



CANADIAN MASTERS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES MAITRES EN SKI DE FOND



Spring 2009 Newsletter

While I am sure there is lots of snow left in some areas of the country and many are enjoying spring skiing, pouring rain today tells me that we have come to the end of another ski season in Atlantic Canada. It was a great season in this region despite the relatively late start. It is however time to dust off the bike and take out the running shoes. Having just completed my first year as National Director, I found it very interesting and rewarding. I would like to thank all the Provincial and Territorial Directors for their cooperation.

2009 MWC

Thirty-four Canadians competed in the 2009 MWC in Autrans. The trails and weather combined to make the races very challenging. Despite the relatively small group, we did very well with the medal count. Silvia Stettler lead the way with three gold medals and Nancy Burden had two. We also had a number of silver and bronze medal winners. I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event. There are many pictures posted on the Masters website of Autrans.

2010 MWC

The 2010 MWC will be held in Falun, Sweden. All of the information is available on their web site at www.mwc2010.com If anyone is planning on attending I would suggest that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. Reservations are made through the Organizing Committee. When I was there for the 2008 WMA meetings I stayed at the First Hotel Grand and it was very nice. Falun is easily accessible from Stockholm by train.

2011 MWC

I am sure that everyone is aware by now that this event will be held at Sovereign Lake, BC. They have a web site up and running at www.mwc2011.com

If this event is to be successful we will need approximately 600 Canadian Masters participating. One of the challenges we face is that while the host club has approximately 500 skiers of Masters age, they have one member registered with the Canadian Masters. The Masters skiers in BC really have to rally around this event. The Provincial Director had done a tremendous amount of work in attempting to contact all the ski clubs in the area to make them aware of this but the response has been less than satisfactory to date.

2009 Canadian Masters

This site of the event this year was North Bay and the weather was much different than the last time . COLD. I would like to thank the North Bay Nordic Ski Club for being very gracious hosts and it was nice seeing so many familiar faces even if they were older. Pictures of the event are on our web site. While at the Canadian Masters we entered into an agreement with Westmount Hospitality Group which is involved with 147 Hotels across Canada. Members of the Canadian Masters will get a preferred rate at these hotels.

We are unable to post the information and the required codes on our web site as it would be available to the general public. I have circulated it to all Directors who hopefully have sent it on to all the members in their area. There is now a financial benefit to being a member of the Canadian Masters.

Ski Draw

This is the only fund raiser that we have throughout the year. The ski draw form has traditionally been on the web site and anyone wanting a ticket can download it and send the form to me. Needless to say the response has not been great, in fact it has been poor. We are then left trying to sell enough tickets at the Canadian Masters to cover the cost of the skis. In order to make it easier to purchase tickets we now have it included on the Masters membership form. Hopefully sale will increase. The winner of the Ski Draw this year was Paul Wright of PEI. We were very fortunate this year to have the skis donated. Pavol Skvaridlo who spent many hours waxing skis for free at the Canadian Masters was kind enough to donate the skis and we are very appreciative of his generosity.

2010 Canadian Masters

The Blow me Down ski club in Corner Brook, NL will be hosting this event from March 7-13, 2010. All of the information is posted on the Masters web site. If you have never been to Newfoundland, then this event is for you. We are looking forward to a great response.

While the association is stable financially, a decrease of approximately 60 members from 2008 is a cause for concern. Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta all showed significant decreases. Hopefully with a Western Masters Championship slated for next year, numbers in that part of the country will increase. The Quebec Masters are the envy of everyone as they continue to show strong membership numbers and a well organized Masters race program.

Hopefully I have covered all the relevant topics in the newsletter. If anyone has any questions then don't hesitate to contact me. I trust you will all have a very enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you on the ski trails next year.

Bruce LeGrow
National Director