



CALEDONIA NORDIC SKI CLUB HOSTS CROSS COUNTRY SKIING'S TECK BC CUP #1, JANUARY 3rd & 4th, 2015

December 31st, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 3rd, 2015—Home Hardware Classic Technique Sprints **JANUARY 4th, 2015—RHB Schmitz de Grace Free Technique Interval Start**

Weather challenges will not sideline this weekend's scheduled cross country skiing 2015 Teck BC Cup event. The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is hosting the 2014 Teck BC Cup #1 at Otway Nordic Centre on Saturday & Sunday, January 3rd & 4th, 2015.

Saturday's Home Hardware Sprint Race begins with the qualification round (used to determine heat seeding) at 9:00 am with the exciting head-to-head heats following the qualification, once the results from the initial race have been calculated. The Home Hardware Sprint Heats are expected to begin at approximately 11:30 am-12:00 pm. Most of the action during the sprints can be viewed from the lodge. The heats are expected to wrap up approximately 3:00-3:30PM.

On Sunday the RHB Schmitz de Grace Free Technique interval start race begins at 10:00am and is anticipated to run until approximately 12:30 pm.

The weather has been a concern for organizers during the past two weeks, first when a lack of snow almost forced cancellation and second when low temperatures were forecasted for the two days of competition.

The newly constructed race courses will be used for the event, although, due to a lack of snow at some trail locations, minor changes may be necessary in order to ensure optimum conditions for all competitors. Courses for Official Training will be marked and groomed by noon on Friday, January 2, 2015. Decisions regarding course changes will be made in advance of Friday's Official Training.

For most race categories, cross country rules for race temperatures require cancellation or postponement if the temperature is colder than -20°C at race start. The exception is for younger skiers—those who were born in 2003 or later (Atom, Peewee, Bantam categories) must not ski in a race when the temperature is colder than -15°C at start time. The forecasted temperatures are well within the older age category threshold; however they are very close to the younger participant's threshold.



Over 210 athletes have registered for the event which has fourteen age categories for each gender between ages 5 years (Atoms) and over 70 years (Masters). Approximately 85 percent of registered skiers are traveling from out of town and will be coming from Whistler (Whistler), Pemberton (Spud Valley Ski Club), Vancouver (Hollyburn Ski Club), Vancouver Island (Strathcona Ski Club), Kamloops (Overlander Ski Club), Kelowna (Telemark Ski Club), Vernon (Sovereign Lake Ski Club), Salmon Arm (Larch Hills Ski Club), Rossland (Black Jack Ski Club), Smithers (Bulkley Valley Ski Club), Vanderhoof (Nechako Valley), Williams Lake (WLCCSC), and Revelstoke (Revelstoke Ski Club). For more information regarding the event, please visit: <http://caledonianordic.com/races-results/teck-bc-cup>

Saturday's and Sunday's races will also help determine individual BC Cup aggregate winners as ski racers accumulate points towards the BC Cup Aggregate Awards. These races are one third of the BC Cup Series. Teck BC Cup #2 will be held in Revelstoke on January 24th and 25th. The series will culminate with the Teck BC Championships in Kelowna on February 20th –February 22. The BC Cup series is the premier cross country ski race series in British Columbia, it encourages cross country skiing for families of all age groups and skill levels.

Teck BC Cup #1 will be particularly important for many racers because both of these races will help determine the BC Team members for the 2015 Ski Nationals at Thunder Bay, Ontario, held during March 2015. Caledonia Nordic athletes to pay particular attention to are Kaia Andal, Erica Kreitz, Sage Bialuski, Emily Dickson and Damian Georgyev.

Spectators are encouraged to attend and watch for free. This year spectators and participants will be welcomed by expanded parking, which increased the number of spaces by 75%. There will be designated areas where you can see some of BC's best cross country skiers compete. One of the best viewpoints is the day lodge where food and refreshments will be available between 9:00am and 4:00pm on Saturday and Sunday. Some spectators may wish to watch along the course, which is acceptable as long as there is no interference with the race.

The Teck BC Cup #1 is the last Otway competitive ski event prior to the 2015 Canada Winter Games – it will showcase newly constructed facilities (such as the cross country technical building) and newly approved FIS (International Ski Federation) trails. This will also be the last event for race officials and volunteers to ensure preparation for the 2015 Canada Winter Games.



The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club, a not-for-profit organization, has evolved over many years, to become a full service Nordic ski club and one of the largest of its kind in Canada. The club has had a membership in excess of 1800 in both 2013 and 2014. CNSC is run by a volunteer board of directors who meet regularly once a month. Each is dedicated to skier development and the promotion of the sport of cross country skiing for fun, fitness, recreation and health. For more information regarding the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club please visit: www.caledonianordic.com .

Cross Country BC, the provincial sport governing body for cross-country skiing in British Columbia is a non-for-profit, club-based organization of more than 16,000 members. Cross Country BC offers programs and services to support the continuous development of cross-country skiing for all ages and abilities, from introductory experiences to international excellence. Teck Resources Ltd. is the title sponsor of Cross Country BC's Skier Development Program, thereby supporting excellence in sport and providing youth with experiences that will help them prepare for the future. For more information on Cross Country BC, please visit www.crosscountrybc.ca

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