



# Snobounds

*Newsletter of the Snowy River Ski Club Cooperative Ltd  
Doorack Lodge at Guthega in the Kosciuszko National Park*

June 2015

## AGM 2015

The annual general meeting was held at the Griffith Meeting Hall in Canberra on 16 May 2015. It was well attended with 22 members.

### *Finances*

Members will have seen the Treasurer's report - David Hogg, the club treasurer, elaborated on his report and made the following key points:

- ❖ Accommodation charges remain the same, since they have been sufficient to cover usage costs
- ❖ The annual subscription needed to be increased to \$420 to cover the additional cost of the back to base fire alarm system which we are required to maintain (approximately \$2,000 annually).
- ❖ Capital works costs have been in the range anticipated when levies were struck at the 2014 AGM. As was then anticipated, the Board has resolved to implement a levy of \$100 in 2015 to meet further costs incurred on the deck renovation and related works.
- ❖ The Board proposed that the sinking fund levy remain at \$100.

### *Club management*

After 17 years' on the Board Peter Newton has opted to pass on the baton and did not put himself forward for re-election. His contribution to the running of the Club, including roles as secretary, treasurer, and for the last ten or so years, President, was gratefully acknowledged by the committee and members present.

Matthew Barnard, Iris Bramley and Tony Slatyer were re-elected to the Board. They were joined by new director Geoff Chubb. Tony Adams was appointed by the Committee as President.



***Our new deck with some early snow, May 2015***

### *Lodge maintenance and renovations - New deck!*

Tony Slatyer summarised the activities which had been undertaken since the 2014 AGM and circulated photos of the deck renovation and related work which had recently been completed.

The underdeck work has basically been completed - new stairs, concreting around to the wood room door - with some minor work to be done. The deck



***Our new front entry, May 2015***

itself is complete and the final payment has been released to the builder.

We have Department of Planning approval for our compliance with the renovation and safety requirements resulting from the original 2009 audit. While complying with the specific requirements set for us has been a long and difficult job, by contrast, a number of neighbouring lodges are currently incurring or have incurred significant expense re-building or undertaking extensive renovations in order to meet their building audit requirements.

### *Priority of work in the future*

We are now half way through the renovation projects endorsed by the 2013 AGM and the future plans are as follows:

- ❖ 2015/16 – fire escape railings (and decks if required)
- ❖ 2016/17 – north deck extension
- ❖ 2017/18 – mezzanine window

### *Further into the future*

After the above work is completed the next major work is likely to be the re-cladding of the lodge since the current cedar cladding is extremely weathered. This may cost in the region of \$50 - 100,000.

After the exterior cladding has been seen to, the most likely on-going maintenance and renovation will most likely involve dealing with the progressive aging and deterioration of the interior spaces, including, for example, bathrooms, toilets and the kitchen.

The Committee acknowledged the tremendous effort put in by our maintenance officer, Tony Slatyer, on all of the above.

## Membership movements

### *New members - a big welcome to:*

- ❖ Jacqueline McKinnon (taking over from Nick Jans, so keeping it in the family!)
- ❖ Susie and Patrick Kluth
- ❖ Martin Smith
- ❖ Andy Hogg and Natalie Smith
- ❖ Cathie Hogg
- ❖ Kimberley Dripps
- ❖ Alison Humphreys

### *Departing members - farewells to:*

- ❖ Nick Jans
- ❖ Ron James
- ❖ Chris Chenoweth
- ❖ Belinda Pearson
- ❖ Dale and Penny Hebbard
- ❖ Stewart Gordon and Rachael Gray
- ❖ John and Joy McInerney

## Leichardt Chair

We understand that Perisher Blue has approval to replace the Leichardt T with a Chair - this would increase lifting capacity by 133% to more equally match the current ski slope capacity. No news on when this is planned for – maybe next year?

## Race dates

### ***Guthega interclub races***

- ❖ Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of July

### ***Interschools (Perisher only)***

- ❖ Subaru ACT-Southern NSW Championships - July 29-31
- ❖ Westpac NSW & ACT X Country Championships - August 25
- ❖ Subaru NSW State Championships - August 27-30

### ***Perisher Cup - Race Day 2015***

- ❖ Saturday 19 September 2015.

### ***Balmain Cup***

- ❖ Saturday September 5, 2015 on Mother-In-Law.

### ***Others***

- ❖ Perisher ACT Schools Cup Cross Country 12 July
- ❖ Perisher SnowSports ACT Citizens Race Alpine9 August

## Report from the Doorack Drinkers Club

Ross Humphries, Doorack Drinkers Club convenor and cellar master, spoke at the AGM

Ross reported that the DDC finances are satisfactory. The DDC added about \$1.00 per bottle of wine to cover "slippage, droppage and forgettage". It also sources cleanskins which are bottled by Ross and others. Unfortunately the 2010 vintage was poor, and some of the beer is more than 6 years old. This may necessitate writing off about \$500.

Ross asks that DDC members be precise when recording their usage (brand, name of wine, year) to make it easier for him to correlate stock levels to consumption.

## International news

### *Vail resorts purchase Perisher Blue*

Members may or may not have caught up with the fact that in the last month or so the Perisher Blue ski complex was bought by the Vail company, which owns a number of resorts in the USA (including Vail). The following is edited from the vail website:

*BROOMFIELD, Colo.—March 30, 2015—Vail Resort today announced that the Company has agreed to acquire its first international mountain resort, Perisher Ski Resort ("Perisher") in New South Wales, Australia, for total cash consideration of AU\$176.6 million. Perisher is the largest and most visited ski resort in Australia, and is well-positioned with access to the country's largest cities, including Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra and Brisbane. Perisher is also the largest ski resort in the Southern Hemisphere. The acquisition is expected to close in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2015 following the satisfaction of certain conditions, including approval by the New South Wales Government.*

*"The acquisition of our first international mountain resort is a significant milestone for our Company. We're thrilled to welcome the guests and employees of Perisher, Australia's largest and most iconic resort, into the Vail Resorts family and deepen ties with one of our most important international markets," said Rob Katz, chairman and chief executive officer of Vail Resorts. "This acquisition is part of Vail Resorts' continued strategy to drive*

*season pass sales and build loyalty with guests from around the world. Australia is one of the most important international markets for ski resorts across the Northern Hemisphere, generating an estimated more than 1 million skier visits annually to resorts in North America, Japan and Europe."*

*Vail Resorts also announced that as of today, Perisher has re-opened season pass sales for its upcoming ski season, which is set to open on June 6, 2015. Perisher's popular "Freedom Pass" is on sale for AU\$749 and will include benefits substantially similar to Vail Resorts' Epic Local Pass, with unlimited skiing and riding at Breckenridge, Keystone and Arapahoe Basin in Colorado; Park City and Canyons in Utah; and Heavenly, Northstar and Kirkwood in the Lake Tahoe area of California and Nevada. It also will include 10 days of free skiing and riding at Vail and Beaver Creek in Colorado. All U.S. resort access will be subject to certain holiday restrictions. Upon closing the acquisition, all previous purchasers of the 2015 Perisher Freedom Pass will also receive these new benefits and all Epic Pass purchasers will receive unlimited and unrestricted skiing at Perisher.*

*"To immediately showcase the power of this new connection, Vail Resorts is offering Perisher season pass holders an unprecedented opportunity by combining unlimited skiing, from June through October, at the best and largest resort in Australia with season-long skiing, from November through April, at nine of the best mountain resorts in the United States" said Katz. "Our Company looks forward to welcoming an even greater number of Australian guests to our domestic resorts to showcase the incredible experience we provide."*

So if you've got a Perisher season pass for this year, you might as well head straight to the States when our season closes in October, and keep skiing through to the start of next season – how good is that! Your international correspondent (me) has skied at Park City and Canyons and can't recommend them highly enough.

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## Web Site details

<http://www.snowyiverskiclub.com.au/>