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BC Teck Coast Cup 1 - Whistler Olympic Park Holds First Cross Country BC Sanctioned Race in 20 Months.



U14 racer in the stadium

Bluebird skies, squeaky snow, cool temperatures and good vibes prevailed at the Teck Coast Cup 1 at Whistler Olympic Park (WOP) this past Sunday. The event was hosted by Vancouver's Hollyburn Cross Country Ski Club and was the first official Cross Country BC sanctioned race held at the venue since the start of the pandemic - that's almost 20 months!

The atmosphere was festive, spirits were high, and the event saw over 150 participants ranging in age from a very determined U6 category to a hard charging masters cohort that had over 40 skiers! The main clubs in attendance were Hollyburn Cross Country (North Vancouver), Spud Valley Nordics (Pemberton), Sea to Sky Nordics (Squamish), Whistler Nordics and Nordic Racers (Vancouver).



Future Happy World Cup Skier

The race had a strict COVID Safety Plan with no inside congregation spaces - everything was kept outside. The race format was Interval Start. In order to minimize contact, the participants set off 15 seconds apart. The course distances ranged from 300 metres to nine kilometres.

For many of the racers, this was more than just a local Coast Cup. It was a chance to finally race after many months of training for a crumbling race schedule.

Whistler's Joe Davies even came out to support and race in his hometown. Joe represented Canada at the World Junior Championships in Finland this past winter.

The World Junior Champs will actually be hosted by Black Tusk Nordic Events Society at Whistler Olympic Park in 2023.

Jake Weaver, Chief of Competition, was very pleased with this first Teck Coast Cup: *"Sunday was a beautiful day at WOP in every sense. All the parents, coaches and skiers were thrilled to have normal ski racing again. The athletes who have been training hard for two years finally got a chance to put it to the test. Our dedicated pool of volunteers were out once again. There were big smiles all around, the culture of our sport remains strong- despite these fragile times."*

Race results can be found here:

<https://zone4.ca/race/2021-12-19/437e15e0/results/>

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Cross Country BC (CCBC), the provincial sport governing body for cross country skiing in British Columbia, is a not-for-profit, club-based organization of more than 27,000 members. CCBC 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 Limited is the title sponsor of CCBC's Skier Development Program, thereby supporting excellence in sport and providing youth with experiences that will help them prepare for the for the future. For more information on Cross Country BC, please visit www.crosscountrybc.ca.



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