



**Alpine Canada Masters
2017 Newsletter Archives**

Sponsors Needed:

11/20/2017 Dave Walker: As you may or may not know, the Canadian Alpine Masters operate on a near zero budget so it is a testament to the dedication of your Committee and other volunteers that we accomplish what we do. Like many sports organizations, we have expenses such as medals, prizes, race fees and other administrative expenses such as web hosting. In past years, our funding contributions have come from several provincial organizations, silent auctions held at a few of the larger race events and through the generosity of individuals and businesses from the ski community. This year is no different and as a result, we are relying once again on the charitable contributions of individuals and/or businesses to support our sport throughout the country.

To that end, I am encouraging all of us to connect with individuals and/or businesses that we interact with, within the ski community or beyond, for support. As a result of feedback from potential sponsors, a 4-tiered sponsorship matrix has been developed to offer potential sponsors the opportunity to expand their support within our sport, beginning at only \$300 for the season. Each tier offers a variety of ways in which a company can introduce their brand and/or services to our ski communities at 30+ national races across Canada this season. Click [here](#) to see the Canadian Masters' Alpine sponsorship package and tier level information for more detail. If you or someone you know is interested in supporting the Canadian Masters' Alpine program as a bronze level donor or more, please contact David Walker at cdnalpinesponsor@gmail.com for more information.

Canadian Alpine masters' patches

11/20/2017, Lloyd Sevak: Your Promotions & Fundraising Director, Victoria Fenninger, has been hard at work on swag by designing and sourcing [a new line of patches](#) that can be sewn onto your jackets! This will consist of the following: A main patch with the ACA Masters' logo of approximately 2.5" tall; watch for a future newsletter as to how these will be offered. To those who earn a spot on the Canadian Masters' Alpine Team (CMAT), they will be given the strip to be sewn across the top and, beginning in 2018, another patch showing each year in which they earned this prestigious honour. There is also a possibility of Canadian Alpine Masters branded neck warmers! Stay tuned and thanks to Victoria for all your hard work on this!

New helmet requirements

11/20/2017, Lloyd Sevak: Alpine Canada Alpin (ACA) released their 2017-18 National Rules & Policies and National Competition documents that all PSOs must adhere to; this stipulates that for all ACA sanctioned Masters' races that helmets must "be in accordance with FIS compliant rules". ACA have interpreted that helmets must be certified to specification ASTM 2040 EN 1077 A and must pass an additional specific test under EN 1077 but at a higher speed of 6.8 m/s. Helmets that meet these requirements contain the non-removable label (under the top gel coat) reading "Conform to FIS



Specifications RH 2013". This ruling should not come as a surprise to anyone, as this decision has been looming for several years that we first communicated as early as the 2013/14 season. As this new standard has been publicized widely since then, these helmets are not difficult to find and tested to meet much higher standards than the requirements previously imposed. Additionally, if anyone is still using an old non-FIS compliant helmet, it is likely a few years old already. With weather, sun and the helmet taking hits from falls and gates, it is likely time to replace your helmet anyways. No price can be put on the safety of your brain!

2018 National Championships

11/20/2017, Lloyd Sevak: First announced in August, but for those that may have missed it, the 2018 Canadian Masters' Alpine Championships will be held March 29 – April 1, 2018 at Panorama Mountain Resort!

For those that know Panorama, the races will be held on either Old Timer or Skyline/Rollercoaster, both Masters friendly, offering +2:00 minutes race times in some disciplines! With start elevations of almost 1600m, finishing at over 1200m, great conditions are expected. As always, training will be offered in the days ahead of this event. For those that have never been to Panorama, it is located near Invermere in the Purcell Mountain Range in British Columbia, a 3.5 hour drive from Calgary. Panorama offers a twice-daily shuttle service to and from Calgary airport. We are very fortunate to be able to continue our tradition, of the past six years, in moving these Championships to a new venue every second year. Thank you to your Western Director, Patty Edgar, BC Rep, Jules Lajoie, and Technical Adviser, Claudio Berto, for making this happen and securing Panorama for the 2018 Championships. As well as a thank you to Panorama for supporting the Canadian Alpine Masters in holding this auspicious event!

2018 Eastern Championships

11/20/2017, Lloyd Sevak: We are also pleased to announce that the first ever Eastern Canadian Masters' Alpine Championships will be held March 22 – 25, 2018 at Stoneham, QC! This is the same venue where the National Championships were held, with huge success, over the last two years. Stay tuned for a Race Notice, but the plan is pretty much the same; stellar racing over 4 days with 1 day SG training, followed by two SG's, a GS and a SL over the next three days! Thank you to your new QC rep, Lewis Heilig, your new Eastern Director, Pierre Bégin, as well as both Stoneham and SQA, without whose support this would not be possible.

Québec 2017 Report

Lewis Heilig, 05/02/2017: Ever since the long running BMW Masters' Series organized by François Jodoin came to an end in 2014, orphaned Masters, in Québec, have been fortunate to have found half day slalom and GS races hosted by Tremblant's Series des Etoiles and by Orford's Circuit de l'Academie, which collectively added at least four race events to the national calendars in 2015, 2016, and 2017. A start-up series in the Quebec City region called the Coupe Boutique Avalanche was well underway by the time the national Masters' organization became aware of it, and while it was too late to add any of their four GS races to the 2017 national calendar, clearly there may be an obscene number of race events in Quebec to choose from in 2018 if all the same organizations return to the table next season, offering us the luxury of having to choose which races will be on the 2018 Masters' national calendar. And to top things off for this current season, just over 80 Masters were treated to superb racing conditions when the CAMC was invited back to Stoneham for the second consecutive year in a row. Thus any rumours about the demise of Masters' racing in Quebec post BMW Series have been greatly exaggerated. With the CMAC returning to the west in 2018, your local Quebec and Eastern reps are looking for at least one multi-day prestige race event to fill the void left by the two recent Stoneham CMACs. To this end, a proposal for a first ever Quebec or Eastern Canada championships with a format similar to the Stoneham CMAC level is already being launched with the hope that it will fly sometime next year. Also stewing on the 2018 burner is the prospect of a two stage cross-border CAN/AM challenge between New England and Eastern Canadian Masters to take place respectively at a New England and an Eastern Quebec ski resort.

Ontario 2017 Report

Sharon Chadwick & Victoria Fenninger, 05/02/2017: The Ontario Masters' Championships were held at The Georgian Peaks Club over the weekend of 11/12 March 2017. The Peaks hosted an excellent event albeit Mother Nature was not good to us with brutal winds and frigid temperatures! A big THANK YOU goes out to the RoC, crew and volunteers for a great weekend of racing. There were 64 racers on the start list for the SL race, on the Saturday, and 76 on the start list for the GS race, on the Sunday; across 5 age categories for women and 11 age categories for men. The oldest age group was 70 – 74 for women and 80 – 84 for men, and the youngest was 40 – 44 for women and 18 – 29 for men; including 7 racers from QC and 2 from USA. The Masters continue to be very competitive, at all age levels, with Melanie Smith (Horseshoe) and Dillon Sheppard (Peaks) having the fastest times for Overall Combined SL and GS, with times of 228.66 and 175.96, respectively. Sir Sam's was also added as a new Masters' race venue this season. There were 24 racers competing in single day event with a 2 run GS in the morning and a 2 run SL in the afternoon. The weather was beautiful and sunny and the snow conditions were perfect. The turnout was on the low side, but a number of racers said they would recommend it to friends in future years and were already asking about returning next year. After receiving positive feedback, Sir Sam's is eager to host again and working toward making this set of races a regular calendar event for the coming years. Every racer left with a bib draw prize and medals were awarded to the top three finishers in each race; it was a great day of racing!

Atlantic 2017 Report

Peter Cody-Cox, 05/02/2017: The snow was fantastic for the 2017 Atlantic Masters' Championships held on February 18-19! We experienced two days of fun and fast GS racing with 20 plus racers. Lots of familiar faces and some new ones registered for this event. Speaking of newer faces to our annual championships, we saw Michael Raoul put on quite the GS clinic in his races, posting the fastest times both days! Veterans David Saunders, Kevin Iworthy and Wayne Gentile weren't very far behind the young up and comer! Local racer and veteran of 20 plus years of Masters' racing, John Ling still has racing coursing through his veins. After two weeks in the Dolomites, John came ready for race day! As a constant supporter and tireless volunteer at Ben Eoin, John exudes everything the spirit of Masters' ski racing stands for in our beautiful region. We picked up some new sponsors this year...a big THANK YOU to Dean, Margaret and Luc of Aerobics First, one of the premiere ski shops in the Atlantic Region; as well, gratitude goes out to Roger and Bryce of Supplement King, the leader in Canadian supplements for their tremendous generosity. Thanks to these amazing sponsors, every racer walked away with draw prizes and medals for each age category, overall for each day and combined for the weekend. Everyone who raced assured us they will be back for next year's championships as the camaraderie and Masters' racing tradition created by this event is second to none. Another big THANK YOU to Rob Carmichael and Roger Graham Hardy of Ben Eoin for always welcoming us every year to their top quality hill and good old Cape Breton hospitality! We expect next year's event to be even bigger and better. Plans for next year include additional sponsors and online pre-registration. With this added method of registration, we can plan on procuring Atlantic Masters' Alpine Championships t-shirts for the racers who register ahead of time, as a bonus. Mark your 2018 calendar for Masters' racing in the Atlantic Region. Hope to see some Upper Canadians travel to the Atlantic Region for some exciting racing in 2018!

Alberta 2017 Report

Hugh Geiger, 05/02/2017: The Alberta ski season started early once again, with Nakiska and COP opening mid-November, despite some unseasonably warm weather that resulted in the cancellation of the Lake Louise Winterstart Men's World Cup events – the first time in 29 years. With Snow Valley opening in early December, all Alberta skiers were out and training hard. The inauspicious start was soon a fading memory as we experienced one of the most epic ski seasons in memory – snow, snow and more snow! The race season began with three events as part of the Alberta Masters' Race Series: the Nakiska SL on January 15 – “a super fun day of racing in the sunshine”, the 9th Annual Snow Valley Masters' SL Race on January 22 – “once again great weather and 61 eager competitors” and the Jasper Marmot Basin Masters' World Cup GS and SL Races on January 28 – 29 – “phenomenal course preparation on challenging terrain, with two days of training before and a day of powder skiing after”. Throw in the Rabbit Hill night GS on March 13 and it's clear that, this year, Alberta had so many races we couldn't fit them all in the National Calendar! Many thanks go to the ski hills, organizers, volunteers, sponsors and racers for supporting these events. Next up on the calendar for many Alberta racers was the Over the Hill Downhill on February 4 – 5, at Silver Star in Vernon – “time to dig out your long skis, your race suit and your need for speed”, followed by the Dreadnaught Invitational Masters' Western Canadian Speed Series on February 12-17, at Kimberley, that was held with IPCAS athletes attending the IPC Canadian and USA National Speed Championships – “6 races over 5 days – tough to beat”. Read the BC race report for more details. The culmination of the season was of course the Rides of March, Western Canadian Masters' Championships, at Nakiska, that kicked off with a 3 day training camp March 6 – 8 featuring the coaching and video analysis of Claudio Berto, followed by 3 days of racing March 9 -11. The snow gods were perhaps too generous, leading to some challenging training as racers eyed the powder in the glades while honing their race skills in soft conditions. But the racers gathered on the Friday morning of the SG race and dutifully slipped out Mapmaker, leaving a silky-smooth track in their wake. All the races were run without a hitch: 3 runs of SG on Friday, 4 runs of GS on Saturday, a banquet Saturday night and 4 runs of SL on Sunday. Brooks Magnowski and Jan Sekerak fore-ran the GS and SL, with Brooks leaving such deep ruts that Bonnie Weigele – one of the next racers down – compared her runs to her first attempts at wakeboarding. As has become a time-honoured custom, everyone was inspired and humbled by the magnificent skiing of Gerry Whittaker, who himself faced some stiff challenges from a 17 year old ex-FIS racer Adam Gee, soon to join the Masters' ranks. Thanks once again to Nakiska, the organizers, volunteers, sponsors and racers! We look forward to welcoming everyone back to join us next year!

BC 2017 Report

Irene Collins & Jules Lajoie, 05/02/2017: WOW what a snow season this has been in Whistler. At this writing, beginning of April, natural base is still just under 3.5M and accumulated snowfall is nearing 11.5M. Temperature has been about 5 degrees colder than normal all season. Kokanee Valley Race Series (KVRS) is the main racing activity in Whistler. Seven races were planned of which one was cancelled due to too much snow. Three were on Whistler Mountain and three were on Blackcomb, all on different hills, making for very interesting terrain for each event. A Super G on the Dave Murray National Training Center (DMNTC) and a Slalom on Upper Cruiser are included in the six; rest were GS. The premier adult race event in Whistler is the Peak to Valley race, the longest GS race on the planet, with some 175 gates, vertical drop of over 1.2 km, and course length of 5.5 km. 320 racers participated in 80 teams of 4 over two days at the end of February. Thigh burning hell was Dave Murray's description of this race. It was a very successful event in excellent racing conditions on hard snow, capped by the Saturday night mountain top dinner party. The weekend before has a pre Peak to Valley warm up GS race on the Lower Franz, the last section of the Peak to Valley track. Note: The pre Peak to Valley race is on the Masters' National Calendar but not the official race the following weekend. Silver Star Resort, in Vernon, hosted the Over the Hill Downhill (OTH DH) during the first week of February. The 4 day race camp (Tuesday-Friday) was operated by a very experienced crew headed by Gord Brown. Most camp attendees managed 7 or 8 runs, per day, on the course in cold weather conditions on a hard track. Video analysis occurred after each session. Qualifying run was on Saturday, a day plagued by too much snow and a mountain wide power outage due to a vehicle accident toppling a power pole! Lift auxiliary power got turned on for lifts, and for safety the qualifying run was done fully clothed on a soft surface. Snow set up overnight and with superb grooming, conditions were perfect on Sunday race day with 4 person team race in the morning and Masters' individual race in the afternoon, followed by race reception and awards in the village. From February 12 to 17, Kimberley Alpine Resort invited Masters to race with Paralympic Alpine athletes at the IPC (International Paralympic Committee) Canadian and USA National Speed Championships. We trained and competed on the same track with approximately 36 Paralympic athletes. There was a day of DH training, four timed DH training runs, two DH races and two SG races. In addition to the speed events, there was a night Slalom and a GS race, for the approximately 24 Masters that signed up.

The highlights that made these races unforgettable: The freedom and athleticism of the athletes skiing with visual and physical impairments. The goal of the IPC is: To enable Para athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world. They definitely did that! Kimberley's race track called 'Dreadnaught' which has rolling terrain, with quick, steep pitches near the end that heighten the challenge. However, still very masters' friendly; we had a Masters athlete that was born in 1934 from Manitoba that was able to master this hill. There had been fresh snow in Kimberley the week before the races and for the DH training and races, we competed on beautifully-groomed-winter snow with 'bluebird' skies. I had only signed up for one day of DH training and ended up coming back each day to train and race DH because of the excellent coaching, conditions and small numbers. The spirit of Kimberley's volunteer team and of Alberta Master's coach, Claudio Berto, who went to bat for us to reschedule the races after the two SG races were postponed, due to poor visibility and 6 cm of heavy, wet snow, managed to facilitate four races in less than 24 hours, starting with the night Slalom and continuing Friday with two SG races and a GS race, all completed by the deadline of 2 o'clock Friday afternoon! We wrapped the day up with awards.

Technical Report 2017

Claudio Berto, 05/02/2017: This year I was not able to come to the east to see the races. I can comment on a few races in the West: Silver Star, Kimberley and Nakiska. From a technical approach the races were set to Masters' standards which are set by our Canadian Masters and FIS International Ski Competition Rules (ICR).

With the Over the Hill Downhill (OTHDH) held at Silver Star, there were issues with the snow the day of the qualifier so the Chief of Race (RoC) and Technical Delegate (TD) had everyone go in all their clothing to meet the required standards of downhill; You are required to come out of a timing start and be registered with an "Official training time" for the Downhill race. Without an official training time they are NOT allowed to race in the Downhill. This training day was not without many issues, such as NO electricity on the hill due to someone hitting a power pole with their car. You don't realize that without power, there is no hot water, no food, no coffee, and no lights in the hotels. This added to the many things that might have derailed the race, but with good area management and race organization people, the training run went off a little late but everyone raced the official "Over the Hill Downhill" races the next day.

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) races, held at Kimberley, were excellent with great people, from the Hill Management and Race Organizing group, to the international coaches and athletes. It is amazing to see the IPC race with the Masters; you realize that if you are having a bad day, just look at the IPC racers. These races are made very safe due to the athletes already being in a handicapped situation, not to say they are not challenged! The Masters helped make these races safe by going first, and then being the slip crew to maintain the track; a Win-Win situation. This was a great compromise by the Race Organization group, with us going first instead of the Masters going after the IPC racers completed their runs. It appeared that we were going to lose the Super G races (due to lots of snow), but with great help by ALL, we were able to put together a VERY aggressive schedule the next day, with two Super G races and two GS races in one day. This would not have been possible without the help of both the very tired Race Organizing group, and the Masters' athletes. Oh yes, we also got off a night slalom on Thursday with all the new snow, that went from a first run soft track, to a very firm frozen track for the second run. They used the Brower timing that caused a few problems, but these timing issues can happen with any race.

2017 Championships, Points & Other News

Lloyd Sevack, 03/31/2017: Firstly, I want thank everyone on the National Masters' Committee for their nomination and unanimous support for me as President of the Canadian Alpine Masters; all of whom I've worked with, and look forward to more of this in my new role. I'd also like to welcome to Lewis Heilig, our new Quebec rep who has taken over from Pierre Bégin, now our Eastern rep, and to Eric Giroux, Webmaster & Communications.

Canadian Masters Alpine Championships, Stoneham, QC, March 16-19, 2017:

If you haven't heard from any of the racers that attended, I'm sure that from all the Facebook posts ([Facebook Page](#)), you can tell that this was a spectacular event; well run, 82 ecstatic racers, a high level of competition, great volunteers and ROC, plus weather that we couldn't have ordered with a direct line to Mother Nature! ! For a full race report, see [Race Report](#). Race results can be found at [2017 CAMC Results](#). Only racers that complete all four races successfully are contenders for the prestigious Champion of Champions Award, whose times are age factored and plotted mathematically to see how much ahead of the trend line they are. The man and woman who are ahead of the trend line by the biggest margin in the field are declared Champion of Champions. Congratulations to this year's Champion of Champions; Joy Fera (BC) and Stéphane Ricard (QC)!

Note: This award can only be won once every 3 years, and it comes with the prize of free* race entry fees for the subsequent Canadian Alpine Masters Championships. *Only registration (race entry and lift tickets) are free; not banquet, items for sale, or additional training options.

World Cup Points List:

The final World Cup Points List may be found [here](#). If you think anything is amiss in this massive list, please contact Sharon Chadwick, chads@sympatico.ca, not later than next Wednesday, April 5th, as these results will also be used to select and announce the 2018 Canadian Masters Alpine Team (CMAT) in an upcoming newsletter! This list shows that we pulled off 35 races across the country of 36 scheduled on the National Calendar unveiled in Dec, 2016; only 1 cancellation – a stellar season!

Additional statistics which some may find interesting

513 racers (125 female & 388 male), BC had the most number of racers; 184, followed by ON (122), then QC (91), the most numerous age categories are 55-59 & 60-64, followed by 50-54; like fine wine, we get better with age, 7 racers, representing less than 1.4% of all racers, competed in 12 or more races on our National Calendar and are to be complimented for their participation & commitment: They are; Irene Collins, Cynthia Wohlberg, Pierre Bégin, Keith Ible, Lewis Heilig, François Tremblay & Lloyd Sevack.

Canadian Masters Alpine Championships, 2018:

Having been in the east for the last 2 years, this event will be returning to the west in 2018. In keeping with our desire and success in moving these around for the last 6 years (2012/13: Nakiska, 2014/15: Kimberley, 2016/17: Stoneham), we hope that the next will be held at another new venue. Watch for an announcement, likely next month!

Major US 2018 Events:

US Master Nationals come east once every 5-6 years. 2018 is one of these, which will be held Feb 5-10 at Okemo in Ludlow, VT. Though not yet final, it appears that the next FIS Masters Criterium will also be back in North America, March 19-24, 2018 at Big Sky, Montana. Awaiting final confirmation from FIS.

2018 Canadian Alpine Masters Team

Lloyd Sevack, 04/20/2017: It is a pleasure to announce the 2018 Canadian Masters' Alpine Team (CMAT).

The criteria for qualifying for CMAT are:

- Minimum of 5 starts in any races scheduled on the 2016/17 Masters' National Calendar for which World Cup points are awarded
- Minimum of 2 starts at any of the events listed on the National Calendar outside one's home region.
- Must have a National or FIS Master's card (weekend competitor cards do not qualify).
- Must be a Canadian citizen.
- Winners are those with the highest total score of the racers' 7 best results (minimum 5); 2 from each gender and age category i.e. 1 from the East and 1 from the West. In the event of a tie, both racers are selected.

These criteria are designed to promote:

- Participation, both within and outside of each racer's home region.
- Performance once these criteria have been met.

Racers who strive to obtain a spot on the CMAT do so for their own individual and personal reasons. However, each member of this new 2018 CMAT is to be commended on their participation and results, having met the criteria and excelling.

The following Masters met the qualifications and had the top points of anyone in their age categories.

The new 2018 CMAT is:

Gender	Category	Racer	Province	Years on CMAT	Region
F	75-79	JENKINS Christa	AB	5	West
F	65-69	FERA Joy	BC	8	West
F	60-64	COLLINS Irene	AB	3	West
F	60-64	CHADWICK Sharon	ON	2	East
F	55-59	FURSEY Wendy	ON	6	East

Gender	Category	Racer	Province	Years on CMAT	Region
F	50-54	WOHLBERG Cynthia	AB	1	West
F	40-44	MASON Christine	AB	1	West
F	40-44	SMITH Melanie	ON	2	East
F	30-34	NERO Donya	AB	4	West
F	18-29	AVERY Lauren	AB	2	West
M	70-74	BÉGIN Pierre	QC	6	East
M	70-74	IBLE Keith	AB	3	West
M	65-69	LANGMAID Bob	ON	1	East
M	65-69	GLODKIEWICZ Adam	AB	2	West
M	60-64	RENAUD Vincent	QC	4	East
M	60-64	WHITTAKER Gerry	BC	10	West
M	55-59	SEVACK Lloyd	QC	7	East
M	55-59	HARLEY Richard	BC	1	West
M	50-54	RICARD Stephane	QC	1	East
M	45-49	NICOL Tom	ON	1	East
M	45-49	GEE Darren	AB	3	West
M	35-39	KONATE Moussa	AB	1	West
M	30-34	KENNEDY Adam	AB	6	West