

SPRING & SUMMER | 2024
CSMC VERTICAL | EDITON 1



THE VERTICAL



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WELCOME CSMC MEMBERS

Photo by Eric Klaszus

After an endless cool spring summer is finally getting some traction and the mountains are calling! Whether you're a longtime member or a newcomer to the club I wish you all a summer filled with amazing limit-crushing adventures!!

I wanted to make you all aware of some recent changes that have gone on behind the scenes. Our long time president Michael Schoemaker stepped down in April after six amazing years!

The CSMC would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Michael for his huge commitment as our Past Prez. Michael's leadership, dedication, and passion for mountain sports have been instrumental in shaping the club into the thriving community it is today.

His vision and tireless efforts have led to countless adventures, training sessions, new friendships and great memories. Michael's ability to inspire and mentor members has left a mark on all of us.

Thank you, Michael, for your extraordinary service and for guiding our club to new heights!

2024 CSMC Board

In response to this, many people were eager to jump in and help fill Michael's (big) shoes, and I'm delighted to introduce our new board for 2024:

Interim President: Jessica Murray

Vice President: Daniel Redelinghuys

Treasurer: Erin Marshall

Organizer Manager: Lisa Lee-Johnson

Organizer Manager: Eric Klaszus

Board Member: Alex Joseph

Board Member: David Murray

Board Member: Robert Maiman

We also want to extend a big thank you to our outgoing board member **Robert Herbst** for your dedication and hard work over the last six years as well.

UPCOMING EVENTS



CSMC Picnic in the Park July 24

William Archibald has organized a picnic at Edworthy Park (Site 6) at 6:00 pm on July 24. Be sure to join us for some BBQ, beverages, slackline, and fun! We will have some exciting announcements for the organizing team at the picnic so be sure to sign up and swing by if you are free that evening.

All of our events are posted on our Meetup page.
<https://www.meetup.com/canadian-scrabbling-and-mountaineering-company/>



CLUB SPORT CAPTAINS

CSMC is looking to develop a team of captains, one for each domain in which we practice.

The candidates would need to be willing to share their expertise and provide some mentorship to newer organizers. We have divided the club activities into the following domains: rock climbing, ice climbing, snow sports (skiing & splitboard), mountaineering, scrambling, & watersports.

The captains would promote club safety by doing things such as reviewing trips, offering support mentorship to leaders, working with SAR, working

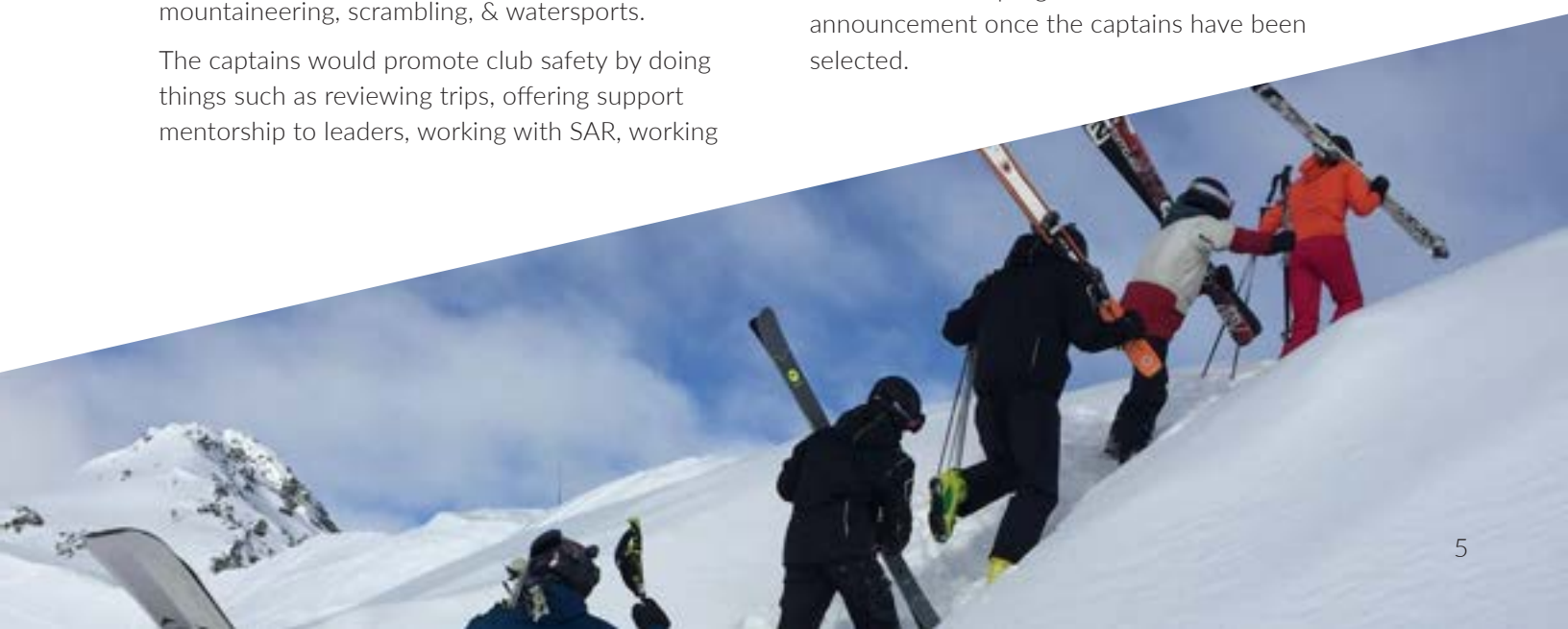
with Parks personnel, and recommending and providing opportunities for training and skill development.

Note; these are tasks the club president and/or organizer managers have done in the past; please be assured we won't micromanage organizers!

The idea is to share out tasks that are already being done, improve safety, and provide more opportunities for our valued organizers.

This is a work in progress and we will make an announcement once the captains have been selected.

Photo by Alex Joesph





CSMC SKI SEASON WRAP-UP

– by David Murray

Is it ever over? Just last week Alex sent me pictures of how skiable Sunwapta Peak looked. Most of us took the pole baskets off, hoping to start scrambling at some point in early May. Given the weather this spring, perhaps we should've kept them on and skied some more!

This season started slow, with little in the way of snow to excite us in November and December. More than a few sets of skis had some 'character' added to them as a result of the shallow snowpack, with an unusually faceted base. It seemed every beautiful stash of powder was just a light covering over the sharks.

Trips: Early Highwood Pass Oct 28, Grab 1st Lines at Louise Nov 4, Quartz+ Japanese Line & Take your skis for a walk Nov 18, Healy Pass Dec 2, Take your skis for a walk II Dec 9, Intro to Backcountry Ski Dec 10, Hwy 93N Dec 16, Take your skis for a walk III Dec 17, Bow summit Dec 23, Xmas Eve Ski Dec 23, Burstall Pass Dec 29, New Years Day Ski, Jan 1.

As we turned the corner into the new year we were greeted with a long harsh cold snap. Even fleeing into the usually warmer climes of BC was no relief. Would this season ever improve?

By March, with a few warm days under our belts it began to look as if we may start spring skiing and even hiking early this year.

And then...

It snowed, and stayed cool, and snowed, and stabilized. Wow, suddenly it was green/green/green

and the hills had powder to be found, in addition to peaks to be climbed. Those lucky to be still at it were treated with some amazing days of bluebird and fresh pow.

The glacier travel was good and the season seemed to be saved. Only a few brave souls attempted the usual ramp route up onto the Columbia Icefield. It looked challenging to ascend and nasty to descend. Good job to all who made it. The more southern access point seemed to be the way to go.

Many of us found ourselves up at Bow Hut repeatedly to access the peaks in that area, as they held good conditions for many weeks. If only we could move the parking lot across the lake – that's a lot of pushing/skating to get in and out.

Trips included: Sunshine tour, Molar Meadows, Skoki, 93N, Commonwealth Loop, Sunshine Quad (3 actually as Onsen was required...), 93S, French/Haig (but not Robertson – what's wrong with Robertson?), Little Crowfoot, End of Ski Season Party (April 1st), Healy/Monarch – Couloir day, Mt. Rhondda, Skoki again!, Ski&Climb Twin, Stutfield, Mt. Hector, Purple Mound – Plus many more that I'm sure I missed, or were just a group of CSMCers out there – Like the Rhonda/Gordon/Onion Trifecta.

Hope a few of you get up a Volcano or manage to keep a ski every month streak alive this summer.

Just a few months now, and we'll be watching for the powder again.

CLUB GEAR

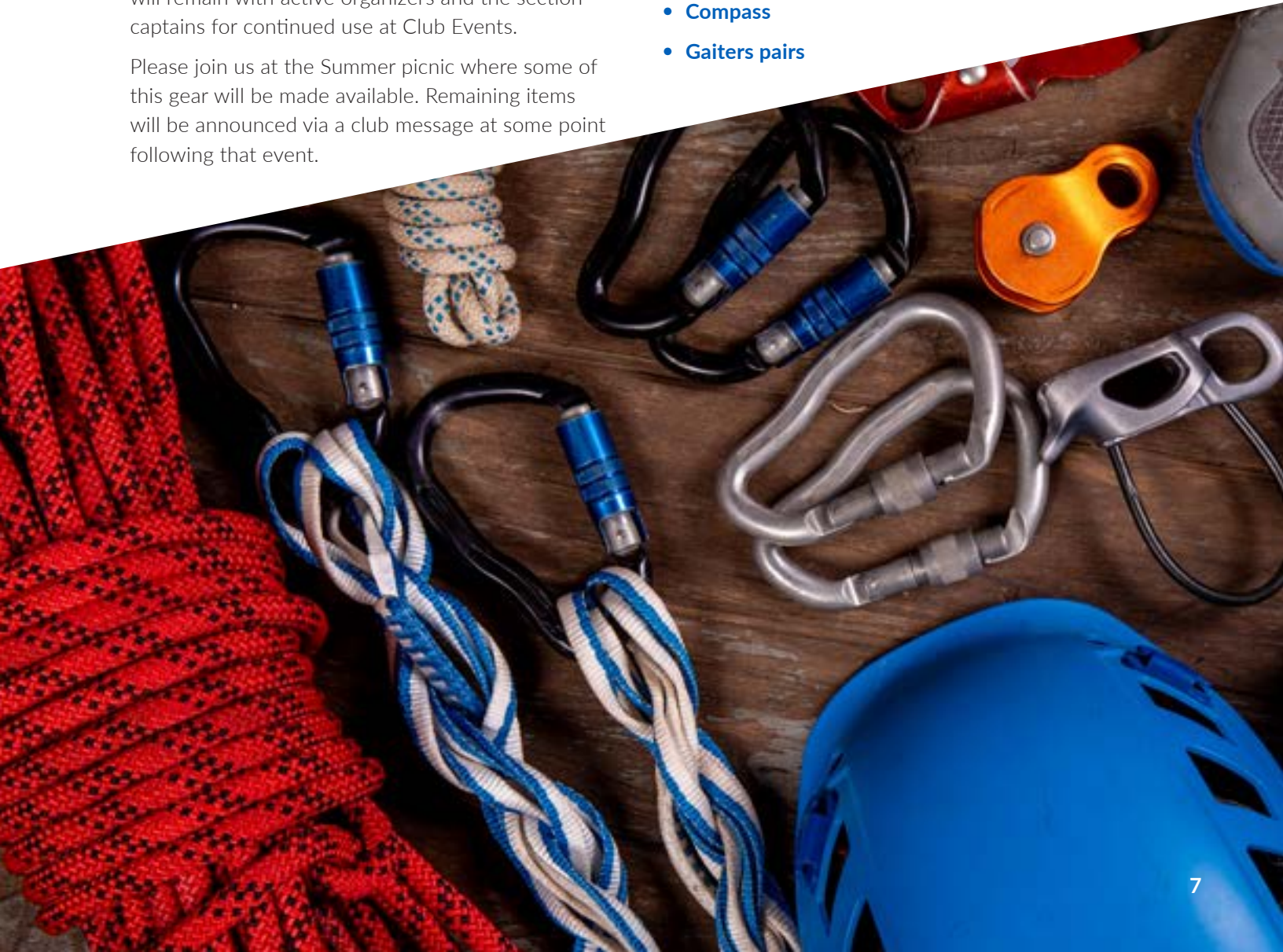
As some are aware, the CSMC has acquired gear to be used at Club Events. Over the years this collection has grown and now has overtaken our Past Prez's spare room to the point that it's the gear of a kid that must leave. That being said, some of this gear is now past due, or not useful as a Club resource. A selection of gear will first be made available to Trip Organizers and CSMC volunteers, with the remainder offered to all.

Exceptions will be things such as Club ropes, ice gear, trad gear, sport climbing gear, etc. Those items will remain with active organizers and the section captains for continued use at Club Events.

Please join us at the Summer picnic where some of this gear will be made available. Remaining items will be announced via a club message at some point following that event.

Some examples include:

- 4 season tents 2 might be in need of repair
- Camp stoves white gas
- Dakine 30 l day pack
- Gregory 30 l day pack
- Mammut Trion 50+ Liter pack
- Mammut 30 liter day pack
- Deuter 35 l day pack
- Compass
- Gaiters pairs





Photos by Ceranda Y.

COUCH TO MULTIPITCH

The CSMC would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Tom Waddell, who for the third year in a row ran a wildly successful “Couch to Multipitch” climbing course this spring. Tom’s dedication, expertise, and passion for teaching beginners to get outside and climb have been truly inspiring. Every participant received personalized instruction, gained valuable skills, and was encouraged throughout the course. Tom’s commitment to safety and excellence made the course a success and strengthened our club. I have heard nothing but praise for Tom and this program from participants I have met and I’m so impressed by the confidence these new climbers have.

Thank you, Tom, for your outstanding contribution!

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COUCH TO MULTI PITCH 2024

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This is what Tom had to say about this spring's session:

Hanging on a thread attached to a small piece of metal several hundred feet above the ground is awe inspiring to some and insanity to others. Combine this with the fear of the unknown, the inability to find willing partners or a supportive group, many people who would like to climb multiple pitches, don't.

This is unfortunate, as with patient, progressive learning, practice and a supportive group even those who have never climbed before, can within short order be climbing easier multi pitch climbs.

It was this approach that gave birth to the Couch to Multi pitch climbing course we have offered the past 3 years.

In each of those years we have had 12 people take the course. The experience level has been diverse from those who have never climbed before to those who have done multi pitch but want a refresher.

In addition, those taking the course have been a mix of men and women with a wide age range and diverse backgrounds. Of note, this year, of the 12 who took part 11 were women.

As I mentioned above. For this to be successful. And to be able to observe looks of trepidation and terror turn to grins of joy and pleasure requires the help of volunteers and the sanctioning of the CSMC.

Thank you to those who took time from your other activities to stand for hours on the D Slab ledge, to those who helped on the ground with supervising, coaching, encouraging the students. To those who have offered to take one or two of the graduates on a short, easy multi pitch climb.

“ If you haven't already, reach out to these graduates and offer to take them out climbing. If you do that and are patient as they learn and develop (just like people were with you), they will be back next year to help train, mentor and encourage the 2025 group.

CLUB UPDATES



New Waiver Process:

We are in the process of updating our waiver. A new system to streamline and enhance safety protocols will be announced soon.

Member Management System:

We are working on replacing or enhancing our membership management system. The new process will simplify the annual fee payment and waiver signing and improve communication within the club. More information to follow.

Seeking a Social Media Champion

CSMC needs to grow! We need to attract new members and organizers to come play with us in the mountains. We are looking for a volunteer to help get the word out about our awesome club across all social media channels. Are you this person? If so please reach out to the interim president by email at jess.murray@shaw.ca if you are interested in helping out.

Do you have ideas to make the club better?

We welcome any ideas you have to make CSMC the best it can be. Please tell us what you'd like to see! One caveat though... you must be prepared to take an active role in making your good ideas happen.



MISSION STATEMENT

“The goal of the CSMC goal is to advance recreation by providing opportunities to Canadians regardless of age, gender, cultural, or religious background, or physical ability to learn and develop the skills necessary for pleasure and recreation in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

Happy Adventuring!

~Jessica Murray, Club President





**REACHING
NEW
SUMMITS
TOGETHER**


Canadian Scrambling &
Mountaineering Club
Reaching New Summits Together