

2004 EVENT

The Course The Full Course was used — (Sun Valley, Watchbed Creek, The Park, Heathy Spur and circumnavigation of the Lake).

Weather & Snow Conditions Perfect weather with an air temperature of 2°C. There was a freeze overnight making the track hard and fast.

Entries 981

Other *Record time* — Ben Derrick's time of 1hr 35min for 42km is the fastest recorded to date for a 'Full Course'. *Night Sprints* were reintroduced after an absence of 9 years. In the summer of 2003/04 an extension was added to the *Jack Heberle Race Hut* in the Nordic Bowl and used for the first time. At the flower-giving ceremony in the Nordic Bowl following the event, the Deputy Premier of Victoria, the Hon. John Thwaites, announced that Falls Creek would become the *National Cross Country Team Training Centre* with substantial financial investment from Falls Creek Resort Management.

Technical Delegate (TD) Robert Gross (USA)

Assistant TD Rob Barrow (AUS-VIC)

Winners & Best Australians				
	Overall		Best Australian	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Kangaroo Hoppet	Ben Derrick (AUS)	Clare-Louise Brumley (AUS)	Ben Derrick (1st)	Clare-Louise Brumley (1st)
Birkebeiner	Mark van der Ploeg (AUS)	Esther Bottomley (AUS)	Mark van der Ploeg (1st)	Esther Bottomley (1st)
Joey Hoppet	Simon Flower (AUS)	Chloe McConville (AUS)	Simon Flower (1st)	Chloe McConville (1st)