

Myrtleford Ski Club Downhill Race

July 11, 2015

In very trying conditions on Saturday 11th July, 27 intrepid Myrtleford Ski Club members braved the wind, sleet, fog and challenging snow conditions to compete in the club's annual downhill race. Club Hillbilly champion, Peter Shannon, was heard to comment that Mother Nature had served up her usual Myrtleford Ski Race weather and also that it was pretty difficult skiing and cornering on ball bearings!!!

Although the numbers were a little down, it was great to see some racers competing for the first time and also that there was a fairly even split between juniors and adults competing. After most competitors side slipped the course to try to familiarise themselves with the gate layout, the race got under way around 12.30. Due to the cold weather and generally poor conditions it was decided that each racer would only complete one run so that everyone could then quickly get back into the warmth of the lodge. It is a credit to the skiing skills of our members that all except two of the youngest completed the course without missing a gate and all in pretty good times.

Charlie Showers (2013 Club Champion) regained the title but was closely followed by Bryce Bacon (2012 Club Champion), Callum Barnard (newly crowned Junior Club Champion), Sarah Shannon (2014 Junior Club Champion) and the evergreen Steve Weston (Veterans Champion) who all finished within 2.5 seconds of Charlie's time.

Despite the conditions everyone who competed seemed to enjoy themselves and the club would also like to thank Falls Creek Ski Lifts for their organisation and running of the event.

One final thing to note is that, under our revised rules, juniors now progress when they win an age division. This means that several of our juniors are moving or have moved through into the Adult ranks and boy are they competitive and FAAAAAST! So a warning to all you 'oldies' and not so old adults, watch out because they'll soon be giving you all a run for your money (or should that be title?).

The Circus themed evening festivities saw a number of clowns (some may say the Club is full of clowns anyway), a unicyclist, several lions and other beasts, some ring masters, a mime – we even found Wally!!!

Some photos of the night:





After a close scrutiny and checking the results the division placegetters were finalised and head ringmaster Brett then presented trophies to a variety of circus folk and animals. Trophy winners were:

Club Champion:	Charlie Showers	Junior Club Champion:	Callum Barnard
A Grade Men:	Charlie Showers	16 & Under Girls:	Sarah Shannon
A Grade Ladies:	Lauren Barnard	16 & Under Boys:	No Competitors
B Grade Men:	No Competitors	14 & Under Girls:	Tiahn Barnard
B Grade Ladies:	No Competitors	14 & Under Boys:	No Competitors
C Grade Men:	Callum Barnard	12 & Under:	Jimmy Shannon
C Grade Ladies:	Taiya Matheson	10 & Under:	Tahlia Dobson
Veterans Men:	Steve Weston		
Veterans Ladies:	No Competitors		
Open Novice:	Greg O'Keefe		
Hillbilly Men:	Peter Shannon		
Hillbilly Ladies:	Jo Shannon		