



## Come See Elite International Skiers Race for the World Cup at Wirth Park

On March 17, 2020 the Cross Country World Cup returns to American snow for the first time since 2001. Join Minnesota's own Olympic Gold Medalist Jessie Diggins as she and the U.S. Ski Team take on the world's best cross country skiers in Bryn Mawr's own backyard—Theodore Wirth Regional Park. The World Cup Sprint Finals will cap off a four day Fastenal Parallel 45 Winter Festival which includes live music, craft beer gardens, citizen races and spectator events. This unique festival will showcase the best of winter in a way only possible in Minnesota.

Hosting a World Cup event was an idea Loppet Foundation organizers had kicked around for years, but it moved much closer to reality with the success of Minnesota skier Jessie Diggins and her American teammate Kikkan Randall at the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea. Twenty eight year old Jessie Diggins is a native of Afton, Minnesota and with teammate Randall they were the first American athletes to win a gold medal in Olympic cross country ski competition. Diggin's star power was key to successfully recruit the international ski competition to Minnesota and attract critical corporate sponsors.

As Co-Chair of the Host Committee Jessie is excited to show skiers from around the world how her home state embraces winter through outdoor sports and warm hospitality. In addition to the 130 elite skiers competing, spectators will be coming from Europe, Canada and the United States to watch this world class event. Sponsors expect 15,000 attendees and live television cover-



age broadcast nationally and internationally.

This festival has something for everyone. Don't miss out on this once in a lifetime experience to cheer on Jessie and the U.S. Team and play in the outdoors. You can even walk, bike or ski to the event. Dress warm, put on your glitter, bring your cowbells and arrive early. Jessie would be proud!

Find a full schedule of free Winter Festival events and purchase spectator tickets for the March 17th World Cup Day at [MNWORLD CUP.COM](http://MNWORLD CUP.COM).

### Must See Festival Events

**SNOWBALL-IN-HELL** presented by the Minnesota Vikings - Saturday & Sunday March 14-15

Thrill seekers test their limits in the Snowball-in-Hell Ski and Bike races which feature banked turns, drops, jumps, and plenty of crashes. These high octane downhill races are sure to be great fun for participants and spectators alike.

**FAST AND FEMALE - Sunday March 15**  
Young girls will team up in ski relays with 50 former U.S. Cross Country Ski Team Olympians and participate in a Power Hour inspirational talk with the Olympians to learn how being Fast and Female helps one succeed and lead in life.

**MINNE-LOPPET AND MIDWEST YOUTH CHAMPS - Saturday & Sunday March 14-15**

Cheer on the future generation of outdoor enthusiasts! Minnesota youth in the Minne-Loppet ski curriculum will show off their skills in the non-competitive Winter Minne-Loppet.

**SPRINTS SPECTATOR MAP**

**PARKING MAP**

FOR DETAILED SHUTTLE BUS TIMES & LOCATIONS VISIT: [LOPPET.ORG/EVENTS/PARALLEL45/FESTIVAL](http://LOPPET.ORG/EVENTS/PARALLEL45/FESTIVAL)

Midwest Youth Champs will ski in both classic and skate ski races, sprints, and freestyle relays.

All kids can participate in a paintball biathlon, tug-of-war, obstacle course and skijoring demos.

Village Block Party, Music Festival and Expo

No festival is complete without food and music! Festival goers can fuel up at the food trucks, hydrate with beverages, shop at the Expo and listen to the best of Minnesota's music scene in the heart of the village at the Trailhead. Constant entertainment featuring Minnesota homegrown bands will keep the energy pumping throughout the days and into each night. Access to

the Block Party and Expo is free, open to the public and unticketed.

### Give Joy and Get Joy— Volunteer

Put yourself in the heart of the action by volunteering. With an event of this scale organizers need as many people as possible to make the Festival a memorable success. Opportunities include Information Ambassador, Chalet Hospitality, Traffic Assistant, Food and Beverage Leads, Vendor Village Set-up, Event Assistants and much more. To apply go to [MNWORLD CUP.COM/Festival-Information/Volunteer](http://MNWORLD CUP.COM/Festival-Information/Volunteer). All volunteers receive a festival hat from LLBean.

See you there!

- Karen Frederickson, Area 2 Co-Rep

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