



President's report for year ended October 2018

It's been a pleasure and an honour to be involved in such a wonderful club with over 450 members. The club will be 40 years old on the 15 April and we are still promoting good fellowship amongst our members and encouraging participants in all disciplines of snow sports to develop and upskill.

What an exciting year 2018 was for Snowsports in New Zealand and what a privilege to have been involved.

Our new website was introduced early in 2018 with the help of Luke Hetzel. As with all new websites we experienced a few hiccups but overall we were thrilled with the outcome. We are now able to confidently manage our membership base and propose to have a designated membership person to help with enquiries for 2019.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> we will open up the 2019 membership registration window at the same pricing as 2018, \$30 for an individual, \$60 for a family membership

#### Grassroots

In 2018 we had 49 Grassroots recipients, 18 at Treble Cone, 2 at the Snow Farm and 29 at Cardrona. This included 7 new Grassroots family members.

The Grassroots children were particularly active in 2018 participating in Remarkables Slopestyle, Ski Racing throughout NZ in the NZ Youth Series and local Interfields, our Race Yr Mate events, Freeride events at Ruapehu and Mt Olympus, Snowboard events at Cardrona, Treble Cone and the Remarkables, the Merino Muster at Snowfarm and also the Snowsports NZ Junior Freestyle Nationals at Cardrona. Our Grassroots children performed exceptionally in our WSSC sponsored Upper Clutha Primary Schools event. Our Grassroots children have achieved incredible successes in NZ, Europe and North America. Without a doubt we acknowledge that our Grassroots program really does assist WSSC families. The feedback and reports for our Facebook page we receive are wonderful.

Our Grassroots program wouldn't be possible without the support of our members and Grassroots parents who are invaluable at our events. We truly appreciate their help.

2018 also had a huge low with the loss of one of our Grassroots fathers, Nick Wallis, only 3 months after his brother Matt also perished in a helicopter incident. The Wallis family have had a very long relationship with our club and our sympathy and love continue to go to Carrie, Viva, Kat, WSSC past president Prue, Tim and the entire Wallis Family.

## Grassroots Raffle

Craig Murray's wonderful donation of his Freeride World Tour Alpina X Watch to the club motivated the committee to organise a Raffle for our Grassroots funding. Thanks also to Cardrona, Treble Cone, Snowfarm, Dynastar and Fraser McDougall for their contribution of prizes plus to all those members who sold and purchased tickets. A very special mention to Grassroots recipient Max Bagley who sold the most books. Over \$8,000 was raised for our 2019 Grassroots allocation.

## Grants

The total grant amount allocated to member athletes for their 2017/18 Northern Hemisphere programs was \$24,500. This included a special grant for our Winter Olympians: Adam Barwood, Willis Feasey and Finn Bilous who did our club proud with their selection for the New Zealand team in Peongchang.

## Race Organising Committee

We certainly missed Peter Duff, our long time Chief of Race and ROC Chair, on the snow but are thrilled to see him back to full health and with his cheeky humour.

During the season we organised and completed an Interfield at Treble Cone, various races from an Interfield to International FIS races and the Upper Clutha Primary School race at Cardrona. The latter is sponsored by the club, and we had 242 enthusiastic children from as far away as Cromwell and Alex. Special thanks to Robyn Millar, who co-ordinated this successful event.

In 2018 we had approximately 2,125 race starts and 1,220 volunteer hours on snow, not to mention the volunteer hours committed prior to and after race day. A huge thank you to our ROC and team of volunteers who give up their time and are on snow in those cold dark hours early in the morning.

## Social Committee

The Social Committee season began in May with the very successful Grassroots awards night and BBQ at Rippon Hall. Awards were presented by Byron Wells and our older athletes Ben Richards and Sam Lee, who also compiled the footage. A highlight was having Zoi Sadowski Synnott's Olympic Bronze medal for all the children to wear for photos.

For our adult and more social members, the Social Committee organised a May overnigher in Omakau which included excellent accommodation, golf, great bike riding and lunch at Pitches Store, Ophir.

June was busy. Cardrona invited the club to set up a BBQ when they opened early with the early snow. With the quick and helpful assistance of Mitre 10 and the butchers block we raised \$1,250 tagged for our Grassroots program.

Our Winter Warm up was held at Marg and Chris Hurleys early June. Everyone was bubbling with excitement and ready to get out on snow and catch up with old friends and meet new. Thank you, Marg and Chris, for opening up your beautiful home.

Mid-June 11 members spent a fun night in the Cardrona Apartments with Rosa's "Wined" tutored wine tasting setting the tone for a tasty dinner in the Mezz Café.

"Race Yr Mate" provided a couple of fun days at Cardrona and Treble Cone and proved that setting up a few gates brings out all sorts of competitive spirits between family members and friends. Treble Cone's fancy dress family closing day gave this event an extra fun factor.

Jack Rabbit proved an excellent venue for Friday night socialising with the once a month benefit of the clip and climb for younger members .

A group of 16 went to Ohau for an overnigher in August and had a wonderful night in the lodge and excellent skiing at Ohau, Round Hill and Dobson.

21 Members participated in the seasons Cardrona Social Locals program, feed back was extremely positive and one group in particular were delighted with how their skiing had progressed. A huge thank you to David and Sue Baker for organising this.

A train-to-race program for older social members at Cardrona provided superb early morning sunrises, lots of video technique appraisals with a huge improvement in overall ski technique for those who participated.

All of these activities don't happen without our fabulous Social Committee who put these events together.

Last month Lex Cameron lost his incredible fight with cancer. Snowboard and curling enthusiast , our social curling club liaison man and previous valued member of our social committee. We certainly won't forget that huge smile, as one of the members said "one of life's good buggars"

A huge thank you to Ross Rainsford our Treasurer, Bonny Teat our Secretary, Grassroots coordinator and Facebook updater, and to the rest of our Executive Committee for their positive and supportive contribution.

I wish you all a healthy and successful 2019 season, see you out there.

Flick Wallace

