



Annual Report 2014/2015

Board of Directors

Board Activities

In May 2014, Chelsea Nordiq members elected a ten-member strong Board of Directors to oversee the finances and programming of the organization and provide direction to the head coach.

The Board met regularly between May and December and picked up regular activities again in April. During the skiing season, the Board dealt with critical business items by email.

The current members of the board and their functions are:

Name	Position
<i>Vic Veinotte</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Pam Aung-Thin</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Marc Gervais</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Frank Lohmann</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Pierre Dupuis</i>	<i>Program Director - Biathlon</i>
<i>(vacant)</i>	<i>Program Director - Nordic</i>
<i>Carolyn Raab</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Cynthia Westaway</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Rhonda Hynds</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Dan Mallett</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Maurice Samm</i>	<i>Head Coach (ex-officio)</i>

The priorities of the Board for 2014/2015 were to keep the budget balanced and to put in place some control mechanism for spending as well as optimizing payments among club members and coaches and suppliers.

There are many other volunteers that have important administrative functions, for example Jenny Sanchez, our registrar; Pablo Sanchez, our IT guru and Chantale Lortie, who is representing Chelsea Nordiq on the Association des clubs de Biathlon du Quebec and who also sits on the Board of Biathlon Ontario.

During the Annual General Meeting on May 6, 19:00 at the Cascades Club, the members have the chance to elect three new Directors. Please let the Secretary (secretary@chleseanordiq.ca) know if you are interested to serve on the Board. We need one week notice of an application. So, April 30, 2015 is your deadline.

Volunteers

Although Chelsea Nordiq has some paid coaches, the club would not function without our volunteer members. Our athletes would not be nearly as successful if it wasn't for the countless volunteer coaches and coach assistants, volunteer program coordinators, race officials, event organizers, bakers, drivers, cheering crowds, and many, many more jobs and functions.

The Board would like to thank all volunteers for their effort and recognize their contributions. The Board has introduced the i-volunteer tool (Jill Kearney is the coordinator) and is now working on better volunteer recognition.

Club Activities

Membership

This year, Chelsea Nordiq had a total of 808 members, which constituted an increase of 8% from the previous year. The club's active memberships has grown by 10%. While the active male athletes, which make up 54% of athletes, grew by 12% this year, the female active athletes made up 46% and increased in number by 8%.

The number of athletes, who live in Chelsea, has increased by 10.8% compared to the previous year. The table below shows the numbers by program:

	2015	2014
Active Membership	447	385
Bunnyrabbits	40	43
Jackrabbits	141	127
Adventure Jackrabbits	18	20
Adventure Rabbits (9-11)	28	20
Junior Adventure (12-13)	19	12
Senior Adventure (14-18)	19	18
Track-Attack – Peewees	44	40
Track-Attack – Midgets	23	22
Nordic Race (all)	38	37
Biathlon .22	27	19
Biathlon Racing Bears	16	17
Biathlon Bears	19	10
Masters (adults)	48	45

Ski-Swap

Last fall, a group of 111 individuals performed the 195 volunteer jobs necessary for the annual Chelsea Nordiq Ski-Swap, many were entirely new at this task. Nonetheless, under the direction of Richard Holder, the ski-swap was smoothly operated and turned out as profitable as in 2013. The group's ideas for this year's ski-swap might even make it more successful and effective for Chelsea Nordiq members. After a number of successful years at the Chelsea Elementary School, the Board is re-considering the location for the ski-swap and may explore other options.

Super Sprint

This year saw the second successful run of this fun race. The Board (Dan Mallett) had negotiated a joint venture with the Gatineau Loppet and with the Meredith Centre to guarantee the success of this even in the future. Thank You Dan!

The Sprint attracted a total of 103 athletes in the age groups between 8 and 18 years. A slightly lower turnout was principally due to the date conflict with the NorAms in Joliette. Even so, live music, food from IGA and Les Fougères and prices for everyone created a fun experience for all

Coaching

The board would like to thank all volunteer coaches, for their passion and their dedication. Without volunteer coaches Chelsea Nordiq would not have created such a great number of successful athletes over the last years. Among the paid coaches the Club welcomed Alexandre Dumond as the new coach for the Biathlon Bears, and Amy Ford as a supply coach for the .22 calibre biathletes. Unfortunately, at the end of the season, the Board had to accept Dave Bradley's resignation as the biathlon headcoach. Chelsea Nordiq has a bunch of emerging coaches among its own athletes: Paul Place, Eric Schryer, Ali Hynds to name a few.

Honouring Gaetan Brosseau

In January, the range behind Chalet Des Erables near Camp Fortune was renamed in honor of the late Gaétan Brosseau - the man behind the range. Without his creative thinking and countless hours of hard work - there would have been no range. Gaetan Brosseau passed away last fall unexpectedly.

Renovating Rider's Roost

Last fall, the Board negotiated the use of the Chalet Des Benevoles with the management of Camp Fortune. The board decided to call it by its old name "Riders' Roost". Pierre Dupuis with the help of Pierre Gravel and Bob Vandenberg have started to renovate the building and create a flexible space that can be used for warm-up as well as for training purposes. The Riders' Roost has already been used for the coaches' training and for some biathlon dry-firing exercises, on days when the temperature outside did not permit the operation of the air rifles. CSM and biathlon race planning meetings also took place here.

The Board is hoping that we can keep the momentum on the renovations going, to make this a small club house.

New School Outreach Program

Chelsea Nordiq (John Fahey, Frank Lohmann and Dan Mallett) was successful with their proposal to create a school outreach program. The Centre Locale de Development granted Chelsea Nordiq [REDACTED] to purchase 35+ sets of skis, boots and bindings. Greg Christie is supporting this new project [REDACTED]

The program would see school classes coming to Chalet Des Erables during day time, to experience 2 hours of skate ski instructions, lunch and two hours of trail skiing. Chelsea Nordiq runs the program, which has a budget for an administrator and 3 coaches per session. This is a great opportunity for our young adult athletes to make some money and to gain some coaching experience

Club races and events

Cookie Beiner - Thank you for all those 2300 home-made cookies you contributed which got enjoyed by the 370 participants and over 50 volunteers! [REDACTED] Bravo Marieke Winkeldermaat!

Biathlon Race - We had 126 registrants, only 1 less than last year even though the date of the event was very close to Nationals and Jeux du Quebec. [REDACTED] Bravo Pierre Dupuis and Chantale Lortie, and all 120 volunteers involved! Competitors and visitors stated that it was the best race is this year's Coupe Québec race series. We have come a long way in developing the expertise of our officials and volunteers and in improving our infrastructure.

New Wax Trailer

The Board approved the purchase of a new wax trailer for races. The 16 foot trailer was purchased and was used in the winter and will be used by Velozophie in the summer. The truck to pull it comes from Little Ray Reptiles. The trailer is equipped with so much stuff, it's too long to list - Stewart McIntosh was provided with a beautiful project and delivered awesomely!

Many of Stew's clients rose to the occasion to help a wonderful cause. Their [REDACTED] donations went towards the heating system that was installed in the trailer

Mike Billowits graciously donated [REDACTED] towards Honda EM6500S generator - with the turn of a key, the trailer has power! Our athletes have already remarked that their race skis were twice as fast when waxed in the trailer.

Athletes' Achievements and Performance

Although the cold temperatures this winter caused a few race cancellations, a total of 200 Chelsea Nordiq athletes performed in 25 biathlon and 33 nordic races. Some of these races were at the national level and the performance in number of Chelsea Nordiq athletes competing at this level as well as the number of medals won should make all members proud! The hard work of these young athletes and the support from our volunteer- and paid coaches as well as their peer athletes is showing amazing results.

Jeux du Quebec, Drummondville, QC

Seven Chelsea Nordiq Athletes (Theo Mallet, Oliver Holder, Sophia Jensen, Stella Duncan, Carly Little, Olivier Dumas Mykal Bakker- Westeinde) competed in three races each, skate distance, classic distance and team sprint.

Carly Little won a bronze medal each in the individual races and a silver medal in the team sprints, Sophia Jensen won the bronze medal in the team sprint and Oliver Holder won the silver medal in the classic distance and a bronze medal in the skate distance race.

Canada Games - Prince George, BC

Six biathletes went to the Canada Games in Prince George, BC (Teo Sanchez, Ali Hynds, Jason Lawton, Jordyn Leighton, Alex Dupuis, Lelani Tam Von Burg). Each of them competed in four races: Pursuit, Individual, Sprint and Relay

The (former) Chelsea Nordiq athletes Alex Dupuis and Leilani Tam Von Burg put on a top performance: Leilani won 2 gold and 2 silver medals while Alex won each colour once: 1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze. The younger athletes also came through with star performances: Teo Sanchez won 2 bronze medals and 1 gold, Ali Hynds won a silver and Jason Lawton won a Bronze.

Canadian National Biathlon Championships - Hinton Alberta

This year Chelsea Nordiq had 11 athletes represent the club at the Canadian National Biathlon Championships in Hinton Alberta (Leilani Tam von Burg, Chloe Selerier, Ali Hynds, Jordyn Leighton, Piaper Veinotte, Eric Schryer, Mathieu Tremblay-Gravel, Alex Dupuis, Teo Sanchez, Jason Lawton, Olivier Gervais). This strong contingent won 12 medals including 5 Gold and had 29 top ten finishes in 4 races and 7 age categories. Even the two youngest Chelsea athletes Piaper Veinotte and Olivier Gervais demonstrated that they can compete with the top level athletes.

Canadian Ski Marathon - Lachute to Buckingham, QC

This year, 80 Chelsea Nordic athletes skied a total of 306 sections in the CSM for an average of 3.83 sections per skier, which placed the club second in the club challenge.

This year 2 Chelsea Nordiq athletes under 18 years of age accomplished their Silver Coureur du Bois (Olivier Dumas and Ben Risk) and another 4 young athletes accomplished their bronze level Coureur du Bois (Maya Holder, Isaac Bunge, Casey Brennan and Martin Lohmann). Hats off to these determined young athletes.

International Competitions

This year also saw two Chelsea Nordiq athletes compete on the international scene: Leilani Tam von Burg competed in two International Biathlon Union races and in the European Biathlon Championships and Sébastien Desrocher's participated in the World Masters Games in Québec city, where he won a bronze medal in the relay.

Financial Report

The Board transferred the accounting to the new Treasurer, who provided monthly budget reports and overhauled the banking arrangements. The Board hired an accountant, introduced online payments of coaches and expense claims, and purchased electronic payment equipment for the ski-swap, clothing sales and other fundraising events.

The Board imposed some budget controls with program coordinators and increased the financial discipline of the club. The work on reviewing program fees and program expenses has to continue and a shared 'central club allocation' from each program has to be further explored and fine-tuned.

The Board started to get organized to focus on grant writing activities in order to support ongoing and new activities. This activity needs more volunteer support.



Outlook

In closing this report, the Board would like mention a few items of unfinished business for the next board and to invite members to participate in:

- Striking a Race Committee
- Appointing a Nordiq Program Coordinator
- Striking a Grant Writing Committee
- Creating a Newsletter and Social Media Updates
- Revamping the Club's Website

Please don't forget about the **Annual General Meeting on May 6th at 19:00 at the Cascades Club**. The members present will elect three new board members, find out more details about the items in this report, discuss priorities for the next year - and have some wine and cheese.

If you would like to stand for election to the board of directors, please inform the Secretary of the Club (Frank Lohmann) at secretary@chelseanordiq.ca no later than April 30, 2015.