

# Report from the 2011 Haywood Ski Nationals

March 14, 2011 - Amanda Holdsworth



We have just concluded our second day of the 2011 Haywood Ski Nationals here in sunny Canmore, Alberta. With over 600 athletes from across Canada, this event is one of the most competitive race events of the year. National Team athletes, World Championship competitors, all four NDC teams, and all of the clubs from across Canada will be competing to be crowned National Champion.



The first day was the team relay event where skier s raced with their home ski clubs or University teams and skied a sprint relay race.

Andrea Lee joined Daphne Haggarty to represent Lakehead University and finished with an impressive 3rd place. Read about this on Thunder Bay Newswatch at:

<http://www.tbnewswatch.com/sports/136671/LU%E2%80%99s-Lee-and-Haggarty-ski-to-3rd-at-nationals>

Harry Seaton put on his Team Hardwood suit to team up with Bob Thompson to finish a very strong 5th place in a very deep field of 28 teams in the Open Men's category. Chris Hamilton and Jimmy Gunka represented their home club of Big Thunder in Thunder Bay to finish 8th. Also racing for their home clubs were Leif Lennie suiting up to to ski for Nakkertok while Dudley Coulter and Scott Sullivan skied for Big Thunder.



On the first day of the individual start races, NDC placed 5 skiers in the top 25 in the short distance skate race.

Conditions were prime as temperatures were hovering around 1C and the track was set perfectly. Michael Somppi had the top NDC result finishing in 13th position. Close on his heels was Chris Hamilton in 15th and Dudley Coulter in 21st position. The men's field was very strong as there was less than one minute separating 15th to 45th position. Dudley Coulter stated after the race, "I followed through with my plan and skied as fast as I could. The men's field is very deep and there are many strong racers here. The conditions were perfect, my skis were awesome, and the event is very well organized. The courses here are very challenging and our team is feeling great. I'm really looking forward to the rest of the races."

On the women's side, Andrea Lee placed a respectable 17th position and placed 2nd overall in the University category. Racing continues tomorrow with the middle distance classic races.

Photos of the NDC team in action over the first two days of racing courtesy of Martin Kaiser can be viewed at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/martinkaiser/NationalsNDC?authkey=Gv1sRgCKy3huOI59DYwwE#>

Full results can be found at [www.zone4.ca](http://www.zone4.ca)

For more information about the Haywood Noram Ski Nationals, please see <http://www.skinationals.com/2011/en/welcome>

