

SNO SECRET

No 2 April 2019

THE THIRROUL SKI CLUB LIMITED

MARANATHA LODGE

PERISHER VALLEY

KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK

ABN: 33 000 801 338



PO Box 70 Thirroul NSW 2515

Club website: www.thirroulskiclub.com.au

April 2019

Dear Members,

The Club's AGM was held at the Russell vale Golf Club on Sunday 31st March.

The following were elected unopposed to the committee:

President Bruce Norton

Vice President Gai Curtis

Secretary Amie Archer

Assistant Secretary Evelyn Jelercic

Treasurer Rupert Blatch

Publicity Officer Kevin Donegan

Committee members

Sarah Blatch

Ian Eddy

Rasma Kreilis

Kevin Masters

Mavis Williams

Mark Phillips

Portfolios will be assigned at the next committee meeting.

We welcome Sarah Blatch and Ian Eddy to the committee. We also say farewell and give a big thank you to Heath Barnes and Owen Kreilis who have both put in a huge effort over many years.

This newsletter brings a report about the junior training/development program from a junior who has "graduated". We hope to see more reports like this in coming years.

Enjoy your skiing

and your summer activities

Kevin Donegan

Publicity Officer

News from the committee

At the AGM the Clubperson of the Year award was presented to John Hefko. John's major contribution was in his efforts at working bees where he brings a mix of appropriate skills and a great work ethic. He is a keen cross country skier and joins other Maranatha members on back country trips.



The Clive Percy Sea to Ski award was presented to Olivia Knight. Olivia is a wonderful role model to our younger female members. She went through our junior training/development program, racing in all three disciplines as a junior and has progressed to racing in the senior events for the club.



A REPORT FROM A GRADUATE OF OUR JUNIOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Junior Development

Hi, my name is Oscar Olsen. At age nine I attended my first Maranatha Junior Development program. I owe this fantastic program an incredible debt, not only for expert training in four Alpine Sports disciplines, but for the most positive education in team building, team work and good sportsmanship I have experienced in my life to date.

Just after my 2nd birthday, Mum and Dad strapped on my first set of skis. My early snow memories are of me loving mornings and nights at Maranatha and yet dreading being left in ski crèche or standing feeling cold and lonely while making half-hearted pizzas with other reluctant unknown Milo kids. As I got older, my frustration with not getting better than Mum and Dad also grew. Junior Development changed this. I joined a close knit, winning team and eventually got to enjoy waiting for the 'oldies' at the bottom of the hill.

Junior Development is a Race Training initiative Run by the club that is available to junior Maranatha members who wish to start racing for the club. For one week each season, our Junior Racers participate in a strict regime of tightly scheduled downhill ski and snowboard Giant Slalom and cross country race training, supplemented with Biathlon training. Tight timetables, including evening events and enforced sleeping hours, are all part of how we get the most from our precious training time.

Perhaps, the greatest thing about Maranatha's Junior Development program, which people who haven't attended might not see, is the team atmosphere. Maranatha's juniors are much more just a team by name. My memories of Junior Development are of being part of a group where the biggest look after the smallest, the fastest help the slowest, where the whole team cheers for every member and we all learn that team work is the key to strength and endurance. Maranatha Juniors learn that positive support and reinforcement from the whole team is the best way to bring about individual improvements in both personal attitude and competition results.

I appreciate that I am very lucky to be one of the small number of Australians to have grown up with Alpine Sports as part of my life. I am privileged to have been able to enjoy both personal and team victories as part of the Maranatha Junior Race team. This could not have happened for me without our Junior Development program and the active support of both the Maranatha Committee and the wider Club membership. Although many members make massive voluntary contributions of time and effort to make Junior Development so great, I cannot neglect to specifically name and thank Heath Barnes and Freidl Bartsch, whose dedication and sacrifice to the program cannot be understated.

In 2018 I competed in my last Junior Racing event on a high note and in 2019 I have joined the Australian Army and commenced training as a Soldier. **Thank you Maranatha.** Through participating in Junior Development I have learned teamwork and discipline, confidence on the slopes and race course, and have made lifelong friends that I hope to stay connected with for many years.

I would definitely recommend the Junior Development program to any Junior Member of the club who wants to be a better racer, a better sportsperson and a better person overall.

Oscar Olsen

