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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Minutes**

Saturday Dec 2, 2017, 5pm

Lost Lake Passive Haus, Whistler, BC

**1. Welcome (Call to Order) \_\_5\_\_ : \_\_33\_\_ PM**

**2. Motion to adopt the Agenda**

Motioned by: Brent Murdoch

Seconded by: Loraine Vollmer

**3. Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 5, 2016 AGM**

Motioned by: Katrina Heron

Seconded by: Maria Lundgren

**4. Directors' Reports:**

President: Tony Peiffer

Thanks to everyone for coming out and the Executive for their support this past year. The executive for this past season was made up of myself, Maria Lundgren – VP, Benoit Renault – Treasurer and Toonie Specialist, Dave Kirk – Secretary, Cheryl Morningstar – Director, Lesley Clements – Director and Valerie Sicotte – Director. Without this groups support and direction, we would not be in the position we are today.

Sponsors and Volunteers remain the backbone of many non-profit clubs. Shout out to Scotia Bank, Whistler Olympic Park, Creekbread, Rainbow Electric, Whistler Chocolates, Village Sports, Deep Cove Outdoors and lastly RMOW.

A special thank you to all the volunteers, officials, parents, and athletes who helped contribute to our clubs success.

We greatly appreciate your support.... a special thank you needs to go out to;

- Our long time executive administrator Suki who has moved on.
- Samantha White who coordinated our SDP Programs
- Margot Murdoch who spearheaded the organization of WESTERN/NORAMS
- Craig Mackenzie helping us again with our Ski Swap
- Our lead coaches Etienne Letondeur, Martin Schrama and Chris Manhard who continue to encourage our small crew of dedicated DEVO team members which have had some great results and really show that we are can produce some top ranked skiers

I want to introduce some new members to our club. Sadie Brubaker has been working hard to fill the shoes and experience. She along with our new SDP Coordinator Katrina Heron are doing an

awesome job given the short training period. So far all our programs are filling up and 2017/2018 looks to be an exciting year. Both Sadie and Katrina are somewhat new to cross country skiing but from what I have seen they are quick studies. We all welcome them to our little club and look forward to the contribution you bring.

Tonight we will look back on the 2016/2017 season and update you on some new initiatives and objectives for this next year.

A look back:

**Weather:**

Thankfully the God of Snow Ullr, blessed us last year. Callaghan Gold enabled members to start their season around the end of Oct. Whistler Mountain finished off by providing a track up until the end of June. 9 months. World Class.

**Membership:**

The club focused its efforts on growing membership and last year was a banner year with over 220 members. With membership costs split in half for the 2017/2018 season we hope to continue to grow our numbers for this upcoming season. The purpose behind this initiative is to increase the clubs funding ability, grow programs ie Youth Programs at Lost Lake and Masters and finally generate a new core of volunteers and leaders.

**Swap:**

Swap – Whistler Nordics held the swap on the same weekend as the Turkey Sale. As in previous years the Hilton generously donated space. We invited Village Sports, Nordic Grinds and Deep Cove Outdoors to participate. This is the first fund raising event for Whistler Nordics. It resulted in a huge success with this past year being even larger. Our sport is growing.

**Toonies:**

Toonies are back – Whistler Nordics held 4 toonies last year. One at WOP with the balance at Lost Lake. The wrap up toonie, at Scandinave Spa continues to be a huge success. This final toonie is designed as a special thanks to all dedicated volunteers. They are back this year with strong conviction and more swag. Tell all your friends.

**Youth Programs: Bunnies, Jack Rabbits and Track Attack**

Last year our youth programs were sold out on Tuesdays and Saturday. As a result of increased interest, we have offered more programs for this year, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Lesley Clements our queen of bunnies has convince RMOW to install a terrain park in Lost Lake. Much like the one at WOP it will enable our bunnies hone their terrain park skills.

We are seeing renewed interest in all our programs. Especially gratifying to see previous WN Athletes such as Julia Long and Lauren Doak step up to help coach. Martin Schrama has committed to spearhead the involvement of our younger athletes to participate in events such as Coast Cups, BC Cups and BC Championships. We encourage parents to help Martin in his quest to generate athlete involvement.

### **Development Team:**

Last year our development team consisted of 4 athletes and two Internationals. With the support and guidance of Chris, Martin and Etienne, this talented group achieved great things. Most importantly our club was voted by Cross Country Canada as the best small club in Canada and highest CPL points per athlete. We won the prestigious CLUB Podium Award, which Joe Davies was graciously awarded. This year we have partnered with WOP and merged our Development program with WNDC program . I am excited about this develop, since it ultimately provides the club with a succession plan. Brent Murdoch and I will likely be seen skiing off to Masters sunset. Athletes have been training hard all summer and are ready to uphold the Little Club that Could Mantra.

### **Masters Program:**

Whistler Nordics tried to build a master's program last year with limited success. New this year, Maria Lundgren, will be leading our masters, with the hope of getting more adults off the couch. To date the enrolment in the program is sold out with more on the waiting list. Martin Schrama has offered to help Maria and Lauren, so it looks like lots of couch potatoes will participate.

### **Events:**

Whistler Nordics is involved in the promotion of race events. This past year, Margot Murdoch led the organization of the **NORAM Westerns**. This event attracted over 500 athletes. Our volunteer participation in these events provides the club with an additional source of funding. Smaller events like **Coast Cups** and **BC Cups** are meant as recreational and fun races to support the growth of Nordic Skiing. Tomorrow, Hollyburn is hosting a Coast Cup with over 140 athletes. The other significant event WN is involved in is the **Payak** held mid Feb. This has become the premier XC event in BC for recreational racers. Our clubs involvement and volunteer efforts is a significant fund raising contribution. Please come out had help or participate. We are looking for a Director of Volunteering.

### **Fund Raising:**

Our last event of the year is the Creekbread Pizza fund raiser. It is designed to enable everyone to indulge after a season of hard work. This event is held mid March and continues to remain a huge success. Director Valerie Sicotte organizes this event with the support of sponsors like Scotia Bank, Rainbow Electric and Creekbread.

## **Financials:**

Benoit Renault will be presenting the financials for 2016/2017. We have included the budget for 2017/2018. Our efforts for this year will continue to grow memberships, expand programs and create more value for all participants.

## **In Closing:**

Our club is growing. We are seeing increased interest and engagement from membership. I am encouraged by the commitment of the directors, members, parents, coaches and athletes. Great things are yet to come.

Unfortunately a few of our directors are moving on. Dave Kirk and Cheryl Morningstar will be stepping down. Both these members have been the cornerstone of this club and continue to volunteer and support in many ways. I fully appreciate their experience and commitment to making this a great little club. Benoit will remain on the board but has decided to step aside as Treasurer. His guidance thru the issues we faced in 2016/2017 has put our club on a strong financial footing. I look forward to his continued enthusiasm in organizing the Tweekies. Lastly, It is your club, please keep this momentum growing.

## **Additional Discussion to Tony's Report:**

9 months of cross country skiing! Don't get that anywhere else in the world.

Membership costs cut in half. On track for same amount of members this year. Large membership allows better funding, and growing programs.

Swap was twice as successful as last year.

5 toonies last year; one at WOP and 4 at Lost Lake.

Masters full and 5 on waitlist.

Lesley has convinced RMOW to install Terrain Park at Lost Lake.

Lesley: Special events grassy area at Lost Lake will be location of Terrain Park. RMOW has been very receptive. WNSC needs work with RMOW to maintain park. They will do grooming but we need volunteers to help maintain park by raking it out and helping with daily maintenance. RMOW will be putting in more lights around Passiv Haus which will give us more options for other terrain park features.

Club awarded Best Small Club in Canada 2016/2017!

WNDC provides succession program for athletes.

Events: NorAm - Need to get volunteers out to these events, terrific fundraising opportunities, we get paid the more volunteers we have.

We are still looking for more volunteers.

## **5. Presentation of the Financial Report and 2017/18 Budget (10 mins)**

By Benoit Renault

Arrear reporting with CRA worked with Suki and Accountant to get our taxes up to date.

Revenue mainly from grants and fundraising, big events for WNSC are the Swap and Creekbread night at Spring Break.

We never know if it will be as successful every year.

Membership dues went down because of our high revenue. We can't fundraise if our revenues are too high.

Gaming grant is missing in the budget.

220 members last year. Olympic year was our biggest year at 279 members.

Expenses were under budget last two years. Our goal is to over spend this year to increase our expenses. Some of our plans for this include our Master's Program, buying equipment such as waxes, and putting on a volunteer event. Please talk to your friends and ask them to help out the club. We need volunteers and members.

Going to have Toonie races – last year we had 7 sponsors

Loonies mostly average 15 -20 people, biggest last year was 30.

Best deal in town – race and beer! Tell your friends.

Financials in good health, lots of ways to grow, and expand.

We are in a great position because we have money to spend.

Recently we have put some funds into long term savings account to gain higher interest.

## **6. Motion to accept the Financial Report and 2017/18 Budget as presented**

Motioned by: Tony Peiffer

Seconded by: Valerie Sicotte

## 7. Election or confirmation of Directors

TONY Introduce election: Each year you have the opportunity to join the Board and volunteer to contribute to the club to improve the services, events and programs the club offers. We are a club that relies on volunteers, our Directors provide advice and guidance, help to deliver events, and shape the programs and future of the club. Introduce current Board:

President: Tony Peiffer

Vice President: Maria Lundgren

Treasurer: Benoit Renault

Secretary: Dave Kirk

Directors At Large:

Valerie Sicotte

Lesley Clements

Cheryl Morningstar

TONY: Thank You to Directors stepping down:

Benoit will move to become Toonie Director leaving the Treasurer position vacant.

Dave Kirk stepping down leaving treasurer position vacant

I will work my way through each of the positions below and if you would like to nominate someone for a position please raise your hand.

Position	Current/Nominated	Vote
President	Tony Peiffer	Nominated by: Maria Lundgren Seconded: Benoit Renault
Vice-President	Maria Lundgren	Nominated by: Tony Peiffer Seconded: Benoit Renault
Secretary	Lesley Clements	Nominated by: Tony Peiffer Seconded: Valerie Sicotte
Treasurer	Joanne Molinaro nominated in absentia	Nominated by: Tony Peiffer Seconded: Brent Murdoch
Director at Large (1)	Benoit Renault Toonie Director	Nominated by: Tony Peiffer Seconded: Maria Lundgren
Director at Large (2)	Valerie Sicotte Funding	Nominated by: Loraine Vollmer

		Seconded: Tony Peiffer
Director at Large (3)		Nominated by: Seconded:

If there are no nominations and the existing Board Member wishes to stay on, they remain by acclamation.

**8. New Business -none**

**9. WNDC Presentation**

By Etienne Letondeur and Lucinda Jagger

WNDC is 18 months old

**About WSL:**

A centre of sports excellence

Mission: to grow sport

Directions:

Creating a centre of sports excellence

Facilitating competitions

Contributing to the community and the region

Barrett Fischer and Dave Davenport board members

Centre for sports excellence

Purpose: to move athletes to national programs

**WNDC Purpose:**

WNDC program designed specifically to close the performance gaps for athletes between the PSO and NSO

Critical phase in the athletes development and their pathway: learn to compete and late train to train

Increase the pool of podium potential athletes for Canada

Deliver a program to locally based athletes and grow our community

**WNDC: Providing optimal athlete development opportunities:**

Coaching

Facilities

Performance services

Training groups

Competition

Programming

Athlete with WNDC for 2 – 4 years typically

Progression from: Active start – club – provincial team- WNDC - national team

WNDC has a performance service team of professionals i.e. mental performance, physio and FMS testing, exercise physiology, sport nutrition, strength and conditioning

Would like to see this area strengthened

**WSL partners:**

Canadian sport institute

Biathlon Canada

Biathlon BC

Private sponsors

**Sport specific environment**

WOP:

227 days on snow at WOP and 19 days on WB

Wax cabins and dry land equipment on site

Roller ski trails: 4.6 k

**Exposure:**

International races: trip to Europe

Training opportunities with international athletes: (Norway, Germany, France, Switzerland)

Currently developing partnerships with clubs in Europe in order to do an exchange

**Sports Services:**

Testing

Nutrition

Mental performance

S&C

Equipment selection

**WAC and HPC:**

Whistler athletes centre is a high performance training and accommodation facility for sports related activities

Accommodation: 86 rooms lodge and 20 townhouses

Canadian sport institute – pacific high performance centre, strength training, gymnastics, recover and regeneration

Performance hub: conditioning studio, meeting space, stretching and dry firing

Tony: what can the clubs do to facilitate the growth? During the valleys? How can we help to promote WAC and HPC during slow season?

Slow in May, June and late August

Maria: excellent value for WNSC and other clubs

Whistler Food Co. catered camps at WAC this year, was great to have it catered. Made it a lot easier for coaches.

Most athletes live on campus, first time away from home

Have 10 athletes training full time there.

### **Why a partnership with WN?**

WN approached WSL 2 years ago to provide coaching services for the high performance team We decided this year to include that program in the WNDC for the following reasons:

Create meaningful training groups (XC and Biathlon)

Offer a clear pathway for athletes in development

Retain athletes in sport and rise motivation and commitment levels

### **WOP/WNDC services for WN:**

Coaching:

Dryland

Race support (selected races only)

On snow

Snow access:

Early season: Callaghan Gold

Winter: discounted seasons passes

Spring: WB

Winter 2017/2018

Martin leading training for the XC group sessions/week

Merging both biathlon and XC programs as much as possible accordingly to respective YTP

Peer training group

Racing NorAms and key races (Sovereign XC NorAms)

### **Goals:**

Biathlon

Qualify 1 – 2 athletes for world juniors\qualify 2 – 3 for junior world cups (IBU)

Podiums at NorAms

Podiums at Nationals

Cross country:

Podiums at nationals

Podiums at NorAms

### **WNDC Future**

Strengthening performance services

Leverage partner sips (capacity and resources)

**10. Draw for 2 Sigge's Payak Entries courtesy of CVXC and call for volunteers**

**11. Loraine drawing names:**

- 1. Mimi**
- 2. Lesley Clements**

**12. Adjourned : \_7:21\_\_\_\_\_PM**