



Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club

On The Glide

January 2022

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 2021-2022 ski season has already started. We received some November snow and a large snowfall in both early and late December. It is an exciting time as we make plans for the ski season.

The club welcomed two new board members, Amanda Gartner and Jenna O'Dell, after Annette Drewes and Bill Scheela's terms expired. Please thank Annette and Bill if you see them out on the trail. Both have made significant contributions to the club and will be missed on the board. Thankfully, Annette offered to continue organizing Sunday Ski School and she will be working with Rachel Munson to co-coordinate that this year.

Last season we saw an increased interest in skiing and outdoor activities as COVID-19 continued to spread. With more and more people using the trails, we have an opportunity to grow our ski community in the Bemidji area. The Movil Maze Lodge continues to be a hit with skiers, as evidenced by the number of cars in the parking lot on any given day.

The highlight for the 2020-2021 ski season, for me, was the Third Annual Tour De Bemidji. We had the largest turnout of the three years, with a number of skiers completing the full tour.

Polly Scotland put together a YouTube clip of the tour.

https://youtu.be/Jwocfl5rG_U

Thank you, Polly, for capturing the event. I watched the video again while getting this letter ready. What a fun time! If you haven't participated in this event, I encourage you to give it a try in 2022. We were able to ski at all of the trail systems in the Bemidji area, despite rapidly deteriorating snow conditions the week of the event. Other events to look forward to this year include: Sunday Ski School (already full for 2022), Tuesday and Thursday Night Ski (6:00pm @ Movil Maze Lodge), Snowjourn, Minnesota Finlandia, Ski-Per Bowl and the Black Lake Loppet.

All of these events and skiing opportunities would not be possible without the countless hours put in by volunteers in the ski community. Many hours go into Sunday Ski School, trail clearing, events, and grooming the trails.

Thank you volunteers!

The club is financially healthy. We continue receiving funds from the MN Grant-In-Aid program to fund our grooming efforts. The Great Minnesota Ski Pass sales have been strong across the state the past couple of years. This helps keep our funding at a level that allows us to groom trails as often as we do. Please remember to purchase your ski pass. There is a link on page 2 of the newsletter.

See you on the ski trails!!!!

Nate Haskell, Club President





Trail Report

By Mark Walters, Trail Administrator

Winter weather arrived just prior to the November hunting season and before the High School Nordic program began, but only enough to track deer and to make our own tracks in the snow.

Our volunteers racked up over 210 hours of trail clearing and mowing time combined. As snow conditions improve, our crews will be getting out and grooming the trails.

Back to somewhat of a normality this year, the shelters at both Three Island North and Movil Maze will be open to the public from December 1st thru March 31st. Ski club board members and volunteers have gathered firewood for both shelters this year through our process of trail clearing and working with the county. Please use the firewood early in the day and let those fires die out in the evening to conserve firewood.



The ski club took on the financial responsibility of doing some trail widening on the northern area of Three Island, specifically on a section of our multi-use trail system, in order to better accommodate the heavy use and varied types of activity allowed on the trail. Hopefully over the next two seasons we will widen and level the trails sections on both sides of the river. *Please try and follow the recommended usage of this trail and police your dogs.*

Our grooming crew is ready to get out and make some great skiable trails for us again this year with all the recent snow fall. As always, give groomers time and space to work on trails. And by all means, thank them for the services they provide and please buy a ski pass.

Enjoy the winter and the trails we have,

Mark Walters, BACCSC Trail Administrator



Get yours today!

[The Great Minnesota Ski Pass](#) gives cross-country skiers ages 16 and older access to trails in state parks, state forests, and 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 online 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!

BHS COACH'S CORNER

By Mark Walters, BHS Varsity Coach

The High School Nordic ski season is under way and the team has been skiing almost every day. The conditions began a bit thin, but enthusiasm has never been higher.

The coaching staff, Nina Lubarski and Mark Walters, met with many parents and athletes on Thursday, November 4th both in person and virtually from the BHS Lumberjack room. We covered general information, health restrictions, and a new format for High School Nordic program. We have forty five student-athletes signed up and skiing.

The biggest change to our Nordic program is that we will be introducing a new format for the state meet, which means our seasonal meets and sectional meets will be changing, as well. The big change is adding a sprint relay team to our existing pursuit style of racing. Sectional teams will still be made up of seven skiers in both the girls and boys teams, but only five will race pursuit and two will race in a two person relay event. This adds a great deal of strategy to coaching, training, and team dynamics. The kids seem really excited about the change and look forward to the challenge.

Our program will be hosting two events this year, one or both at Buena Vista, but more than likely an opener at the High School trail system, all subject to snow conditions and weather, of course. We hope to include some type of distant event and relay events.

Stay safe and think snow.

Mark Walters, BHS Nordic Skiing Head Coach

Calendar of Events

- Tuesday and Thursday Night Ski – 6pm @ Movil Maze
- Ski Club Season Kickoff – Movil Maze 12/5/21
- Sunday Ski School – January 9, 16, & 23-**full**
- Snowjourn at Buena Vista – January 15, 2022
- Barneloppet – January 30, 2022
- Skipper Bowl – February 13, 2022 (Super Bowl Sunday) – 3:00 @ Movil Maze
- Candlelight Ski at Bemidji State Park – TBD, 2022
- MN Finlandia – Saturday, February 19, 2022
- Tour de Bemidji – March 5, 2022
- Community Ski Day at Movil Maze – TBD, 2022
- Black Lake Loppet – TBD, March, 2022
- Annual Meeting - TBD, May, 2022

SUNDAY SKI SCHOOL

By Annette Drewes & Rachel Munson

Hello, Minnesota Skiers, and welcome to another snowy season!

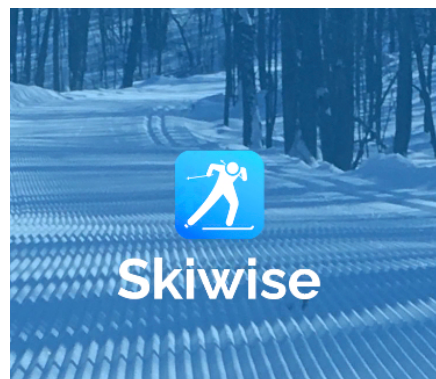
By the time this reaches your inbox, Sunday Ski School will be underway. While this year looks very different from past years, we're happy to have been able to offer another January of Sunday instruction for our community – and, boy, was it in demand!

To remain mindful of the COVID-19 pandemic, we limited participation to half capacity and still filled within a week. Registration shifted to online this year.

Though the world is constantly changing, there is (at least) one thing that remains true – our community loves skiing! Ski School serves all ages and is powered by over 25 passionate and enthusiastic volunteers. Thank you to all who help coordinate this annual event – our instructors who have stayed the course during such an unpredictable time, and our groomers who continue to donate their time to help our community opt outside to enjoy the wonder of these north woods.

See you on the trails and we hope to return to full-force in January 2023! Stay health and Happy New Year!

Annette & Rachel



A reminder that as snow continues to fall, and the groomers set trails, we will be using the App called **SKIWISE** <https://skiwise-app.com/> to share grooming updates. You, too, can be part of this updated trail condition report by downloading the app and letting us know trail conditions. Check it out, the app was developed by an avid cross-country skier who is attended college in Duluth!

Follow our Facebook and [BACCSC website](#) to stay up-to-date with community events.

HOME PLACE

X-C SKI SHOP

Bemidji, Minnesota

The Home Place X-C Ski Shop
524 Paul Bunyan Dr. SE
Bemidji, MN 56601

218-444-2499

Wednesday - Friday 12-6:30 pm and Saturday 12 - 5 pm



LOOKING FOR EVENT UPDATES AND
OTHER INFORMATION?

Check us out online today!



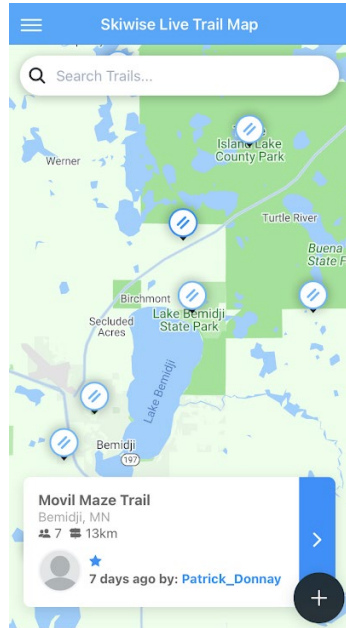
<https://bemidjicrosscountryski.org>

Friendly Reminder
Multi Use Trails Include:
Three Island
North - Gold &
Orange Trails

Dogs under owner's control allowed



Using Skiwise



Finally, technology for communicating grooming reports has caught up to the 21st Century. Thanks to Spencer, a student from the University of Minnesota Duluth who created Skiwise, we now have a way to reach all of our local skiers as well as those from afar with up to the minute grooming reports.

It is a website and mobile app called Skiwise. Skiwise is free and easy to use. No account is necessary for those who just want to read trail reports. It allows those with accounts, both users and groomers, to post reports and photos on the spot. If you choose, Skiwise will notify you whenever there is a new report on the trails you select. Skiwise is growing, but it already has trails from across the country.

You can get live trail reports on the website here. <https://app.skiwise-app.com/trails> Or, to get connected to Skiwise, either download the app from your app store, use the QR code below or go the website. <https://skiwise-app.com/>



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 – Nate Haskell – 218-766-2889

Vice President – Ryan Rogers – 218-556-7385

Treasurer – Paul Dybing – 218-368-5640

Secretary – Pat Donnay – 218-760-1017

Trail Administrator – Mark Walters–218-751-8235

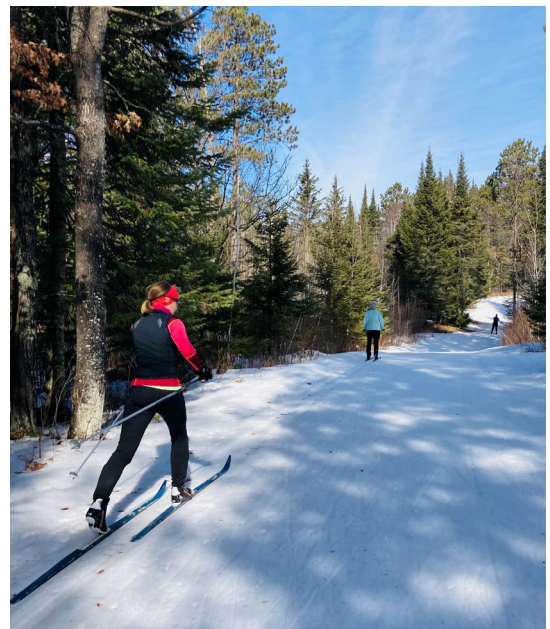
Events Administrator – Rachel Munson –
rmunson@bemidjistate.edu

Board members at large:

Mike Huerbin – 218-766-4232

Jenna O'Dell – jenna.odell@gmail.com

Amanda Gartner – gart0055@gmail.com



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.



Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club Supporting Member Contribution

Join the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club as a supporting member in its efforts to provide trail maintenance and grooming, youth development opportunities, and sponsor events for cross country skiing in the Bemidji Area by becoming a supporting member! Annual supporting membership is from **July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Supporting Member Options:

Family	\$ 50	
Individual	\$ 25	
General Funds Donations:	\$100	
	\$ 150	
	\$ 200	
Other amount	\$	

Total membership contribution _____

Additional Donation:

Sunday Ski School _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club, and send to:

**Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club
PO Box 3165
Bemidji, MN 56619-3165**

General Online Payment available via PayPal on our website:

<https://bemidjicrosscountryski.org/support>

(Scroll to Support the Ski Club section and click the "Give Here" button to access PayPal)

Volunteering for an event or activity is a great way to meet others in the club!

Event/Activity	Info	Yes!
<i>Sunday Ski School</i>	3 Sundays in January. Assist with registration, planning or instruction.	_____
<i>Candle Light Ski @ Lake Bemidji State Park</i>	Annual night ski (Sat in Feb.) assist with setting candles, greeting skiers and baking treats	_____
<i>Social Committee</i>	Organize fun events for gatherings of the ski club year round.	_____
<i>Newsletter/ Publicity Committee</i>	Help write articles, format and put together news items and PSA's for club events.	_____
<i>Trail clearing</i>	Walk the ski trails in the summer/fall to clear brush and tree limbs.	_____
<i>Trail Grooming</i>	Maintain trails during the ski season. Requires training.	_____