



# On The Glide

November 2019

*The mission of the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club is to promote the sport of cross-country skiing in the Bemidji area through the development, maintenance, and stewardship of trail areas; sponsor and co-sponsor ski-related events and activities; and promote leadership, camaraderie, and goodwill among sports enthusiasts.*

## Greetings skiers

The winter of 2018-19 was a great ski season with an abundance of snow and cool temps, which allowed our volunteer groomers to maintain meticulously-groomed trails throughout the entire ski season with minimal disruptions. Thank you groomers and trail-clearing volunteers!! Plus, the Ski Club rejoined and marched during the annual Night We Light Parade, which is annually held during the Thanksgiving holiday. We proudly showed off our brand new, beautifully-decorated ski club trailer that was escorted in the parade by a marching bunch of avid and boisterous skiers, carrying skies and promoting Sunday Ski School (resulting in another sell-out SSS in January 2019).

In spite of lots of beautiful snow this past winter, the Movil Maze Lodge project progressed at full speed right through the winter and was completed on schedule (actually a bit ahead of schedule) and on budget. Many of you joined us in early May for our annual ski club meeting at the Lodge, where we feasted on hot pizza and Mur's home-made brew, plus we actually conducted a Ski Club meeting. This was a very significant meeting as Ski Club members voted to change the club membership classification from formal membership to informal membership whereby ski club members are now non-voting supporting members. This will allow the board of directors, who are still elected, to be able to move more quickly to develop and implement ski club policies without having to wait up to 12

months for a vote approval at the annual meeting. Similar to other clubs with supporting members, Ski Club supporters can make annual donations to the ski club to become supporting members so that the Club can continue to carry out our mission of promoting cross country skiing by developing, maintaining and grooming 100K of ski trails in the Bemidji area.

The upcoming ski season will not be without challenges. The club was recently informed by the DNR that due to declining ski pass purchases over the last three years, grant-in-aid (GIA) revenues have declined significantly. Unless there is a significantly uptick in ski pass purchases this year, GIA revenues that are annually allocated to ski clubs throughout Minnesota may be both delayed and reduced. We will focus more on getting the word out about the importance of purchasing annually The Great Minnesota Ski Pass to support cross country skiing at the local level. Also, the club will be increasingly more active in fund raising in the greater Bemidji area to directly support club activities. Encouraging more skiers to become a supporting member will be a top priority for the club.

The Ski Club has, once again, put together a variety of fun-filled, skiing activities for the upcoming ski season to include making good use of the Movil Maze Lodge and the multi-use trail on the north loop of Three Island Park. So, become a Ski Club supporting member (visit our website), get your skies waxed, make sure to check your ski boot laces and zippers (mine broke last winter on the big downhill at Movil Maze – fun!) and join us on the trails.

**Bill Scheela, Club President  
(and senior mailroom clerk)**

## Trail Report

**By Mark Walters, Trail Administrator**

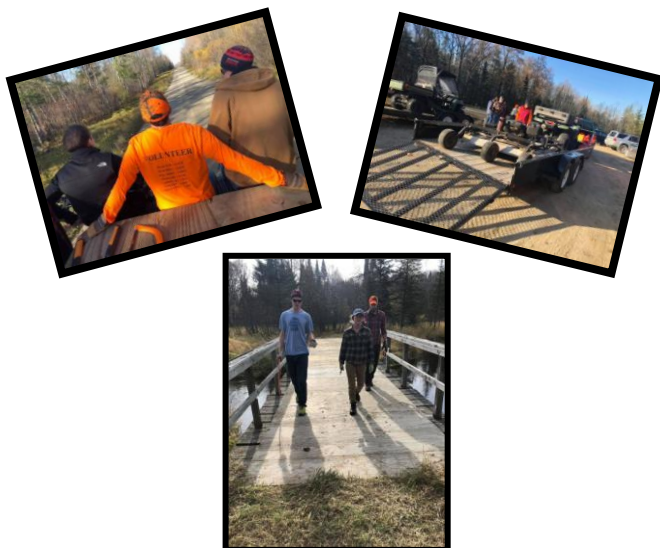
Winter seems to be right around the corner and bearing down on us as we head into another ski season. I cannot thank our volunteers enough for all the hours put into our three major ski trail systems; Movil Maze, Three Island Park, and Buena Vista. The month of October was quite busy with chainsaws, clipping branches, and mowing of the ski trails. The trail systems are very wet this year with the high amount of rainfall we received over the past six weeks. This, combined with soggy soil and high winds, brought down a number of trees right at their base creating some very challenging removal work.

Three Island Park, its multi-use trail sections, specifically the north loop, has more standing water than ever this year and mowing may have to either wait for a hard freeze or measurable snow to make it skiable. Please be patient with our volunteers, as they'll do whatever may be necessary to open this loop.

Our ambitious project, the Movil Maze Lodge, has been completed and will be open this winter for recreational use. Day to day operations is maintained by Land Resource Management (LRM) and similar to Three Island's shelter, the Movil Maze Lodge will be open to the public beginning Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. This project was made possible from financial support from the County, North Country Snowmobile Club, Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club, Bemidji Rotary Club, and many community members. It is truly a project to be proud of. The building has electricity, lighting, a wood stove, and plenty of seating. You will also notice a new way to access the trail system from the north side of the building and snowmobilers will pass behind the building to connect to their existing trail.

As always, be sure to thank our volunteer groomers while out on any of our Grant-In-Aid trails. Their time and expertise makes skiing a more enjoyable experience for all of us. Show your support for their efforts by purchasing 'The Great Minnesota Ski Pass' and keep the grooming going!

Enjoy the winter and the trails we have!



**Get yours today!**

The Great Minnesota Ski Pass gives cross-country skiers age 16 and older access to trails in state parks, state forests or grant-in-aid trails. All the trails in the Bemidji area fall into these categories! Your ski pass fee helps us maintain Minnesota's cross-country ski trail system. In fact the Ski Club receives \$26,000 in volunteer earned grant-in-aid to maintain our local trails systems.

Passes can be purchased on-line or at local convenience stores that sell DNR licenses. The cost of a pass is:

**Daily: \$10**

**One-season: \$25**

**Three-season: \$70**

**Thank you for getting your pass!**

**LOOKING FOR TRAIL  
INFORMATION?**

**Check us out -**

<https://bemidjicrosscountryski.org>



## BHS COACHES CORNER

**By Mark Walters, BHS Varsity Coach**

Coach Walters

A huge turnout awaited the BHS Nordic ski teams coaching staff on Monday night, November 4<sup>th</sup>, to officially bring in the new season. Nina Lubarski and I presented seasonal information, team and individual expectations, state high school league rules, district policy, and race schedules to over forty skiers and their parents. Our first official day of practice is Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 2019.

The team returns with some very strong and experienced individuals who have been with the program for the past few years. Along with them are some very prospective new recruits who've had experience in our middle school program, and whom should easily blend into the team and fill the spots of those who graduated last year. Both teams, boys and girls, have high expectations of returning to the state meet at Giants Ridge in February. Our program goal is to keep everyone healthy, fit, and work towards that goal. Our program will be hosting three events in the Bemidji area this season; December 7<sup>th</sup> on the city 'Montebello' trail system, January 18<sup>th</sup> on the Buena Vista trail system, and January 28<sup>th</sup> on a trail yet to be determined. We compete as far away as Ely, St. Cloud, Moorhead, and Detroit Lakes making the rounds in section 8. It's a busy, fast paced schedule that provides a lot of exposure to some great places to ski, compete, make new friends, and embark on a great life long experience in Nordic skiing.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **NIGHT WE LIGHT PARADE** – November 29, 2019
- **SKI SWAP** – Home Place, November 30, 2019
- **SUNDAY SKI SCHOOL** – January 5, 12, 19, 2020
- **SNOWJOURN AT BV** – January 11, 2020
- **BARNELOPPET** – January 26, 2020
- **SKIPER BOWL** – February 2, 2020 (Super Bowl Sunday)
- **CANDLELIGHT SKI AT BEMIDJI STATE PARK** – February 8, 2020
- **MN FINLANDIA** – Saturday, February 15, 2020
- **COMMUNITY SKI DAY AT MOVIL MAZE** – February 16, 2020
- **BLACK LAKE LOPPET** – Saturday, March TBD
- **KEG N CORK CLASSIC** – Saturday, March TBD
- **ANNUAL MEETING**, Sunday, May 3, 2020

## SUNDAY SKI SCHOOL MAKES CHANGES

**By Annette Drewes**

Snow is falling and soon we will be guiding, cheering, and coaching another cohort of new skiers through Sunday Ski School. We always look forward to seeing our returning students, and welcoming new students – both young and old. Last year we were bursting at the seams, running out of equipment and running out of space for all of our skiers – outside!

So, we are changing things up and trying PRE-REGISTRATION for the first time. We will be accepting registrations beginning Nov. 15. The new form can be downloaded off of the website or picked up at the Home Place. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and the website as we will post when we are full. By taking registrations ahead of time, and limiting our class sizes, we hope to provide all skiers with a better overall experience, and ensure that there is enough equipment for those that need it.

Sunday Ski School is put on each year with the assistance of over 40 volunteers. From grooming the trails for classes, to setting up and fitting equipment, to instructing and assisting, the volunteers are what makes this job of organizing and running ski school each year so easy. If you enjoy being outdoors, love to smile and cheer on new skiers, you might just enjoy being part of the fun! We are always looking for new people to join us, so come check us out or get in touch with Annette at 218-368-5050 or [annette.drewes@gmail.com](mailto:annette.drewes@gmail.com). And by the way, you don't have to be a great skier to volunteer (I'm not!).



## The Start Green BHS Nordic Ski Team's Annual

# X-C SKI SWAP

**Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**A large selection of new Nordic ski equipment will be on hand from  
Finn Sisu Nordic ski shop of St. Paul, MN**

- Skis by Yoke, Atomic, and Peltonen
  - Boots by Yoko and Atomic
  - Poles by Yoko and One Way
- Waxes from Rex and OptiGlide,

### **Used equipment registration**

- Used equipment must be in usable shape; adult and children's skis will be accepted. (XC only)
- Bring skis, boots, and poles from **Wednesday November 27<sup>th</sup> thru Friday November 29<sup>th</sup>**
- Sale tags and will be provided and the staff will help determine the value of your equipment.

\*\*\*All sales are final\*\*\*

**Cash and Personal Checks Only on Used Equipment**

**15% of the sale on used equipment is to the Nordic ski teams' booster Club**

\*\*\*Baked goods and beverages will be available\*\*\*

**The Home Place X-C Ski Shop**

524 Paul Bunyan Dr SE  
Bemidji, MN 56601

**218-444-2499**

**Wed thru Fri 12-6:30 pm and Sat 12 – 5 pm**

# SUNDAY SKI SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

**Welcome to winter fun!** We are excited to be offering classes for those interested in learning or advancing their technique in classical cross country skiing and/or skate skiing.

- ✓ **Pre-registration is recommended as space is limited.**
- ✓ We offer three Sundays of instruction (**January 5, 12, and 19**)
- ✓ **Classes for ages 3 and up**, including adult classes.
- ✓ **Cost is \$25 per-person.** Students will get the most out of the classes if they can attend all three sessions.
- ✓ **Classes are held from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at Bemidji Middle School**, located at 1910 Middle School Ave NW. We suggest arriving early enough so that you are ready to participate at 1:30, doors will open at 1 pm.
- ✓ If you will be using **BACCSC equipment**, please arrive a minimum of 15 minutes early.
- ✓ There will be a 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (January 26) with a children's ski event, the **Barnelopet**, sponsored by the local Sons of Norway Chapter.

**CLASS DESCRIPTIONS:** The goal of the BACCSC and Sunday Ski School is to promote cross country skiing as a life-long winter activity for families to learn and enjoy together. All skiers will be placed in groups appropriate for their skill level. This means that we may shift students around if they are more advanced or if they are struggling to keep up with their group. Class sizes are limited to provide a fun and encouraging experience.

**Paul Bunyan First Steppers:** Ages 3 and 4

**Blue Ox First Steppers:** Ages 5 and 6, beginners

**Bemidji Climbers:** Ages 7 and up, beginner to intermediate

**Montebello Gliders:** Ages 10 and up, beginner to intermediate

**Northland Skaters:** Beginner to intermediate (must have own skating skis)

**Adult Classic:** New and beginning adult skiers

**Adult Skate:** Learn the basics of skate skiing (must have own equipment)

**Parent/Guardian Name(s)** (first and last please) \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** (req) \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
(if you'd like to receive an email confirmation)

**Ski School Registration** (List everyone taking a class)

<u>First name</u>	<u>Last name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Need Equipment?</u>	<u>If Yes ...</u> <u>Shoe size / Height</u>
_____	_____	No / Yes	_____	_____
_____	_____	No / Yes	_____	_____
_____	_____	No / Yes	_____	_____

**Ski School participants** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$25 =** \_\_\_\_\_  
(there is no additional cost for equipment)

**Total Enclosed (check/cash)** \_\_\_\_\_

- In consideration of the acceptance of my registration, I, the undersigned, intending to be legally bound for myself, my heirs, my children, executors and administrators, do hereby release any and all sponsors of this program and their representatives, successors, and assigns, from any and all liability arising from illness and injuries I may suffer as a result of my participation in this program.
- I also understand and agree that any sponsor may use for publicity my name and the **photography of my participation** in this program without obligation or liability to me.
- I have read the foregoing and certify my agreement by my signature below. Parents / Guardians must sign, and are responsible for the safety and well-being of their children.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Once completed, mail this form with payment to BACCSC, P.O. Box 3165, Bemidji, MN 56619-3165 or  
Drop off at the **Home Place** at 524 Paul Bunyan Drive SE, Bemidji

## **Bemidji Middle School Ski Team**

The Bemidji Middle School ski season will get underway right after Thanksgiving. The team is large again this year with many new and returning skiers. BMS was fortunate to receive a grant from the Lumberjack Foundation enabling them to purchase new bindings and poles for skis that are being donated from the Home Place. This allows us to offer the Nordic experience to beginning skiers.

We begin our season with training stations for “dry land” work. We focus on strength, cardio, technique work and many other developmental activities to help student athletes build their stamina while encouraging a healthy balanced life. We also incorporate games and other activities into the program to make it a fun experience. This year’s coach is Jeff Ueland. BMS is always looking for volunteers to help out with a variety of tasks including organization, waxing, and skiing.

The team is very thankful to the Bemidji Area Ski Club for their support over the years of extra waxing supplies, ski equipment, financial assistance and grooming of the Montebello Trails that we are so lucky to have outside our doors. This support has allowed more youth to try out the sport without a huge cost involved. See you on the trail!

Our entire organization is run by volunteers; from the dedicated groomers, to our Board of Directors and Sunday Ski School teachers and coordinators. If you want to join us in our efforts, contact one of the following board members:

**President** – Bill Scheela 766-6201

**Vice President** - Nate Haskell 243-2860

**Treasurer** – Paul Dybing 368-5640

**Secretary** – Pat Donnay 556-3295

**Trail Administrator** – Mark Walters 751-8235

### **Board members:**

Mike Huerbin 766-4232

Leif Ronnander 766-5174

Rachel Munson  
rmunson@bemidjistate.edu

Annette Drewes 368-5050

Ryan Rogers 556-7385

### **Purpose Statement:**

*The Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club is a not for profit organization and is not organized for the private gain of any person. Such purposes for which this organization is formed is educational within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) in the Internal Revenue Code and to maintain the trail system in the Bemidji area for public use, lessening the burden to Beltrami County and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.*