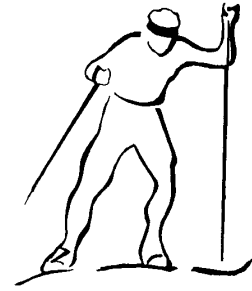


*Jump into the future with us!*

2004-2005



Hello everyone,

I trust that you are having a wonderful summer and enjoying the great weather we have been having for the last month after quite a precipitous June. Soon however, the leaves will begin to change colors and fall to the ground. And hopefully soon after, those little white flecks that are required for our favorite past time will be floating on the wind. With the ski season seemingly right around the corner, it is once again time to renew your Minneapolis Ski Club membership.

The past year was a successful year for the ski club's junior cross-country and jumping programs and we expect to see even greater results in the coming years. We have several athletes with a realistic chance of qualifying for the United States Olympic team for the winter games to be held in Torino, Italy in 2006. If you take a close look at the calendar, that's only one winter away (I know, it seems like the Salt Lake games just ended last year). With this potential for success within the club, we have a greater need to support our athletes in achieving their goals.

Last years big fundraising event, the Nordic Ball gala had mixed results. Most people that attended the event had a great evening. On the monetary end of things however, we didn't succeed quite as much as we would have liked. For the coming year we will once again be holding a gala event with some modifications over last year. The event will take place on Friday November 5th at the Minneapolis Hilton. For those that attended last year and had suggestions for improvement, we have taken your suggestions into consideration and feel that we have a plan for an even better event this year. I assure you that the promotion of the ski club will take a more central focus for this year event. If you are interested in helping in any way with the event please contact Jay Martin or me in the near future. *Jay's cell phone # is 763-229-5958. Kevin's # is 763-559-9547.*

In other changes for the coming year, the adult cross-country membership will now include a ticket to the Nordic Ball. You will still receive the great benefits that were part of your membership in past years. The fall workouts at Hyland will continue as in the past. I believe that even with the increase in the membership fee, members of our club are getting better coaching and training than other clubs in the Twin Cities for far less money.

On the jumping end of the spectrum, our club's insurance costs have once again risen. As a result, we have added an insurance surcharge for jumping members. The club's board of directors feels that this is the only way that we can provide the insurance that is needed for our jumpers.

Finally, we are always looking for club members to help us out in any way that you can. Some of you may have time you would like to spend helping out the club and others of you may not have the time but would like to donate money to club. Either of these would really help us out in achieving our goal of being the greatest club in The United States.

Thanks,

Kevin Johnson, President Minneapolis Ski Club