

2023 EVENT-CANCELLED

Leading up to August 26th the snow conditions were getting very thin and it appeared unlikely the Hoppet could be run over the usual heathy spur track and the sun valley loop. On Sunday 6th August the planning committee had an emergency meeting and made the early decision to cancel the **Joey** event this year. We refunded **175** Joey participants who had already signed up.

We were desperately trying to keep a recognised Worldloppet race going. A decision was made to hold the event around Mt McKay loop with a half distance. As the days passed, the conditions were worsening for a mass start and again we held another special HRC meeting on the 16th August. Start times were adjusted to help give the 40 elite skiers a good race. Meaning, 8.15am Elite, 9.30 #41-100, 9:32 #101-200 etc.

But finally, on August 23rd the jury met and decided that you could not have a fair and safe competition on the course, so the event would be cancelled. We understood that this was causing a lot of skiers to be very unhappy, especially the international ones. Some emergency talks were had with the secretariat of Worldloppet, and it was granted that skiers with a passport could time themselves, ski the half distance and qualify for their passport stamp. Participants were able to pick up their free souvenir can cooler, ski sticker and the WL stampers received a finishers certificate that was emailed to them by Alpine Timing.

ENTRIES before the cancellation

Kangaroo Hoppet 312

Australian Birkebeiner 316

Joey Hoppet 175

TOTAL 803