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## ABSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE PROFILE

In my tenure as an ABSF Board Member, as the ABSF Trail Committee Chair, and as a member of the ABSF Finance Committee, we have made continuous improvements to the Birkie Trail and to the experience of all the events we run. We have built permanent bridges across Hwy 77 and Cty OO along with a movable bridge across Hwy 63 into downtown Hayward. We have built or rebuilt all trail head warming huts, installed water and have constructed the SC Johnson Community Outdoor Center. We completed a new American Birkebeiner Start stadium with a large meeting arena and a heated trail head with water and septic. The Korteloppet start area has also been expanded with a planned new start building, and a permanent Prince Haakon start is being built and expanded with the purchase of two new lots. Additionally, we have added snowmaking to the start area and we plan to develop and to expand the course to 5Ks of permanent snowmaking with infrastructure including a pond, a pump house, and underground piping system that will provide skiing in early November every year.

Currently, we are working on the purchase of Telemark to ensure the future of the American Birkebeiner and to create The Mount Telemark Outdoor Recreation Center, a four season venue for silent sport activities and entertainment. We are poised to obtain this property through ongoing negotiations, and we have designed a four phase development plan to secure the Birkie's future, including the snowmaking and a looped 50K course that will work in a low snow year and as an alternative, safe, full course during the time of Covid-19.

As the Trail Committee Chair, I am also committed to having a 10K section of the 111K American Birkebeiner Ski Trail groomed to perfection every day of the winter, including easy strider, weather permitting. We continue the effort to communicate what parts of the trail have been groomed, including the recency, the type of grooming, and between which trail heads the grooming was completed. We have more work to do to get the message from the groomers to the many skiers who come from outside the area to enjoy the trails. This must happen.

For me the improvement of the trails has been a constant process and the legacy trails surrounding the Birkie Start are being cleared and more safely routed for all users. A competition stadium just to the south and east of the start area is being cleared so that it can act as an alternative finish for a rerouted Birkie. It is also being designed as a finish for a possible World Cup distance race in 2024, and as a competitive venue for a shorter World Cup sprint training course and for citizen, high school, middle school, collegiate, and national level races.

We are bolstering the future of the Birkie by going green wherever we can to reduce our environmental impact. For example, in the Trail Run, the Birkie Tour, and the Fat Bike Birkie we have gone cup less, we have installed solar energy at the warming huts, and have initiated a deterrent to littering of energy packets that have plagued the trails. Swag bags have become virtual, reducing the wasted paper and plastic products involved. On my watch, reducing our carbon emissions will be a constant process for the Birkie to help save our winters.

I ask that you please give me one last term on the ABSF Board so that we can finish the many projects that will ensure the Birkie's future of creating healthy outdoor lifestyles.