

NEW BRUNSWICK LOPPET CIRCUIT  
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT  
BY: NORMAN BROWN  
1985/86 SEASON

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THE LOPPET CIRCUIT STARTED WITH THE 30KM KOUCHIBOUGUAC MARATHON ON JAN/26 AND ENDED WITH THE 40 KM SHEILA MARATHON ON MARCH 9, 1986. FROM ALL INDICATIONS THE CIRCUIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS. THERE WERE FAVORABLE COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS INCLUDING THEIR DESIRE FOR THE CIRCUIT TO BECOME A MAJOR EVENT IN THE N.B. X-C SKI PROGRAM.

HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS:

VERY GOOD PARTICIPATION IN ALL BUT THE LAST EVENT.

- JAN 26	KOUCHIBOUGUAC	487	SKIERS
- FEB 09	MIRAMICHI	132	"
- FEB 16	BATHURST	110	"
- FEB 23	CHARLO	250	" PLUS
- MAR 09	SHEILA	54	"

ALL EVENTS RAN ON SCHEDULE EXCEPT FOR SHEILA WHICH WAS POSTPONED FROM FEB 02 TO MAR 09 DUE TO POOR CONDITIONS.

THERE WERE NO PARTICIPANTS IN THE MASTER WOMENS CATEGORY WHO PARTICIPATED IN MORE THAN ONE EVENT, WHICH RESULTED IN DROPPING THAT CATEGORY FOR THE CURRENT SEASON.

THE INDIVIDUAL WINNERS WERE:

MEN OPEN	-	LOUIS RENE COMEAU	ST. LOUIS
MASTERS MEN	-	GARY MAHONEY	DOUGLASTOWN
WOMEN OPEN	-	HELEN KNORREN	CHARLO

THE PROVINCIAL AWARDS WERE PRESENTED AFTER THE SHEILA EVENT BY MIKE LUSHINGTON AND NORM BROWN. UNFORTUNATELY THE PHOTOGRAPHER DID NOT SHOW UP SO NO PICTURES WERE AVAILABLE FOR NEWSPAPERS.

IN SUMMARY, I FEEL THE PILOT YEAR HAS SHOWN THAT THE POTENTIAL EXISTS TO EXPAND THE LOPPET CIRCUIT INTO A MAJOR SPORTING EVENT WITHIN THE PROVINCE.

# RECOMMENDATIONS/CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE 1986/87 LOPPET CIRCUIT.

- PUBLICITY IS THE KEY TO PARTICIPATION. THERE SHOULD BE MUCH MORE COVERAGE OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE.
- HOST CLUBS SHOULD WORK WITH THEIR LOCAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION TO PROMOTE THEIR EVENT OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCE.
- THERE SHOULD BE A SEPERATE BUDGET FOR THE LOPPET CIRCUIT. EXCESS FUNDS WOULD BE CARRIED TO THE NEXT YEAR.
- SHOULD THERE BE A MAJOR SPONSOR ???
- SUGGESTED REVISION TO AGE CATEGORY AS FOLLOWS:

## MEN

~~TO 19 YRS~~  
~~18 20 TO 34~~  
~~35 TO 49~~  
~~50 TO 59~~  
~~60 PLUS~~

## WOMEN

~~TO 19 YRS~~  
~~18 20 TO 34~~  
~~35 TO 44~~  
~~45 PLUS~~

*Same duration  
as Men*

- SHOULD OUT OF PROVINCE SKIERS QUALIFY FOR PROVINCIAL AWARDS ?
- IF NO TO ABOVE, THERE SHOULD NOT BE LEVY FOR NON-RESIDENT SKIERS.
- LOCATIONS OF LOPPET EVENTS SHOULD NOT CHANGE FROM YEAR TO YEAR.
- THERE SHOULD BE A 6 TH LEG ADDED TO CIRCUIT IN THE WESTERN SECTOR OF N.B.
- POINTS SHOULD COUNT FOR BEST FOUR OUT OF SIX EVENTS.
- LAST EVENT SHOULD BE IN MID-MARCH AFTER FRASER CUP FINALS.
- THERE SHOULD BE A BIG CLOSING BANQUET AFTER LAST EVENT FOR AWARDS PRESENTATION. BANQUET SHOULD BE SUBSIDIZED FOR PARTICIPANTS FROM LEVY AND SHOULD HAVE MEDIA COVERAGE.
- *Use Loppet circuit for part of selection criteria for racers, qualifiers, etc.*

*Norman Brown*



CROSS COUNTRY NEW BRUNSWICK

N.B. LOPPET CIRCUIT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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1986/87 SEASON

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The number of events increased to six, one more than the previous year. There were two new locations added to the loppet circuit in the Province, St Leonard and Plaster Rock. WELCOME/BIENVENUE!!

Here are the highlights:

Provincial winners:

Category	Men	Women
18-34	Rejean Maltais	Louise Dube
35-49	Gabriel Aube	Claudette Maltais
50-59	Ray Thibodeau	Hilda deGroot
60 Plus	Rudi Richter	

NEW BRUNSWICK LOPPET CIRCUIT  
GOALS: 1988 AND BEYOND

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- \*\* To expand upon the quality of the loppet circuit.
- \*\* To promote the circuit widely.
- \*\* To increase the number of participants in the circuit.
- \*\* To accommodate as many locations as possible while keeping standards high.
- \*\* To be a profitable program for CCNB.
- \*\* To have the BEST Provincial Loppet Circuit in CANADA.



NEW BRUNSWICK LOPPET CIRCUIT  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1988  
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1. A loppet committee be formed which would consist of the CCNB loppet chairman, host club loppet coordinators and the Vice Chairman of Recreation. The committee's mandate should be:
  - To prepare a proposal to be used in soliciting a Provincial sponsor.
  - To draw up guidelines for host clubs to follow when awarded a loppet.
  - To develop a clear policy regarding insurance & CCNB levy.
2. The circuit should be expanded to include the following loppets: Fundy National, Fredericton & Sheila.
3. A format should be considered where some weekends would have two loppets running at the same time. Ex: Fundy & St Leonard. This would be necessary to squeeze in all events.
4. For Provincial points:
  - Up to seven loppets = Best four count for points.
  - Eight or more events = Best five " " "
  - To be eligible for Provincial award a skier must use points from at least one event in each district AND include at least points from one free style and one classical event.
  - Skiers must indicate when registering whether or not they are skiing for provincial points. (Loppet registration forms must include this option)
  - Districts divided as follows:
    - West    < St Leonard
    - < Plaster Rock
    - < Fredericton
    - South/East < Fundy National
    - < Kouchibouguac
    - < Moncton
    - < Sheila
    - North    < Campbellton/Charlo
    - < Bathurst
    - < Miramichi

CONT./



## RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

5. Age categories to be expanded as follows:

Men	Women
18-29	18-29
30-39	30-39
40-49	40-49
50-59	50-59
60 plus	60 plus

6. Loppet committee to develop standard entry form to be used by all participating clubs.
7. All clubs holding a Loppet must clearly indicate on their entry forms AND on their promotion material that their event is part of the NEW BRUNSWICK LOPPET CIRCUIT. (Host clubs will have to play a much larger role in promoting the circuit)
8. Loppet committee to establish guidelines to be used at Loppet events concerning temperature and trail conditions. Also who should be involved in decision making process at a Loppet. It is recommended that -20 c (including wind chill) be the deciding factor for the long distances. There should also be minimum standards set for trail condition.
9. Only locations with adequate trails should hold free style events such as Charlo, Kouchibouguac and Fundy. Clubs holding free style events must provide at least one good track for classical skiers. (Charlo has set the standard here!) There should be a greater mix of classical events in the circuit.
10. The loppet committee together with the provincial sponsor should decide upon incentive prizes to be drawn for at the end of the season. These prizes should be substantial enough to encourage skiers to participate in the loppet circuit. There should also be an award system in place where a skier would earn a bronze, silver or gold pin if completing a predetermined number of events in one season.
11. A special awards banquet for all loppet winners and spouses should be considered for presenting awards. This could be held after the season is over. This would provide greater publicity for the circuit and more recognition to the skier.

last race?  
different location  
each year?

Prizes for  
Prov. based  
in 4? 5? loppets



## GENERAL COMMENTS

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After only two years in existence the N.B. Loppet Circuit has become a well established and organized program within CCNB and has been well received by the skiers. However, the one area that has been lacking was our ability to promote and publicize the events within the circuit as part of a PROVINCIAL circuit. A good portion of skiers at each event were unaware that they were actually participating in the N.B. Loppet circuit. The major thrust of the Loppet committee for next year has to be to promote the circuit throughout the province and to come up with some incentives to encourage skiers to participate in more Loppets than just their local event. This will be accomplished much easier once a Provincial sponsor is found.

I would like to address an issue which was raised recently concerning the competition categories in the Loppet circuit. The concern was that the competitive aspect of the Loppet may be hurting the circuit and may be detracting from the Fraser Cup Circuit. As a participant in eight of the eleven Loppets held during the last two years I wish to assure the doubters that this is certainly not the case. To believe otherwise would be going against what CCNB has been advocating for the last number of years. And that is the desire to turn the Fraser Cup Circuit into a high caliber racing circuit where only the serious minded elite athletes would compete. There would be no room for the Sunday afternoon scuffer or the beginning skier. We have nearly reached that goal. The Loppet circuit on the other hand was created as a means of providing an organized series of events that would cater to ALL levels of skiers from the very beginner to the more competitive minded. For those who wish to follow the circuit, points are accumulated throughout the season. Whether or not to provide trophies or other awards for racing categories at individual events is strictly up to the local organizing committee. For the record, of the six Loppets in the 1986/87 season there were three who chose to present awards for the racing categories and three who did not. Also, it has been my experience from talking to MANY recreational skiers at Loppet events that there is nearly as much excitement among these skiers as to who is going to be the first skier through the finish line as there is among the competitive skiers. I strongly believe that without the competitive categories the Loppet circuit would suffer. What we do need to do is to provide incentives to encourage recreational skiers to come out and ski in a Loppet and also to want to travel to other clubs to ski in their loppets. This can be done through advertising and promotional means.

The N.B Loppet Circuit has the potential to become a major fund raiser for CCNB as well as a means to bring people to New Brunswick during the winter.

I am sure that through proper administration by the excellent people at our clubs and CCNB we can turn the N.B Loppet Circuit into the BEST Provincial circuit in Canada. We are well on our way to doing just that!