

Volunteer Profile: Jill Stamp
Cross Country Canada 2016 Firth Award

Jill Stamp has been a corner stone of the racing scene both in Kelowna and BC for nearly 20 years. She is active in officiating, timing, fundraising, and supporting her local race team through tireless volunteering.

"The races do not run without Jillian Stamp"-- Gerry Morrison, Past President, Telemark Nordic Club.

Jill's warm manner, bubbly energy and attention to detail ensure that an event takes place without a hitch. One of the things that all of us who work with her appreciate, is that she doesn't take herself, or the task too seriously. There is always time for a laugh. Her low-key style of leadership inspires others to help get the job done.

Jill and her family moved to Kelowna and joined the Telemark Nordic Club in the winter of 1998. She and her husband James immediately became key volunteers involved in organizing and supporting the fledgling Jackrabbit program and running the club website. Next they began building a race team and a race program, Telemark's "Racing Rabbits".

Jill's generous donation of thousands of hours and her race organizing expertise to the Telemark Nordic Club and Cross Country BC has had an important role to play in growing successful local and provincial junior racing programs. For example, in 2001, with only three weeks notice, Jill was asked to be the race secretary for BC's first-ever Midget Championships, which was also Telemark's first major event. The race was a big success and has spurred a tradition that the BC Midget Championships is one of the best events in the province each year. Jill was later involved in organizing that event a second time in Kelowna, and has aided in the timing and the organization of the race many other years.

In addition, Jill has been Competition Secretary and Chief of Timing multiple times for Okanagan Cup, BC Cup, Western Canadian Championships and NorAm Series races for both the Telemark Nordic Club and nearby Sovereign Lake and Nickel Plate clubs.

For every event that she organizes, Jill works for months prior to develop a plan and a schedule, recruit key volunteers, coordinate athletes and coaches, register athletes, coordinate sponsorship, submit funding grants and manage a sizeable event budget.

Jill has been a major contributor to the success of events at the local, regional, provincial and Western Canada levels. Her deep knowledge of the sport, timekeeping and organization, has made her a go-to resource for others planning and running similar events. When other races go off the rails, (as can occasionally happen), her ability to trouble shoot and fix timing problems is remarkable

Summary of Contributions

Competition Secretary for the following events:

- **Kelowna Apple Loppet** (12 consecutive years from 2004-2016).
- Multiple **Okanagan Cups, BC Cups, BC Midget Championships and BC Championships** since 2002
- **BC Championships in 2014 and 2015**. These two BC Championship races were particularly strong events. They were well attended by American teams and clubs, and totaled more than 500 participants each year.
- **2003 World Junior Trials**. This was the first national-level event held at Telemark.
- **2011 International Children's Games**
- **2011 NorAm/Western Canadian Championships**. 600 participants

Technical Delegate many times (BC Midget Championships and BC Winter Games)

2010 Olympic Winter Games. Timekeeping official for all Cross Country events.

CCBC Officials Development Committee member. Within Cross Country BC Jill is known as a "go to person" for those seeking help on how to run events.

ZONE4 Race Management Clinics. Jill was responsible for developing the curriculum and course materials used by herself and others to deliver Cross Country BC's Zone 4 timekeeping clinics.

Secretary to the parent committee for the Telemark Junior Racers (2011-2014). Parent leader for many, many race team trips organizing accommodation, flights and food.