



April 2023 Updates

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2023

A Racer's Edge

Masters National Championships

Mt. Bachelor, OR

April 5 - 9



Competition Equipment and Services



Photo Credit:
Susan Morning
Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation

President's Update

So, this was the season that kept on giving – snow that is! Unfortunately however it was also the season that kept on taking away – races that is! And the snow gods didn't give up.....not content with our FWM race program being almost completely wiped out, it was then "hold my beer" and delivered even more snow till the planned Masters Nationals at Mammoth had to also be cancelled.

While this was of course a huge disappointment for all our FWM racers, huge kudos and thanks to Mt Bachelor Ski Education Foundation for a herculean effort to save Nationals at the very last minute.

Congratulations to the 15 FWM athletes who made the trip to Bend Oregon and achieved 36 medals between them. Particular credit to Deb Lewis, Vera Savage, Andrea Levy and Ryan Ritchie who made the 2024 Masters National Team for overall wins in their respective age classes.

But while we might not have been able to race much this year, at least we have the consolation of knowing that we will have lift served skiing at Mammoth and Palisades Tahoe through July 4, and perhaps even longer.

On the Masters National scene we have a new Chair, Dave Brennan has stepped down and Ryan Fuller of Central Division has replaced him. And next year, a new venue for Masters Nationals – Granite Peak, Wisconsin.

We are also planning another "first" for FWM. This season we will hold our Annual General Meeting and election of Office bearers via Zoom on May 11. After not being able to hold our AGM for the last three seasons, this is a great opportunity for all our members to attend virtually. I hope as many as possible of you will participate. Full details are provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

In closing my final President's message I must thank all my Board members for their support and the terrific efforts they have made to keep putting on great race series and keeping FWM functioning effectively so we can all enjoy our racing. And of course my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support, well wishes and participation during my tenure as President. As I pass the baton to my successor with FWM in a healthy position both financially and membership wise, I know you will provide the same support to him/her.

Thank you and my best wishes to all of you! I hope you all have a great summer/extended ski season and I look forward to seeing all of you at our races next season.

Ray

Season Update

Unfortunately, the weather continued to play havoc with our race schedule with the Northstar SG and the National Championships at mammoth being cancelled. However, the season did end on a high note with Pacific Northwest stepping in at the last moment to put the National Championships on at Mt Bachelor, Bend OR, where the Speed Series finals and PNW finals already had SG-GS-SL races scheduled.

Far West Masters were very well represented at Mt Bachelor and a great time was had by all who attended. A total of 120 competitors from eight divisions participated in the National Championships. Far West Masters were represented by 15 of our athletes with a total of 48 starts and 107 points, with Far West placing third of the eight divisions represented.

Congratulations to Deb Lewis, Vera Savage, Andrea Levy and Ryan Ritchie whose performances at the championships placed them in the 2024 National Masters Team. The 2024 National Masters team is selected from the top finisher in each age class at the 2023 national championships, based on total world cup points for best 3 finishes in the four events SG-SG-GS-SL at the championships.



Other Far West members who raced at Mt Bachelor were:

- Linda Crowell
- Nancy Gieske
- Don Smith
- Don Merrit
- Dave Anderson
- Sam Crowell
- Doug Fulton
- Kirk Swanson
- Bill Schenker
- Scott Sady
- Robert-Philippe Heller
- Damian Palfini

Full results are available at <https://usalpinemasters.org/2023/nationals#results>.

Annual General Meeting

It had been our intention to hold a Far West Masters AGM at the National Championships in Mammoth, however, the weather and cancellation colluded against us and the AGM could not go ahead as planned. As a result of COVID and the bad weather it is now several years since we were able to hold an AGM.

It has been decided that we will hold a virtual AGM using Zoom video/audio conferencing on May 11th at 7pm. You can access the Zoom AGM using this Zoom meeting link <https://gluware.zoom.us/j/97031999749?pwd=eIFsYTR2TytNNytqUjkyZkZDQWh5Zz09>. We encourage all members to attend so that we can address important Far West Masters business, including the election of members of the board. The following positions are up for election this year, we have also listed candidates standing for these positions. If anyone else would like to stand as a candidate for election please notify twall@farwestmasters.org or forerunner@farwestmasters.org.

Position	Candidates
President	Rees Palermo
Treasurer	Hamish Butler
VP Communications	Melissa House
Secretary	Linda Crowell

In addition, Dan Simmons retires from his role as Past President and Ray Tulloch moves to this position. Thank you to all retiring office holders for your service to Far West Masters: Ray Tulloch, Tom Bullard, Tricia Wall and Dan Simmons.

The following positions remain the same:

- Race Scheduling, Mike Braun
- Membership, Mary Feddis
- Officials, Mark Mirviss
- Chief Technical Officer & Webmaster, Deb Lewis
- Scholarship, Eddie Mozen

Scholarship Program

The Far West Masters Scholarship Program is now in our 32nd year of raising funds to benefit Far West Junior ski racers. Over that time period we have awarded more than \$1,300,000 in scholarship funds. There is no overhead. We are an incorporated 501(c)(3) public charity tax exempt organization.

Our goal is to promote academic scholarship, citizenship and leadership within the ski racing community. It is also our goal to keep athletes involved in ski racing that might not otherwise have a chance without our financial support. We believe keeping athletes involved in ski racing keeps them focused, teaches discipline and helps them to be successful in the rest of their life endeavors.

In previous years most of our fundraising was done at a year-end banquet/auction. However, because of weather cancellations this event will not occur this year. In its place we will sell items over the internet to help raise funds for next seasons Scholarship program. We have season long Masters ski training passes from 4 different areas as well as US Ski Team race suits. These are items that most ski racers will be buying anyway, so please consider buying them through this program to benefit the Far West Masters Scholarship Program,

Please contact Eddie Mozen at ebmozen@gmail.com if you are interested in purchasing or obtaining any of these items. Below is a partial list with suggested opening bids, all offers will be entertained!

1. Squaw Valley full season Masters Training pass for 2023-24.
Retail price for 2023-24 will be \$4,320.
2. Mammoth full season Masters Training pass for 2023-24.
Retail price for 2022-23 was \$3100.
3. Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation will contribute a Masters 2023-24 full season, full time training tuition pass to the Far West Masters Scholarship Program.
Retail value \$2,500.
Starting bid recommended to be \$1,500. Only available to a NEW DPSEF Masters athlete.
4. Mount Rose Masters Training Pass for 2023-24.
Training is Wednesday and Friday mornings
Pass Value is \$1,100

I have quite a few US SKI TEAM Spyder race suits. All of these are new. The suits were custom made for US SKI TEAM members and they tend to run 1-2 sizes SMALLER than marked. Suit values are more than \$1000 each if bought at ski shop/ski online.....opening prices \$350-\$500

1. USST (US SKI TEAM) white unpadded world cup GS suit size XL ,4 suits available
2. USST (US SKI TEAM) forest green race suit, not padded world cup GS size XXL.
3. USST (US SKI TEAM) forest green padded GS suit, size XL. 4 suits available

We are grateful for everyone who has donated and supported the program. To learn more visit the [Scholarship Program](#) page.

To donate you can write a check to "**Far West Masters Scholarship Program**" and send to:

Masters Scholarship Program
c/o Eddie Mozen
PO Box 3718
Olympic Valley, CA 96146

We also accept donations online by credit card or through a [Paypal](#) account.

President	Ray Tulloch Incline Village, NV 89451 president@farwestmasters.org
Past President	Dan Simmons Truckee, CA 96161 dsimmons@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Officials	Mark Mirviss P. O. Box 3293 Olympic Valley, CA 96146 mmirviss@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Race Scheduling	Mike Braun Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 mbraun@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Membership	Mary Feddis P.O. Box 7691 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 membership@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Communications	Hamish Butler Sacramento, CA 95825 forerunner@farwestmasters.org
Secretary	Tricia Wall Costa Mesa, CA 92627 twall@farwestmasters.org
Treasurer	Tom Bullard Reno, Nevada, 89521 treasurer@farwestmasters.org
Chief Technical Officer	Deb Lewis San Clemente, CA 92672 dlewis@farwestmasters.org

The Forerunner

Have you moved? Please let us know. Send your new address, phone number and email information to:

Mary Feddis
P.O. Box 7691
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Or email membership@farwestmasters.org

Your submissions or photos to this publication are always welcome.
Please send articles and/or photos to Hamish Butler, forerunner@farwestmasters.org