



Fernie Nordic Society News



February 2024 News

With the new snow the trails are looking good and the golf course is now open again. The Nordic Society is busy with preparations for the Community Fun Race which will be held at the Elk Valley Nordic Centre this year. Volunteers are needed for this event, so please sign up if you can.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

Cookies and Hot Chocolate

Ambassadors will be offering Hot Chocolate and Cookies February 18, from 10 am to 4 pm

Full Moon Ski

The next full moon is on February 24 and Mar 25.

Community Fun Race

February 24th at the Elk Valley Nordic Centre at 10 am.

Flying Viking Challenge

March 24 at the Elk Valley Nordic Centre

Hot Chocolate and Cookies at the Hut Sunday



Come and join the Nordic Ambassadors at the Elk Valley Nordic Centre Hut for Cookies and Hot Chocolate on Sunday February 18, 2024, from 10 am to 4 pm.

By donation

Remember to renew your membership

Use of the Elk Valley Nordic Centre and Fernie Golf Course Nordic trails is by membership or day pass only. At a great price of \$120 for an adult season pass, or \$15 for a day pass, the EVNC is a real bargain. Our trails are operated and maintained primarily by the volunteers of the Fernie Nordic Society. In addition to keeping the trails in great shape, FNS offers ski lessons for adults and kids, race coaching, and fun events throughout the winter season. Our focus is on fun, and on developing the next generation of young Nordic skiers.

This is only possible through your club membership. The membership fees are necessary to keep the club operating and the trails open. The FNS membership count is down from last year. **If you haven't renewed your 2023-2024 FNS membership, then now is the time!** Without our members, we won't have a club or a new generation of Nordic skiers.

Memberships can still be purchased online.

[Click here to Register](#)

Laurie Bemi
Membership Director

Grooming Report



It has indeed been an interesting month since our last report. It seems as if we experienced all four seasons in a month, which really tested the skills of the grooming team. Efforts covered everything from packing down fluffy light snow, redirecting rainwater away from the trails, to closing some areas due to a complete lack of the white stuff.

The Elk Valley Nordic Centre trails managed to stay open through the challenges primarily due to the higher elevation and of course the hard work of Mark Feldberg and our team of volunteers. The EVNC trails have been pretty good overall, and we appreciate the great feedback received from our members and guests on the team's work. A few tasty treats left by the Trail Ambassadors was also a nice touch.

The Golf Course and City trails saw a full mix of conditions from great to unfortunate sheets of ice, bare spots and trail closures. Jason Bryant and his team have none the less done a wonderful job working with the snow we have had to make these trails a quality experience when open. In addition, Tim Copper and Derek Bird have been active in doing their magic on their parts of the city multi-use trail network.

Thank you for the positive feedback from the community on the grooming. Your support and suggestions are always appreciated.

Mike de Jong

Fernie Nordic Society Presents the 10th Annual

2024 COMMUNITY FUN R***S

Saturday, February 24th @

10:00 am participants check-in

10:30 am start time

@ Elk Valley Nordic Centre

This event is free for everyone and a donation is optional. A \$15 trail pass for non-FNS members will be required.

Complimentary hot chocolate & goodies.

We'll offer a 3km & 7.5km race + our fabulous chariot glide. New this year is the SDP Ski Playground hosted by the Fernie Nordic Racers.

**Costumes encouraged!
Please register.**



For more information visit:

<https://www.fernienordic.com/community-race/>
and register at [https://www.webscorer.com/register?
pid=1&raceid=340865](https://www.webscorer.com/register?pid=1&raceid=340865)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



Fernie CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

Community Fun Race

Come to ski, race, or cheer! Compete against your friends and enjoy the great trails. This is an annual community event that is open to all skiers, club members or non-members alike, all ages and abilities.

LOCATION: Elk Valley Nordic Centre

DATE/TIME: Saturday, February 24th with a 10:00 am start for bib pickup

Two ski courses to choose from. The 3 km long loop up the Lizard Lookout, around the Cedar Loop and back to the finish. The longer 7.5 km course goes across the bridge, around the Galloway Loop and back to the finish line. I hear there may be prizes or medals on the line?!

Participation in this event is free for everyone although non FNS members require a trail pass \$15.

More details on our page at <https://www.fernienordic.com/community-race/>

Register at <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=340865>

To volunteer at this event click 

Alisha Rella



Fundraiser for ski equipment

A big part of offering Nordic ski lessons to children and youth in our community includes access to gear. Our main objective is to offer a program that is accessible for all young families by keeping costs low. The Fernie Nordic Society follows through on this initiative by offering ski rentals at a reduced fee for our Skill Development Program (SDP) participants.

Our current rental fleet is about 10 years old and is starting to show its age. Ski technology has changed over the last 10 years transitioning from fish scales to skin skis. We'd love to not only update our fleet to keep rentals available for our programming, but also update our ski technology too. This update includes adding skate skis, which will help kids progress through the various skill levels and styles of Nordic skiing.



Please note that as we transition to a newer fleet of skis, we would be offering our current equipment at low or no cost to the community so that we can increase access to equipment for kids outside of our core programs. Please consider paying it forward to future years by donating to support the purchase of new Nordic equipment packages supporting youth and community sport development.

> Donate

A tax receipt will be issued for your donation.

Nordic Equipment donated by local business

**Fernie's Authorized Retailer
of Salomon, Madshus and
Rossignol Nordic Equipment**

671 2ND AVENUE WWW.THEGUIDESHUT.CA

The Guide's Hut has donated \$2,000 worth of junior Nordic ski equipment to the Fernie Nordic Society's children and youth programming rental fleet. They are also donating a portion of all sales of Nordic equipment in February up to an additional \$2,000.

If you are looking for Nordic equipment and would like to support the Fernie Nordic Society, visit the Guide's Hut and check out their extensive inventory. The team there can usually have skis set up and ready to go on the same day.

The Fernie Nordic Society thanks the Guide's Hut for their generous support.

Race Team News



Race season is in full swing, and the Fernie Nordic Racers have been racing in BC and Alberta for Kootenay Cups, BC Cups and Alberta Cups during the past month.

The team started at the first Kootenay Cup in Rossland, BC January 20-22. Most of the younger athletes were there to race and it was also the first cross-country ski race for some of them. That same weekend, two older athletes competed at the Alberta Cup 3 and 4 in

Canmore, where the snow conditions were very good.

The following weekend, January 26-28, the Fernie Nordic Racers headed to Prince George for the first BC Cup of the season. The conditions were slushy for the first day, which was a skate sprints day, and then turned into ice for the next day, which was a distance classic mass start. The team had some great results and lots of fun.

The Kimberley race followed on February 2-4, for the second Kootenay Cup of the season. Most athletes were there, as well as lots of parents, and raced in the classic sprints race on the Saturday, and the distance skate mass start race on the Sunday. It was a very successful weekend, with great results, lots of smiles, a positive attitude, and great team spirit.

The Fernie Nordic Racers then went to Whistler for the February 9-11 second BC cup of the season.

What a great season already with so much more to come. Thank you to the coaches, wax technicians, parents, and volunteers for making those race weekends so amazing.



Louison Dubief and Aurélie Smithson

Infrastructure Update

In 2021, FNS was awarded 800K of grant funding by the Province of BC toward trailhead infrastructure to be located at the Elk Valley Nordic Centre. The project was to enhance the staging area and build permanent and full-service facilities for trail users. As part of this project, we committed to ensuring land access for a 30-year minimum. Unfortunately, the timeline for the infrastructure funding lapsed before a long-term land solution was reached. As required by the Province, we have returned the funds. \$18K of expenses were incurred for the building design and specification work, which was absorbed into our budget. We are hopeful that we will be able to revisit this opportunity in the future and, in the meantime, we have land use agreements/ partnerships in place that allow us to continue to offer amazing trails and programming for the community.

The Fernie Nordic Society presents:

THE FERNIE FLYING VIKING (AND MINI-VIKINGS TOO) CHALLENGE

Sunday March 24, 2024



**OUR UNIQUE RACE
CONNECTS TWO NORDIC
SKI AREAS BY A CHAIR LIFT**

PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUME
SKATE OR CLASSIC - 25 KM OR 50 KM
MINI CHALLENGE FOR SMALL VIKINGS

STARTS AT THE ELK VALLEY NORDIC CENTRE
\$25 members / \$40 non-members (includes chair lift ticket)
Free: mini challenge (16 and under), no chair lift
www.fernienordic.com/vikingchallenge





PHOTO CREDIT: VINCE MO | TOURISM FERNIE

Become a Fernie Nordic Society Member today!

10KM OF TRAILS AT THE ELK VALLEY NORDIC CENTRE
8KM AT THE FERNIE GOLF CLUB
BOTH GROOMED DAILY FOR CLASSIC AND SKATE
X-COUNTRY SKIING



WWW.FERNIENORDIC.COM



If you haven't got your stickers yet, you can pick them up at the Nordic Centre Hut from a hut Ambassador when they are on duty. Ambassadors will be on duty 1 pm - 4 pm every Friday and from 10 am - 4pm on Saturday and Sunday.

If you haven't renewed your 2023-2024 membership, now is the time! The trails are in excellent shape thanks to our grooming team.

Laurie Berni
Membership Director