

The MACC Numbers for 2003

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This season had our lowest turnout on record, even though the weather was great and the ski season started early. We will need to adjust our program operations as needed to function effectively with less than 200 racers showing up on a typical Boyne weekend.

The main losses in numbers since 1992 are with young, intermediate classes. Supervet numbers have remained steady. Our numbers have grown in the elite classes, where we offer the main regional program.

Analysis and Possibilities

Class Changes

After early season adjustments, we ran with 21 classes in 2003. With only 3 A woman racers on average, we cannot maintain two classes (A and Vet-A). We should offer both on the 2004 registration, but plan to merge the classes unless we get some new under-40 A women racers.

There were no classes that were large enough to require a split for 2004.

The minimum age for most MACC vet classes is 40, with the cut-off age being 35 for men's E1 and E2. Table 1 shows the number of elite racers in the existing classes, in three age groups.

Table 1. Current age summary for elite men (Dec 31, 2003).

Class	Under 35	35-39	40-49	50+
E2M	6	5	2	0
VE2M	—	0	11	8
E1M	17	4	1	0
VE1M	—	4*	13	4

* 3 racers will be 39, 1 will be 37.

The age 35 cut-off for the VE2M class does not reflect the current distribution for E2M-VE2M. It should be changed to simplify our rules and application form, and to ensure E2M stays stable. Note that this change would not require a single racer in VE2M to move to E2M.

Keeping Our Racers

Our current racers fall into three categories:

1. Those who will leave the program no matter what,
2. Those who will stay with the program no matter what, and
3. Those who will stay if things go well, but will leave if we screw up or take the fun out.

Group 3 is the one we can influence by continuing to work on quality control. The general perception is that things ran very well in 2003 (starting on time, finishing with reasonable speed). The exceptions were the Master's race and the Cantor Cup, which are once-per-season events.

Getting New Racers

Ski clubs have traditionally provided new racers. However, the largest number of racers brought in by a club this year was 2 (Toledo and Thunderbirds), while four clubs lost 4 or 5 each. If we stick with our traditional way of bringing in racers (clubs), we are doomed. It will not take many more years for the MACC program to shrink to the point where very serious changes in the program will be needed, including higher cost.

The guest racer option is becoming an effective way for new racers to join the program. Feedback from some new racers indicates that we need to improve our on-hill registration process to accommodate new racers who are not in a club yet, but heard about us from friends, the web site, or publicity material.

The mentoring and coaching on course 5 by Jackie Giles has gotten good reviews, and some racers have asked for similar activities on course 4. This should be pursued next year as a way to make the program more fun for beginning racers.

16-Year Old Racers?

In 2001 we voted to keep the MACC program closed to high-school kids. After short discussions in fall 2002, no changes were made. The main concerns were (1) liability, and (2) the desire by some officers to keep out fanatic parents who can make life difficult in organized kid sports. Still, the idea keeps getting suggested as a means for attracting new and younger racers. Here is an option that was proposed in various chairlift ride in 2003.

Allow racers 16 and 17 to register if their parents are also registered MACC racers. Also, change the minimum age from 19 to 18. (Our current age limit is 19 or a high school diploma.) The rationale is that 18-year olds are adults, and 16-year olds are near-adults who can drive and go to prison for felonies. Making the parent be a racer should leave out those “living vicariously through their children,” and could bring back some of our former racers who have left because of family conflicts (e.g., coaching their kids).

Data for 2003

Table 2 shows our turnout for each year since 1992 (except 1995—no data). Note that all numbers shown in this report are based on attendance, not registration. Our numbers this year were the lowest so far. The weather was generally good this year—the lower numbers are because we had fewer people in the program.

Table 3 shows the attendance for the courses. If our numbers next year are any lower, we should go to 4 courses to provide enough workers. (That’s about 50 racers per course.)

Table 4 shows our attendance by class. There were no classes that were large enough to require a split for 2004, and the turnout for A Women implies we should merge AW and VAW for 2004.

Table 2. Turnout per race.

Year	Ave	Byne	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1992	286	312	360	353	316	320	203	204	299	297	246	286	267		
1993	256	284	333	339	275	278	208	195	209	205	247	236	237	288	272
1994	262	287	304	293	298	292	282	269	191	214	212	232	286	268	
1996	209	236	280	275	226	221	206	207	129	153	142	200	240	234	
1997	212	250	254		253	261	255	259	129	127	122	204	244	229	
1998	191	212	230	221	221	220	198	208	138	142	136	178	213	190	
1999	203	226	245	230	225	210	214	226	153	158	152	194	229	?	
2000	181	222*	238	221	227	226	217	203	143	134	133	143	179	108	
2001	185	203	231	218	220	220	187	198	140	147	128	158	193	144	
2002	176	210*	225	210	227	211	117	128	126	196	188	156	150	?	
2003	162	200	201	200	194	195	114	121	123	176	163	149	181	123	

*Average of first 6 2000 / 2002 races (normal weather). Cantor Cup totals not included.

Table 3. Course attendance.

COURSE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	41	43	44	44	75	45	85	42	36	35	37	123
2	49	49	47	45	39	41	38	46	39	32	45	
3	40	41	41	37		35		36	35	28	39	
4	42	40	32	39				33	33	33	34	
5	29	27	30	30				19	20	21	26	

Table 4. Class attendance in 2003.

Class	Ave	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A Men	7.83	8	9	10	9	5	5	5	10	9	6	11	7
A Women	3.00	5	5	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2
B Men	5.08	5	6	9	8	2	2	2	6	6	2	7	6
B Women	5.00	4	4	7	7	3	3	3	7	6	5	9	2
C Men	6.50	9	7	6	7	8	7	7	4	5	7	6	5
C Women	6.33	9	10	7	8	4	4	4	7	6	7	6	4
D1 Men	8.66	11	10	12	12	7	6	7	9	9	7	8	6
D Women	4.66	5	5	7	6	3	4	4	3	2	5	6	6
Elite-1 Men	14.16	16	16	19	17	13	15	15	15	12	13	12	7
Elite-1 Women	4.00	5	5	6	6	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	1
Elite-2 Men	6.83	12	12	8	7	4	3	3	11	8	4	7	3
Elite-2 Women	4.41	6	6	5	4	3	3	3	5	4	5	6	3
Supervet-A Men	3.58	4	4	4	5		2	2	4	4	5	5	4
Supervet-B Men	8.33	11	10	10	13	3	4	4	11	11	6	8	9
Supervet-C Men	7.08	9	7	5	6	6	6	8	7	7	8	9	7
Supervet-D Men	9.50	13	12	11	12	8	8	8	7	7	9	10	9
Vet-A Men	10.41	12	12	14	13	9	9	9	9	7	10	12	9
Vet-A Women	8.16	10	10	9	8	6	6	6	10	9	9	9	6
Vet-B Men	10.08	16	16	13	11	8	8	7	8	7	9	11	7
Vet Elite-1 Men	12.83	14	15	14	13	10	11	11	15	14	14	13	10
Vet Elite-2 Men	12.91	17	16	14	14	8	9	9	16	15	12	15	10
Guest	2.25		3	1	6				5	8		4	

Table 5 shows how the numbers have changed since 1992 by class. Overall, we are gaining elite racers, keeping old racers, and losing intermediate young racers.

Table 5. Class attendance since 1992.

Class	1992	1993	1994	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
A Men	17	11	10	7	9	11	13	10	6		8
A Women	9*	8*	11*	9*	11*	8*	11*	13*	14*	6	3
B Men	24	19	16	6	9	7	11	9	9	9	5
B Women	16*	16*	14*	14*	13*	11	10	8	8	5	5
C Men	34*	29*	29*	19*	20*	23*	19*	13*	9	9	7
C Women	22*	17*	18*	13*	14*	8	11	12	7	7	6
D1 Men	27*	17*	20*	15*	16*	13	4	6	5	5	9
D2 Men							2	3	6	5	
D Women	19*	21*	18*	12	8	6	10	6	8	6	5
Elite-1 Men	16	18	20	17	18	16	18	12	14	13	14
Elite-1 Women	7	5	6	6	4	7	5	5	4	4	4
Elite-2 Men	16	11	12	11	9	11	10	11	9	9	7
Elite-2 Women							6	4	6	4	4
Supervet-A Men											4
Supervet-B Men	6	4	6	9	13	12	12	8	10	9	8
Supervet-C Men	8	8	9	7	6		9	11	8	8	7
Supervet-D Men	9	11	13	15	13	13	10	9	10	9	10
Vet-A Women										8	8
Vet-A Men	11	17	14	12	12	9	8	8	9	14	10
Vet-B Men	28	29*	31*	22*	19*	12	10	10	13	14	10
Vet Elite-1 Men	14	14	16	16	19	11	11	11	13	14	13
Vet Elite-2 Men						12	15	12	14	11	13

*Number includes vet classes that no longer exist.

Table 6 shows the attendance histories of the clubs since 1992. The only gains were minor: Thunderbirds and Toledo grew by 2 racers and GM grew by 1. Most of the lost racers were from Jim Dandy, Schussmeisters, Powderhounds, and Skiwis (4 to 5 each).

Table 6. Average attendance by club.

Club	1992	1993	1994	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Ann Arbor Ski Club	16	10	10	12	17	14	13	16	12	9	8
GM Ski Club	43	42	44	24	20	17	14	9	6	5	6
Jim Dandy Ski Club	11	11	15	11	9	11	14	11	12	12	7
Lansing Ski Club	34	31	31	26	20	15	14				
Powderhounds	25	17	16	19	21	17	14	12	12	11	7
Schussmeisters	33	30	40	35	41	40	41	33	35	32	27
Skiniks	24	20	18	18	17	13	12	14	14	15	12
Skiwis	8	9	11	6	10	9	15	26	23	21	17
Snow Drifters	7	5	7	10	7	8	8	13	16	19	19
Team Rust	27	26	25	15	15	19	17	15	13	12	11
Thunderbirds	31	31	35	33	35	29	31	25	25	26	28
Toledo Ski Club	7	2					11	13	13	13	15

Table 7 shows the club votes for next year, based on the turnout for the 12 races from 2003. It takes a total of 60 racer starts to get a vote, 144 to get two votes, and 360 to get three votes. Schussmeisters lost a vote, dropping to 2, and GM regained a vote. Thus, the total number of votes is unchanged at 17, and a quorum for MACC in 2003 is 9 voting members (same as 2002).

Table 7. Votes for 2003.

Ski Club	Votes	Ave	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Ann Arbor Ski Club	1	8.16	98	9	10	10	10	6	6	6	7	7	8	10	9
GM Ski Club	1	5.75	69	8	8	8	6		3	3	8	7	6	7	5
Jim Dandy Ski Club	1	6.91	83	10	10	9	8	3	5	5	8	7	5	8	5
Powderhounds	1	7.00	84	9	9	8	6	5	4	4	10	9	8	8	4
Schussmeisters	2	26.91	323	38	34	31	34	19	19	18	31	29	22	31	17
Skiniks	2	12.33	148	16	13	16	16	9	8	9	11	12	12	14	12
Skiwis	2	16.91	203	17	17	18	19	15	15	15	18	18	16	19	16
Snow Drifters	2	19.16	230	23	22	24	23	15	16	16	20	19	18	21	13
Team Rust	1	10.58	127	14	18	15	16	1	1	1	14	10	13	14	10
Thunderbirds	2	28.16	338	36	34	33	31	21	23	22	31	27	26	31	23
Toledo	2	15.33	184	21	22	17	16	17	17	18	11	9	14	13	9