Annual Report 2019-2020

Masters Langrenn Norway

The cross country season this year has been overshadowed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Norwegian Masters have only arranged one gathering, on snow in November 2019. Then the MWC 2020 in Cogne was cancelled, and our training weekend in September was also cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation.

As for several years now the Norwegian Masters had their training weekend at Beitostølen at Bergo Hotel the last weekend in November 2019.This year there was plenty of natural snow in the area, and excellent cross country tracks were offered both in the high mountain area and at the stadium. About 65 Master Skiers were offered excellent technique instruction, presented by very skilled and inspiring couches.

Both a board meeting and the Annual Meeting of the oranization were held on this weekend. One focus on the Annual Meeting was the economical situation of the organization, how to make steps to balance expences with incomes in the account balance.

One new member of the Board was elected, and two members and the director were reelected for 2 more years. The six members of the Board 2019-2020 have been:

Per Henning Wold, Anne Nguyen, Svein Olav Hope, Elin Naalsund, Ernst Løksa (new) and Einar Vikingstad

About 60 Norwegian Masters were about to leave for Cogne in the start at March 2020, - but then the Corona pandemic entered the stage. Of course many of us were very disappointed for not being able to travel to Cogne, - but we all agreed immediately that the cancelling decision was correct. Image the pandemia had arrived one week later, - we would probably all be stuck in Italy for weeks.

We planned a training weekend in September 2020 in Oslo, - and the Covid-19 situation was quite well in Norway during the summer. But in the start of August some more Corona infections appeared in Oslo, and few Masters were willing to travel to Oslo at that time, so we ended up cancelling the weekend.

The Board has had 4 meetings throughout the season, 3 of which have been on video/telephone/Messenger, - both because of the pandemic and to decrease expenses. We had a lot of work concerning the MWC in Cogne; - preparing the travel, then the cancellation and than the economic chaos afterwards. Especially our secretary Elin Nålsund has had a lot of paperwork following the cancellation of Cogne. The Board has also worked with the training weekends, finding good coaches, and we have taken steps to improve our economic situation, - especially reducing costs in the training weekends. We have also prepared for the MWC in Canmore. Due to the Corona pandemics our magazine Ski Masters has only been published two times this year, usually three times. But as always there have been very interesting contents about training, our training camps etc. Our board member Svein Ola Hope is the skilled editor of this magazine.

Masters Langrenn Norge has had about 500 members in this season, a little decrease from last year. We know that the potential is much higher, but it seems very difficult to recruit new members, especially skiers younger than 60 years. Of course we are quite worried about the effect of the pandemic on the number of members. We fear that many Masters will loose interest in our organization because of the cancellations. We have tried our best to keep in contact with our members through our homepage skimasters.no and our group on Facebook, so hopefully we can keep our Masters in the organization.

Einar Vikingstad

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