

Mono Nordic Ski Club

A Great Place to Meet and Ski!



November 2011

Presidents Message

To the Mono Nordic Ski Club community, it is my pleasure to greet you as the new president of Mono Nordic Ski Club. As the 2011/2012 ski season approaches, I would like to take a moment to reflect on our recent past, inform you of what is currently happening and hopefully inspire you to look ahead so that you can take full advantage of what a club like ours can offer.

Thank you to our outgoing president Jerry Hipfner. Jerry a founding member of Mono Nordic, acted as president for the past 2 years. In that time he has helped to move the club forward by guiding us through trail use and access issues and by being involved in creating the closed-in picnic shelter at the trailhead that has become such a welcome and well used facility for night skiers. Jerry's contributions continue this season as he remains part of the club executive.

Currently Jim White and Sylvia Lauterbach are busy planing our open house at the Monora Park Pavillion on November 20th. I hope that you are planning to attend as it is a great opportunity to reconnect with each other and to start thinking about skiing. See the website for more info. Earlier in October, a Mono Nordic delegation presented at a Town of Mono council meeting a report detailing the mutually beneficial relationship that we have with the town. Details of the report are posted on our website. The Mayor, on behalf of the Town of Mono, expressed her great appreciation of what we offer the community and stated that the Town of Mono is committed to helping Mono Nordic further its mandate of offering low cost, high quality experiences for skiers of all ages and abilities.

In order for our club to move forward and remain viable in the years to come we need to meet the needs of our membership and to expand our volunteer base. A number of new projects are being initiated this year in response to comments we heard at the AGM in June. You can read about these initiatives later on in this newsletter. Volunteers are what make this club work. For some, volunteering means supplying a tray of homebaked goods for the open house. For others, volunteering involves preseason clearing of trails, winter trail maintenance and spring clean up or organizing a large event such as the ski race. We have volunteer activities that can suit anyones level of commitment. I am personally asking you to make a commitment to yourself and Mono Nordic this year by volunteering in some capacity. In addition to making a positive contribution to the club you will feel more connected to our community, make new friends and you will enjoy yourself. Hope to see you on November 20th.

Ron Jasiuk
President of Mono Nordic Ski Club

Volunteering at Mono Nordic Ski Club

During its 26 year history, volunteers have created a ski club that is the envy of skiers from other parts of Ontario. We have a top notch trail system, a large supply of high quality rental equipment, special events such as the Jackrabbit program, Women's Day, Elementary School Ski Days, Family Day and hosting of Ski Races. The very affordable price of membership to Mono Nordic Ski Club is also the result of the activities of volunteers.

In addition to being able to sign up during the open house, we will be sending email notifications about volunteer opportunities. If you pay the volunteer member rate, it is your responsibility to make contact with volunteer coordinators to fulfill your volunteer goals.

Currently we are looking for volunteers in two areas:

- Fall trail work which has already started and will continue until December. Activities involve clearing brush, transplanting trees, spreading woodchips, prep and installation of lights for night skiing, bridge repair and installation of snow fencing. If you can help with any of this, contact Ross Martin at rosha@sympatico.ca
- Helping out at the Mono Nordic open house on Nov. 20th. We need individuals to help with registration, assisting with the ski swap, serving and preparing food (coffee, baked goods, barbequing).

Contact Jim White at pjwhite@sympatico.ca

Other volunteer opportunities that are available include:

- Setting up a new mid trail lunch station
- Helping with design and production of signs
- Design and construct a plaque
- Helping monitor weekend activities in the pavillion
- Elementry School Program Volunteer
- Officiating at races
- Jackrabbit instructor (you need not be a great skier for this)
- General help on special event days such as Women's Day, Ski Race and Family Day
- Equipment repair
- Minor construction – we need a portable awards podium
- Monitoring lights and evening skiing

You will have an opportunity to sign up for some of these during the open house on Nov. 20th. We will send reminder emails as we get closer to start up dates for these activities. If you already feel a desire to get involved in one of the activities listed then let us know by sending an email to rjasiuk@sympatico.ca

New For This Year

We have purchased a cell phone for the club: 519-939-9608. Since the phone will not be answered a lot of the time please leave a message on the voice mail. As the number will not be in a phone directory, we will post this number on our web site, www.mononordic.com

Lunch on the Trails

We are planning to establish a location to have a lunch stop off the blue trail. A picnic table, wood stove for a controlled outdoor fire, and a pile of firewood is being prepared. A short trail will be made to get you to this private secluded getaway for families. Members will be asked to let the pavilion staff know if you are planning to stop for a fire on Sat or Sunday. This will allow us to check that the area is safe for the night after each usage.

Midweek Ski Rentals

A number of our members rely on the club rental equipment to ski. We also frequently have people who would join if they could get access to rental equipment beyond the weekends.

We initiated a program of evening rentals last year with limited success. This year we are looking into building a locked storage area in the picnic shelter for access during the week. We are offering members access to this equipment midweek for \$25/per set for the season. The Open House, Nov 20th, will be the

deadline to sign up for this option. If we do not have enough to justify setting this area up, those who have signed, will be given the option of taking a set of rental equipment home for the full season at \$45.

Wednesday Ski & Coffee

One of the recommendations we received at the AGM was to attempt to add to our social events. We are going to have a pot of coffee on in the pavilion at 3 pm on Wed afternoon. This is going to be a social event with no commitment for members and their guests. We already have a number who plan to attend, some just to have a coffee and chat and others to find someone to ski with at their level of ability. Rentals will be available.



OPEN HOUSE
NOVEMBER 20, 2011