STEEL MAKERS ALPINE CLUB

Autumn 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report	Page 1
From the Secretary's Desk	Page 2
Bookings Update	Page 3
Membership Census	Page 3
Club Racing	Page 4
Summer Activities Update	Page 4
Social Events	Page 5
Club Contact Details:	Page 6

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Steel Makers Alpine Club newsletter. We hope you will enjoy it.

If you have any suggestions for future editions, or any photos for inclusion, please email them to raychel_parovel@yahoo.com

Do we have your email address?

To be more environmentally conscious and efficient, your Committee will be moving to electronic communication.

Please make sure we have your correct email address by contacting us at *smac.secretary1@gmail.com*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Let's hope for a bit more of this soon!!!

Hi all,

We held our 40th AGM on the 3rd of May at Wests Illawarra, what a great day. We had 39 members attend 35 in person as well as 4 online. There were also some wives and husbands as well.

As well as talking to the reports that form part of the AGM paperwork you all received, there has been 1 change to the Committee make up, Amanda Moran has stepped back off committee in favour of Phil Burnard. With the twelve positions on committee filled these people were elected for the committee for the next 12 months.

As part of General Business of the AGM, some significant achievements were recognised. Amanda Moran and Renato Compagnin were recognised as Life Members and were presented with their Club "Life Member" Jackets. Their long and valuable service to the club was explained to the meeting. They have both taken on the Treasurer's role - twice, over their committee lives, with stints early in the life of the club and then again in more recent years as well as being involved in many working bees.

Eileen Campbell requested that all present recognise and publicly applaud the founding father of the Steel Makers Alpine Club, Frank Parovel,

who was able to attend the meeting this year. I reckon the members present made Frank feel genuinely appreciated. Frank was the driving force in getting the club started and shopping for a Lodge and finding and procuring ARIMAC. From humble beginnings great things grow.

Much discussion followed with accounts and memories of the early years and the improvements that have been made to ARIMAC over the years. The carpark, the entry remodelled, the mezzanine, the new kitchen, digging out underneath and making the workshop, room six bathroom install then later revamped, the BBQ deck (twice), the veranda replacement, gas instantaneous hot water and many other smaller improvements along the way.

We also discussed what the members would like to do as part of the Clubs "End of Year" celebrations. A show of hands was used to select the most popular options presented and the committee will use this information to plan accordingly. The consensus was to do something different to Jamberoo Action Park, this year, with two most popular options being to do Ten Pin Bowling with Lazer Tag or Barefoot Bowls. The committee has taken this info and will start looking at putting this together.

After the meeting closed, I was heartened to see almost everyone stay and catchup with each other. The topics of conversation were wide and varied as we enjoyed the post meeting comradery, food and drinks.

Let's see if we can make the 41st AGM even better.

Again, many thanks to the committee members, past and present, who have helped steer the club to the great position it is in today.

I hope everyone has a great ski season and enjoys their stay at Arimac.

Barry

From the Secretary's Desk

Hi Everyone, it has come to the committee's attention that not everyone is aware of the opportunity that we have for member's children to become members in their own right, once they reach the eligible age window.

Below is an extract from our Constitution (Clause 6) outlining when and how they can become members.

I have highlighted a few of the more important points.

Alternatively, members can transfer their membership to one of their children (the favourite obviously), or other direct family members (parents, siblings).

Application for membership of member's child

(1) Upon reaching the age of 18 years, the child of a member no longer has the benefits bestowed upon a member's child, see Clause 7 sub-clause (1).

(2) The member's child can be nominated by the member for membership without having to go on a waiting list provided:

(a) the child is 18 years or over and under the age of 22 years,

(b) the application is made in writing (including by email or other electronic means, if the committee so determines) in the form determined by the committee, and

(c) must be lodged (including by electronic means, if the committee so determines) with the secretary of the association.

(3) As soon as practicable after receiving an application for membership, the secretary must refer the application to the committee, which is to determine whether to approve or reject the application.

(4) As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the secretary must:

(a) notify the applicant in writing (including by email or other electronic means, if the committee so determines) that the committee approved or rejected the application

(whichever is applicable). If the committee reject the application, no reason needs to be provided, and

(b) if the committee approved the application, request the applicant to pay (within the period of 28 days after receipt by the applicant of the notification) the sum payable under this constitution by a member as interest free loan (IFL) and annual subscription. No joining fee is applicable in this case.

In Clause 7 there is some more information:

(4) If a member's child does not take-up the option in sub-clause (3) and they have reached the age of 22 years, they can only become a member by joining the waiting list.

(5) After the child has reached 18 years and has not taken up the option to become a member, they are eligible to be the parent member's guest for accommodation in addition to the normal parent member's guest, provided:

(a) the child guest is accompanied by the parent member or a member, and

(b) pays member's accommodation rates (ie., not member's child rates).

(6) The benefits of sub-clause (5) expire upon the member's child reaching 22 years.

I hope this has been informative for those that didn't know. If you want any more information, please contact the Secretary (smac.secretary1@gmail.com).

Thanks, Kevin



Bookings Update

There were less bookings this summer compared to previous years, I think that was partly due to the fact that multiple mountain biking options are now available on the east coast that are easily accessible with a E-bike, so there is no need to pay for a lift ticket at Thredbo.

Winter bookings in all 3 phases have flooded in as usual . Confirmations will go out in early May for Phase 3 applications. There have been a few dustings of snow in the last few weeks which is hopefully signalling a good season. I hope we all get a few good powder days!

Drop me a line if you have any booking enquiries (arimac.bookings@gmail.com). Thanks, Peter.

Membership Census

Steel Makers Alpine Club was founded as a Club focussing on families who love skiing. In years gone by, the Club hosted many off snow activities which members actively attended. These built a sense of community and family that many of us still enjoy today.

Over time, attendance at these organised activities has decreased.

The Committee has recently been discussing how we can support members to be actively involved with Club Activities including researching different options for our end of year Christmas party, hosting social nights out and better promoting our working bees.

To help us arrange activities that will suit a large number of members, we are keen to get an understanding of the age demographics of our Club, particularly relating to children of members.

It would be great if you could take 1 minute to complete this survey by the end of June.

ARIMAC Member Census – Fill out form

Club Racing

SMAC has a history of running club races and participating in the two Illawarra Interclub events, but we have been absent from the Interclubs for almost a decade and have not run our own club race since the pandemic. Every year there has been some level of interest from members regarding club races, so this year the committee has decided to reinstate support for members to enter in the Illawarra Interclubs and next year we plan to once again run our own club races on a members weekend. These races are social in nature and there is no minimum standard to participate. This year is a bit of a soft start to get back into the activity, but we hope to see some participation to boost our confidence in committing to this for next year.

There are 2 Illawarra Interclub events. The senior event is for 16 year olds and over, and the junior event is for under 16's. This year the senior event is on the first Saturday (1st) in August and the junior event is on the last Saturday (29th) in August. Each event caters to skiers and snowboarders with a GS course, and cross country skiers with a short course around the Perisher trails. The senior GS is usually held at either Mother-in-law at Guthega, or Upper Rollercoaster at Blue Cow. The junior event has always been held at Upper Rollercoaster at Blue Cow. This year the events are being hosted by Illabunda Club and there is usually a party at the hosting lodge after the event and a prize giving ceremony.

Please get in touch with me if you would like to participate this year. I will be at the lodge both weekends to help you out and ensure everything is organised for you to enter. It is a great experience and opportunity to get to know other Illawarra club members. Kids doing Interschools should definitely try to get involved with this. It will give them extra experience on the course in a less competitive environment and they are guaranteed to have fun!

Also for next year, please let me know if you are keen - it would be good to continue to gauge interest as we will need to commit to booking a course at the end of this season for next year.



Summer Activities Update

The SMAC committee are organising some summer activities with the view of getting more members, their families and friends down to the lodge outside of winter. These activities will be self-funded and self-equipped but will be facilitated by Rod Valdivia, a member of the committee. Rod is a keen fisho and has fished Lake Jindabyne several times over the years and is happy to give some hints and tips on locations, baits and lures. He is also an avid Mountain bike rider who has ridden Thredbo multiple times over the last few years. He has also hiked a few of the trails around Kozi National Park. Normal individual summer rates will apply for staying at the lodge. The activities are as follows:

1. **Fishing** – This will be a combination of boat/kayak or shore-based fishing. All members attending will need to ensure they have a fishing license (unless you are entitled to an exemption under NSW DPI rules). Dates are the weekend of 6-8 Nov 26. Rod has a couple of spare fishing rods he may be happy to lend out for those who may not have one!

2. **Mountain Biking** – This will be a combination of DH riding at Thredbo Mountain Bike Park or for those who would prefer something a little flatter, a XC ride along the Thredbo Valley Track. Those riding DH at Thredbo MTB Park will need to organise their own lift pass for the day/s. There are several places in Jindabyne and Thredbo that have bikes for hire, for those who don't have one. Dates are 27-29 Nov 26

3. **Hiking** – Trail locations will be chosen based on ability/fitness levels, with potential to break into a couple of groups if required. Dates are 11-13 Dec 26.

Please note that Rod, although committed to facilitate during those dates above, may not be able to attend due a change in personal circumstances and if this occurs he will look to see if someone attending is happy to facilitate on his behalf. Numbers for each activity will be limited to ensure each participant gets a bed in the lodge. The plan for each activity is to travel to the lodge on Friday, conduct the activity on the Saturday and return home on Sunday. People who have the time are more than welcome to stay longer. Speak to the Booking Officer to book anything extra. If an activity is cancelled due to inclement weather, an alternate date will be looked at sometime in early 2027.

For those members who are keen, please reach out to Rod on rocket439@hotmail.com. Cut off dates for confirming your attendance will be 2 weeks prior to the weekend. Any queries, throw them Rod's way!

Social Events

A reminder to join your fellow skiers and celebrate the start of Ski Season by going to the movies – to Warren Miller's Sno-Ciety film.

Date / Time: Wednesday 27th May, 7:00PM

Cost: From $22.46 Purchase your own tickets from link below

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/warren-millers-sno-ciety-wollongong-tickets-1972133784237

Location: Gala Cinema Warrawong

Parking: Westfield, Maccas, Open Hearth car park.

Pre movie Get Together: *New Location* - Open Hearth Hotel, 53-57 King St, Warrawong. Table will be booked from 5:30 PM for dinner.

Post Movie Get Together: *New Location* - Open Hearth Hotel, 53-57 King St, Warrawong.

Our Annual Club Weekend at ARIMAC Lot 15 - 24th & 25th July Skiing together 25th & 26th July

Where? Depends on the snow and weather conditions.

Join us for a fun weekend, arrive at ARIMAC Friday night, then on Saturday we meet at morning tea and tour the mountain as a group for a few fun hours. Back at the Lodge, breakfast and dinner is provided by the club and the BBQ is prepared by our best chefs. Entertainment on Saturday night maybe games, cards, even karaoke!

For those skiing on Sunday, meet again at morning tea and chose a mountain to share with your fellow members.

Accommodation will be back to the old days with members sleeping on beds, mattresses & sofas to ensure we are all together.

Christmas Parties

For adults only, we plan to enjoy a Saturday night out early October at a venue to be advised, somewhere local where we can eat dinner, drink and chat. Details later in the year.

For the kids and their families, on a Saturday afternoon in mid-November, we are planning to have a party of Ten Pin Bowling and Laser Tag at either Strike Bowling Wollongong or Zone Bowling Albion Park Rail. It will be a 2 or 3 hour session including catering, a game of ten pin bowling and a game of laser tag. Details later in the year when finalised.

Your Committee

- **President:** Barry Neill
- **Vice President** Gary Perkins
- **Secretary:** Kevin Larkin
- **Treasurer:** Renato Compagnin
- **Club Captain:** Troy Flinn
- **Maintenance Officer:** Gerry Campbell
- **Bookings Officer:** Peter McIndoe
- **Social Coordinator:** Judy McCracken
- **Web Manager:** Troy Flinn
- **Committee Members:**
  - Rod Valdivia
  - Greg Perkins
  - Raychel Davis
  - Phil Burnard

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President	arimac.president@gmail.com
Secretary	smac.secretary1@gmail.com
Treasurer	smac.treasurer1@gmail.com
Club Captain	arimac.captain@gmail.com
Newsletter	raychel_parovel@yahoo.com
www.steelmakersalpineclub.com	

Club Contact Details:

Don't forget to join the **Steelmakers Alpine Club** group on Facebook to stay up to date on Club happenings!



Congratulations to our newest Life Members—Amanda Moran and Renato Compagnin