

BARmade

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

February 2026 - Vol 3

Upcoming events

- Feb 7 and 8 – BARmade Social in Lone Pine
- Feb 14 and 15 - Sweat and Sip
- Feb 28 and Mar 1– Olympic Cookie Cup and Volunteer Race Training
- Feb 19 to 22 – FIS GS and SL race
- Mar 14 –Norquay's Starlight Dinner at the Cliffhouse
- Mar 14 and 15 – U12 Caribou Cup
- Mar 21 and 22 – U10 BVQ Invitational
- March (Date TBD) – Parent Race Lessons
- Mar 28 – Norquay's 100 Year Celebration and Bruno Engler Race
- Apr 17 to 19 – Bozo and Kinder Cup, including Corporate "Crazy Canuck Challenge"

Good luck to BAR Alumni Jeff Read as he heads to the Milano-Cortina Olympic Games!

Be sure to check out the Alpine events!



Men's Alpine Skiing Schedule:

- Downhill: Saturday, Feb 7, 3:30 a.m. MST
- Super-G: Wednesday, Feb 11, 3:30 a.m. MST
- GS (Run 1): Saturday, Feb 14, 2:00 a.m. MST
- GS (Run 2): Saturday, Feb 14, 5:30 a.m. MST
- Slalom (Run 1): Monday, Feb 16, 2:00 a.m. MST
- Slalom (Run 2): Monday, Feb 16, 5:30 a.m. MST

Women's Alpine Skiing Schedule:

- Downhill: Sunday, Feb 8, 3:30 a.m. MST
- Super-G: Thursday, Feb 12, 3:30 a.m. MST
- GS (Run 1): Sunday, Feb 15, 2:00 a.m. MST
- GS (Run 2): Sunday, Feb 15, 5:30 a.m. MST
- Slalom (Run 1): Wednesday, Feb 18, 2:00 a.m. MST
- Slalom (Run 2): Wednesday, Feb 18, 5:30 a.m. MST

Go Canada and GO JEFF!



Thank you!



A big thank you to the following alumni who volunteered as panel guests at the Fireside Chat and/or signed up to volunteer at the U14 Provincial Race on Silver Legacy:

- Barry Cochrane
- Jo-Anne Yamauchi
- Kelvin Cochrane
- Lauren Kucera
- Geoff Irwin
- Paul Stutz
- Will Donohoe

Olympic BARmade Social



Join us in the Lone Pine Pub Feb 7 and 8 for our Olympic-themed BARmad Social. Wear your Olympic or Team Canada gear and come cheer on the team and enjoy nachos and beverages with fellow BAR/BVQ parents and alumni!

Feb 7 & 8 – Olympic BARmade Social 1:30-3:00pm

- Saturday, Nachos in Lone Pine
- Sunday, Wildlife Distillery tasting in Kika's

BARmade Merch

COMING SOON - New BAR/BARmade Buffs. Stay tuned to purchase details in the coming weeks



BAR Alumni Update

Each month, we like to provide an update on the BAR alumni who are pursuing racing on the provincial, World Cup and post-secondary pathways:

- Jeff Read – Alpine Canada, World Cup Speed Team - heading to the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Games. He will be competing in both DH and SG. Race dates are:
 - Men's Downhill (DH): Saturday, February 7, 3:30am
 - Men's Super-G (SG): Wednesday, February 11 3:30am

Volunteer of the Month

Monthly, we recognize our parents that volunteered at a BARmade event/race that month, by drawing the name of a BAR, BVQ and Alumni Volunteer. This year, the winners of the draw receive a BARmade tumbler.

Congratulations to our January Volunteer of the Month Winners:

BAR - Gena Boris

BVQ - Alistair Murison

ALUMNI - Lauren Kucera

Please email barmade@banffalpineracers.com to collect your prize.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to long-time coach and 2025 BAR Coach of the Year, Jessica Boyce, and her partner Ivan, who welcomed their first baby, girl Alexandria Charlie Price

BAR/BVQ and the Dakar Rally

From the ski slopes of the Bow Valley to the scorching sands of Saudi Arabia, BAR/BVQ families are proud to recognize a historic achievement by two of our own. Nathan Hayashi and Steven Hjorleifson, alongside The Gear Shop Technical Motorsport Team (GSTM), have etched their names into the record books as the first all-Canadian team to both build their own vehicle and conquer the legendary Dakar Rally.

Both Nathan and Steven began their journey as ski racers in the Bow Valley. Drawing inspiration from icons like World Cup champion Luc Alphand—who famously transitioned from downhill skiing to Dakar glory—they proved that the precision and grit learned on the mountain are the perfect foundation for the desert.

Widely considered the most grueling off-road race on Earth, the Dakar Rally is a 12-stage marathon that pushes human and machine to the breaking point.

- The Distance: 8,000 kilometres of the world's most rugged, unforgiving terrain.
- The Timeline: 18 days of relentless competition and extreme mental fatigue.
- The Odds: With a historic finish rate of only 50–70%, simply crossing the finish line is a monumental feat.

While other Canadians have competed, GSTM made history by racing a vehicle born in Calgary. The logistics alone were a massive undertaking: the team had to coordinate the shipment of their race car, support vehicles, and entire technical arsenal from Alberta to Europe, to first compete in Morocco, and finally into Saudi Arabia for the Dakar Rally.

Nathan and Steven represented Canada in a field of 787 competitors from 49 nations. Their journey was witnessed by a staggering 1.3 billion viewers worldwide, with the race broadcast in 190 countries. By finishing their first Dakar, they haven't just achieved a personal goal—they have proven that Bow Valley athletes and Canadian engineering can compete on the world stage.

Our clubs salute The Gear Shop Technical Motorsport Team for their courage, innovation, and unwavering determination. Follow this link to view highlights from their YouTube Channel. [The Gear Shop Dakar 2026](#)

Interested in Volunteering?

The next BAR-hosted race is a FIS GS & SL
February 19 to 22

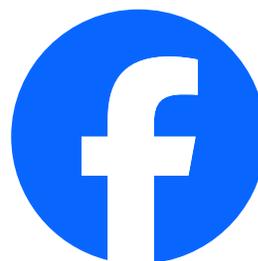
Click the volunteer Link [Here](#) or reach out
to Chief of Volunteers, Cori Vertz at barfisrace@gmail.com



BAR/BVQ Alumni Facebook group

Please join our NEW and growing Alumni Facebook group “BAR/BVQ Alumni”, including Alumni Athletes and Alumni Parents. Check out upcoming BARmade Events, share photos, stories and connect with old friends and tag other alumni you know. We’re really hoping to build our Alumni Group culminating in TWO big Alumni get togethers:

- March 28: Norquay’s 100 Year Celebration
- April 18: BOZO Cup



Sincerely,

The BARmade Committee

Tammy Berthiaume, Ange Helie, Lauren Kucera, Alison Stutz and Ashley Donohoe