are needed.
2. **Introductions and Welcome-:** Gail Motsi is SNSC President and meeting chairperson
3. **Order of Business:** Agenda approved with no amendments.
4. **Reading and Approval of the 2021 Minutes:** Ivan moves to approve. Seconded by Toni. Carried.
5. **President's Report:** Last season we were still affected by the pandemic, including having to stop Ski at School due to a flare up of COVID. This season should look much more like previous years. We plan to include snacks and drinks at jackrabbit lessons and host Eb's Day again in February. We have moved into the new facility at GHSC. Details are still being worked out, and changes are expected again this winter as we settle in there. The elevated membership numbers that we saw in relation to the pandemic remained steady last year and hopefully into this season. Donations had increased last season, and we received many grants, so financially the club is in a good position to start the new season.

There is still no storage options for us at Kinsmen Park, which means the club will not be grooming Kinsmen again this year. We will groom at Wildwood golf course and Holiday Park golf course. We did invest in some new grooming equipment last year so no major capital expenditures are predicted for this season. So far our biggest need is volunteer groomers. We have lost a few very dedicated groomers and have added a few new ones, but it will not be enough. We are considering having a paid groomer to help in the city.

Thank-you to all the volunteers who helped in the club last season. Several board members are stepping down including Jeff Thorpe (Membership director), Robin Robinson (treasurer), Kate Germin (Eb's trail director) and Sheryl Riis (Touring director). Sheryl will continue to organize tours but will step off the board.

Honorary mention goes to Robin and Kathy Butler who have moved away to Salmon Arm. They have put in many hours of help with the club. Also Kate Germin and Randy Chapman, who have put in hours grooming at Eb's trails, and Richard Koch for grooming at Wildwood. We acknowledge and appreciate the help.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** SNSC has \$138,196 in assets. This includes both equipment and cash. The membership sales last year totalled \$50,155. Just to note: there is a transfer of \$540 related to an expense for the blind skiers that has been edited on the financial report circulated to the membership earlier. Gail moves that the financial statements dated October 14 2022, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, as reviewed by Gabriel Ng CPA P.C. Inc., be approved. Scott McGibney seconds. Motion carried.

Gail Motsi moves that the requirement for an audit of the financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 be waived, and that a financial review of the books be conducted instead. Motion seconded by Rob Howse. Motion carried.

Gail moves that Gabriel Ng CPA P.C. Inc. be appointed as to conduct the financial review for 2022-23. Toni Villiers seconds the motion. Motion carried.

7. Committee and Program Chair Reports

- a. **Membership:** (Gail Motsi) Last season we had 1151 Members. Before the pandemic we usually had 650-700 skiers. More people are skiing as a result of COVID. The majority of members are families. Last year, member donations at the time of registration totalled \$9,940. Most of members chose to direct these monies towards grooming costs. As of today there are currently 361 memberships so 2022/2023 likely will end up continuing the pattern of elevated membership numbers.
There is also an increase in the numbers of hikers this year.
- b. **Facilities** (Ivan English): Ski at School (SAS) will ski out of GHSC this winter. SNSC will pay a lump sum of rent and will get more building access than last season including daytime use for SAS. Lights will be on Mon-Thur evenings as well as Sat evening. We will get two days for hosting events included in this year's rent. We are still working out the start and end dates for the season. It is tricky as we don't know what date we will start or stop skiing, it is snow dependent. We will continue to have access to our grooming garage, and will have access to the changerooms. We still need to secure indoor space for SAS to teach in. As for Kinsmen Park, we need the City to provide storage space for the groomer there before we would go back to grooming Kinsmen. We also need more volunteers. Hopefully next year we could go back to grooming, but it is not in the plan for this winter. SNSC meets with the City in November. At this time we could ask about storage at Kinsmen, and also if the blind skiers will have access to the clubhouse at Wildwood.
At GHSC, we are not allowed to take skis into the building, but SNSC will consider putting ski racks outside at the entrance to our ski area. Some members expressed concern over the lack of trail maps at Holiday Park. The board will make it a goal to put up laminated signage at the junctions this year to help new skiers stay oriented. A large permanent sign will be made once the trails have been finalized. There is still a possibility that the trail layout may change over the next few years.
Members have also noticed dog-walkers entering the golf course from the southeast corner, through a hole in the fence. The City does fix this hole, and every year someone cuts a new hole. It is important to keep notifying the City of this problem and perhaps they will find a solution.

- c. **Eb's Trails:** (Kate Germin) The ski trails have been cleared and mowed for the season. We await the snow and hope for a season with lots! We are working to widen several of the loops and may be setting double tracks on some of them at times. We are still recruiting groomers so if you are interested, please email eb@saskatoonnordicski.ca. We are thankful for all of our devoted volunteers who have worked on trail clearing this fall. They have put in many hours once again. We will welcome the use of both warm-up huts this coming season, but ask individuals to be conscious of virus spreading behaviours. Firewood will be chopped and ready at each site for the season. Please! no outdoor fires ANYWHERE except in the fire ring at the South hut. Please use the firewood sparingly for the outdoor fire pit so the supply of wood lasts all season to keep the huts warm. It is our plan to hold Eb's Day on the Sunday of Family Day Weekend, February 19, 2023. The snowshoe trails leaving from the North lot area have been renamed using local bird names. The trail signs will be posted along the trails for this year. The snowshoe trails leaving from the South Lot (Ralph's Snowshoe Trails) will also be well flagged for your enjoyment. Maps for all the trails, ski and snowshoe are posted on the parking lot kiosks, you can also find them on line. We no longer print a supply of paper maps. Eb's Source for Adventure has very generously donated the supplies to erect the kiosks at each parking lot and new trail marking posts for both the ski trails and snowshoe trails. As well they are paying for the rental of the bush hog to clear the south snowshoe trails. Jelmer would like to build a woodshed at the south hut. It was decided that it should be closer to the hut than the firepit to discourage excess fire pit usage.
- d. **Equipment** (Brian Anderson): Last year we purchased a new 6 foot Tidd Tech groomer for Holiday Park. It sets 2 classic tracks at once so it should save time. It does need a ski on the front of it to help it pull easier. All the snowmachines in the city have been serviced and are ready to go. The Rhino is still being used at Eb's, so as soon as the work there is done the machine will go for servicing. Our equipment trailer is currently being stored at Jeff Thorpe's acreage. Lori Mack is keeping track of the potential start times for grooming at Wildwood and will be ready when the snow comes.
- e. **Youth Instruction** (Geoff Meinert, Dan Fuller): Last year over 200 kids took lessons on Wed/Sun. Registration opened Oct 4, 2022 and already some classes are full. Thankfully buying skis for kids should be a bit easier this fall. We are hoping to offer hot chocolate and snacks after both lessons this year at GHSC. Jana Hambleton handed over the youth coordinator position to Dan Fuller. Dan is finding it is still a big job to find coaches for Sundays, the most popular day for lessons.
- f. **Youth HiPer/HiPer and Racing** (Geoff Meinert): There were 36 kids registered in Youth Hiper last year. This year already 41 skiers are registered. The regular season runs from September until March so the season is well underway. Geoff and Alison Meinert will offer race support at all the SaskCup events as well as the Canmore Alberta Cup races and Western Canadian Champs in Kimberly BC this year.

The Hiper team (ages 14 and up) lost coaches Robin and Kathy Butler this year as they have moved to B.C. Now Hiper is under the same training umbrella as Youth Hiper, with additional training days. Coaching is being done by Ivan English and Chris Wall. Weight training is happening through Craven Training Centre.

The Grapefruit Cup races, previously run by the Butlers, will carry on with the help of parent volunteers, primarily Edith McHattie and Cory Farthing.

- g. **Adult Instruction** (Bruce Simms): Bruce Simms, Rob Howse and Cliff Speers will be teaching adult lessons again this year. Last year all lessons sold out and they expect similar this year. A full slate of ski lessons will be offered again this year. Teaching will happen out of GHSC, which worked well last year. They look forward to a new season.
- h. **Touring** ([Gail, for Sheryl Riis](#)){~~Sheryl via email~~): There were many successful hikes last year. Hikers were able to start carpooling again last spring. So far there have been 6 fall hikes, some with fall suppers. They have been enjoying carpooling and are in full swing with fall hiking.
- j. **Ski at School & Outreach** (Gail Motsi, for Jan Sedgewick): SAS started up at the start of last season only to be shut down in January due to COVID concerns. Jan Sedgewick is planning on running SAS again this season. She is still looking for instructors if anyone is interested.
- k. **Blind Skiers** (Joanne Ferguson): Blind skiers are increasing membership with 2 new walkers and 2 new skiers. They have lost one skier this season, but are now up to 12 skiers, 5 regular guides and 3 spare guides. This means the blind skiers are desperate for guides. They are hoping to enjoy some socials and training time inside the Wildwood Clubhouse this winter.
- l. **Website and Nordic Pulse** (Dan Fuller, Graham Brown): Last year Dan and Graham stepped up to help with a website revamp. Most people that use our website are interested in trail reports. Nordic Pulse will show up to date grooming. Groomers can upload their grooming reports via Nordic Pulse and update our website. The website redesign is ready to go, it just needs a transfer from the old host to the new. It also needs feedback from the board of directors for approval. They are also trying to set up citizen trail reports through social media apps so that people can report on trails and update the trail reports this way too.

8. Proposed Budget

Last year we had \$153,792 in total revenue. This year the revenue budget is forecasted at \$154,000 from the usual income sources. This year's expenses are forecasted at 156,000, which puts us at roughly a \$2,000 deficit. The primary new expense is to pay a head groomer, the rest of the expenses are typical expenses for a season. There is some concern that a head groomer would not be appreciated, as volunteer groomers are working so hard and are not paid at all. However, it is getting harder to keep groomers putting in such long hours and increasing membership numbers mean increasing pressure on our trails. This topic will be discussed further at future board meetings.

Gail Motsi moves that the draft Budget for the 2022-23 season be approved. Jelmer Weirsma seconds the motion. Motion carried.

9. Executive Nominations

The Executive is nominating the following candidates for election, with their positions noted. Nominations can also be made by any two members at the AGM.

- a. President – Gail Motsi
- b. President Elect– Geoff Meinert
- c. Vice President – Ivan English
- d. Treasurer – Lisa Brundage
- e. Secretary – Sue Wall
- f. Directors –Brian Anderson (Equipment Manager), Jelmer Wiersma (Eb's Trails Director), Dan Fuller (Website), Jan Sedgewick (Ski AT School), Lindsay Tumback (Memberships Director)

10. Executive Elections : Ivan English wants to remain as VP for one more year in order to maintain continuity with our move to GHSC. Geoff Meinert volunteers to become the President Elect. Lindsay Tumback has volunteered to be the Membership director. There are no other nominations. Gail Motsi moves to approve the current Executive Board slate as it is listed. Motion seconded by Kate Germain. Elected by acclamation.

11. **Announcements** : None.

12. Any Other Business: There will be a woodcutting bee at Eb's on Saturday October 22 if anyone is interested in coming.

13. Adjournment: 9:04 pm. Next Executive meeting is October 24 at 7pm via zoom.