

Canadian Ski Year Book, 1938

Lake Louise Ski Club

THE Lake Louise Ski Club was placed in a very honored position in that at the Annual Meeting of the C.A.S.A. held at Banff during the time of the Dominion Championships we were awarded the Alberta Provincial Championships (Slalom and Downhill) for the season 1937-38. It was felt by the Club at the time that this was rather an ambitious undertaking for a club that was only formed two years before, and had not more than 15 to 20 active members, but we were assured of good advice and any required assistance from the Ski Runners of the Canadian Rockies, the Calgary Ski Club and the Zone Chairman.

From this time until the meet, March 26 and 27, the main thought of the Club members was the Provincial races, and once the snow came we all got busy. We were fortunate in that the past winter was one of ample snow and by November 15 skiing was in full swing.

It was felt by the Club executive that as the main objective of the Club was the development of junior skiers, the Alberta Championships were not complete unless we ran junior events with the seniors. This we decided to do, and so it was the first time any junior champion had been declared for the Province of Alberta. In order to further encourage this object the club donated a trophy to be known as the Lake Louise Trophy for Ladies (Juniors) for Combined Slalom and Downhill race, to be raced for annually at whatever venue the Provincial races were held. We were also fortunate in interesting a well-known local supporter of sport to donate a trophy for the same event for Men (Junior), this to be known as the Deer Lodge Trophy.

Our first activity for the season was a downhill race for all club members for a pair of ski poles donated by Mr. A. A. McCoubay of Winnipeg, who has been an ardent supporter of skiing at Lake Louise for many years. This was run as a handicap event and was won by Mary Kurczaba by a matter of seconds.

This was followed by the Club Junior Championships for girls. The Asling Cup for Combined Slalom and Downhill was won for the fourth time in succession by Eleanor Boyle. Running her close in points were Ila LaCasse and Eleanor Asling.

A highlight in the season's activities were the races for the Atkin Cup at Banff open to all ladies. This cup is for a series of four slalom races held at various times throughout the season. All four races were won by Ila LaCasse a junior member of our club, although she was run very close by her running mate Eleanor Boyle in the two races she entered. These two girls, along with Eleanor Asling, are fast coming into the experts' class, and although they all have two or more years to go before being able to enter Senior championship events, they have on several occasions shown their ability and skill is the equal of high ranking seniors.

Visits from the Calgary Ski Club, the Canmore Club and the Ski Runners of the Canadian Rockies were made to Lake Louise during the season, some splendid skiing being had on the lower Victoria Glacier and the surrounding slopes at the head of Lake Louise.

Another open trophy was added to the Club's list when Ken Jones won the Sir Norman Watson Glacier Trophy from a strong field of entrants, including Peter Vajda of the Swiss Universities Ski Club. This same member of the Club made a fine impression by placing a close second to one of the members of the Bavarian Ski Team in the cross-country race for the Championship of the Canadian Rockies held in Banff.

While none of our senior members are in the racing class, we have the first Junior Ladies' title for Alberta, as this trophy was won by Eleanor Boyle, a 15-year member of the Club.

The season's activities were wound up by a very generous gesture on the part of the Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies when they invited the Lake Louise Club to take part in their annual dance. At this dance they were good enough to allow us the privilege of presenting the prizes for the Alberta Championship races along with other trophies won by the members of the two clubs during the season.

Revelstoke Ski Club

THIS season the Western Canadian Championships will be held in the picturesque mountain town of Revelstoke, nestling among the Selkirk Mountains in the broad Columbia River Valley.

This town has long been associated with ski jumping, but downhill and slalom racing are still new to the majority of the "high-fliers." Previously, it was just a case of dodging trees during the descent, or at least, picking out the small ones. However, true to its motto of "the best is none too good," the boys have just finished a downhill and slalom that will test the mettle of the best "riders."

The downhill run is a mile and a quarter long, with a descent, of roughly, 2,200 feet. The first section of the run is about 50 feet wide, cut through heavy timber. It then swings on to the top of the "cliff," into plain view of the spectators below. Dropping quickly on to a "hogsback," it leads straight down this ridge to the field at the finish line.

The slalom is further along the same slope, and the bottom is slashed out to provide practice slopes for visiting skiers.

A new jump was constructed last year, within a quarter of a mile of the town, which resulted in jumps up to 180 feet. This hill is now under alterations that will allow for leaps of 200 feet and better.



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