



2002 KAC CROSS COUNTRY CLASSIC

To all those lucky enough to have participated in this year's race.. well done. To all those who couldn't make it.. you missed a beauty!

The finish area was altered this year to a flat area just below the Chalet and all competitors judged it a good move.

The winner this year (as last year) was Ben Sim in the very smart time of 23 min 22 sec, 2nd was Chris Darlington, 3rd Gaber Lah, and equal 4th Nick Almoukov and Mathew O'Rourke. These first five place getters all finished within one minute of each other which made for a great finish.

The first woman, Kate Calder was hard on their heels. Kate finished on 6th place overall in 25 min 28 sec, second Camille Melvey, third Sarah Peters, fourth leanne Laajiki, fifth Sally Cunningham.

The winner of the Geoff Nott Cup for the overall winner on handicap was Len Harrison. The winner of the Carl Bongers Trophy (awarded on handicap to a new entrant or competitor who has not raced for five years) was Rosemary Longstaff. The winner of the Martini Cup (for the six fastest skiers, three men and three women) was Boonoona. It is pleasing to note that there were seven teams competing for this Cup. The winner of the Sugerloaf Trophy for the most supportive club was Cooma Ski Club.

NPWS were as usual invaluable in ensuring a wonderful day, setting a fantastic surface for the competitors and giving every assistance.

Perisher Blue were great, grooming to the Gap, and the volunteer patrol (under Peter Wachtel's guidance) were superb, ensuring all competitors' wellbeing.

A special thanks to Peter Ward, the Technical Delegate for the race. He organised and supervised the seeded area of the race start and the committee received many comments on how good the start was this year. He also provided much assistance at the conclusion of the race.

The volunteers at Perisher and Charlotte Pass did a wonderful job as always. These people are the reason this race is such a success and they put in a great effort. Thankyou.

Another great prize giving was had at Jax Nightclub at Perisher, with everyone enjoying the evening immensely.

The committee would like to see competitors encouraging a friend to enter the race to help to get more people to participate in this wonderful sport. The race is rich in tradition and certainly welcomes skiers of all ages and abilities.

The date for next year's race is set for Wednesday 13th August. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Safe skiing,

Martin George