

## **BLUFF COUNTRY BIATHLON**

**MISSION STATEMENT WE PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY AND TRAINING FOR YOUTH OF ALL ABILITIES AND DIVERSE ECONOMIC SITUATIONS TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE AND DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS THROUGH THE SPORTS OF NORDIC SKIING AND RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP**

**VISION WE MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH LEADERSHIP SKILLS, ACADEMIC MENTORING, ACTIVE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES, AND VOLUNTEERISM. WE ARE FOCUSED ON CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT OF EMPOWERMENT FOR ABLE-BODIED YOUTH AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES**

Because biathlon is an expensive sport, Bluff Country Biathlon (BCB) was established to make it financially feasible for youth to get involved in programs fostering personal growth and healthy outdoor lifestyles. We are a new and growing local non-profit organization established in the summer of 2018. We're focused on teaching local youth about firearm safety, rifle marksmanship and nordic skiing while growing the sport of biathlon. We utilize both electronic biathlon rifles and competition .22 cal rifles (see descriptions below).

We support those who want to participate on a recreational level as well as those who have aspirations of being more competitive and desire to pursue the Junior or World Championship or Olympic development routes. Regardless of the chosen path, participants in our program will take away activities and learnings that they can continue to enjoy for a lifetime at local ranges and trails. We ski at Mississippi National Golf Links and develop our marksmanship skills at RW Sportsmen's Club.

Club participants can utilize both BCB ski and biathlon equipment at practices and during competitions. If you have questions, want to become a member or just want to give it a try, please contact: Holly Hanson at [Bluffcountrybiathlon@gmail.com](mailto:Bluffcountrybiathlon@gmail.com).

## **MINNESOTA BIATHLON**

Minnesota Biathlon has been successful in grooming young local athletes for spots on Olympic, World Championship and Junior Championship teams. Bluff Country Biathlon works very closely with Minnesota Biathlon. Minnesota has maintained a strong tradition of representing the US on the world biathlon stage. In 2020, a high percentage of Minnesota youth qualified to represent the US in the following events. Additional information can be found on [www.minnesotabiathlon.com](http://www.minnesotabiathlon.com)

**Youth and Junior World Championships in Lenzerheide, Switzerland** - Only 3 or 4 athletes qualify to represent the United States on each of the championship teams listed below.

Female Junior World Championship Team

- Emma Stertz - MN Biathlon

Female Youth World Championship Team

- Kaisa Bosek – MN Biathlon

Male Junior World Championship Team

- Garrett Beckrick – MN Biathlon
- Vaclav Cervenka– MN Biathlon

Male Youth World Championship Team

- Sam Stertz– MN Biathlon

# Biathlon: Shooting At 180 Beats Per Minute

AIM, HOLD BREATH, FIRE

Here is the background of a unique sport: Biathlon. Evolving from hunting and military patrols, the combination of skiing and shooting was first demonstrated at the Olympic Winter Games in 1924. Biathlon became an Olympic sport at the 1960 Squaw Valley Winter Games in California. Women biathletes competed in their first Olympics in 1992.

Biathlon is a smallbore sport combined with cross-country ski courses that range from a 10K sprint (7.5K for women) to the 20K individual (15K for women). A biathlon event is a race in which cross-country skiers negotiate trails that are divided into either two or four shooting matches, half in the prone position and half in standing. Penalties for missed shots are assessed as either a minute added to the overall time, or a 150-meter penalty lap, depending on the event. The contestant crossing the finish line with the lowest calculated time is the winner.

These are highly accurate rapid-fire guns and, as such, athletes use an Anschutz Fortner (straight-pull bolt) action. The rulebook regulates biathlon rifles by minimum weight, trigger resistance, dimensions and shape. Magazines may be spot checked before or after an event to ensure they contain only five rounds that can be fired directly from the magazine.

The muzzle extension (see photographs below) is a snow shield/cover for the barrel and sights. The cover is flipped down for shooting. After a shooting stage, we'll flip it closed over the sights and barrel muzzle to keep snow from getting in them while the athletes are skiing or if they fall. There is also have a snow shield for the rear sight.



## Biathlon Competition Rifle that meets all the specification rules



### Model 1827F ANSCHÜTZ Sprint Fortner Comfort Grip

An extra light 1827 Fortner barreled action combined with new comfort grip stock. This combination makes the rifle 300 g lighter with a total weight of 3.7 kg. The stock is ergonomically designed with the center of gravity closer to the body and aerodynamic. Shortened 5-shot magazines were laterally incorporated into the stock to reduce the surface on which the wind can act.

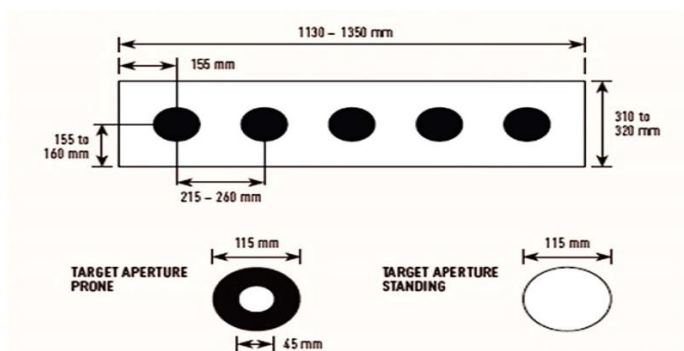
#### Barreled action:

The straight pull action with repeating device which is reliable at all weather conditions in connection with the match two-stage trigger adjusted to 550 g allows very fast and reliable repeating which results in important seconds for the success.

#### Barrel:

Cold-tested barrels guarantee an excellent shooting performance even at extreme temperatures of -20°C. The rifle is equipped with a special front sight with snow cover, which prevents snow deposits on the sight and which can be opened and closed quickly.

#### Targets



The targets used for the standing position are 4.5 inches in diameter. When you're lying down, athletes have to hit a disc that's less than 2 inches in diameter which is comparable to trying to hit something the size of a quarter.

## Bluff Country Biathlon Electronic Club Rifles

### ECOAIMS OPTICAL SHOOTING SPORTS

#### E00744B BIATHLON RIFLE SET

Camera biathlon rifle equipped with hand support and left and right-hand cocking.

Interactive E-D13 display units that provide participants with instant visual and vocal feedback indicating where electronic shots have landed while automatically scoring the target.



### Anschutz LaserPower III Master Level

Laser biathlon rifle. The stock is almost identical to the 1827 Fortner stock allowing training to mimic shooting actual .22 cal competition rifle. Full butt and cheek rest adjustments, sling and harness rail.



### Precision Biathlon Competition Targets Devin Mfg. Inc.

