



## **PRESIDENT'S UPDATE REPORT**

### **27 November 2007**

#### **GENERAL**

As snow has arrived in Charlo in sufficient quantity for skiing, it's time to get active at the provincial level again. It was natural to take some time for purely regional activities following the very demanding events of last winter - the Canada Winter Games and the hosting of the Canadian Championships in Charlo. These activities depleted a lot of energy and resources from almost everyone in Biathlon NB and there was a very understandable decrease in motivation to take on anything big for a while. However, there have been various activities taking place and plans are in place for this coming season.

I want to take this opportunity to provide an update for everyone on what has happened and what is planned for the near future. To that end, the revised Biathlon NB annual plan is attached.

#### **PATRICK COTE**

Our very own Patrick, a native of Grand Falls, is now a member of the Biathlon Canada National Team and is currently in Europe competing in the Europa Cup circuit. Last week he was in Norway and this week will compete in Sweden. Patrick will be wearing the Biathlon NB colours at the Canadian Championships at the end of March in British Columbia.

#### **PAST EVENTS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES**

##### **Atlantic Training Camp**

The 3rd Atlantic Training Camp, which was planned to be held in CFB Gagetown in August was postponed for a number of reasons, primarily the inability of many athletes to attend because of family activities and other priorities. Eventually, the Camp was hosted by Biathlon NS during 20 and 21 October with Nathan, Kevin, Jeannine and Chantal taking part as coaches, providing a very valuable service.

##### **Officials Instructor Course – Halifax**

An officials Instructor Course was conducted in Halifax, 29 and 30 September, with me instructing and Lisa Belliveau and Maurice Chasse attending from Biathlon NB.

##### **Les Aventuriers, Charlo**

Regional training has continued regularly in Charlo. A special biathlon day was held at Les Aventuriers in Charlo on 4 November with many athletes attending with their parents. Information about membership in Biathlon NB and coming events was given in addition to a briefing about various local matters. The vent was also an opportunity to present the various Biathlon NB annual award plaques earned by Charlo area athletes and volunteers. A very nice lunch was served and enjoyed by all. Fundraising is ongoing for team jackets and to support Club athletes for taking part in the Canadian Championships in BC.

### **Oromocto Biathlon Club**

In addition to local training, the Oromocto Club participated in two promotional events – recruiting at the Oromocto High School on 7 September and with a booth at the Base Recreation Association fair on 15 September (over 1000 visitors)..

### **Infantry School Biathlon Team, CFB Gagetown**

The military team is developing very well under the leadership of Nathan DenHollander and has about a dozen members now with several more members expected to join soon. Excitement about participation in the British Army Championships in Germany during 21 January to 9 February 2008 is growing daily.

### **COMING EVENTS**

#### **On-Snow Training Camp – Charlo, 15 December 2007**

The camp is being held on 15 December 2007 at Les Aventuriers under direction of Mike Lushington, Biathlon NB Head Coach. The schedule is as follows:

1000 – 1200: shooting drills and practice

1300 – 1600: skiing review and training

Mike has already sent out an instruction about the camp.

#### **Advanced Officials Course: Shearwater, 8 and 9 December 2007**

This course is sanctioned by Biathlon Canada with support by the Atlantic Region Cadets. Bruce Jarvis and Murray Wylie will be assisting me with the instruction. The invitation has been sent out separately. Participation is expected from all of the Maritimes and Ontario.

#### **NB Championships and Training Camp: Charlo, 4 – 6 January 2008**

The NB Championships date was changed from between Christmas and New Year to the beginning of January. As usual, the event will be held in Charlo and will be combined with a training camp. Competitions will take place on 4 and 5 January and will also be used as selection trials for the Canadian Championships. A separate instruction will be issued soon.

### **COOPERATION WITH CROSS COUNTRY NB**

It is planned that a cross country race circuit be created in NB and a biathlon demonstration with air rifles would be held in conjunction with some of the events. Cross Country NB and Biathlon NB will be applying for funding for the activity and Biathlon NB is hoping for several air-rifles and a target plus some very good marketing for our sport.

### **CONCLUSION**

Although we experienced a slow start this fall, some exciting things will be happening soon for Biathlon NB. I look forward to working with all of you this winter to build and develop our sport while enjoying the process. Thank you all for your participation and work on behalf of biathlon.



Ray Kokkonen  
President