

Cross Country Yukon Board Meeting

Minutes

January 17, 2023

Sport Yukon @ 7:00PM

Call in #: 867-336-7534

Attendance: Matthias Purdon, Aisha Montgomery, Jan McFadzen, Dominic Bradford, Kevin Embacher, Anett Kralisch, Deb Higgins and Jean-Paul Molgat (WCCSC reps), Jen MacKeigan, Barbara Scheck, Graham Nishikawa

Regrets: Emily Jones

1. **Meeting started:** 7:05 PM YT
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** motion to adopt Anett Kralisch, All in favour.

Additions / changes:

3. **Motion to accept Nov 27, 2023 minutes:**

Anett K had made some corrections and info was added to the minutes re Anett's conversation with Ben re the hosting of Yukon Championships and the website launch.

Motion to accept changes was made by Kevin Embacher. All in favour.

4. **Chair update**

- Note to All Divisions regarding Division Registration from Nordiq Canada Matthias P. had received a letter that some divisions were not registered properly. CCY had already organized the third party in regards to the Safe Sport requirements

5. **Website**

- Anett K. has made huge progress on the website and is very close to going live. Pictures are added now but could be updated. Need to get a new group photo of athletes.

Go live when the Strategic Plan is ready to be on it.

Maybe by Friday Jan 26th?

- We will take KK and Marsh Lake Ski club off until contact/description info is confirmed. Motion put forward by Matthias P. to go live when ready. Seconded by Aisha M. All in favour.

- Website maintenance and training

Anett K. requested that this discussion be moved to the next Board meeting

6. **Financial Update (Michelle - Treasurer)**

- Financials update (Michelle)
 - Still waiting for some grant \$ to come in.
 - Will need to discuss programming fees at the next meeting (**Action:** Michelle, Jen & Graham to begin discussing this to bring to board at next meeting)
 - Athlete contributions will increase with more travel happening.
- Michelle looked at Athlete's camp re costs as the amount budgeted has been surpassed.
- Met with coaches regarding budgeting for next year.
- Other expenses not budgeted for were the two coaches in May 2023. This will not happen again (about \$8,000 additional cost for extending Alain's contract for transition).

Carried over Action : Schedule Feb-March meeting for financial sustainability.

7. **Contractor Updates:**

- **Squad Update (Graham / Jen)**
 - The team just got back from World Jr and U23 trials at Monte St Anne
 - 3 Yukoners selected which was an excellent result.
 - Graham was very happy with the improvements made by other athletes. He feels it was a positive trip all round.
 - The team is leaving for Canmore tomorrow. This is the Western Canadian Championship which was delayed a week due to weather. They are taking 18 athletes.
 - Then there will be a period of regrouping prior to the Nationals and AWG in spring.
 - Two Yukon athletes are going to the Youth Olympics in South Korea. Minty Bradford for cross country skiing and Cheyenne Tirschmann for biathlon.
- **Coach / Officials Development (Graham / Jen)**
 - Officials Development (Graham /Jen)
 - Coach course with Stephen from Nordic Canada planned Feb 2,3,4
- **Community Programs and Affiliates (Jen)**
 - Jen going to Haines Junction and Beaver Creek on Jan 27/28th . This is the same weekend as the Don Sumanik races, which were delayed a week due to cold weather.

- **Sponsorship update (Jen, Dom, and Barbara)**

- Barbara has followed up with 3Pikas who has confirmed they will be making a sponsorship donation. The amount is not clear yet.
- Jen and Graham haven't followed with Midnight Sun Drilling who want to talk to the coaches.

- **Admin update (Barbara):**

- Yukon Government and Sport Yukon awards nominations were completed prior to January 15th.
- Nordiq Canada (NC) Division Executive Directors Board rep update
 - 1) Barbara has joined in two of the DEDC meetings now. There has been discussion on the definition of what a "member " is, as this definition varies between divisions and clubs across the country.
 - 2) Discussion currently ongoing about how to work with the CANSKI instructor and NC coaching certification variations. A Zoom meeting is being set up particularly to get more info on this out to the Divisions.
 - 3) Informed that NC has a \$ million funding gap to fill in the next two years.

8. **CCY Strategic Plan:**

- Motion: to approve CCY Strategic Plan 2024-2028.
 - Discussion was had about the phrase "achieving excellence in xc skiing and life..." what it means and should it be included.

It was put in there to reflect the community of skiing, and the life skills that athletes develop through their training.

It's very late to change the wording as it has been sent round and approved by all. Decision to leave it in the document.

A suggestion was made to review the Strategic Plan every two years , so that it becomes a very useful document which guides the organization. Looking at it regularly keeps a sense of connection to it and it becomes a living document with value. Much easier and better than waiting five years to start again.

- To this point, an additional line was added to the implementation section committing CCY to an annual Strategic Plan review / update.
- Jean-Paul thanked CCY on behalf of the WCCSC for the effort on this Strategic Plan. The club has sent a letter to CCY expressing this in writing. A small wording change was suggested and changed ('rebuild' to 'build').

**Motion to approve the Strategic Plan was made by Matthias P.
All in favour.**

9. 2024 Race Organizing

- Issues or questions for the board to discuss (Anett, Emily)
 - Diane and the race committee are working well and very busy – Don Sumaniks delayed a week due to cold weather as noted above.
 - Volunteer recruitment going well.
 - Discussion about the criteria for two trophies that have been historically awarded at the Yukon Champs. One was given for top U14 Girl and Boy and the other was for the top time over a common distance.
 - Discussion about whether this criteria should remain the same and if not who decides.
 - Suggested for this year that WCCSC makes the criteria for this year's trophies and holds on to them. Next season CCY will have time to discuss and work on an updated criteria based on a broader discussion around values etc.

10. CCY Policy updates.

- Now that the Strategic Plan has been approved updates to CCY policies will begin, with one looked at each month.
- Going forward before each meeting, ask everyone to look at one policy and come to the meeting with suggested edits. Make changes based on the new Strat plan.
- Came about because some of the policies have not been looked at for a long time.
- Many policies in place were developed with the Squad program in mind.

Jen has a template for writing policies.

- Action carried from Nov. 27 2023: Write and post to website policy regarding Yukon Championships hosting. (**Action:** TBD at next meeting)

11. Affiliate Reps (WCCSC / Kwanlin Koyotes)

- WCCSC. Jean-Paul Molgat – in Feb/March he will be meeting with Minister Richard Mostyn, Minister John Streiker, and Minister Clark about the new needs the Club has bearing in mind its growth. These include trail use, storage of equipment (two PB's now), and a small stadium. The aim is to familiarize them with the long term planning WCCSC is undertaking and potential future needs for funding and support.
- WCCSC wants to protect and expand the trails for the community.

- When the next chunk of funding comes around, WCCSC wants to be ready and have a plan.
- Exploration planning by Gladiator Metals who have a claim on some of our trails. 70% of the trails have a claim registered.
- The Government declared three years ago that there would be some sort of Mt. Mac Creek park – and approaching from that angle could be useful as a park would protect the ski trails.
- The WCCSC is paying attention to the ATCO parcel near Raven's Ridge which is owned by Coyne brothers.
- Functional planning group will keep going. Tony Zedda will be meeting with KDFN and completing some options prior to meeting with the committee again.
- Deb Higgins – explained the proposed name change of WCCSC to Whitehorse Nordic Centre. There will be a Special meeting in Feb as members will vote on this.
- Good feedback and some push back has been received about the proposed change. Change is hard. New logo and rebranding would happen afterwards. There will be info in the media on Friday.

12. High Performance Committee (Graham / Dom)

- Graham shared that NC's funding shortfall could result in a cut on the HP committee in the next year or so.
- Not sure what it means exactly but – possibly less national training camps, Training Centres will have to pick up the shortfall, and Whitehorse could be considered a bit of a hub (i.e., increased demand for support in Red Squad).

13. Additional items for discussion:

- Media announcements (Aisha)
None at this time.
- Respect in Sport committee (Matthias).

None at this time.

15. Schedule February Board Meeting:

Feb 28, 2024. 7pm

16. Regular Meeting finished at:

Meeting finished at 8:50 PM YT