

We hope you are all thawing out and enjoying the warmer temps in our amazing snow this year. Read on to see what is happening at Blackhawk and enjoy the rest of the winter!

### **Snowmaking Capital Campaign**

Snow is what makes our club a ski club! While we're enjoying the best natural snow we've had in recent memory, making snow continues to be our number one priority. We've been relying on our pond, a low capacity well, and ideal temperatures and dew points for every flake we make. That means we have to wait long periods for the pond to refill before we can make snow. But the number of days that temperatures are low enough to make snow in November and December are becoming fewer each year.

We want to be able to make snow whenever possible! Therefore, we are pursuing adding a high-capacity well to our system, so that we can refill the pond at a rapid rate and make snow when the temperature is right. While water is our priority right now, we also have plans to clean out the pond and upgrade the system to improve our snowmaking capabilities and support our volunteers who help make snow.

We'll have more details to share with you soon, but we hope you'll consider making a donation to snowmaking improvements at our club. If we are able to reach our fundraising goals, we hope to increase our capacity to make snow by next fall. Whether you jump, alpine ski, snowboard, nordic ski, do biathlon, or fat tire bike, you'll benefit from our ability to improve our snowmaking capabilities. Please consider making a donation and stay tuned for more details!

### **Volunteering at Blackhawk – it isn't all about making snow!**

New to Blackhawk and want to get involved? Been at Blackhawk for years and ready to get more involved? This spring we are seeking several members to serve on the board and on administrative committees. Committees include at least one board member who communicates activity to the board monthly. Most work can be completed remotely, so if you aren't able to get to Blackhawk, many of these positions will still work for you. Please contact us at [board@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:board@blackhawkskiclub.org) to hear more about the committees and how to get started.

**Board Members:** Our nominations committee is seeking three people to serve on our 12-person Board of Directors each for a 3-year term. Our outgoing Board Members served on or chaired the Communications Committee and the Web Design Committee. A third helped us navigate legal questions. In addition, our long-time Treasurer is looking to mentor the next person who takes on that role. If you have interest in these or other areas, this may be your opportunity to volunteer in a new capacity at the club. To contact the nominations committee, email [info@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:info@blackhawkskiclub.org).

**Capital Campaign Committee:** While we have already started work and formed a committee, we would welcome another volunteer who has experience in managing a capital campaign. Contact [chad.oistad@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:chad.oistad@blackhawkskiclub.org)

**Communications Committee:** This committee develops newsletters, works with signage, keeps an eye on our social media outlets, helps with registration

communication and much more! While this is a standing committee, many of its projects are short term.

**Web Design Committee:** There are a number of ways we could improve our website and this spring/summer is the time to tackle them. This is a new sub-committee of Communications with the short-term goal of updating the website by August 2021.

Other opportunities to serve in non-committee roles include joining the **gardening group, mowing and summer maintenance**, and special projects. Email [kurt.stein@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:kurt.stein@blackhawkskiclub.org) for more information.

### **Ski Jump Tournament Feb 21**

This weekend Blackhawk welcomes ski jumpers for a tournament postponed from last week due to extreme cold. Jumping will take place Sunday afternoon from 12-2. Nordic Combined, which is a competition scored on both nordic skiing and jumping, will take place in the morning. If you are out on the trails, cheer skiers on as they race by! And while we are not encouraging spectators due to COVID, if you see a jumper congratulate them on their hard work this year!

### **Owl Moon Story Trail in the Pines**

Friday 2/19 (today!) and Saturday 2/20 the story trail (&kids xc equipment for those who rent) will be located at the East Chalet for your family to enjoy. The loop begins near the parking lot and follows the smallest loop which encircles the jump line trail. Signs are on skier's right of the trail. Bring your head lamp, a thermos of hot cocoa and listen for our resident owls! Contact [xckids@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:xckids@blackhawkskiclub.org) with questions.

### **Trail Notice: Warm Days Ahead**

When temps rise above freezing during the late winter, we can preserve our nordic and biking trails by not walking on them. While we ask that throughout the winter people avoid walking on trails, it is especially important during the freeze/thaw cycles we are about to start next week. The impressions increase the rate of melt and make it difficult to restore when temps do go below zero and we can groom. With the amazing snow we have right now, both artificial and natural, we hope to be out on the trails and slopes well into March this year!

### **Spotlight: Blackhawk Skiers at the Birkie!**

Where will you Birkie this year? Given the reality of COVID, this year's American Birkebeiner has made several changes to help people stay safe. Participants can choose to stay home and ski their Birkie locally. Others will ski a shortened course from the trailhead in Cable. If you or your kids are skiing this year in any Birkie event, take a picture anytime during you ski, wherever you may be, to be included in our March spotlight. Email pictures to [board@blackhawkskiclub.org](mailto:board@blackhawkskiclub.org)

**Enjoy the snow!**