

Youth Cross Country 2025-26 AGM Report

Registration

For the 2025-26 season we had 46 skiers registered as follows:

- 9 Bunnies
- 8 Bunny Rabbits
- 16 Jack Rabbits
- 6 Track Attack
- 7 Junior Racers
- 9 volunteer coaches
- Head coach – Graeme Thain
- Numerous parent sweeps and hot chocolate volunteers

We attempted to offer an adventure ski program for skiers that aged out of Jack Rabbits but were not keen on the competitive focus of the Track Attack and Junior Racer programs. Unfortunately, we only had one registrant and as a result could not offer the adventure program. In 2024/25 we offered a similar program and had no registrants, the year prior we had 6 in a similar group.

Overall, our numbers were down this past season, 46 this past year versus 61 the prior year. Junior Racers were down 9 but this is partly due to Augustana having their own program rather than combining with Junior Racers. The Bunnies, Bunny Rabbits and Jack Rabbits were down 6 skiers overall.

Lessons

All groups except Bunnies practiced on Thursday evening. Track Attacks practiced on Tuesday as well. Junior Racers had Tuesday and Saturday practices when not attending races. Bunnies were held on the weekend.

Lessons started in December, a little later than usual due to a lack of snow. There were a few cold weather and lack of snow cancellations during the season but did have good conditions later in the season and wrapped up lessons in the second week of March.

Competition

This past season was a busy one for competitors in Track Attack and Junior Racers:

- Alberta Cup 1 and 2 in Canmore December 20-21, 2025
- Alberta Cup 3 and 4 in Red Deer January 17-18, 2026
- Alberta Cup 5 and 6 in Canmore January 29- February 1, 2026
- Alberta Cup 7 and 8 in Edmonton February 7-8, 2026
- Alberta Winter Games in Bonnyville February 14-16, 2026

- Alberta Youth Championship in Bragg Creek March 7-8, 2026

Rental skis were handed out in October. Returns were done on the final lesson day in mid March. Families were also given the option to keep rental skis through the school spring break. The vast majority returned their skis at the last lesson since snow was rapidly disappearing at that point. Thanks again to Peggy Snyder for her work as Equipment manager and keeping our rental program well organized.