



The Programs Committee is an operations committee that reports to the General Manager.

Vision: We are a Nordic-sport community for life.

Mission: To foster lifelong love for Nordic sport through providing skill development opportunities for members, delivering passionate coaching and leadership, and offering engaging activities and ski environments.

Goals: Offers a variety of programs for all ages that are accessible, inclusive and affordable.

Background: Sovereign offers a wide range of programs. From beginner to expert racer, Sovereign offers streams to support participant goals in both Cross Country and Biathlon. Sovereign programs are guided by reputable sport and athlete development frameworks, especially the Long-Term Athlete Development Model followed by Nordiq Canada, Cross Country British Columbia (CCBC), and Biathlon Canada. Coaches and instructors follow standards of the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP), and the Canadian Association of Nordic Ski Instructors (CANSI), as appropriate. The programs are delivered by both professional and volunteer trained coaches, supported by a Programs Coordinator and the General Manager. The purposes of Sovereign programs are to (1) inspire and connect community through Nordic sport/activity; (2) build lifelong passion for cross-country skiing and biathlon; and (3) support athletes in their athletic pursuits at regional, provincial, national, and international levels.

Programs Committee Purpose:

The purpose of the Programs Committee is to offer a broad perspective (from programs staff, parents, athletes, and members) to facilitate feedback from program participants, and to support coaches, staff and volunteers with the implementation of successful programs that are relevant to the community. The Programs Committee makes recommendations to the General Manager for supporting programs through collaboration, evidence-based decision-making, and data collection.

Core Responsibilities:

1. Act as a think tank to provide feedback from diverse community perspectives during monthly Programs Committee meetings.

2. Seek general feedback, as appropriate, regarding programs and initiatives related to committee work. Specific concerns shall be directed to the appropriate Sovereign coach or staff member.
3. Lead and collaborate with others to support initiatives such as:
 - a. Create written guidelines, as needed, to ensure participants have a common reference for program information.
 - b. Support a welcoming and positive experience for program participants, including through sending a welcome letter, setting up a welcome table during the first day of programs, and helping at specific special events and local races.
 - c. Create content for marketing and media communications related to programs.
4. Promote club events and volunteer opportunities (e.g., club time trials, races, Loppets), including joint activities for youth and adult programs.
5. Annual review and update of committee terms of reference, program-specific strategic plan, work plans, and a programs calendar.
6. Support the Programs Coordinator on the annual feedback/survey from program participants, including interpretation of results and possible implications.

Committee Membership:

General Manager

Board Representative

Representation from SLNC Programs:

- Biathlon Programs (includes youth, high school, post secondary): athlete, parent, and coaching perspectives
- Cross Country Programs (includes youth, high school, post secondary): athlete, parent, and coaching perspectives
- Skill Development Programs: parent and coaching perspectives
- Adult/ Masters Programs: participant and coaching perspectives

Committee Meeting Schedule: Monthly August - April