



TELEMARK NORDIC 5 YEAR PLAN – OCTOBER, 2014

VISION

At Telemark all individuals will be able to follow their passion of cross country skiing, biathlon and snowshoeing in a first class, stimulating and safe environment. To that end Telemark will:

- Consistently provide the best possible trail conditions and facilities.
- Provide competitive programs for athletes, with the best coaching affordable and with excellent facilities and equipment, so that athletes can develop to their full potential and live their dreams.
- Provide programs for recreational skiers and snow shoers to allow them to improve their skills or to pursue their activity in a social environment. Encourage them to make winter sport a life time endeavour.
- Encourage volunteer participation.
- Be responsive to the wishes of members and the general public.
- Be in compliance with all applicable legislation.

WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE 5 YEARS FROM NOW?

The current network of cross country ski trails offers a reasonable amount of skiable kilometers, diversity of terrain, and mix of difficulty level, except that there is a demand for more easy trails. Also, there is a high probability that global warming will eventually make the Telemark trail system unusable due to its low elevation. A conceptual plan should be prepared within the next five years for an eventual relocation of the trail system to a higher elevation.

In that time frame we should obtain better access to the “High Country” area so that we can lengthen the skiing season and make the trails there accessible to more skiers and possibly expand the trail system there if there is sufficient demand. This will be accomplished either through a partnership agreement with

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Crystal Mountain, or by developing a parking lot with proper infrastructure at the yellow gate off Glenrosa.

Some of our trails are narrow, have poor drainage and are rocky. Summer improvement work must be continued over the period within the constraints of our budget.

Over the next few years we will need to develop “dog trails”, more easy trails and additional snowshoe trails. An “adventure park” to be used by the Ski League and School Program needs to be completed within this period.

The chalet will be made wheel chair accessible. No further major upgrades are required for the chalet, Quonset hut and other equipment storage facilities. The need for upgrading of the timing hut needs to be reviewed. The parking lot should be adequate for the next five years. However if the need arises, further parking can be made available in the K9 area. The fuel storage and handling of gasoline must be upgraded to meet environmental standards.

Within the five year period Telemark should become a leader in the application of the best available technology, within the constraints of our budget, in areas such as coaching, race timing equipment, communication with members and the public in general, collection of membership and trail fees etc.

During the next few years we will aim at developing a UBCO and OC supported training center. Development of coaches at all levels will be a high priority. Growth in programs will be encouraged particularly at the bottom level with a focus of keeping athletes in the programs through their high school years. A full year program, with summer activities will be a target for the Racing Team. Growth in the Biathlon program is restricted by the infrastructure in place and by the availability of coaches. No major changes are planned in the infrastructure over the next five years. The focus will be on regional biathlon competitions rather than on BC Cup and larger races.

Within the period we will have to develop a more comprehensive risk management program to make sure we are in compliance with all applicable legislation and regulations and to make sure all personnel is adequately trained for the jobs they are performing.

ACTION PLAN

EXISTING TRAILS

Continue summer trail maintenance and upgrading.

- Funding to be provided annually. Eric Rayson in charge of the work.

Gentler downhill for Telemark.

- Telemark will be double tracked for classic on the uphill portion for in and out skiing.

Develop homologated trails. (Low priority)

- Will only become an issue if Telemark decides to hold National Races.

Prepare snowshoe trail maps similar to ski trail maps.

- Snowshoe trails need to be GPS'd prior to preparing the maps.

NEW TRAILS

Global warming will likely put the present Telemark trail system at risk due to its low elevation.

- Develop a conceptual plan on how best to ensure the long term future of Telemark

Grooming Capacity

- We are at the limit of our grooming capacity with the current schedule. If more trails are added than grooming procedures must be re-evaluated.

Develop more easy trails. The most suitable terrain for easy trails is likely in the High Country area. However access is a problem. This area may be accessed from Crystal Mountain. Another possible solution would be a parking lot at the yellow gate. This will be discussed below under facilities.

- Approach Crystal Mountain Resort again for access to High Country from the downhill area.
- Additional trails in this area will be developed as long as there is sufficient demand.

Single track ski trails for ski league

- Areas that will be considered for single track are the burned cabin area, the K9 area and High Country.

Popularity of snowshoeing is increasing and there is a need for more trails.

- Develop the old Glenrosa Ski trail for snowshoeing.
- Identify other areas for snowshoe trails. Maybe K9 area.
- Approach Crystal Mountain for a connection between Telemark and Crystal snow shoe trails.

There is a demand for more “dog” trails.

- An additional trail in the K9 area will be considered.

Adventure Park for Ski League and School Program.

- This will be developed in the area between Squirrel and Fern Creek.

Paved trails for roller skiing.

- Evaluate feasibility, develop a plan and prepare a cost estimate.
- If feasible then work to be carried out as funding becomes available.

FACILITIES

Evaluate the need to replace and relocate timing hut.

- Prepare a conceptual plan to relocate the timing hut to a new location near the washrooms and increasing the size of the building to free up space in the chalet.
- Prepare a rough cost estimate.
- Investigate sources of funding if project makes sense.

A parking lot and building at the yellow gate off Glenrosa road would provide better access to High Country and parts of the Fern Creek trail. It also would allow for an earlier season opening.

- Investigate feasibility and cost of developing a parking lot and constructing a building at the yellow gate.
- Assess how to deal with security issues.
- Develop site if feasible.

Biathlon still relies on a generator to provide power to the range. There is not enough power on the Forest Lane pole line. A changeover to LED lights on the Forest Lane lit track may save enough power to allow the range to be hooked into the system.

- Investigate the costs and benefits of changing over to LED lights.
- Bring more power to the biathlon range

Extend the lit track to the other side of Rabbit or to Memory Lane.

- This is very expensive. As an alternative head lights will be purchased which will be available for rental for night skiing.

There is a demand for wheelchair access to the lodge.

- A plan is in place to make the lodge wheel chair accessible.

EQUIPMENT

One of the snowmobiles and also the quad are in poor shape and should be replaced.

- A Kubota all terrain vehicle was purchased. It can be used as a quad in the summer and can be converted to on snow use in the winter.
- The groomer was replaced
- Funds will be allocated on an annual basis for equipment replacement.

PROGRAMS

Development of coaches for all programs will be a high priority. To facilitate this the following steps will be taken.

- Schedule NCCP coaching courses at Telemark.
- Encourage qualified UBCO students to join the coaching staff.
- Continue to draw on athlete parents for future coaches.
- A full year program with summer activities will be developed.
- Biathlon is reviewing its coaching strategy.
- Growth in all programs will be encouraged as long as there is a sufficient number of qualified coaches.

With the increase in popularity in snowshoeing there is a demand for snowshoe programs for youth and adult groups.

- Identify a person who could coordinate snowshoe programs.

MISCELLANEOUS

Risk management and compliance with all applicable legislation and regulations, is becoming more and more important. This needs to be addressed.

- A risk management person will be appointed.
- The fuel storage facility will be upgraded and a bulk gas storage facility installed.

New technology should be implemented as long as it makes economical sense and benefits the club and its members

- New technology with RFID enabled passes would improve the efficiency and also provide more information to the club. This technology will be monitored and implemented when it makes sense.
- Web site information will be improved

Consider more off season use of the trails and facilities.

- Look at what activities the club may want to support. Consider implications in terms of manpower required, safety and insurance issues.