

Grand Nordic September 19, 2023 Board Meeting

Attendees: Bruce Manske (Board Member/WP Comp Center Liason), Dan Jamison (Board Member, High School & Middle School Rep), Greg Finnoff (Nordic Masters Group), Colleen Finnoff (Nordic Masters Group), Dan Scott (Board Member, Coach), Mark Birdseye (Advisor-Adaptive Programs), Stephen Lee (Advisor), Christine Lee (Secretary/Board Member), Kathy Jamison (Scholarships/Board Member), Lisa Bornfriend (Promotion & Media/Board Member), Charlie Rau (Advisor) , Diana Lynn Rau (President), Anthony Heisler (Treasurer/Board Member)
Via Zoom: Susan French Smith (Board Member/Sales & Marketing Website), Al Rothenbach (Board Member/Memberships & Club Website), Terri Rylander (Board Member/Media & Grants), Kadin Starr (Junior Media Rep).

The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. The minutes from the last regular board meeting on April 26, 2023 were read/summarized by Secretary Christine Lee. MOTION was made to approve the minutes. All voted aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Tony H. – Our net was around \$8800 out of a total \$30,858.55. This included the Hogan Fund (\$4100). Last year Grand Nordic spent \$5383.85 for scholarships. Question was raised as to the dates of our fiscal year; Tony replied that it was from May to April. MOTION was made by Kathy J. to approve the treasurer's report. Bruce M. seconded. All voted aye.

A short discussion was held regarding our membership and how many members there were versus total of our email list. Al R. replied that he sends out blasts with info to over 1,000 emails. We are still trying to expand this list. Our Grand Nordic membership from the April figures show 160 memberships with 300 plus members.

Diana mentioned that we still need a vice-president. Also asked if everyone was willing to stay in the same board positions. All agreed to do so. (Bruce Manske, Dan Scott, Lisa Bornfriend, Christine Lee (Secretary), Tony Heisner (Treasurer), Diana Lynn Rau (President), Al Rothenbach, Susan French Smith, Terri Rylander, Kathy Jamison, & Dan Jamison. Charlie Rau and Stephen Lee agreed to stay on as advisors and Kadin Starr will remain as Junior Media Rep.

OLD BUSINESS:

Diana introduced Kadin Starr to everyone. He is our Junior Media Partner. He set us up with Instagram which is used by many young people (middle school and high school age). He reported that he has already sent out 12 posts. He might add Twitter and other social platforms later on. Greg F. suggested that Kadin add a link to our other media sites e.g. link Instagram to our Facebook website. Kadin said that was already done. Furthermore, Lisa B. and Terry R. volunteered to work with him on linking Instagram to other websites.

Diana reported that we have agreed to partner with CO Adventure Guides (Lisa & Scott Mahoney). They do backcountry ski clinics, avalanche safety clinics and analyzing snowpack workshops. Grand Nordic members get a 15% discount on avalanche safety courses.

DRYLAND NORDIC GUIDE PROGRAM – Mark Birdseye –

Mark will be the advisor for all adaptive programs in the valley. He is the coordinator for adaptive x-c paralympic skiers. He will be doing a Dryland Nordic Guide Clinic /training program on October 14, 2023. Hopefully this will build up the number of guides in the valley that can help race athletes. Mark will also put on a number of camps that will integrate athletes into races, esp. sit-skiers. The United Kingdom has a camp through their military program. The training will be for guides for

racing athletes not recreational skiers. These skiers should get help from NSCD (National Sports Center for the Disabled).

Mark and Diana hope to have more advertising for this event using our Ski Grand Nordic website.

HIGH NOTE THURSDAY – Bruce Manske – Bruce reported on this Winter Park event. Grand Nordic had a presence on Thursday, August 17. We had a display and 12 people skiing on grass. Made us noticed. He believes we should be present at more of these Thursdays. That would give us more exposure, maybe collaborating with other groups (running, mountain biking, etc.). Most agreed that this was a good idea for next year although Diana said that we would have to get our schedules for events ready for presentation before attending.

SWAP – Bruce Manske/Diana L. Rau – Bruce gave out a draft of where, when and format of the Swap. The date: Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023. The place: SMR – Nordic Center, Parking Lot, Campers Hub. Time: 10am-3pm. There was a long discussion on the logistics which are still in the planning stage. Door prizes – every hour – people would sign in and give their emails. (Those emails would add to our email list).

Diana has the flyers and asked that everyone take at least five and put them up around the county. Also the event would be posted on Facebook and Instagram. Kadin S. said that he could put up a flyer at the high school.

FREE LESSONS—Diana R. We will have two free lessons this season. Both will be at Snow Mountain Ranch. First one: Sunday, Dec. 10 . Second one: Sunday, Jan. 28.

RACE SERIES – Greg Finnoff – Greg reported that like last season there will be six races. Three classic, three freestyle.

Sunday, Jan. 7 - Granby Ranch – Freestyle - 7 ½ K and 15 K

Saturday, Jan 13 – SMR – Classic – 7 ½ K and 15 K

Saturday, Jan 20 – Devils Thumb (Stagecoach Classic) – 15K and 30 K

Saturday, Jan 27 – SMR – Freestyle – 15K and 30 K

Saturday, Mar 9 – SMR – Stampede Skate – 25K and 50 K

Sunday, Mar 10 – SMR – Stampede Classic – 25K and 50K

There is already a flyer for the 6 nordic race series.

Greg said that the series is also getting a new domain name so that any questions about these events can be answered on this website.

In between there will also be high school and collegiate races.

Jan 19 – H.S. race at SMR----- Jan 21 – Collegiate Sprint Race – SMR

FREE FRIDAY KIDS PROGRAM—Diana Rau – We have these dates already set. Fridays – Jan 12 thru Feb 23, 2024. Ages 5-10. 1-2:30 pm. Sign up link at SkiGrandNordic.org. Snow Mountain Ranch Nordic Center will do the sign up. Last year the bibs with kids names were a big hit. Bruce has ordered more bibs for this year.

RANCH TO RANCH – Diana R. – Fundraiser for youth X-C skiing in Grand County. Dates are Feb. 10&11,2024. X-C Ski Trek from SMR to Granby Ranch. Polly and Igor will have door prizes. Last year there was a problem with waivers. This year the waivers will be on-line only and then sent over to Granby Ranch. Start times will be spaced out. This worked well last year.

SKIGRANDNORDIC.ORG – Website – This is our marketing website sponsored mainly by the Grand County Tourism Board to draw visitors to the Valley with small sponsorships generated from local businesses affiliated with Nordic skiing.

SCHOOLS- Dan Jamison – Reported that there has been a lot of attrition in the middle schools. He needs “coaches”, not skiers that ski with the kids. There will be a meeting with middle school coaches to talk about this problem. The high school program is doing well. The goal is to

have kids learn not only to race but to give them a love of x-c skiing that lasts a lifetime.

SCHOLARSHIPS – Kathy Jamison – At the last board meeting the scholarship fund was raised to \$5,000. (\$300 per each appeal). She already has 7 applicants (3 Comp Center, 4 other). These scholarships can be used for equipment or paying for workshops, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

INSURANCE: The insurance dates are now from Oct 1 to Sept. 30.

Cost: \$674.00 General --- Accident Policy \$100.

Lisa B. made a MOTION (seconded by Bruce M.) to approve the policy. All voted aye.

MERCHANDISE: Diana R. – Reported that Karen Cross is looking into prices for new merchandise. We have sold all we have.

MISC:

Mentioned that Devils Thumb is willing to host a coaches clinic.

Also did anybody want to have business cards. Asked the board to think about this and let her know later.

Kathy J. made a MOTION to have the board meetings begin at 6:30 rather than 7:30. Bruce seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Future meetings will begin at 6:30 and end at 8:30.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Christine Lee
Secretary

GRAND NORDIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-24 NOMINATIONS

OFFICERS –

President – Diana Lynn Rau

Vice President – open

Secretary – Christine Lee

Treasurer – Tony Heisler

ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

Membership & Club Website – Al Rothenbach

Media & Grants – Terri Rylander

Promotion & Media – Lisa Bornfriend

School Teams and Scholarships – Dan & Kathy Jamison (share 1 vote)

Coach – Dan Scott

WP Comp Center Liason – Bruce Manske

Sales & Marketing Website – Sue French-Smith

Non voting advisors – Stephen Lee & Charlie Rau

Kadin Starr – Junior Media Rep