

End of Season Update



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President's Update

Well, that was an abrupt finish to our 2019-20 season! But to put it in proper perspective we see how the impacts on all our daily lives go way beyond just ski racing and we are all focused now on getting through the Coronavirus pandemic safely.

I know how disappointed all our racers are at the sudden curtailment of our season but we all understand how important it is to stay healthy and protect both our home and our mountain communities from the spread of the virus. Please also remember the impact that the closures have had on Race department and mountain staff who have been laid off at our host mountains and training programs. Without them we would not have Masters ski races.

Also consider those vendors who have supported and sponsored us over the years with donations and raffle prizes and help them get through these challenging times by giving them the opportunity to gain your business where possible. It is never too soon to think about new equipment for next season!

As a result of the cancellations of our season finals our annual awards presentations and Annual General Meeting also had to be postponed. However final season standings for all classes are now available and can be seen our website at:

https://farwestmasters.org/reports/results/2020/SS-BestNFinishes-ByClass.html.

I am also pleased to announce our special award winners for this season:

Teddy Cantanho Award:	Linda Crowell
Most improved racer (M):	Shawn Mason
Most improved racer (F):	Nancy Gieske
Best New racer (M):	Stan Vasily
Best new racer (F):	Joan Blumenfeld

Congratulations to all of our special awards winners!

My thanks to all of you who took part in our races this season. And particular thanks to our Board members, race officials and volunteers who made the season's races possible.

Rather than simply send out season awards the FWM Board unanimously agreed that we would instead celebrate the 19-20 season Champions and award winners with a post-race party at the first race of the 20-21 season at Mammoth in December. We look forward to celebrating with you all there!

In the meantime, on behalf of all the FWM Board, I hope you are all able to remain safe and healthy while we get through the current situation. Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you all at Mammoth in December. Best Regards, Ray Tulloch

Bernard Cup



Due to the very dry February and limited snow cover in early March the venue for the Bernard Cup was moved from Squaw Valley to Alpine Meadows and the format was updated to be two SL, one on each day.

Despite the dry February conditions on Kangaroo were excellent, possibly providing the best race surface in the area and many Masters Racers enjoyed a fun day of training on the Friday before the race.

Saturday morning brought new snow and poor visibility at times, however, despite that the Squaw/Alpine race crew put on a great day of racing and the course held up well.

The weather on Sunday was much better and everyone enjoyed our second SL of the weekend before gathering outside in the sun for the prizegiving party with drinks provided by President Ray.

The Bernard Cup trophy, honoring masters founder Bob Bernard, is awarded to the man and woman with the fastest overall times for both races using an age-handicap formula.

This years (repeat) winners were Carol Levine and Kurt Belden. Congratulations Carol and Kurt.

Ski Cooper - Rocky Mountain Masters Super G

A number of Far West racers travelled to Ski Cooper, Colorado for the Rocky Mountain Masters Super G race as a planned warmup before Nationals. Unfortunately, this turned out to be the final race of the season as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Far West Masters who participated included Don Smith, Deb Lewis, Linda Crowell, Sam Crowell, Tom Bullard, Kris Buttenberg and Are Papazian.



Support your local ski store



The impact of COVID on our communities and the world as a whole is staggering and I am sure that only a short while ago, when we started the 2019/20 Far West Masters race season we had no idea it would end like this.

The impact of the shortened season and social distancing is impacting people across our communities and the entire skiing ecosystem. The ski areas, ski shops, lift operators, race crews and local restaurants and shops of all types are suffering.

In this time of need let's all do our part to support our communities and those businesses who have supported Masters Ski Racing over the years. Let us do what we can to help them through this hugely difficult period to make sure they are still around for us next season.

Take a look at some of the deals these ski stores have online and maybe see if you can pick up

some things you might need for next season. If you don't see anything to buy right now, consider purchasing gift cards you can use later.

Granite Chief has winter gear on sale, most items 50% off, curbside pickup 12 to 5 every day except Wednesday and Thursday. Gift cards online. Start Haus has 40% off Skis, Bindings, Helmets, Gloves FUXI Racing USA - up to 60% off and with free shipping Footloose Sports - inventory on sale, answering question by email. Command Performance Fast Ski Sports

Every little bit we do can help.

From: Far West Masters Racing Series

C/O Mary Feddis P.O. Box 7691 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

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The Forerunner

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Mary Feddis P.O. Box 7691 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Or email membership@farwestmasters.org

Your submissions or photos to this publication are always welcome. Please send articles and/or photos to Hamish Butler, forerunner@farwestmasters.org

President	Ray Tulloch Incline Village, NV 89451 president@farwestmasters.org
Past President	Dan Simmons Truckee, CA 96161 dsimmons@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Officials	Mark Mirviss P. O. Box 3293 Olympic Valley, CA 96146 mmirviss@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Race Scheduling	Mike Braun Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 mbraun@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Membership	Mary Feddis P.O. Box 7691 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 membership@farwestmasters.or g
Vice President, Communication s	Hamish Butler Sacramento, CA 95825 forerunner@farwestmasters.org
Secretary	Tricia Wall Costa Mesa, CA 92627 twall@farwestmasters.org
Treasurer	Tom Bullard Reno, Nevada, 89521 treasurer@farwestmasters.org
Chief Technical Officer	Deb Lewis San Clemente, CA 92672 dlewis@farwestmasters.org