



Nancy
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Slumberland American Birkebeiner 2016 Celebration of Nordic Sports

February 18 – February 21, 2016

- The Birkie Celebration and events begin on Thursday and include activities for all ages and abilities:
 - **Thursday, February 18, 2016**
 - **American Birkebeiner Expo 1:00pm**
 - A 2-day event where over 10,000 skiers and hundreds of vendors prepare for the largest cross-country ski marathon in North America
 - **Barkie Birkie Skijor 1:00pm**
 - Skiers & dogs enjoy the sport of skijoring and show off their “Barkie Fever”
 - **Elite Sprints 4:30pm**
 - Where the best of the best compete head to head
 - **Giant Ski 5:45pm**
 - Skiers and non-skiers alike compete in teams of six on giant 25-foot long skis
 - **Opening Ceremony & Torch Lighting 6:45pm**
 - Honorary torch bearer – John Jaeckel
 - **Homecoming for John & Deanna Jaeckel – 7:00pm**
 - ALS – WI Chapter and the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation’s Skier’s for Cures program, will host the community in welcoming home John Jaeckel and family. John, 17-time Birkie skier and Hayward High School football coach was diagnosed with ALS in 2010. John is the ALS-WI Chapter Ambassador and honorary captain of Team ALS in this year’s Birkie.
 - **The Legacy of the American Birkebeiner – 7:00pm**
 - Longtime friend of the Birkie and skiing historian, Tom Kelly, will take you back to the origins of Birkie, regaling the crowd with some of the legendary stories of the race’s roots. He’ll take you inside the mind of Wise, a native son of Hayward, Wisconsin, whose vision created a ski race that has become a lifestyle for tens of thousands of participants, become a landmark event in northwestern Wisconsin and an iconic festival of cross-country skiing. Kelly is currently the USSA’s VP of Communications.
 - **Friday, February 19, 2016**
 - **Junior Birkie 8:30am and 11:00am starts**
 - Special ski event for passionate skiers between 7 and 19-years of age
 - **American Birkebeiner Expo 9:00am**
 - A 2-day event where over 10,000 skiers and hundreds of vendors prepare for the largest cross-country ski marathon in North America
 - **Barnebirkie 12:30pm**
 - An estimated 1000 kids, ages 3-11, take to the streets in their own 1.2K or 3K mini-marathon

- **Birkie Adaptive Events 1.2K or 3K 1:15pm**
 - Adaptive athletes overcome physical challenges in one of 3 categories – sit-skiers, standing adaptive skiers, and visually impaired skiers
- **Nikkerbeiner Vintage Ski Tour 5K 2:00pm**
 - This vintage ski-tour, named after Norwegian Knickers, finds skiers wearing the best gear from days gone by. From knickers, wooden skis, and bamboo poles to the colorful garb of the '70s, '80s, and 90's – you'll see it all in this fun ski tour.
- **Family Fun Ski – 3 K or 5K 2:15pm**
 - A fun event for families to enjoy skiing the most thrilling part of the Birkie experience – from Lake Hayward, over the International Bridge and ending on Hayward's Main Street. This is a casual, non-competitive ski tour for all ages.
- **Saturday, February 20, 2016**
 - **Birkie 51K Skate/55k Classic Ski Marathon**
 - North America's largest ski-marathon from Cable to Hayward, WI
 - **Kortelopet – 24K Classic & Skate**
 - North America's second largest ski race – a shorter version of the marathon race
 - **Prince Haakon 13K**
 - In honor of the Norwegian King rescued and skied to safety by Birkebeiner warriors
 - **North American Premiere of BIRKEBEINERNE (THE LAST KING) 5:00pm & 8:00pm**
 - BIRKEBEINERNE (THE LAST KING) is a Norwegian feature film, subtitled in English and debuting during Birkie Week festivities! Tickets at Birkie.com
- **Sunday, February 21, 2016**
 - **Sunday On-Snow Demo 9:00am to 2:00pm**
 - Everyone from newbie skiers to elites can try out the latest in new equipment – skis, poles, boots, bindings, and fat bikes at the Birkie "OO" Trailhead
 - **Fast & Female Champ Chat – 9:45am – 12:15pm**
 - U.S. Ski Team members, Kikkan Randall and Caitlin Gregg, will mentor younger female skiers through training tips, inspirational encouragement and the importance of embracing a healthy active lifestyle. Plus special break-out sessions for parents and coaches! Register at Birkie.com
 - **North American Premiere of BIRKEBEINERNE (THE LAST KING) 12:00pm**
 - BIRKEBEINERNE (THE LAST KING) is a Norwegian feature film, subtitled in English and debuting during Birkie Week festivities! Tickets at Birkie.com

Details on all Birkie events are available at www.Birkie.com.

More Birkie Events!

- **Fat Bike Birkie – 47K and 20K – March 5, 2016 (Cable & Hayward, WI)**
 - Now 3 days of riding! March 4, 5, & 6
 - March 4 – Expo & Criterium
 - March 5 – Races & Post-Race & After Parties
 - March 6 – On-snow Demos & Guided Rides!
 - The Fat Bike Birkie is the largest Fat Bike race in the world
 - Fat biking is the fastest growing sport in cycling
 - A once-a-year chance to ride fat bikes on the groomed, snow-covered American Birkebeiner Ski Trail.
- **Birkie Trail Run & Trek – October 1, 2016 (Cable & Hayward, WI)**
 - 8 Events held in one day on the Birkie Trail
 - 100K Ultra Marathon; Marathon; Marathon Relay; Half-Marathon; 5K; Nordic Trek; Youth 5K and 1K



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