



# YEAR IN **REVIEW**

2020-2021



# STATE OF TUNA



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**TUNA took a giant step forward despite all the challenges. What we gained from this year greatly outweighs what we lost.**

## Dear TUNA Membership,

To say the 2020-2021 season presented its share of challenges is an understatement. In the fall, most of TUNA's programs were in question due to the global pandemic. We just didn't know whether we could hold training, learning, social events, and racing. The only thing we did know is that we were committed to providing a groomed track for skiers in the Salt Lake City area.

It became clear as winter slowly developed, with our programs more popular than ever, that the one thing we counted on was lacking: snow.

Through the tireless efforts of our grooming crew, Mountain Dell delivered a much-needed outlet for safe, attainable outdoor recreation. The track supported near record numbers of people in programs learning to Nordic ski, enjoying the sport, and training to race, from ages four to adult. We increased the size of our coaching staff and the number of people served in those programs by nearly 100%, and managed to pull off the 5-race Wasatch Citizens Series. TUNA modified operations to accommodate our growing number of participants while focusing on the health and safety of all participants and volunteers.

TUNA took a giant step forward despite all the challenges. What we gained from this year greatly outweighs what we lost. Our committees and teams have been more productive than ever, and the ambitious goals set for next year would never have appeared possible in the past.

I've never been more excited about the possibilities for the years to come. Here's to a most unlikely year of success, and more of those in the future!

*Tom Bonacci, Club President*

## TUNA'S MISSION

TUNA's mission is to promote the sport of cross-country skiing and racing in Utah through information, education, coaching, facilitation, events, and social gatherings. These tasks are achieved through the work of nine sub-committees, where each Board member takes an active role.

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Going Digital

We launched a brand new website with a .org domain, introduced digital payment methods for day passes at Mountain Dell (you can now scan an onsite QR code and pay by credit card, Venmo, and PayPal!), put our liability waivers online, and held our first online Board of Directors election.

## SafeSport

All of our Board members and coaches are SafeSport certified, which means that we are trained in protecting athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse; fostering welcoming, respectful environments where diversity is embraced; and helping athletes thrive both on and off skis.

## Revised Bylaws

They served us well for decades, but our previous bylaws were a bit arcane, and they looked like they were hot off a typewriter. We made minor changes allowing for digital notifications and elections, and we removed anything requiring use of a fax machine. The average TUNA member should only notice an improvement in our processes.

## Partnership

In 2020, we renewed our contract with Salt Lake City to continue grooming at Mountain Dell. This is a 5-year contract with an option to renew for another five years. Thank you Salt Lake!

## Grooming

This winter we had a very late start, opening on December 18. That is about ten days later than usual.

We had 13 days of moving snow. Each one required several hours of machine work and strenuous labor to eliminate thin spots. Without this, there would have been many days without skiable loops.

SR 65 saw more usage and grooming this winter than ever before. TUNA has been the sole entity grooming there since February 2010.

The Mountain Dell crew continues to learn how to move existing snow onto thin spots to maintain a skiable track. This year, new tools and new techniques produced very good results and ideas for future methods of snow management.

The Mountain Dell crew is becoming a leader in producing a skiable track in the absence of sufficient snowfall. This will be a skill that becomes essential as winters become shorter and warmer!

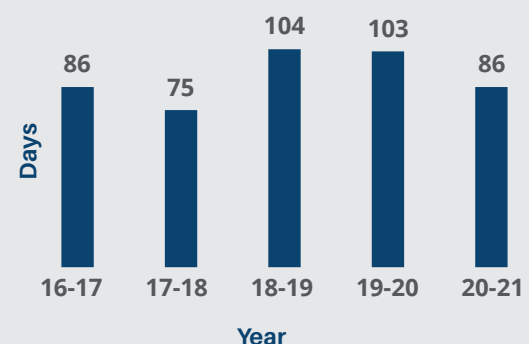


## SPRUCES

This year TUNA partnered with the US Forest Service to groom a 5km track in Big Cottonwood Canyon at the Spruces Campground.

TUNA lent expertise to the groomers there and helped with efforts to create a higher altitude venue for recreational skiing on the Wasatch Front.

### Mountain Dell Groomed Days



# TUNA PARTICIPATION



653

Total TUNA  
Members



82

Adults in  
masters  
programs

16

Board members  
and advisors

211

Youth in junior  
programs



289

WCS Racers  
(135 were  
juniors)

86

Grooming days  
at  
Mountain Dell

# BY THE NUMBERS

38

Nights booked  
at  
the Yurt



36

Grooming  
days at  
SR-65



31

Volunteer  
Groomers

\$5k

Raised at the  
Moonlight Ski



22+

Coaches  
working with  
TUNA skiers

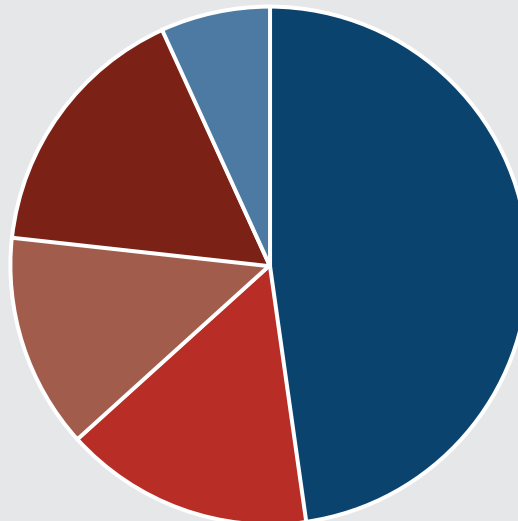
596

Mountain Dell  
passes sold  
(a record)

# TUNA FINANCIALS

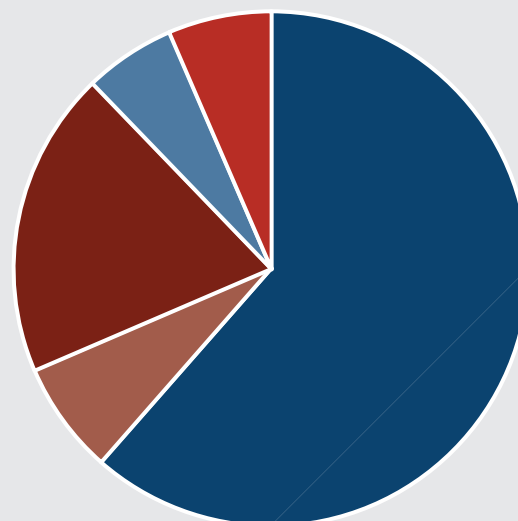


## Income



Adult/Junior Programs	\$149,000	48%
Wasatch Citizens Series	\$21,000	7%
Mountain Dell -	\$51,000	16%
Membership	\$42,000	14%
Fundraising	\$48,000	15%

## Expenses



Adult/Junior Programs	\$164,000	62%
Wasatch Citizens Series	\$15,000	6%
Mountain Dell	\$51,000	19%
Administrative/Insurance	\$18,000	7%
TUNA News	\$17,000	6%

*\*approximate values*

# MEMBERSHIP

## Dear TUNA Members,

There were 653 of you this year. That's 14% more than last year, and the highest in at least a decade. The Nordic ski community in Salt Lake City is growing, and we're happy to welcome you!

There are a few special mentions for this season. With years of service between them, the Board honors Cassie Dipppo, Barry Makarewicz, Donna Stice, and Derek Hoff. They have moved on from their positions, and remain in our fold.

We welcomed Randy Eggert and Kyler Rendle to the TUNA Board this year.

Finally, Dave Hanscom retired in his position as WCS director and passed the torch to Richard Hodges. Dave and his race crew are valued members of our organization, and have earned a round of applause.

*Don Eggert, Membership Chair*

## TUNA Board of Directors

**Tom Bonacci** | President

**Richard Hodges** | Vice President

**Ron Sawdey** | Treasurer

**Julie Davenport** | Secretary

**Don Eggert** | Membership

**Randy Eggert** | Junior Committee

**Chris Magerl** | Grooming Operations

**Kyler Rendle** | Volunteer Coordinator

**Jen Santoro** | PR/Marketing/Media

**Stephanie Strohl** | Communications/Media

**Eric Swanson** | Junior Program Board Liaison

**Isaac Wilson** | At large

## TUNA Staff and Advisors

**Steve Cook** | Head Coach/Program Director

**Dave Hanscom** | Race Director

**Peter Swisher** | Yurt Czar

**Tim Metos** | Advisor

**Pete Vordenberg** | Advisor



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**The Nordic ski community in Salt Lake City is growing, and we're happy to welcome you!**





TUNA | P.O. Box 9008 | Salt Lake City, UT | 84109



[www.utahnordic.org](http://www.utahnordic.org)



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