



Birkie Bulletin

September 2024

Well, what can be said. The season was good in that brief window while it lasted. There were some lovely days skiing up on Heathy, and the McKay / Pretty Valley tracks. Ski de Femme was a highlight of the season, and one of the planned skating clinics was able to go ahead. Have a scroll to learn about these and more.

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- Birkie Bits
- Upcoming Events
- Lakeside Development Update
- Looking Back

What's been happening...





The start of the fun race at the 2024 Ski de Femme.



And they are off!

SKI DE FEMME 2024

The 29th Ski De Femme kicked off on a beautiful sunny day, the 10th of August 2024. Up to 140 women gathered to have fun and learn some new skills on cross-country skis. Free coaching sessions were provided in both classic and skate techniques and participants ranged from first timers to those wanting improve their Hoppet results. Majority participated in the fun races following the coaching, and there was plenty of cheering and encouragement. Once again the scones and pikelets, jam and cream were a highlight - as well as the skiing tips and spot prizes!



Coming into the finish of the fun race at the 2024 Ski de Femme.

Special thanks go to the major sponsors who donated some amazing prizes: **Falls Creek Resort Management; The YMCA (Howmans Gap) & Falls Creek XC; Mountain Monk Brewers; Brazen Brownies; Mountain Sports Physio; and Silver Seed Jewellery.**

The first Ski De Femme was in 1994 and BNSC has proudly run it every year since (except during Covid). With the 30th coming up next year you can be sure it will be an extravaganza!





Ski de Femme organiser, Ronice (in the pink wig) handing out spot prizes. She is already planning for an even better event next year.

SKATING CLINIC

On the 11th August 2024, 11 people attended a XC skating clinic with Jacob Huseby presented by BNSC and Snow Australia. Jacob is a US ski coach who has coached on the US Super Tour and the US National Champs and is currently the Falls Creek National Training Centre Coach.

Despite a lack of grooming and some challenging icy conditions on the day, Jacob spent more than two hours helping the 11 intermediate skaters with their offset and other skate techniques. The cost of the clinic was \$30 per person with funds raised donated to Vic Juniors.

There was to be a second skating clinic scheduled prior to the Hoppet for some race prep, but we all know why that did not happen.



SNOW AUSTRALIA CROSS COUNTRY UPDATE

AUGUST 2024

FINN MARSLAND - XC PROGRAM DIRECTOR

- AUS Champs @ Perisher
- AUS Champs @ Falls Creek
- Kangaroo Hoppet Cancelled
- International Events/Tours Expressions of Interest
- State Championship Results
- SkiMo Community Update - August 2024

Full Update

Upcoming Events...

End of Season BBQ

The next event on the BNSC calendar will be the end of season BBQ held annually in November at the picnic area by the lake in Mount Beauty. The Club provides the meat (and veggie burgers for those who prefer them), as well as bread and sauce. You bring your own chair, cutlery, plates, drinks, and a salad and/or a sweet to share.

Further details will be provided once a date is set.



Folks enjoying a warm evening at end of season BBQ.

Birkie Bits...

BNSC members **Hannah Price, Rosie Franzke, Phil Bellingham,** and **Jayden Spring** had good showings at the recent AUS Open XC Ski Champs and FIS Continental Cup at Perisher. Rosie placed second in the Women's sprint final, and Jayden placed fourth in the Men's sprint. In the distance events, Hannah and Rosie came second and third in the Women, respectively, and Phil took third place in the Men.

Cancellation of the Hoppet meant the 2024 FIS ANC Series concluded with the Perisher races. Phil won his 7th Continental Cup series ahead of Jayden. A count-back was needed to split second placed Hannah from Rosie.

Other BNSC members competing included Tommi & Harri Silvester, Adam Barnett, Clancy Harvey, Ian Franzke, Charlie Hiam, Anna Trnka, and Hannah Gray.

Well done to everyone!

To see full results from the Perisher AUS XC Ski Championships:

AUS XC Ski Championships





Women's podium for AUS XC Ski Champs distance event: Hannah Price 2nd; Rosie Franzke 3rd; with Rosie Fordham in 1st place.

BNSC member **Kat Paul** was a guest speaker at the Ski Industry Careers series, 'Women of Winter Networking' held at Falls Creek.

The series is designed for women in the industry to meet new people, understand career pathways, and ask questions to the expert speakers. To read more about it:

Women of Winter

[Search](#)



Cross-country skiing technique

Sports

Open

4 RATINGS	AGE	CHART	DEVELOPER	LANGUAGE	SIZE
4.8 ★★★★★	4+ Years Old	No. 173 Sports	Bundesamt für Sp	EN + 3 More	481.4 MB

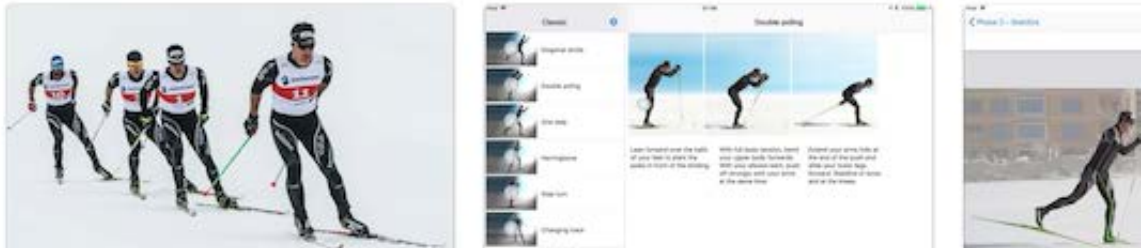
What's New

This app has been updated by Apple to display the Apple Watch app icon.
Major iOS 11 compatibility update

[Version His](#)

6y
Version

Preview



XC Skiing Technique App is a technique guide for skiers and coaches. It offers a comprehensive insight into techniques in the sport. Members of the Swiss National Team demonstrate all the steps in both classic and skating styles, making it a practical tool for skiers and coaches. The video can be controlled to show normal and slow-motion techniques. Scrolling frame by frame is also easy.

It has a rating of 4.8 out of 5 and costs \$7.99 from the Apple App Store.

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Volunteer Spotlight

The volunteer in this month's spotlight is **Emily Harvey**. Emily graciously stepped into the role of BNSC Race Secretary this season. Her initiation was a trial by fire, but she embraced the task and has excelled. With the Birkie Classic cancelled there was no race to cut her teeth on, and her first event was the AUS Champs/FIS Continental Cup at Falls



BNSC Race Secretary Emily Harvey

Creek. All went to plan, and the races ran smoothly without a hitch.

Emily lives in Melbourne and is the mother of XC ski racer Clancy Harvey. She has also been involved with the VIC Team for the past 6+ years, assisting behind the scenes with camps, organising accommodation for athletes etc. Thank you Emily for all your volunteer efforts with the Club and XC skiing!

Falls Creek Lakeside Development



The XC Skiing Association of Victoria (XCSAV) has filed an

application with VCAT to review the planning decision to grant a permit for the redevelopment of the ANARE Shed at Falls Creek. XCSAV has engaged legal counsel and is asking for donations to assist with expenses. For detailed information & to donate:

[Save Falls Creek](#)

XCSAV Update

In her most recent update the President of XCSAV, Sandra Paul provides further detail on the VCAT process and other initiatives XCSAV is working on. To read Sandra's update:

[XCSAV President's Update](#)

Looking Back...



Getting that Hoppet hat will have to wait until next year, but we can always reminisce about the past. One of my best memories was the very first Hoppet in 1991 when the event was delayed by a day because of too much snow! To read more:

[Hoppet History](#)

About us

2024/25 Committee
President – Andrew Hall

MEMBERSHIPS

Family \$75, Individual \$35, Junior or Student (not in a family membership) \$25. Associate*

Vice President – Paul Gray
Secretary – Michelle Forrer
Treasurer – Jeanette McLaren

Contact:

secretary@birkebeiner.org.au

president@birkebeiner.org.au

treasurer@birkebeiner.org.au

\$25. Annual membership period is 1st July to 30th June 2024. T

JOIN OR RENEW please click on the button below or tap HERE:

Membership

*Intended for existing members who no longer ski, nor use the clubhouse, but would like to remain club members and receive correspondence and the bulletin newsletter, or search and rescue squad members who do not require the use of club facilities.



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