

## **Whitshell Cross Country Ski Club Racers and Pacers off to a Flying Start**

The Whitshell Cross Country Ski Clubs' new "Racers and Pacers" event kicked off this week at the Pinawa Club. Spearheaded by Ski Club Executive member Carol Randall. This new weekly event gives skiers of all ages and skill levels the chance to participate in a 1.2km or 2.4km time trial or just simply enjoy an evening club ski . Carol's main goal in establishing this program is to provide a fun, social event for all cross country enthusiasts. Draw prizes are awarded randomly to anyone involved, furthering the emphasis on participation rather than having the fastest time. This weeks' draw prizes were sponsored by the Ski Club, and each week a different local organization will provide the prizes.

A total of sixteen skiers were involved in this Thursdays' fun and games, with ages of participants ranging from 10 to 54. In addition to two Pacers, 14 Racers set off from the Pinawa Club in 30 second intervals starting at 7:00 p.m., with headlamps ablaze. The "Racers" donned race bibs and had their times recorded as they traversed the 1.2km circuit on the golf course, most opting to complete two laps. The "Pacers" set off around the course without bibs - their intent not being to race, but simply to enjoy a short moonlit ski on a nicely groomed track. The night skiing made for excellent spectating, as onlookers could see a train of headlamps bobbing through the night as the participants traveled the course.

After all skiers were finished, they adjourned to the comfort of the Pinawa Club to review their times, try their luck at winning a draw prize, and socialize with their fellow skiers. The social aspect will expand in the coming weeks when the Pinawa Clubs' restaurant is back in operation.

Carol would like to thank all of the skiers who attended, the volunteers who helped to make the event possible, and the Pinawa Club for so graciously hosting Racers and Pacers. Racers and Pacers will be held every Thursday, with registration opening at 6:30, until the end of the ski season. Anyone who enjoys skiing should plan to attend next week!