



March 24, 2015

Subject: Winning with a deep bench

Running and Nordic skiing are typically considered individual sports. However, anyone who has participated in these activities as part of team knows that it takes many individuals with unique strengths to create the synergy to win. At Endurance United, we are fortunate to have this kind of deep bench strength supporting our organization.

Winning also requires strong leadership. We want to thank our current Executive Director, Chris Sachs, for his successful leadership. Since accepting this role in October 2013, Chris has provided guidance as Endurance United adopted a new name, helped to grow our identity and engage our community. Chris is resigning his post to relocate with his fiancée to Colorado later this year, and leaves the organization in great shape coming into the 2015/2016 season. We wish him well!

Recounting recent successes

- Endurance United has stepped out to lead high quality Nordic ski athletic programming for all ages and abilities, on a year-round basis, through our Team Endurance United group of athletes and coaches.
- We are producing top-notch Nordic skiing events and our Urban Trail Series running races are each unique and popular events.
- Our Good Works initiatives are picking up steam in all of our operations; for example, our continued partnership with Bolder Options grows stronger each year, and we are leading the charge for development of a winter recreation facility in the East Metro.

Continuing the momentum

While we search for a new Executive Director, key organization members will take on some immediate leadership roles.

- We are so pleased that Program Manager Jake Morgan will take the role of Program Director, and lead programming and development for all EU programming. Jake has impressive credentials and experience, and has been working with us since September of 2014. He was the head coach for the Mounds View High School Nordic ski team 2013-14 and 2014-15. Previously, he served as an intern coach for the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation, and assistant coach for the Loppet Nordic Racing

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program. He is a native of Bozeman, MT, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Physiology from the College of Saint Scholastica, where he served as the men's nordic ski team captain in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

- Board member Ben Popp will be providing leadership for the GoSpring! Trail Run coming up on May 2. Ben is the original founding member of our organization, and is currently the Executive Director of the American Birkebeiner Foundation.

What lies ahead

Endurance United will continue our work to become a leading non-profit endurance sports club within our region and beyond. A few key near-term initiatives include...

- Investigating the addition of an Adult Trail Team and a Junior Mountain Biking Team.
- Continuing the charge toward development of a winter Battle Creek recreation facility.
- Growing our Urban Trail Series event. The Saint Paul Trail Marathon is an amazing event with the potential to help improve the trails east of downtown Saint Paul.

Under the Board of Director's active leadership, Endurance United is continuing our mission in our dedication to the development, support and promotion of a healthy, active outdoor lifestyle. Our programs serve people of all ages and abilities, regardless of income.

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