

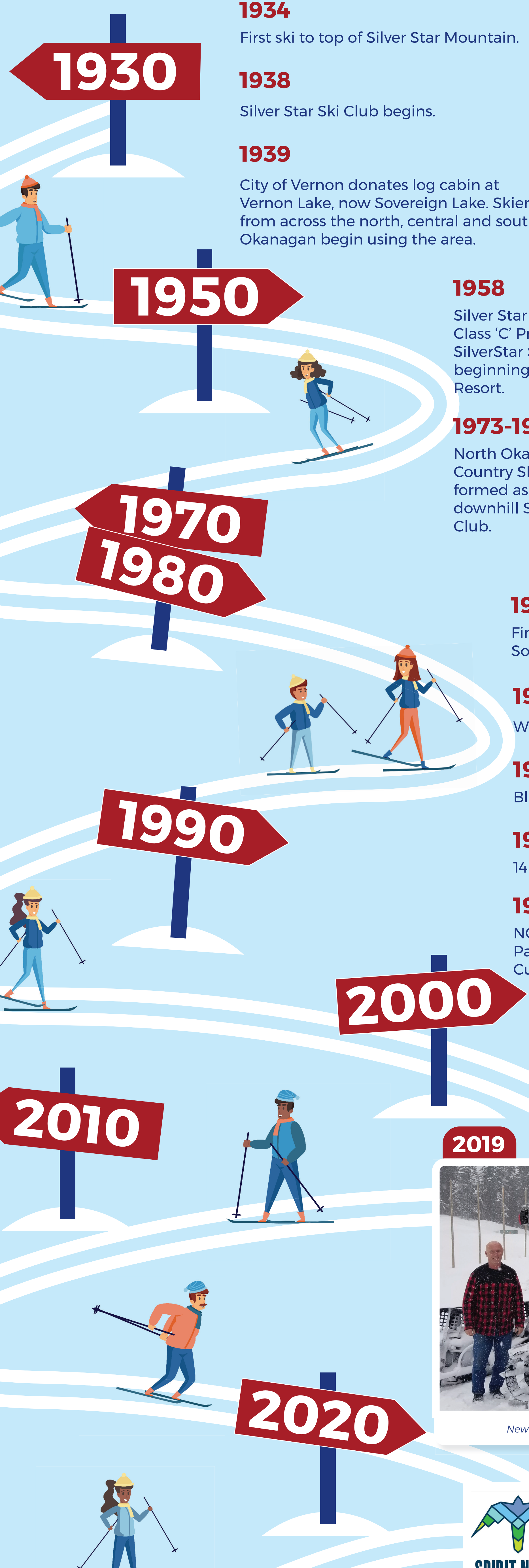
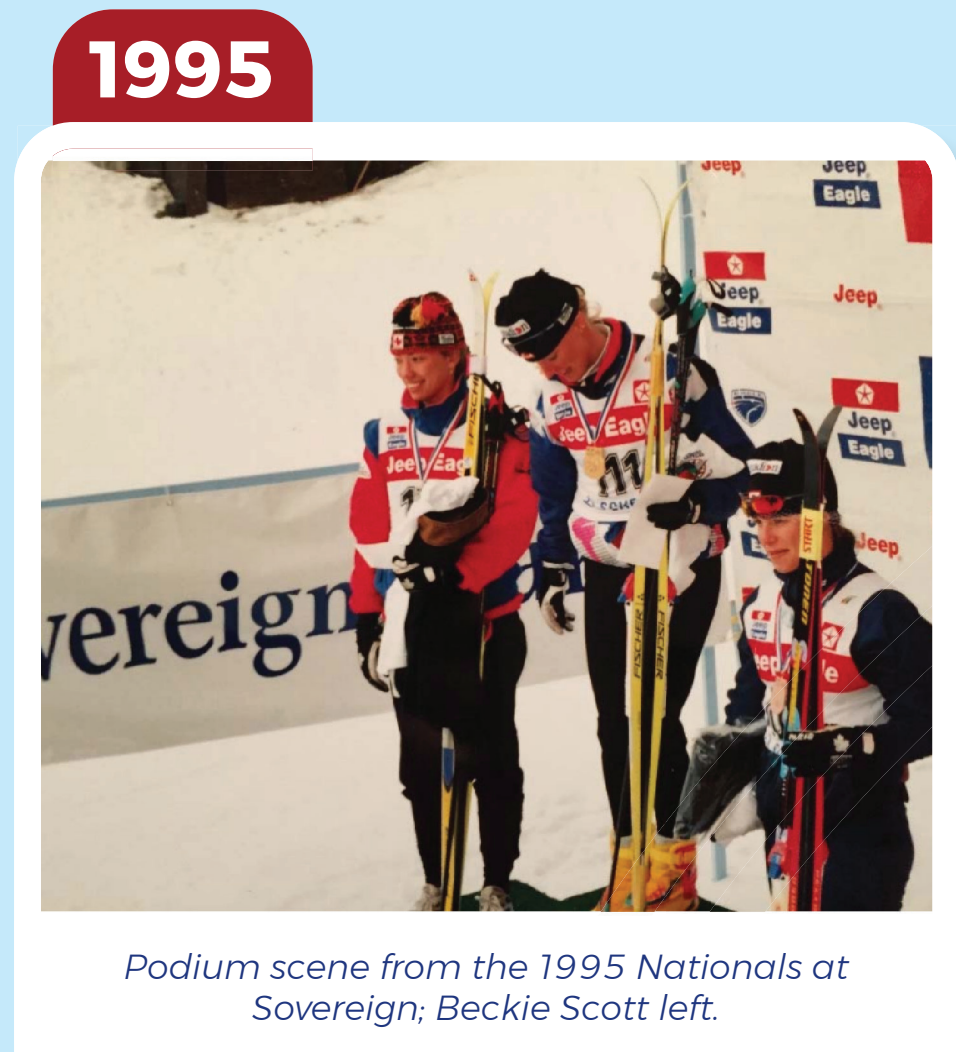
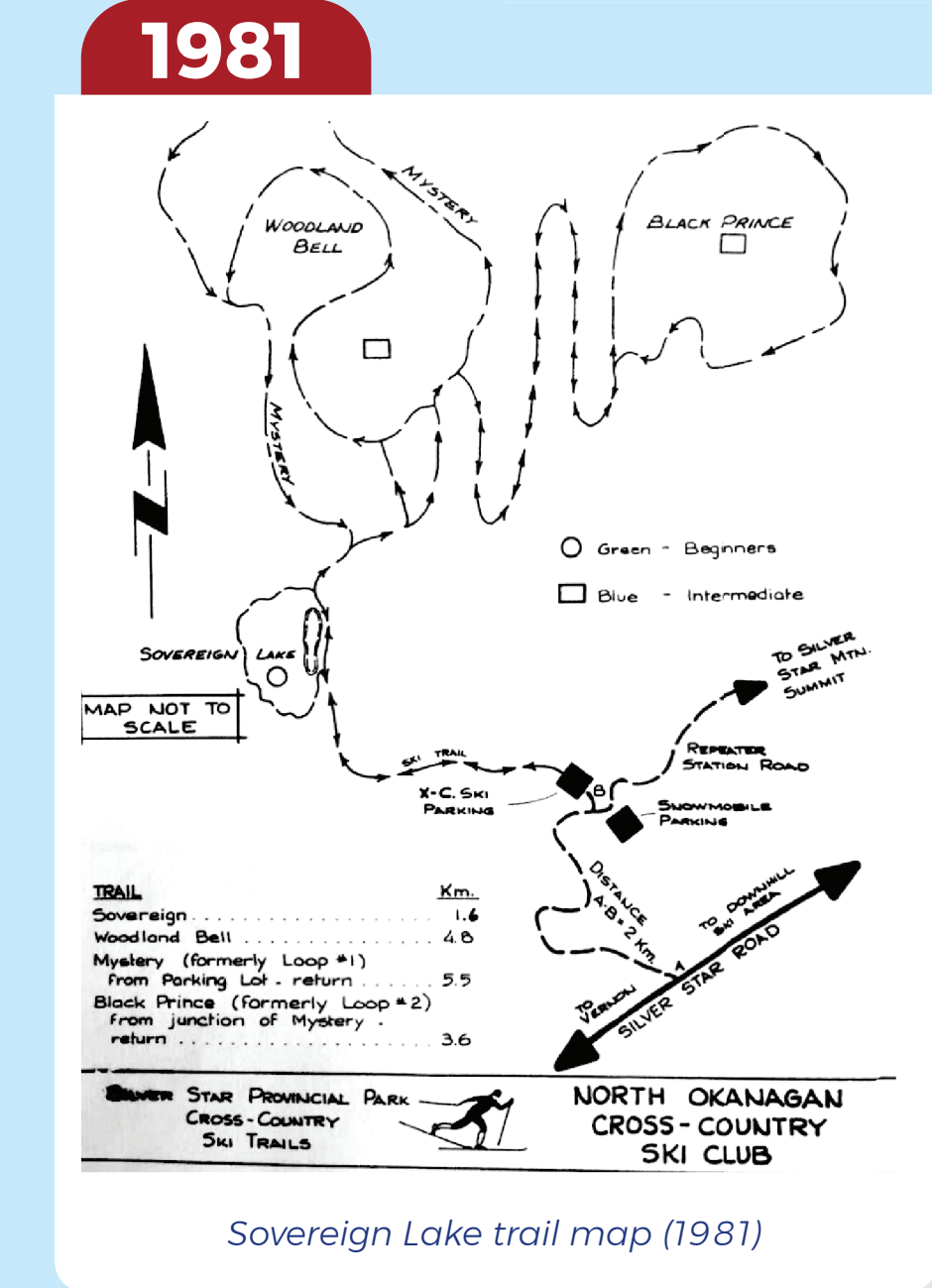
SKIING IN THE NORTH OKANAGAN

Sovereign Lake Nordic Club (SLNC) History



Major Events Hosted

- 1991** Federation International Ski (FIS) World Cup at SilverStar Mountain. There-after university & college, international / national / provincial and regional teams continue tradition of using Sovereign as their early season training ground
- 1995** Canadian National Championships
- 2005** FIS World Cup; comes with significant upgrades to infrastructure
- 2010** Seven international cross country / biathlon teams training at Sovereign / SilverStar leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.
- 2011** Sparkling Hills Master's World Cup - 23 nations, 1100+ participants
- 2019** Special Olympics BC Winter Games
- 2022** First "S2S" Sovereign to SilverStar Nordic Marathon; First International Biathlon Union (IBU) races and Canada's National Nordic Team training for the 2022 Olympics, all at Sovereign



1934 First ski to top of Silver Star Mountain.

1938 Silver Star Ski Club begins.

1939 City of Vernon donates log cabin at Vernon Lake, now Sovereign Lake. Skiers from across the north, central and south Okanagan begin using the area.

1950

1958 Silver Star becomes Class 'C' Provincial Park. SilverStar Sports formed beginning development of Resort.

1973-1974 North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club (NOCCSC) formed as branch of downhill Silver Star Ski Club.

1978 - 1979 First loppet / marathons held at Stussi farm near Falkland, moves to Sovereign in 1981. 1979 NOCCSC achieves BC not-for-profit status.

1983 Warming Hut (old Day Lodge) built.

1988 Black Prince Cabin built.

1974-1988 14 Nordic trails built primarily by volunteers.

1990 NOCCSC takes over operation of Sovereign Lake Ski Area from BC Parks. User pay introduced. Volunteers build ticket office; 1993 Current Day Lodge built largely by volunteers.

2000 Official name change from NOCCSC to Sovereign Lake Nordic Club (SLNC). 2003 Night skiing begins.

2011 Dual area passes and XC ski camps begin.

2012 Sovereign Ski Academy begins.

2014 Cellular phone and wireless internet connect Sovereign Lake to the world! Membership / season's pass holders close to 1700.

2015 SLNC's renowned master's Program initiated.

2019 SLNC's acquires first new snow cat. Biathlon Hut upgraded.

2020 With the COVID pandemic affecting the world, SLNC moves to electronic ticketing. Club reaches 3000 members / season's pass holders in 2020 and 3200 in 2021. Original Lodge / Warming Hut is rebuilt.

2021 New Biathlon Stadium is built. Total overall program participation reaches 500+.

2022 Self scan ticket technology introduced. New snowcat acquired. Tech building upgraded. Post-Secondary Academy Program launched.

2023 SLNC is actively engaged with Spirit North, an organization that focuses on active health and wellness among First Nations youth, giving kids the opportunity to ski, snowshoe or toboggan at Sovereign

Who Owns the Buildings, Funds and Takes Care of Them?

SLNC is located within Silver Star Provincial Park. The Club operates the area through a BC Park's Park Use Permit. BC Parks owns all the buildings; SLNC owns all the equipment, furnishings and supplies.

The Club is responsible for maintaining the buildings, trails and both the nordic and snowshoe / snow mobile parking lots, as well as raising the funds to pay for ongoing capital repairs and upgrades. Memberships / season's passes as well as earned revenues (rentals, sales, etc), sponsorships, programs and fundraising contribute to the annual budget which pays for all of this infrastructure and the operations at Sovereign.

SLNC Trail System

In the 1990s, the combined SLNC and SilverStar nordic trail system earned its place as one of the largest daily groomed Nordic Centres in North America. Trails cared for by SLNC include 52km ski, 15km snowshoe and 12km backcountry. Combined with the SilverStar network, the total is **105km of fabulous skiing!**

LODGES, GROOMERS, TRAILS... What Makes Up Sovereign's Infrastructure?

- Old Lodge: Built 1983** School groups, volunteer kitchen & lunchroom during races / events
- Black Prince Cabin: Built 1988** Warming hut and special events cabin
- Tech Building: Built for the 2005 FIS World Cup Races / recently renovated** SLNC offices, meeting space, plus race-related office, announcer's booth and equipment storage
- Race Office: Built early 2000s** Race / event registration and base for School programs

- Wax Hut/First Aid Building: Built 1990 originally as ticket booth** ½ for waxing, ½ for SLNC First Aid
- Biathlon Building: Built early 2000s with addition in 2022** Race office and meeting space
- Equipment/Maintenance Building: Built for the 2005 FIS World Cup Races** Storage and maintenance of grooming and other SLNC equipment
- SLNC Lodge: Built 1993** ~3800 sq ft for skiers, snowshoers and drop in visitors to gear up, relax and socialize, small space for storage, admin, rentals, and retail

Did You know?

There are eight buildings that make up the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club (SLNC) site? Plus, two groomers / snow cats, snow mobiles, the trail system, biathlon stadium and much more!

