



American Birkebeiner® Ski Foundation, Inc.
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www.birkie.com

2017 – 2018
American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation
Board Candidate Profile Information

Dear ABSF Board Candidate,

This is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the members of the ABSF. Your contact information and answer to the following question will be included in the Board Election Packet sent to all eligible voting members prior to the election on August 5, 2017. Please submit your profile electronically to board@birkie.com by June 20, 2017.

Candidate Name: Karen Manske

Address: 6351 St. Croix Trail N. #137

City: Stillwater State: MN Zip: 55082

Home Phone: 651-304-0646 Other Phone: _____

Email Address: karenmanske@gmail.com

Years of Membership in the ABSF: many - ?

Occupation: Retired Public School Administrator

Please respond to the following question (feel free to use additional space).

Why are you interested in being a member of the ABSF Board of Directors and what knowledge and skills do you possess that can benefit the organization?

It would be an honor to serve on the ABSF Board of Directors. I have been involved with Nordic skiing over the past 25 years in a variety of ways - beginning as a citizen skier, enjoying the Northwood's near Bemidji, MN. I was an assistant coach for the Bemidji High School Nordic team in the early 2000's. Over the past 3 years, I've assisted my husband, Bruce, in his work with CXC Igor Camps, Open Junior Camps and the Nordic Rocks for Schools program. In 2016, I completed the USSA Level I Nordic coaching certification. I was an aid station volunteer for the Fat Bike Birkie and during the past 3 years I've volunteered as co-chief for the Jr. Birkie.

In 2002 I skied my first American Birkebeiner and have completed the race every year since (enjoying the festivities of the 2017 Birkie). I've also enjoyed participating in the Birkie Trail Marathon, Half Marathon and Relay events.

Nordic skiing has played a big role in our family. Four of our 5 children skied in high school and 3 of them skied in college. They also all have participated in Birkie events. We all are committed to an active lifestyle through skiing, biking, running – lifelong sports.

I was a member of Minnesota's Community Education Association Board for 10 years, both as the secretary and as a state region representative. This experience taught me a great deal about the work of a Board, which would benefit my work as a member of the ABSF Board.

I'm retiring from my career in public education on June 30, 2017, and am excited to be gaining time necessary to commit to other interests in my life. I believe in the work of the ABSF and support the work and mission of the ABSF foundation, board and staff, and would love to serve as a member of the ABSF board of directors.

All nomination forms must be received in the ABSF office by no later than June 20, 2017.

Again, thank you for your interest, and we look forward to receiving your candidate profile and question responses.