



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held on Thursday 29 April 2010 at 7.00 pm**

The meeting was called to order at 7.06 pm. There were 28 current members of the Calgary Ski Club in attendance and therefore, a valid quorum for the AGM was present.

Alasdair Fergusson welcomed those present and expressed his gratitude to all 2009/10 directors for their work. Brian Danco would present the Snowshoeing/Hiking and Treasurer's report due to the absence of these Directors.

Minutes of AGM Held on 29 April 2009.

Lynda Dowd motioned to accept the minutes of the 2009 AGM, Glenna Paton seconded the motion. All in favour. Motion carried.

Cross-Country Skiing

Cindy Tester (CT) presented in her co-director's (Flora's) absence. Cindy looked after the Learn to Loppet Program and Adult Classes, Flora was responsible for the Jackrabbits program. The season was successful.

- Adults' and youth programs had more registrants than last year
- Learn to Loppet, run in conjunction with the University of Calgary, had 20 adult novice skiers enrolled. 12 of these competed in the Lake Louise Loppet in March and were enthusiastic to continue skiing next season.
- There were 22 participants in the Jackrabbits classes, where the parents of children who were enrolled received free lessons.
- No intermediate/advances classes were held due to a shortage of coaches.
- Learn to Tour, a short lesson followed by trail skiing, had been held on 3 Sundays in February.
- 2 people enrolled in the ladies' skate/ski program
- Winterstart had 66 participants, almost double last year's participation
- Family Fun and Ski days were held at Shaganappi
- There were 22 day trips which were well attended
- A profit of around \$3,365 was received from Nordic programs
- Cindy thanked all coaches who had put in a great deal of time and effort and were very popular with participants.

Downhill Skiing

Deb Mandziuk-Burns said that the Club had broken even on trips, with some showing a slight loss and some showing a slight gain.

- Snow conditions had been excellent on trips
- Trips were well planned to provide a great opportunity for members and guests

- (a) Sun Peaks: This trip was held during the Ice Wine Festival to take advantage of related activities such as a progressive wine tasting. Transportation for this six day trip was by air (Westjet) at a very reasonable price. Downhill skiers benefited from a session with Nancy Green and subsequent sessions with her husband, Al Raine, a world class coach.
 - (b) Whitefish: 30 people participated, including some Nordic skiers.
 - (c) Jasper: Due to weather conditions, the bus trip took longer than anticipated. The snow was excellent. There were 30 participants and an optional ice walk to Maligne Canyon on the Sunday.
 - (d) Day Bus Trips: Kicking Horse and Lake Louise, for Nordic and Downhill skiers.
 - (e) Car pool day trips were held approximately every three weeks. Destinations were selected to include Nordic and Downhill skiers, as well as snowshoers. The club's goal was to provide something that all members could enjoy.
- For the first time in many years, the club was able to offer discounted lessons at Lake Louise and Nakiska.
 - Possibilities for next season included a fly and ski trip to Utah and/or a ski safari.
 - CSC points could be used on trips

Hiking/Snowshoeing

Brian Danco gave the presentation with material from Lynn Bowers.

- There were five snowshoeing trips with 2 coordinators and an emphasis on social activity. There were 63 registrations, 25 from C.O.R.E. Next season the intention was to hold more events which would be longer and more challenging. More trip coordinators are needed.
- There were 24 hikes with 9 coordinators, covering various levels of ability, with an emphasis on social activities. Two hikes were cancelled. There were 103 core hikers and 120 CSC/guest hikers. More coordinators are needed.
- There were five road bike trips with one coordinator, each trip being 50 – 70 kms. Again, there was an emphasis on social activities before, during or after the trip. There were 56 registrations, 16 from C.O.R.E., 31 from the Elbow Valley Cycling Club and 10 from the CSC. An average of 11 riders participated.

Lynn believes that there was a general lack of awareness about activities during the “off snow” season.

- Dining events organized by Lynn, using John Gilchrist's guide “My Favourite Cheap Eats”, were popular, with just under half the participants from C.O.R.E. The most popular venue was the Ironwood Grill in Inglewood.

Public Relations/Social

Glenna Paton (GP) said that the Club has been using new technologies to provide awareness, such as Facebook and streamlined emails via Constant Contact.

- The Calgary Herald invited us to participate with a CSC blog on their site.
- CSC has a Facebook Page with a following that has increased from 18 members to 120 members in just a few months.
- Facebook ads give the Club excellent exposure, targeting the over 18 demographic in Alberta, with direct links to the CSC's new website.
- The cost of Facebook advertising for an extended period of time was very reasonable, as compared with a 3 day advertisement in the Herald.
- Public promotions included the Mardi Gras festival in Marda Loop, where the Club's new pop up tent made its first appearance. 80 passers-by signed up for the Club's newsletter.

- The Club had a booth at the Jubilee Auditorium during both nights of the showing of Warren Miller's "Dynasty". This presented an important opportunity to promote the club to an audience of avid skiers.
- At the annual ski sale, 150 attendees signed up to receive the Club's newsletter.

Monthly social events were held, as well as the dining events organized by Lynn. There were many more socials planned for 2010. 2009/10 socials have included.

- July: Stampede Barbecue
- August: Cowboys' Social
- September: Wild Rose Pub Brewery Tour
- October: Flames Friday at Boston Pizza
- November: Bowling Night
- December: Christmas Social at La Casa D'Italia
- January: Moonlight at Chinook
- February: Olympic Social, Jameson's Pub, Brentwood
- April: Aussie Rules Social

Treasurer

Brian Danco presented an overview of finances in the absence of the Treasurer. The Balance Sheet was obtained from the accounting system but the draft and preliminary Income Statement had been adjusted to reflect some overdue revenues from the ski sale and mutual fund. The financials / year end would be finalized upon the return of the Treasurer.

- The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) imposes very strict rules regarding spending from casino proceeds and the time frame for spending these funds. There is an obligation on the Club to spend funds in accordance with the rules, to avoid having to refund casino monies to the AGLC or donate them to another Not For Profit organization.
- Membership revenue was up about 25% from last year. CSC points have been introduced in this financial year. These were tracked and recorded appropriately in the financial statements as a liability to the Club.
- Approval was granted by the AGLC to extend the Use of Proceeds (\$100,000) for the Shaganappi Snowmaking Pilot Project. A further \$52,418 of Casino monies would be rolling over into its second year and expenditure needs to be planned to comply with the timing requirements of the AGLC.
- Another casino is being held on June 12/13 2010, which will result in a further injection of cash to the casino account.

I.T.

Mark Kudryk (MK), outgoing I.T. director thanked various parties for their assistance with the new website. Phase I had now been completed. There were some issues with Phase II which Webcandy were to correct. A total of \$7,549 was paid from Casino Funds towards web development and a further \$1,845 is due, but was being withheld pending the successful completion of Phase II.

Membership

Craig Danco (CD) said that the Club has enjoyed an excellent year for membership.

- More families joined, both couples and those with children of various ages.
- Currently the club has approximately 259 members.
- The demographic has changed significantly and is now generally more diverse and should provide a healthier balance of ages and interests.

Overview of 2009/2010 Activities

Alasdair Fergusson presented the following overview.

- (a) Ski Sale. The ski sale in October 2009 was extremely successful. The club receives 40% of the net proceeds, CSPS (Ski Patrol) 40% and the Lake Louise Ski Club 20%. The cost of holding the sale included the rental of the Max Bell arena (approx. \$22,500), Visa/Phone (approx. \$11,700), Floor Display/Fencing (approx. \$8,000) and Food for volunteers (approx. \$7,600). A portion of the profits from the 2009 sale may be used to upgrade the computer system (currently 1980's vintage), and for a new website/volunteer sign up, a new database and P.O.S. software, so the net proceeds may be less than usual. Alasdair wished to thank all Ski Sale volunteers. He will be updating the Ski Sale operations manual.
- (b) Winterstart. There were approximately 66 participants, 10% snowshoers, 40% downhill skiers and 50% Nordic skiers. The weekend was very enjoyable and successful.
- (c) Lake Louise Loppet (presented by Helen Isaac). The weather was very good for the Loppet. There were many criteria imposed by Parks Canada in order to be granted an event permit. To be able to comply with these restrictions, a speaker was brought in to provide information on the heritage aspects of skiing in the National Parks. This was very well received by the participants and in the future, we will plan to engage a different speaker. Participation has been trending upwards year over year. There were 283 racers, including one Olympian. One gold, 2 silvers and a bronze award were won by CSC members. Helen expressed gratitude to the various sponsors of the event, as well as to the volunteers, many of whom volunteer annually. Two 20 year certificates and one 10 year certificates were awarded.
- (d) Lake Louise Trails Upgrades. Work done in the autumn reduces the need for winter shoveling. Alasdair prepared two reports with ideas on how to enhance the skier experience on the trails in the National Parks. The goal is to have a "world class Heritage Site". Discounts have been negotiated at the Lake Louise Inn and Chateau Lake Louise. The Cross Country Ski Areas Annual Conference would be held at Lake Louise shortly.
- (e) Progress had been made on the Shaganappi Snowmaking Pilot project. The club took over the operation of the Cross Country Ski Area at the Shaganappi Golf Course in 1993. The facility was 200 m from the future West leg of the LRT, close to downtown. The AGLC had approved a snowmaking project in 2006 which was moving forward. No membership revenue will be used for this.
- (f) There is a shortage of Cross Country ski instructors in Canada. In 2008, there were 2,300 downhill instructors (106 skiers per instructor), 10,000 snowboard instructors (142 snowboarders per instructor) and 550 Cross Country instructors (2,707 cross country skiers per instructor).
- (g) Legal/Insurance. Brian has undertaken a substantial amount of research on legal and insurance issues. Existing insurance does not cover any downhill activities. Brian has been working with a volunteer legal service using a professional lawyer working pro-bono. Issues discussed included: member/guest waivers, online registration, disclaimers for member-sponsored activities and due diligence for volunteers and coordinators. The goal is to have all of our primary activities (downhill/snowboarding as well as Cross-Country and Hiking/Snowshoeing) covered under the Club's insurance. Brian has identified a national insurance policy to adequately cover downhill skiing and associated activities. The Club would have the ability to clearly identify activities that are covered and those that were not. Benefits would be provide to all members, volunteers and trip coordinators, for whom it was vital to have coverage. Larry Tibbitts asked about the cost of this insurance. Brian Danco said that rates were \$10 per member per year currently for adult Cross-Country participants and for Downhill/Snowboarding participants it will be \$20 each. Directors and Officers liability insurance could be covered by Casino funds under the AGLC's rules. Lynda Dowd asked if the insurance provides Canada wide coverage. Brian would check but believed this to be the case.

Elections for New Council

Gillian Savage-Knight read out the list of nominations for the 2010/2011 Council as follows:

- President Brian Danco
- Extended Trips Director Debra Mandziuk-Burns
- Day Trip Director Craig Tillison
- Downhill Director Brian Edgar
- Cross-Country Abraham George
- Hiking/Snowshoeing Director Lynn Bowers
- Communications Glenna Paton
- I.,T. Director Craig Danco
- Membership Director Beth Hourie

All those present voted in favour of these nominations. Nobody was opposed.

The position of Past President would automatically be filled by Alasdair Fergusson and the position of Vice President is vacant. Janine McInnis was expected to stand for the position of Treasurer/Secretary when she returned from a family emergency in Halifax and her position would be voted on at a future Council Meeting.

Special Resolution Vote by Members

Proposed by-law changes were posted on the website 21 days prior to the meeting, as required.

Brian Danco explained a handout of the posted proposed By-Law changes which was given to all those present. Pages 1 and 2 noted what by-law amendments were proposed and the rationale for the changes. These changes included (a) reducing the number of membership classes; (b) removal of the Advisory Council and (c) volunteer recognition and rewards for Council members. It was proposed and had been voted for at a regular council meeting, that each council member would receive 250 CSC points after the successful completion of a one-year term on Council.

Cindy Tester made a motion to retain the Advisory Council, as she felt that it would be good for continuity and quality assurance. Brian Danco provided an overview of the rationale for the proposed removal of the Advisory Council and noted that Council had voted at a meeting in favour of its removal. There currently was only one member out of a possible three on the existing Advisory Council. The Advisory Council had only been represented at 25% of the 2009/10 Council meetings. All functions performed by the Advisory Council could be covered by any member of the club at any time. A vote on Cindy's motion was held and only 4 people present were in favour of retaining the Advisory Council. 14 members were opposed to Cindy's motion. There were 10 that abstained. The motion to retain the Advisory Council was therefore defeated.

Larry Tibbitts asked how it improved the Club to remove the Secretary's position. Brian explained that this change more fairly distributed the workload amongst Council members. The office administrator would be able to take minutes at meetings, prepare and distribute agendas etc. The Treasurer's workload would increase marginally due to mandatory annual returns etc. Larry made a motion to retain the position of Secretary. Two members present were in favour. There were XX members that were opposed. The remaining 4 members abstained from the vote. Larry's motion to retain the position of Secretary was therefore defeated.

Alasdair Fergusson expressed concerns over CSC points being awarded to Council in case there were any Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) taxable benefits or Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) rules that could affect this form of reward. Brian Danco had spoken with CRA on this specific concern and received their Tax Bulletin which stated that these types of reward are not taxable. Diane commented that the AGLC had said that these types of rewards were permitted for volunteering at casinos etc., whereas cash, or rewards redeemable for cash, were not.

Helen Isaac asked if it was necessary to include Council rewards in the by-laws. Brian Danco said it would be prudent for the sake of clarity and to avoid disputes.

Graham Smith suggested adding a second sentence in the bylaws along the lines of "..... remuneration, except as provided for in this clause. Brian said CSC points are not classed as remuneration as they cannot be redeemed for cash. Graham said that the by-laws do not define value and suggested adding at the end of Clause 2.12 "...the CSC Rewards Procedure as set by Council from time to time". Debra Mandziuk-Burns commented that the rewards were used as an incentive for members to join Council, as the Club had difficulty finding volunteers for these positions.

A motion was made to amend 12.2 as noted above as suggested by Graham Smith. All those present were in favour. Motion carried. There would be this single amendment to the package.

A motion was made to accept the entire By-laws revision package presented with this single amendment. All present were in favour, with the exception of one member who abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Year End Reports and Comments

Alasdair Fergusson thanked all directors and coordinators for their efforts over the past year and wished them well for the future. He welcomed the new Council members.

Alasdair Fergusson said that audit fees had, in the past, been about \$500 a year, escalating to \$4,500 a year for the years ended 30 April 2006, 2007 and 2008. Myers Norris Penny had quoted audit fees of \$10,000 from the year ended 30 April 2009. Through his City of Calgary connections, Alasdair Fergusson had identified the Federation of Calgary Communities to undertake future audits. The Club had applied for membership and expected future audits to be done by them at a much lower cost than Myers Norris Penny would charge.

Incoming President's Comments

Brian Danco shared thoughts, including for the year ahead.

- The club had made great progress in membership growth
- The club was about having fun
- More events were planned
- Lynn Bowers was organizing many activities that people did not previously know about
- Improvements were being made to
 - (a) Insurance
 - (b) Legal
 - (c) Safety
 - (d) Policies and Procedures
- The club was limited only by a shortage of volunteers
- Brian Danco thanked Council members who were stepping down and thanked Alasdair Fergusson for being so gracious with his time and sharing his knowledge.
- Feedback and ideas from members were always welcome.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.50 pm.