

SNO SECRET

No 6 December 2018

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

December 2018

Dear Members,

Once again we find ourselves approaching the end of another year. The ski season is done and dusted and our maintenance teams are already taking on the tasks that need to be done to ensure the lodge is as good as it can be for your next skiing holiday.

As we all slip into our summer mode and forget about skiing, and the ski club, I'd like to remind you about the club's AGM which always occurs in the warmer months. Put the date of **31st March** in your calendar. As always, you will receive official notification about the AGM via your preferred means of communication, (email or snail mail). Please remember that if there is any discrepancy between this announcement and the official announcement, then the official announcement is the one you should pay attention to. However, I am pretty sure there will be no discrepancy. This year we are going to announce our start time as "10.30 for 11.00am". This will ensure that members can have time to greet each other and have coffee and we can still start our meeting at **11.00am on time**.

The committee and I wish all our member and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year.

To those of you heading off to the Northern hemisphere to extend your ski season or holidaying elsewhere, we wish you safe travels.

Enjoy your skiing

and your summer activities

Kevin Donegan

Publicity Officer

News from the committee

2019 Subs and Maintenance Levy price increase

For the first time in nine years there will be a small increase in the Subs and Maintenance levy for 2019 from \$245 to \$265 for Senior members and from \$80 to \$90 for Junior members.

The Committee has made this decision mainly because of the increased costs in running the lodge over the years. There has also been a total of 20% increase in CPI since we last increased the subs. An example of the cost increase is the lodge energy expenses which have increased 23% in the past year alone.

A 20% increase would mean the combined subs and maintenance levy would rise to \$294 and junior subs to \$98. We realise that members have other expenses and are doing our best to keep the increase to a minimum and not applying the full CPI increase.

New members in 2019

The Club will be taking on a small number of new members in 2019. Five families on our waiting list will be invited to join. Apart from current members joining direct family members, 2015 was the last year we opened the membership to new members. In that time 39 people have resigned from the Club.

50th Anniversary

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of Thirroul Ski Club. We think it is appropriate to do something to celebrate the milestone. One possibility is to combine it with an end of season social function. However, if you have any suggestions, our social secretary would be happy to hear them.

Website photos

Our Webmaster, Nicola Curtis, would like to liven up our website with some new photos. If you have any photos that you think would be appropriate, preferably relating to snowsports and/or Maranatha, please send them in.

Another Milestone

Clark Killen (our Clarky) has completed ten consecutive years as Manager at Maranatha. As such he has set a record as our longest-serving manager. Well done, Clarky, and we look forward to seeing you back again next year and enjoying more of your culinary delights as well as your great company and the way you make our lodge the “home away from home” that we want it to be.

TSC Dec 2018 Update on progress at Perisher Valley

A dedicated team of 15 club member volunteered to participate in a working bee from the 28th Nov until the 3rd Dec 2018 to carry out summer maintenance.

The team experienced all types of weather, sun, rain, snow, thunderstorm and a power black out. The ladies that catered excelled and worked in extreme conditions but still prepared great meals. Mavis Williams, Karmani Masters and Margaret Dearden (photographed during the blackout).

The working bee coincided with the L'Etape cycle race, the aerial culling of deer and the pigmy possum monitoring program.

The exciting construction project has commenced to install a 4 seater chairlift to replace the Leichhardt T-bar. The excavators are working 7 days a week and the old T-bar is now demolished. (refer photographs)

Kevin Masters

Maintenance officer





Mavis and Karmani slaving away in a hot kitchen with a single headlamp

News from SLOPES (Ski Lodges Organistaion of Perisher and Smiggins and Guthega)

The NPWS contract cat trapper Andrew Miners is working in the Whites River/ Schlinks Pass/ Charlotte Pass /Thredbo Resort areas until 19th December using soft-jaw traps.

He will have his detection dog, Dottie, helping with the program.

The **President's Report** from the recent **AGM of SLOPES** is in a separate attachment. Many of you will be aware that SLOPES is the collective voice of clubs like ours and takes on the task of negotiating with bodies such as NPWS, Perisher resort and government departments to make sure we don't get the raw end of the deal. There is a lot of interesting and useful information in the report and it is worth taking the time to read. I could tell you the bits that I found most interesting but I think they might not necessarily agree with yours. So I will leave it to you to read it and decide for yourself.

2018 Junior Training Weekend Report

The Junior Training weekend was held on the weekend of 30 June – 1 July 2018. What an awesome turnout for our first training session of the year – 15 kids in total:

- Jasmine Barnes – 15
- Caleb Barnes – 13
- Olivia Cox – 15
- Dylan Cox – 12
- Jack Markey – 12
- Max Riolo – 14
- Lily Riolo – 12
- Charlotte Riolo – 11
- Alicia Spiers – 11
- Eric Spiers – 7
- Annabelle Gregory – 9
- Kaydence Phillips – 7
- Mackenna Phillips – 4
- Abby Armstrong – 8
- Isabelle Armstrong - 5



It was a fun packed weekend where we all concentrated on our downhill skiing improvement. A mixture of kids with 8 of the kids also participating in the junior development week and another 5 of the kids participating in the junior interclub races in September.

We all assembled on the Friday night (some later than others). Saturday morning we were all up and eating breakfast at 7am. We all met down on Front Valley at 8:30am to have a ski together and to assess how we may divide the groups.

We had booked 2 private instructors for 1 ½ days – Kat and Nick. We had never used either of these instructors previously but they came highly recommended by our previous coach Dean. Knowing that we had Kat booked for the Junior Development week, I wanted her to gauge the development kids for an early indication of groupings for the week. The groups were then organised like this:

Kat:

- Jasmine Barnes
- Caleb Barnes
- Olivia Cox
- Dylan Cox
- Jack Markey
- Max Riolo
- Lily Riolo
- Charlotte Riolo

Nick:

- Annabelle Gregory
- Kaydence Phillips
- Abby Armstrong
- Isabelle Armstrong
- Alicia Spiers

Heath and Peter Phillips:

- Mackenna Phillips
- Eric Spiers

Kat's group focused on a variety of skiing including a bit of carving and a lot of focus on short turns and balance drills. The kids were all challenged and had a lot of fun. On the 2nd day they even had a chance for a few runs through gates and stubbies on Mother-in-Law.

Nick's group was more focused on developing their parallel turns and increasing their speed. Overall, this group was younger or less experienced. I had a chance to spend some time with them on the Sunday and I was suitably impressed – they were all flying down the hill.

I spent time with Eric and Mackenna (Kenny) with assistance from Peter. We spent the day on Front Valley with the aim of improving our confidence, turns and stopping. With a lot of fear early on, I think the confidence certainly improved after lunch and I saw some positive improvement. I think both kids had a lot of fun which is our main aim.

On the Saturday, we all met up for lunch at Aldo's Pizzeria and we demolished all the pizzas – good effort kids, parents and coaches. There were a lot of pizzas consumed. I would like to thank BJ and Karen for organising the pizzas and seating.



We all lined up again at the same time on Sunday – this time for a half day tuition with the same coaches. I decided that Eric might get more benefit from a professional and put him into a separate group lesson in Smiggins for him to continue to gain confidence.

Both groups headed over to Mother-in-Law to get some turns in on a race course. I shared my time between the 2 groups and it was very pleasing to see the kids progress – particularly the less experienced group.



Stairwell Cup

As is tradition, the Stairwell Cup was held on Saturday night. It was an interesting challenge for all ages with most kids giving it their all. For those who are not aware, the Stairwell Cup is a foot race from the bottom of the Maranatha stairwell up to the top and back down again.

We used the “2 step” rule that means you cannot miss more than 1 step at a time. If a competitor did miss more than 1 step, they were penalised half a second for each breach. We started from youngest to oldest and recorded the times for each kid. For some, it was their first Cup whilst others are more experienced campaigners.

Two of the oldest kids were left to fight it out against one another again – Jasmine and Max – girls v boys. Max had never beaten Jaz before after many years of trying but was determined to do so this year. Max, being a few months younger, was off first and set a blistering time of 14.33 seconds. With the only person knowing his time being me, everyone else gaped at the speed and thought this would be impossible to beat. But then came the call from one of the race judges half way up the course – “he missed a stair” came the call. “Oh no”, everyone thought (except maybe Jaz knowing

that she had a tough job ahead to win). Half a second penalty put his time out to 14.83 seconds – still the fastest time so far.

Then Jaz stepped up determined not to let Max win. She took off up the stairs at a lightning pace and got back to the bottom quick-smart. I looked down at the phone that I was using for timekeeping just after pressing stop and thought I saw the seconds tick over to 14 seconds but the clock did not stop. How could this happen on the last competitor with so much at stake. Was it really 14 seconds that ticked over – maybe it was my eyes deceiving me.

I had to explain that we failed to record a time and that there would be a rerun. Jaz, still exhausted, lined up again and once again took off. We were all cheering and saw her reach the bottom and I stopped the clock. There was silence as everyone wondered the result that only I knew. They would all have to wait till the presentation.

I presented all the division winners upstairs (everyone's a winner) to come down to the final times. Max v Jaz – our top 2 with Max copping a half second penalty. I announced Max's time of 14.33 + penalty of 0.5 seconds to make it 14.83 seconds and there was sheer disbelief at the time from the galleries. I then announced Jaz's time which saw Max explode in jubilation and celebration as he thought about all the years that it had taken him to finally beat Jaz. However, Max may need to work on his maths as everyone else in the room looked perplexed and realised that Jaz' time of 14.13 seconds had not only beaten Max' penalised time but also his time before the penalty. His jubilation soon turned to commiseration once he realised his error and a little red-faced Max was soon congratulating Jaz for her victory and laughing about it. The full results of the 2018 Stairwell Cup are:

1. 14.13 – Jasmine
2. 14.83 – Max (0.5 penalty)
3. 15.59 – Caleb
4. 16.72 – Lily
5. 17.02 – Olivia
6. 18.21 – Dylan
7. 18.27 – Charlotte
8. 18.79 – Isabella
9. 19.97 – Annabelle
10. 20.94 – Kaydence
11. 21.15 – Alicia
12. 23.54 – Jack
13. 26.65 – Abby
14. 27.64 – Makenna
15. 32.03 – Eric

Well done to all the kids on the weekend. There were a large number of kids and it has been very pleasing to see a number of new faces turning up to our training weekend. I hope they continue for years to come. If anyone would like their kids to be part of this fabulous weekend, then please let

me know and put in a booking form for next year. We are always looking for new people for this weekend.

Heath Barnes





2018 Junior Races Report

The Brian Donegan Memorial Junior Illawarra Interclub Races were held on Saturday 1 September. The races were battled out between 5 clubs:

- Thirroul Ski Club
- Illawarra Alpine Club
- Port Kembla Ski Club (Illabunda)
- Master Builders Club (IMBAC)
- Steelmakers Ski Club

The event was a massive success once again with us hosting the event this year. There were 58 kids in total competing in the races:

- Downhill Ski GS – 58 competitors
- Snowboard Downhill GS – 28 competitors
- Cross country 1.2km loop – 43 competitors



I am very proud to have had 18 kids from Maranatha in the races with all of them competing in both the ski GS and cross country. We also had 12 of the kids compete in the snowboard. Our competitors were:

- Oscar Olsen – 16
- Maggie Olsen – 11
- Andre Prideaux – 15
- Jasmine Barnes – 15
- Caleb Barnes – 13
- Olivia Cox – 15
- Dylan Cox – 12
- Maddison Markey - 14
- Jack Markey – 12
- Tom Walker – 13
- Ben Walker – 11
- Lily Riolo – 12
- Charlotte Riolo – 11
- Annabelle Gregory – 9
- Kaydence Phillips – 7
- Makenna Phillips – 4
- Abby Armstrong – 8
- Isabelle Armstrong - 5

It was the first ever race for Annabelle and Kaydence and both performed amazingly – Makenna was the youngest competitor for both the downhill and XC. We had some amazing results overall with Maranatha coming 2nd in all 3 disciplines and overall. I was very proud of how well the kids did and we were beaten by a very good team in Illawarra Alpine Club – congratulations to them!

I feel that everyone gave 100% which is what I ask of them. They were all supportive of each other and to have all of them compete in the XC was an awesome effort as the conditions were very tough with soft snow and cold winds.





Unfortunately, Max Riolo was not able to join us in the races after breaking his leg at footy several weeks earlier. After watching Max ski in the Junior Development, I am sure he would have had some noteworthy results as well. We all missed him and look forward to seeing him back next year.

The races were hard fought with a lot of interclub friendships forming which I hope will continue for decades to come in the seniors. This year marks Oscar's last year in juniors and it saw him triumph with the fastest times for the ski GS and XC – well done Oscar. However, there were lots of other great results to note. I could go on for 20 pages if I was to talk about everyone so here are the highlights:

- Jasmine Barnes – 2nd in the girls U17 GS and XC. Jaz had the 5th fastest time for the GS and 8th in the XC.
- Andre Prideaux – 2nd place in the boys U17 snowboard and 3rd overall. Andre was looking very impressive in the ski GS with the 3rd fastest of the first runs. A repeat would have resulted in 2nd overall but unfortunately, in giving 110%, he wiped out in the 2nd run. Andre was 7th fastest overall in the XC.
- Jack Markey – 1st place in the boys U13 snowboard and XC, 2nd place in the ski GS. Overall, Jack was 8th in the snowboard, 7th in the ski GS and 10th in the XC.
- Ben Walker – 2nd in the boys U13 XC and 3rd in the ski GS.
- Lily Riolo – 2nd in the girls U13 ski GS and 3rd in both the snowboard and XC.
- Maggie Olsen – 2nd in the girls U13 XC.

A full set of results is attached showing the overall results summary page and the 3 disciplines.



I am so proud of all the kids for giving their 100% in each event they participated. There are many more highlights that do not show on the results sheets. Makenna being on XC skis for the first time at the age of 4 and completing the entire loop. We were half a point off winning the team ski GS and 4 points off with the XC.

On the Sunday morning, most of the older kids met down at the Nordic Centre to participate in some biathlon training and fun event run by Friedl Bartsch. We were joined by a good turnout of kids from the other clubs and all had a lot of fun – thanks Friedl.

I would like to thank the coaches for XC earlier in the year – Friedl Bartsch and Bruce Norton. I would like to thank all the parents who helped on the weekend. This includes the officials and everyone chipping in to ready the lodge for the party and presentation. It eased the pressure on me as I was trying to complete the results in a limited time frame. I finally finished them only to run into issues printing and had to end up reading off the laptop with no results to distribute on the night.



Most of all I would like to thank Clarky for all his efforts this year for the junior events. It can be very challenging to accommodate so many kids but he prepared the meals each night that the kids ate that were also nutritious. Also, the efforts as the host club to prepare the nibbles for the presentation.

I feel blessed to have such a great group of kids involved in racing and training with the Club. I would like to thank Oscar for his years as a leader in the juniors. Next year will see the final year for Jaz, Olivia, Andre and possibly Max (depending on dates). It will also mark their first year of eligibility to race in the senior interclub. We also have a lot of younger kids coming through and a wonderful spread of ages meaning we will have a combination of young and older competitors for years to come.

Any members out there with kids are invited to join us and there is a program catered to most. If you and your kids are interested, do not hesitate to look up information about the various junior dedicated booking lots to see what might suit. Send me an email (heathkaz@aapt.net.au) or call me on 0417 704 375. We always try and make the numbers work – this year we booked 8 beds at Oldina for overflow for the parents.

Heath Barnes

Club end of year Social Function

On Saturday 3rd November, 40 members gathered at the Towradgi Bowling Club for an evening of dining, dancing and catching up with friends. People started rolling in about 6.30pm and before long they were mingling and sharing stories of the ski season and planned activities.

The club and the bistro were busy that night. So some decided to line up to order dinner early while others took a more leisurely approach and chatted a bit longer before joining the queue. The result was that some ate later than others. However, this led to some musical chairs as people swapped tables and had the opportunity to catch up with more people than they would have if there had been set seating and a common mealtime.

To spice things up Amie had prepared a trivia quiz relating to Maranatha and our club that had people putting their thinking caps on. The winner was Evelyn Jelercic. One question was “How long has Bruce been President?” and no, the correct answer was not “forever”.

As the evening progressed and the band took to the stage, several people took to the dance floor. I know it’s a cliché, but “a good night was had by all.”

If you did not attend, maybe you should think about coming next year for our half-century.



Alan Ritchie, Jenny Kent and Hans Buettner enjoying the evening at Towradgi Bowling Club

FIRST RELEASE TIX

4 DAY FESTIVAL PASS
ON SALE TIL 24 DECEMBER 2018

\$99



2019 PEAK TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECIAL
PRICE AND PACKAGE THIS TICKET WITH
YOUR JUNE LONG WEEKEND RATES



val.com.au

Peakfestival.com.au

