

Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club
Annual General Meeting
April 12, 2025
President's Message

Welcome everyone to the 50th edition of the Miramichi Cross Country ski club's Annual General Meeting. Yes, 50 years of continuous operation and still going strong. Quite an accomplishment!

First, I would like to acknowledge our special guests tonight. We have:

- Keith and Linda Dickson
- Councilor Veronique Arsenault
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While last year was the shortest ski season for the club this year was not far behind. Even with some snow in December it was mid-January before we had enough snow to open the lighted trail. Without the upgraded Lighted trail completed during the project of 2018-21 it would have been much longer.

Some of the highlights of the season were the hosting of a provincial NB biathlon championship and the annual New Brunswick day event. Again this year many new skiers turned out for a fun day of skiing and an outdoor cookout. This event was sponsored by the ski club and funded by the Scott Knowles Memorial Golf Foundation. The club is grateful for their continued support. Unfortunately the Miramichi Ray Thibodeau Loppet had to be cancelled due to weather conditions. The popular Jackrabbit and Bunny program ran again this year and was very successful as was the biathlon bears program, a new program that seems to be growing in popularity.

For the third year, a Miramichi couple offered to pay for all ski and snowshoe rentals for the entire season. The club is very grateful for this generous donation.

The Owl's Rest Disc Golf course had another a very successful season. The Owl's Rest held another tournament last September that saw some 80+ players from PEI, NS and across the province of NB attend. We are looking forward to another successful season of disc golf this year.

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Another highlight of this past season was the 50th anniversary celebration event put on by social chairperson Arlene and her committee. This event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Although less snow meant less grooming trails chairmen Gilles was busy repairing grooming machines and replacing one of the older machines with a newer one.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire executive committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. The club is very fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers who give freely of their time to ensure the club and its programs continue to run, year after year.

I would like to thank all those who worked hard to ensure the club operated this season, including all of the executive, lodge keepers Keith, Norman, Darlene, and the grooming team of Gilles, Trent, Rodney and the new groomers And of course Peter our club photographer, webmaster, Zone 4 membership registration and trail condition updates person.

I would also like to thank the many club members and other volunteers who helped in many ways throughout the season. It is with this support that the club continues to improve.

Last but certainly not least thanks to the City of Miramichi and council, company 725249 NB LTD (Chris and Randy Clark), North Shore Construction Ltd, K Daigle Contracting, Adaptive Office Solutions and Doctors Roxanne McKnight and Mike Dickinson.

As for club priorities, I believe that increasing the membership is probably still number one, followed by continuing to improve the trails and obtaining a newer more efficient groomer. The last 3 seasons has seen fewer members and fewer day-pass skiers which results in less income. Going forward the club will have to figure out ways to cut cost wherever possible. Increasing memberships will go a long way in helping to offset expenditures.

A big thank you to all who donated to the groomer fund, whether through the Nordiq Canada club fundraiser or during membership registration.

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Finally I would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight to support the club's 50th AGM. I wish everyone a great summer and I look forward to seeing you all on the trails as we begin season number 51! Thank You.

Norm Brown
President, MCCSC