



Canadian Birkie E-News:
February 6, 2017

Canadian Birkebeiner Society
#103, 9920 63 Ave. NW
Edmonton, AB T6E 0G9
(780) 430-7153
ski@canadianbirkie.com



Birkie Feb 10-11, 2017

Spirit of the Ski

Registration



Trails 020317

[Registration](#) has been extended to Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6:00 pm.

Due to the more favourable forecasts and conditions on the Birkie trails we have extended our 2017 registration deadlines for all courses (55 and 55 Lite, 31, 13, 2.5/4 km) until **6 pm THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9**. The Skate Ski remains cancelled.

Registered skate skiers will be given the choice of transferring to one of the other ski events or opting for a full refund. Please email the [office](#) (ski@canadianbirkie.com) to let us know if you wish to change events or ask for a refund. Any refund requests will be addressed after the event.

Don't forget that if you registered in 2016, you are entitled to 15% off of your 2017 registration fees. If you cannot locate your discount memo, please contact the [office](#) before registering.

Updates on Courses

Some of our Board Members were on newly tracked 55 km trails in the North East of the Blackfoot Staging Area on Friday. Conditions were fair. The tracks were somewhat shallow but there were no



Your board at work!
Peter Kershaw, George Foxcroft, Cam
McGregor, Jim Black, Bas Delaney
(front)

snow gaps on the route. The notorious thin spot on Heron Hollow was filled as were a number of others. With the additional snowfall over the last few days, we think the conditions, which were fair when we skied them, will be good for Loppet Day.

Birkie Volunteers were out harvesting snow this past weekend. Roundup, Moose Link, Gray Line, Siksika, Ed's Way and Don's Way are all part of our Loppet this year. We have changed our routes to be closer to fence lines where there is more snow. Some of the trails have not been tracked yet but will be for the Loppet. The snow was fair on some of the routes and deeper in other areas.

We are very encouraged by how things are shaping up and are working hard with Alberta Parks Staff to ensure the best possible Birkie!

Revised maps for the 55, 31 and 13 km courses are available for viewing on our website [here](#) under Cdn Birkie Ski Event Details.

Live Results

Don't forget that you can see live results at this year's event! Timing units will be placed at several Food/Aid Stations to provide interim results.

You'll be able to identify where friends and family members are during the event.

Link to the live results [here](#) (will be active February 11, 2017) or link from our [Current Results](#) page.

Nordic Fair and Registration Package Pickup

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Opening Ceremonies, Nordic Fair and Registration Package Pickup all happen this FRIDAY at the [Strathcona Community Centre](#) in the Agora room, located at 401 Festival Lane in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Opening Ceremonies; 11:45 a.m.

The [legend](#) that the Birkie recreates each year is described and the Birkie Baby (representing the infant prince that is rescued) is introduced. We recognize our fabulous sponsors and then the Festival is officially opened by supporting dignitaries.

Nordic Fair; noon - 8 p.m.

Visit our sponsors' and partners' booths, pick up a Birkie souvenir or two, get the latest waxing advice, watch waxing demos, and enjoy a sample of Alley Kat beer as you catch up with ski friends.

Registration Package Pick-up; noon - 8 p.m.
Pick up your bib, *returnable* timing chip and information package. If you cannot make the package pick-up you can ask a friend or family to pick it up for you. They will need to know your full name, event, and check your timing chip before they leave. There is a \$60 charge if your chip is not returned so you must **return** your TIMING CHIP at the finish line.

Vikings's Feast



Come Join the Celebration!

In true Birkebeiner tradition, join our Vikings' Feast Saturday, February 11th. Enjoy a buffet dinner and drinks, entertainment (Pergolesi Brass), awards, door prizes and more!

As well as other awards, this year we will be celebrating **ten** recipients of the [Haakon Haakonsson Award](#); skiers who have skied all three international Birkebeiners.

A chance to relax with new and old Birkie friends and to share your tales of the day.

Location: [Strathcona County Community Centre](#), 401 Festival Lane, Sherwood Park, AB in the Agora Room

Time: Doors at 6:00 pm, FEAST at 7:00 pm

Tickets: Adults (16+) \$40, Youth \$25

Purchase tickets [here](#)

MEC Wax Clinics



MEC is offering Birkie Wax Clinics at both locations (South Common or Downtown) and there are still dates available for the 201 level courses *free of charge*. Just bring your registration confirmation to your clinic.

Choose the one that is best for you. Space is limited; register online at:

<http://events.mec.ca/node/156411>

Merchandise



Take a piece of the Birkie home with you with Canadian BirkieBiker Merchandise!



All merchandise will be available this week with Mastercard, VISA or cash.

Available now in our [Merchandise Store](#)

Available at the [Nordic Fair](#) / Registration Package Pickup Friday, February 10th

Available in the Festival Tent at the Finish Line / Stadium Area Saturday, February 11th

Available at the [Vikings' Feast](#) Saturday, February 11th

Please **do not reply** to the newsletter; that email goes to an unmonitored address.
You can email the office [here \(ski@canadianbirkie.com\)](mailto:ski@canadianbirkie.com)

