Brule Valley Ski Club
Annual Meeting 9/11/2026

Attendees:
Linda Hobbs, President
Bob Cragin, Vice-President
John DeSautelle, Secretary
Tammy Brown, Treasurer
Greg St. Onge, Member-at-Large

Louise Beyea
John DeSautelle
Connie DeSautelle
Lynn Saari
Donna Rutten
Jon Jurek
Tim Pera
Kathie Culhane-Pera

Topic	Discussion / Decision	Future Actions
Treasurer Report	See report, below.	
Secretary Report	See report, below.	
Trail Report	● Dates for ski trail maintenance will be one in October and one in November. Tentative Oct 17th and Nov 8th . ● John Jurek was approached by NBC (bank) for an opportunity to help with trail maintenance. Aspen trail was identified as a good area to be cleaned up of alders.so he will get back with them. Club participation with this group will be needed. ● Trimming needed by bridges on easy return, easy entry and maple bridges to trim alders back from trail. ● Bob Cragin supplied materials for the new groomer that is being builtby a volunteer for the club. ● Donated snow mobile is in Iron River being outfitted with new clutches and gears to allow it to be used for grooming. ● The club is in need of a 10 foot snow mobile trailer to transport the club snow mobile when repairs/maintenance are needed. Any club members aware of a	Greg to confirm trail maintenance dates and email request for volunteers Greg to continue search for snow mobile trailer and communicate any financial needs to achieve this goal.

	trailer that would fit this need should contact Greg St. Onge ● Greg and John Jurek brought up the idea of a trail for training mountain bikers on skills such as jumps or rock hopping that would improve safety on the trails. ● This "skills" trail would be considered only after the skijoring trail improvements are complete and the club has buy in from WDNR. ● John Jurek noted that bikers are not paying the required DNR trail fee of $5.00 that is required for skiers and bikers to use the After Hours Trail. The club should mention this to WDNR that signage may be needed to remind bikers to also pay.	
Skijoring Trail Report	● Skijoring trail has been opened last season. Issues were noted that need resolution. Greg worked with the WDNR to identify areas where the trail needs flattening. Also a sharp corner needs to be straightened. Debris from logging needs to be cleared by WDNR. ● Greg discussed the need to make the trail 1 way to avoid skier/dog collisions. WDNR has lumber to build a bridge over the creek near US2 that would allow for this. The club has agreed to provide the 30 foot laminated beams for the bridge. It is possible this bridge work could be completed fall of 2026. ● Dozer work by WDNR to fix logged areas and trail cleanup will be done prior to work by the club on the skijoring trail.	Club to continue support for trail improvements Greg to communicate volunteer needs for trail work and finances needed to continue improvments and support of the trails.
River View Loppet Ski Race	● There were 139 participants in the race which was a great improvement over previous low snow years. ● New bibs needed that are different colors for each race to allow identification of race finishers and which race they are participating in. ● Agreement to keep the entry fees the same this year. ● SkiReg now allows for race day registration.	Kathie to identify needed help so volunteers can be assigned to help with the race preparation and race day volunteer work. Board to work with WDNR to determine where a plaque could be placed that is acceptable. Board to discuss bike race options that could be held especially in low snow years.

	● Discussion around how to proceed with the auction/ski swap this year did not come to any resolution but will be worked through before the race. ● Co-race director is needed to work with Kathie. Any interested party should contact Kathie or board members. ● Lessons learned document and race report was prepared to identify improvements that could be made to the ski race with several great ideas discussed. The board met to review and give approval to ideas that were feasible. ● Discusstion about having a combined ski race/bike race due to possible no snow conditions was tabled due to logistics and volunteer fatigue of managing two races in the same day. Options for a possible separate bike race were discussed and will be considered at a later time by the board. ● Date for the race is 1/16/27 with 3/6/27 as the alternate date ● Northwestern students will make medals for the race awards. Race director to work with them on design. ● Discusstion with WDNR is needed to hang race winner plaques on the wall in the warming house which will determine how large the plaque can be	
Ski Lessons	● Group Learn to Ski to be held in January. Will be discussed by the board to set a date. Tentative date would be 1/10/2027 ● Weekly Tuesday afternoon group skis will continue with focus on ski skills.	Club provides skis, boots and poles for skiers that don't have access to equipment for learn to ski lessons. Club also pays WDNR fees for each participant.
Honor BVSC members	We honored one member with their own cribbage board with the BVSC map: Bob Cragin for his many years as Vice President.	
Annual membership	Annual memberships are due starting 10/1/2026. Brochures and membership forms available.	John to update and print brochures for placement at warming house.

Other	● Discussion around non-monetary donations by club members should be captured by the Treasurer.This is a considerable amount and would enable the club to communicate this impact to the WDNR. ● Further discussion may be needed to determine how to capture the information and communicate to interested parties such as WDNR. ● WDNR has donated use of mini skid steer to support work on the bike trails.	Tammy to work with board on how to capture data on non-monetary donations.
Voting	**Election of New Board members** 12 total ballots, 12 present - 12/12 people voted for Tim Pera. Vice President for 2 years - 12/12 people voted for Greg St. Onge, Member at Large for 2 years - 12/12 people voted for Tammy Brown, Treasurer for 2 years	

Next Annual Meeting- TBD 9/2027

Next Board Meeting with DNR – 10/8/2026 at 2 PM in chalet.
Some Agenda items: Bike and skijoring trail expansion, grooming,

Treasurer's Report
Brule Valley Ski Club
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Fiscal year 9-30-25 through 9-11-26

Checking $13,274.42
CD 5 month 11,016.21 Maturing on 1-6-27
CD 5 month 17,294.92 Maturing on 1-22-27

Deposits (non Ski Race)
Membership $1,075 (31 annual 1 lifetime)
Donations $2,064
Midland Co-op Patronage $46.31

Expenses:
Insurance $380
Website $72.49
WI Dept of Finance $25
Learn to Ski Day $190 (trail passes, rental fees)
Post Office $16.40
Parts/equipment for repairs $184.95

Secretary's Annual Report

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From 10/1/2025- 9/11/2026, the Brule Valley Ski Club supported our mission to maintain and expand the After Hours Trail system so it remains an asset that generates community pride and enhances the quality of life in several ways.

After Hours Trail activities:

- Held River View Loppet ski race on 1/17/2026 with good participation due to snow and trail conditions.
- Held silent auction – donations from members, New Moon, and various area businesses.
- Held group ski lessons 1/10/2026
- Held weekly fitness sessions at After Hours
- Supported National Trail Day and ribbon cutting ceremony with WDNR June 6, 2026 to promote the multiuse trails at After Hours Trail system

Trail planning, maintenance and development activities:

- Work continued on bike trails and wooden bridge sections were added.
- Completed new skijoring loop north of After Hours Road and installed dog waste station. Trail was groomed for skijoring/skiing.
- Supported Brule River State Forest (BRSF) trail grooming with large effort after early storms to clear all trails of bent/down branches. Trails were packed down by club members on their snowmobiles to allow for WDNR groomers to start the final grooming. This was an exceptional effort by many club members participating.
- Snowmobile and groomer was donated to the club for use on the skijoring trail and Sally's trail to supplement WDNR grooming activities by club members. Testing of the equipment was done with several issues discovered. A new groomer is being built and modifications on the snowmobile are being made to make it more of a utility sled that can handle the rigors of grooming. Volunteers from the club will be trained to groom with this new equipment.
- Three club members are doing 100 percent of bike/multiuse trail maintenance.

BVSC promotion activities:

- Offered winter merchandise sales with Podiumwear

Administrative activities:

- Published 2 newsletters: Winter 25/26 and Supper 26
- Held 2 board meetings and 2 meetings with WDNR
- Maintained records on a Google Shared Drive
- Updated master list of current members and other contacts interested in BVSC activities.