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Cross Country Skiing is our passion, and we have fun all year! Join us! Belong!

## For Immediate Distribution

North Star Ski Touring Club Seeks Proposals for 2024 Grant Funded Projects

The North Star Ski Touring Club (NSSTC), based in Minneapolis-St. Paul, announces a deadline of **April 2**, **2024**, for applications for donations from the North Star Grant Fund. This grant is dedicated to Nordic ski related projects which will start and hopefully finish in the 2024 calendar year. Please feel free to publish or forward this information to others.

The goal of the program is to enrich and further grow the sport of Nordic skiing for all ages and to support NSSTC. Since 2016 the club has donated over \$175,000 to help with trail maintenance, grooming projects, construction of ski-related facilities and maintenance buildings across Minnesota, the purchase of ski equipment for children, training of ski coaches, and towards the purchase of a Piston Bully 180. Some of the recent recipients include the Ottertail Youth Nordic Ski League, Norpine Trails, Nordic Ski Club of Central MN, Rochester Nordic Ski Club, Sugarbush Trail Association, Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club, Loppet Foundation, Washington County Parks, Duluth Ski Club, Bemidji Area XC Club, and the Minnesota Youth Ski League.

Qualified applicants for donations from the grant include the following:

- Nordic skiing-focused non-profit organizations [ 501(c)(3) ]
- · Organized educational programs specific to Nordic skiing
- Projects to be conducted which will support and strengthen the NSSTC
- · Municipal and county entities for Nordic skiing improvements
- Partnerships among the above groups

NSSTC would like to partner with organizations generating and promoting goals basic to the foundation of Nordic skiing. Proposals are especially welcome that reflect projects involving collaboration among multiple groups – public, private, non-profit and governmental – to leverage impact. We would also like to reach out to small ski clubs throughout the state to help support trail systems with maintenance and/or grooming needs.

Full description of the grant program and an online application form can be found on the NSSTC website, www.north-stars.org. Click on "North Star Grant Program" on the home page. Please email any questions to grants@north-stars.org.