

J 4/5 Chair Report –

Derby –

The Derby was held at Blue Mountain Ski Area the weekend of March 1st and 2nd. The Derby consisted of 2 runs of G.S. on Saturday followed by 2 runs of SL on Sunday. The field consisted of 100 racers, 55 boys and 45 girls.

The weather could not have been any better, sunny and on the cold side. The snow was hard pack for the most part, with some fresh snow on Saturday morning.

The event was held on the slope Razors Edge. Due to the ideal snow conditions the start for the two runs of G.S. was set at the top of the headwall. Due to the longer course it was decided that only two runs of G.S. could be completed. This start position allowed the racers to experience the entire slope and provided a great experience and challenge for all the racers. All the racers seemed to really enjoy the course.

The second day consisted of two runs of SL, also held on Razors Edge with the start set below the first head wall.

On Friday afternoon the coaches from GMVS provided training. Saturday evening consisted of a banquet, followed by a raffle in which every racer present received some sort of gift. The major gifts were a pair of skis and a flex term at GMVS. A pizza party was held Sunday after the race, followed by the awards ceremony.

As both the age chair and a coach I had the opportunity to spend the majority of my time on the slope. I was very impressed with the behavior and sportsmanship exhibited by all the racers. I saw nothing but smiles all weekend, which was great to see.

I personally would like to thank Mattie DePaulo and the Blue Mt. Race staff for putting on a well run race, Sheila Nickel, Derby Chair, for all her hard work, as well as Michelle Krout. I would also like to thank GMVS for their continued support of our J 4/5 Derby. Lastly I would like to thank all the coaches and parents who helped out with all the netting.

Whistler Cup Shootout –

PARA sent four racers to the Whistler Cup Shootout, 2 boys and 2 girls. The event was held at Okemo Mt. on March 15th. Ryan Beville, Geoffrey Pyke, Reeta Shrestha, from Blue Mountain, along with Kailey Joyce from WPRC qualified.

Future Stars –

The Future Stars camp was held at Okemo Mt. March 16th through 18th. PARA was awarded 14 slots, 8 boys and 6 girls.

Boys

1. Ryan Beville Blue Mt.
2. Geoffrey Pyke Blue Mt.
3. Jacob Bufo CB
4. Robert Powell Blue Mt.
5. Sean Lenihan CB
6. Kyle Penny SRRC
7. Wesley Wright WPRC
8. Owen Braun SRRC
9. Dakota Detwieler SRRC (Alternate)

Girls

1. Reeta Shrestha Blue Mt.
2. Kailey Joyce WPRC
3. Emma Brumbaugh Elk
4. Liza Legro SRRC
5. Haleigh Quigg Elk
6. Taylor Au Blue Mt.

Francis Piche Invitational –

The Francis Piche Invitational was held at Gunstock Ski Area on March 14 and 15th. PARA sent a total of 33 J 4/5 racers.

Special thanks to Scott Stewart of SRRC for making some very last minute calls to fill a few slots.

Special Thanks –

To say the least, it was a learning experience as a first year age chair. Although I have been involved in racing and PARA for years there was still a lot to learn. I would like to thank Tom Newhard for all his help with the transition. I would also like to thank both John McGregor and Lisa Clayton for answering “all” my questions.