

ABOUT BIRCH BROOK NORDIC SKI CLUB

Birch Brook Nordic Ski Club is a non-profit organization run by volunteers. Revenue is used in the operation, maintenance and development of the ski facility.

Trails. Over 30 km of trails featuring various levels of difficulty are potentially groomed during ski season. Maps are available in the chalet. No hunting is permitted along the trails or in the general vicinity. There is also a network of separate trails for snowshoers. Once winter trail grooming has commenced, the trails are for skiers and snowshoers only.

Trail Preparation.

Pre-season : Volunteers work most weekends from September to December cutting brush, removing rocks and stumps, building / repairing bridges, and clearing fallen trees to name a few tasks. Considerable work is also done during the summer.

Ski season : Apart from the excavated and wood chipped trails, many of the other trails are quite rough and require substantial snow before they are suitable for grooming. Early in the season, trails are packed and groomed with snowmobiles and drag attachments. When there is sufficient snow, trails are groomed for classical and skate skiing with a Pisten Bully 100 groomer.

Trail Conditions : Birch Brook trail conditions constantly change in response to the type of snow falling and in the quality and quantity of snow on the trails. Snow properties change by the hour and certainly from day to day as temperature and other weather conditions vary. Skiers need to be sensitive to fluctuating conditions and learn to wax their skis accordingly. After snow storms, trails will be opened as weather and available equipment permit. Volunteer trail groomers make every attempt to maintain good ski conditions.

Hours of Operation : The chalet is open from 10 am to 4 pm , Wednesday to Sunday and at other times for special bookings. An attendant will be available to issue trail passes and equipment rentals. Members may use the trails any time.

Membership Rates :

Adult \$135 (age 18 +)
Family \$270 (includes children under age 18)
Senior \$120 (age 60 +)
Youth \$60 (under age 18)
Corporate \$200

Fees include affiliation with provincial and national cross country ski associations

Non-member Trail Pass : (Fees may be applied towards membership)

Adults \$10
Youth \$5
Applies to skiing and snowshoeing

Equipment Rental :

Ski equipment: \$10 (adults) \$5 (youth)
Snowshoes \$5

Lessons :

Call Graham 896 2718 or John 896 5573 for appointments and rates.

For information about Jackrabbit lessons (for children age 5 to 12), call Carlos 896 9142

Chalet : The new chalet requires a level of security that was not previously an issue with our old building. Regular hours of operation will be maintained. The chalet will be unlocked by an executive member by 9:30 am and ready for business by 10 am. Members should plan to take a scheduled turn in helping in the rental shop and doing kitchen duties and also with general chalet upkeep as needed. A roster will be available for volunteers to plan when they can help.

Chalet Rental :

Conference room rates \$250 / day ; \$150 / half day

Full facility \$400 / day

Certain conditions apply. Call for details.

Overnight Use of Remote shelters – McClean Lake Cabin and Colin's Hut

NOTE : Booking is required.

Rates:

\$10 / night for a Birch Brook member

\$20 / night for a non-member accompanied by a member

\$50 / night for a non-member unaccompanied by a member

Maximum 6 people in Colin's Hut; Maximum 4 people in McClean Cabin

These huts are for self-propelled wilderness activities and users should be self-sufficient. If a Birch Brook snowmobile driver is available to transport supplies, a gas fee also applies.

Sauna / Showers : A sauna is available at a cost of \$3 / person per ½ hour. Advance booking is required to allow chalet staff to turn on the sauna and have it ready for the reserved time. The person reserving the sauna is responsible for the payment and that person will decide who will share the sauna space. Showers are available for \$1.00 with the condition that they be brief to conserve hot water for others.

Activities : There are monthly Saturday night potluck suppers and others for special occasions.. Each season there is at least one full moon ski / snowshoe night. Members may suggest other events / socials but we need an event coordinator to help us make full use of our facility.

Want to become more involved?

- Promote the club and encourage new skiers !
- Help with the rental shop
- Assist in the kitchen and with chalet upkeep
- Shovel snow from the decks, ramps and pathways
- Become a Jackrabbit leader or assistant
- Help with off-season trail work parties
- Help with special events such as Big Land Loppet
- Volunteer with the Labrador Winter Games 2010 events taking place at Birch Brook
- Help with Birch Brook fund raising at the various community Fall Fairs
- There are many other options...

**Do you have additional questions? Call 896 - 8560 or 2718 / 5573 / 0762 / 8739 / 3835
birch1@hvgb.net**

