



Camrose Ski Club

The Camrose Ski Club was founded by Scandanavian immigrants in 1911 as the Fram Ski Club. Its founding members were the Engebretson brothers, P. Mikkleson, Adolph Maland and Lars Maland, with J.R. Engebretson as its first President. The club made its home in Stoney Creek Valley, Alberta, its original purpose being to promote skiing among the local youth.

Ski jumping was the main attraction with as many as 3000 spectators regularly attending to watch the "daring Norwegian flyers". The first tournament was held in 1912 won by Adolph Maland with jumps of 69 and 74 feet. In 1913 the Fram Ski club (the club changed its name to Camrose Ski Club in 1920) hosted the Western Canadian Championship Tournament at Camrose and, again, Adolph Maland won this event. The ski jump collapsed over the summer of 1926.

Olympians from Camrose Ski Club in the disciplines of cross country skiing, jumping, nordic combined, luge and biathlon include Jostein Nordmoe, Kari Engstad (1932 Lake Placid), Irvin and Clarence Servold (1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy and 1960 Squaw valley, California), Carol Gibson (1988 Nagano, Japan), and Glenn Rupertus (1988 Nagano, Japan, 1992 Albertville, France, 1994 Lillehammer, Norway).

An important annual event is the Ole Uffda Loppet that originated in 1977 under the name of the Camrose Cross Country Ski Gallop. It encouraged participation from all skiers both young and old. Today the course ranges in length from a short 1.25 kms for children aged 3-5 to 30 kms for seasoned competitors.



Presently, the Camrose Ski Club is still active. It offers a variety of nordic programs for youth including cross-country, adult skiing, and biathlon. It also partners with Augustana University Vikings for biathlon and cross-country programs. The club still hosts the Ole Uffda Loppet each year.

To learn more visit: www.camroseskiclub.com.