

Alison looking up at the scoreboard after the World Cup Race in Telemark, Wisconsin - 1978

This is a picture of the Pacific Northwest Junior National Team in 1966. Alison qualified at 13 years old with the age limit being 18. It was uncertain if a female would be allowed to compete since that had never been done. The organizers had their meeting and decided to allow Alison to compete with the boys. The next year and from then on, there has been a "girls" division at U.S. Nordic Championships.

Left to Right:

Coach: Herb Thomas

George Doris

??

Lyle Nelson

Doug Buckleaw

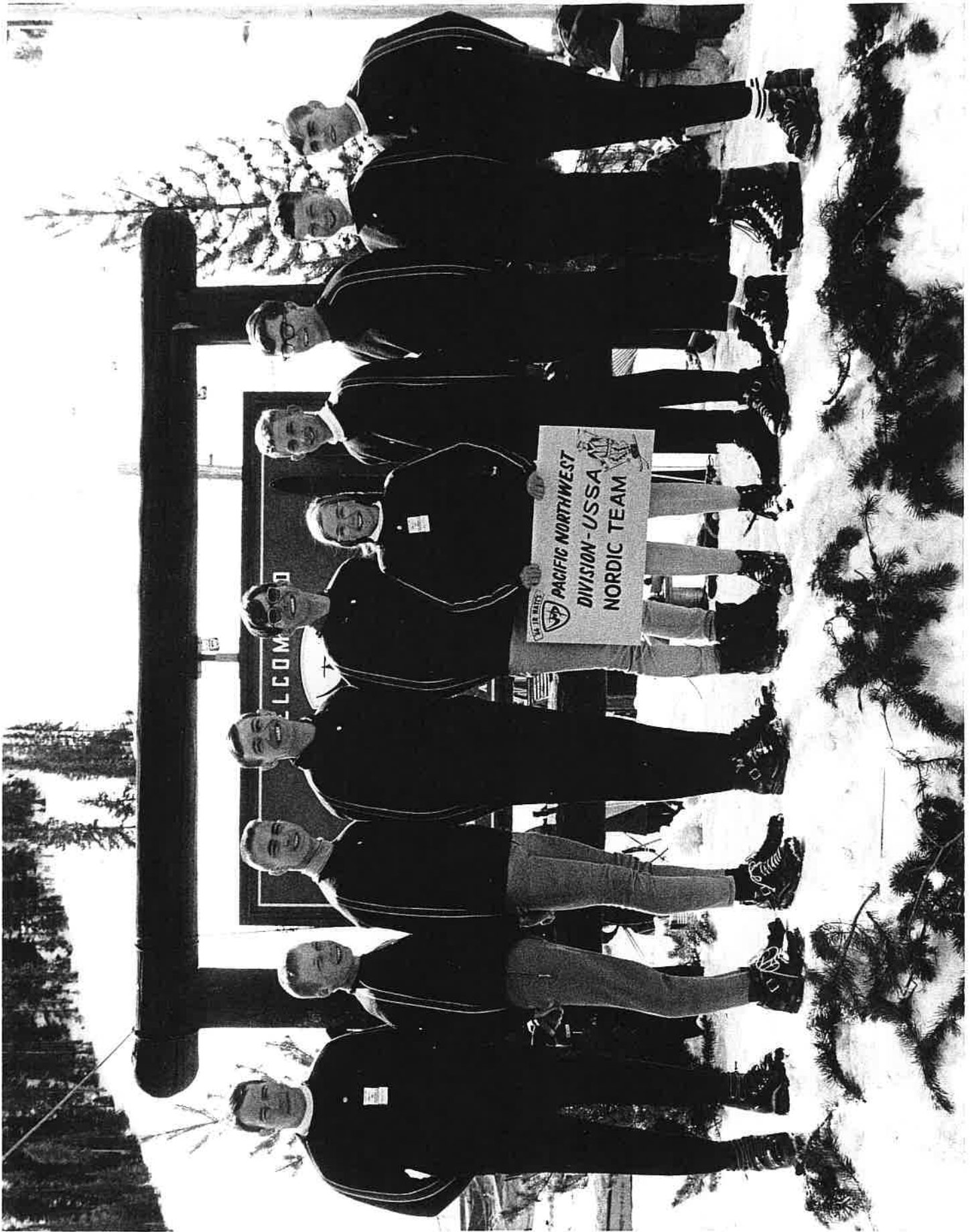
Alison Owen

Marc Buchanan

Fred Bittle

Dean Gill

Milton Taylor



State why the candidate merits election to the U.S. National Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame:

Alison Owen Bradley was a women's cross-country ski racing pioneer, helping U.S. women onto the national and international ski racing stage. By qualifying for, and racing in, the U.S. Men's Junior National Championships in 1966 at the age of 13, she opened U.S. national cross-country ski racing championships for women. In 1970 and 1974 she competed on the first two U.S. World Championship Teams for women and in 1972 the first U.S. Olympic Team for women.

Alison took a two-year break from international competition in 1975 and 1976 to ski in college in Alaska.

When Alison resumed national and international competition at age 24, she achieved top level results.

- Eight-time U.S. National Champion.
- Seventh in the 78-79 Overall World Cup Standings. Five of the skiers ahead of her were from Russia - we now suspect they used PEDs. This was the best result by a U.S. woman until Kikkan Randall was fifth, 33 years later, in 2012.
- Won the first Nordic World Cup race in December 1978.
- Ski Racing Magazine's U.S. Nordic Competitor of the Year for 1977, 1978, and 1979.

After retiring from the U.S. Team in 1981, Alison has remained engaged in the sport of cross-country skiing through coaching, mentoring, and masters racing. For 10 years Alison coached for the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation and taught at the Sun Valley Nordic Center. Her passion is playing on the edges of physical ability and showing athletes and students the fun of pushing their boundaries to new levels of excellence.

Alison Owen Bradley Racing Results by Year

Season	Date	Event	Location	Distance (KM)	Place
80/81	2/1/1981	U.S. Nationals	Lake Placid, New York	10	1
	2/2/1981	U.S. Nationals	Lake Placid, New York	5	1
	2/3/1981	U.S. Nationals	Lake Placid, New York	20	2
79/80			Asarna, Sweden		8
	12/17/1979	Gitchi Gami Games	Telemark, Wisconsin	8	1
	12/19/1979	Gitchi Gami Games	Telemark, Wisconsin	10	3
	Jan-80	Monolitten	Oslo, Norway		3
	1/12/1980	Reitim Winki World Cup	Germany	10	3
	1/15/1980	Ramsau Dachstein Trophae	Austria	5	1
	1/28/1980	U.S. Nationals	Monte Ste. Anne, Quebec	10	1
	1/30/1980	U.S. Nationals	Monte Ste. Anne, Quebec	7.5	1
	2/15/1980	Olympics	Lake Placid, New York	10	22
	2/18/1980	Olympics	Lake Placid, New York	5	22
	3/8/1980	World Championships	Lahti, Finland	20	17
	3/15/1980	Holmenkollen	Oslo, Norway	10	2
	Mar-80		Falun, Sweden		17
	78/79		World Cup - overall		Multiple
12/20/1978		Gitchi Gami Games	Telemark, Wisconsin	5	1
12/20/1978		Gitchi Gami Games	Telemark, Wisconsin	10	1
12/30/1978		Neukirch	West Germany	5	7
1/12/1979		Klingenthal	East Germany	10	13
1/12/1979		Klingenthal	East Germany	5	7
1/19/1979		Le Brassus	Switzerland	10	15
1/27/1979		U.S. Nationals	Waterville Valley, NH	10	1
1/27/1979		U.S. Nationals	Waterville Valley, NH	7.5	1
2/6/1979		Pre-Olympics	Lake Placid, New York	10	20
2/6/1979		Pre-Olympics	Lake Placid, New York	5	12
2/22/1979		Falun	Sweden	20	18
3/16/1979		Vysoke Tatry	Czechoslovakia	20	8
3/16/1979		Vysoke Tatry	Czechoslovakia	5	12
77/78		Devil's Thumb		5	2
	1/2/1978	U.S. Nationals	Anchorage, Alaska	7.5	1
	1/5/1978	U.S. Nationals	Anchorage, Alaska	10	2
	1/7/1978	U.S. Nationals	Anchorage, Alaska	20	1
	2/18/1978	World Championships	Lahti, Finland	10	24
	2/20/1978	World Championships	Lahti, Finland	5	23
	3/1/1978	Falun	Sweden	10	10
	3/9/1978	Holmenkollen	Oslo, Norway	5	10
	3/9/1978	Holmenkollen	Oslo, Norway	10	7
	4/1/1978	Kiruna Games	Kiruna, Sweden	10	13
4/2/1978	Kiruna Games	Kiruna, Sweden	5	7	
76/77	Dec 76 - Jan 77	Dannon Series	Various sites in New England	Six Races	1
	1/23/1977	U.S. Nationals		10	5
	1/25/1977	U.S. Nationals		7.5	4
	1/29/1977	U.S. Nationals		20	4
		Telemark		5	5
		Telemark		10	8
Feb-77	American Birkebeiner	Telemark, Wisconsin	55	2	
75/76	3/8/1976	U.S. Nationals	Big Sky, Montana	10	3
	3/10/1976	U.S. Nationals	Big Sky, Montana	5	4
74/75		U.S. Nationals		5	6
		U.S. Nationals		10	6
71/72	Jan-72	Olympic Trials	Putney, VT	5	2
	Feb-72	Olympics	Sapporo, Japan		
70/71		PNSA Championships			1
	1/18/1971	U.S. Nationals - Durango	Durango, Colorado	5	3
	1/19/1971	U.S. Nationals - Durango	Durango, Colorado	10	5
	3/20/1971	Junior Nationals	Boreal Ridge, California	5	2
	World Juniors	Lahti, Finland	5	7	
69/70		World Championships	Vysoke Tatry, Czechoslovakia		
68/69		U.S. Nationals		5	3
		U.S. Nationals		10	4

Additional data, anecdotes, etc. that are pertinent to Alison's nomination:

Ski Racing's U.S. Nordic Competitor of the Year in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

Named Alaska's most outstanding skier for 1977. Her qualifications for the award included: being currently the top-ranked women's cross-country skier in the country. She was the first U.S. finisher in all the women's races at the 1977 U.S. Cross-Country Championships and swept all six races of the Dannon Series during the past winter.

Fastest American woman in the 55-kilometer 1977 American Birkebeiner at Telemark, Wisconsin. That result earned her a trip to the Norwegian Birkebeiner where it was the first year that women were allowed to compete in the longstanding competition.

Her two children were champion junior racers and went on to success as college racers. Her son, Frederick Jess Kiesel, competed four years on The University of Utah Ski Team that won an NCAA championship. Her daughter, Kaelin Kiesel, was a two time all American and student athlete of the year at Montana State University.

In 2004 at The World Masters Championships in Lillehammer Norway, Alison was Champion in the 5 & 10 Kilometer, was a member of the U.S.A. Relay Team that won Gold, and earned a silver medal in the 20 Kilometer.

Organized and taught many Women's Nordic Ski Clinics in Sun Valley and McCall Idaho.

Founded, managed and coached the first U.S. women's elite racing team: WIND-Women In Nordic Development, out of Sun Valley, Idaho. Athletes from this team made Olympic and World Championship Teams.

Names and addresses of those people who are supporting this nomination:

Peter Graves

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Supporting letters are attached

May 12, 2018

Dear US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame Selection Committee:

I am delighted to endorse a candidate to the USS&S Hall of Fame in the most worthy candidate of Alison Owen Bradley. Not only is she a most important former world-class cross-country ski racer from her extraordinary past, but, as you shall see here, she was a pioneer for women's nordic skiing in the United States, and her resume and history makes her a superb nominee for the prestigious honor.

Back when the USSA junior Nordic National Championships were a male only affair, Alison, at age 13, broke the gender barrier by being the first ever girl to be allowed to race at those events. Organizers and officials were skeptical, but to their credit they allowed her to race, with the proviso that an ambulance be on-site, should any malady befall her. She didn't need any help or the ambulance, and from that day forward girls were allowed to compete at the event. She was a trailblazer, but her exploits didn't stop there.

In short, she, perhaps without knowing it challenged the status quo, and brilliantly left an indelible mark on the sport. I think her accomplishments were truly astounding.

Emboldened with ample athletic ability and determination, she pressed on over the years to become a star performer for the USA, racing in two Olympic Winter Games and becoming the first woman for the U.S. to win a World Cup race at Telemark, Wisconsin in the fledgling days of the FIS World Cup in December of 1978. Again Owen -Bradley made history. Her career was laced with outstanding performances at Holmenkollen and other global venues including being seventh overall in the '78-'79 overall World Cup ranking. In 1978 she was awarded the Finlandia Cup, as the USA's top cross-country skier and in 1979 won the 5 and 10km US National Championship titles.

Her amazing breakthroughs cemented her place in skiing history and helped to lay the foundation for the success the U.S. women's team now enjoys.

I cannot think of a more deserving person for induction into our Hall of Fame than Alison Owen Bradley. I trust you will give her your every consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Graves
87 Rabbit Road
East Thetford, VT 05043

May 20, 2018

Dear Selection Committee:

When 13-year-old Alison Owen started the National Junior 10-kilometer race on March 18, 1966 in Winter Park, Colorado she took the first strides toward the US women winning a gold medal in the team sprint at the 2018 Olympic Games in PyeongChang South Korea. Alison was the first female to compete in a National Championship Nordic event, in Winter Park she competed against the boys as there was no women's class. Due to Alison participation in Colorado the next year in Duluth, MN there was a Junior women's class in which 17 women competed. Alison went on to complete a very successful national and international racing career as a top-level World Cup racer.

Alison was a member of two Olympic teams, 1972 in Sapporo, Japan and 1980 in Lake Placid, NY. The 1972 team was the first time the US had fielded a women's team at the Winter Olympics. She was also a member of three World Championship teams in 1970, 74, and 78. The 1970 team was the first time the US had participated at a World Championship with women. She was the first American women to win a World Cup race in Telemark, WI in 1979. This was just one of her numerous top 10 World Cup results. Alison is most proud of the 2nd place finish at the historic Holmenkollen, Norway race, a finish not duplicated by an American woman until the spring of 2018 when Jesse Diggins also finished in 2nd place.

In 1979 Alison finished 7th overall in the final World Cup standing; this was the highest finish for the next 33 years until Kikkan Randall finished 5th in 2012.

Alison retired in 1980 and moved to Sun Valley, Idaho some years later. There she worked with the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation coaching cross-country skiing for ten years. During this time, she lead and coached a US World Junior Team to Italy.

Alison's proven international race record, the forerunner of women's Nordic skiing in the US, along with her lifelong commitment to the sport makes her a deserving candidate for the United States Ski Hall of Fame.

I would highly recommend Alison for that honor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Ashley
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pashley506998@gmail.com

The air was ringing with silent tension among the US Women's team as five of the team members stood along the fence, watching their two other teammates, Jessie Diggins and Kikkan Randall maneuvering through the first few laps of the 2018 Olympic Team Sprint Final. As the final laps neared, all five women standing along the sidelines started jumping up and down, keeping a tight grip on the fence, screaming desperate words of encouragement to their teammates on course. It was as if the five girls along the finish line stretch were on a secret radio system, connected to Jessie and Kikkan. Their focus was apparent, and the two girls wearing race bibs were performing exactly as this team had dreamed of a thousand times before. As the final lap unfolded, with Jessie aggressively fighting for position and putting every last bit of energy into her skis and poles - she crossed the line in first, winning the first ever Olympic medal in USA Women's Cross Country Skiing. All seven members of the US Women's team screamed out in excitement, with tears passing down their faces, experiencing the supreme feeling of accomplishment. It was evident this was more than an Olympic Medal. This was a moment in history, an achievement and an accomplishment for all the women ever involved in cross country skiing in this country.

We are the Women's Cross Country Ski Team. We are proud to have shattered the glass ceiling and to have accomplished something we have all dreamed of since we started this sport. What isn't always visible on the TV or in the interviews or in the paper however, is our history. Over the past few years our Women's Team has made a priority to understand the history of our sport in our country. We have discovered that since 1972, when we sent our first Women's Team to the Olympics, there have been 52 women that have represented our same mission and goals. 52 years ago it all started! The pioneer was a young girl named Alison Owen Bradley, who was ready to race the boys. Having to qualify for Junior Nationals as the only girl, she opened a door for all the women that have followed, and all the incredible accomplishments that have been achieved.

Alison's leadership and persistence was, and still is, an inspiration and an example for all women to follow. She never let "no" stop her, even racing against the boys to participate. Despite having to fight for her place as a young girl, she went on to excel at high rates, as a two-time Olympian and winner of the first unofficial World Cup race in 1978.

We are thankful for all Alison has done to further our sport, which gave all of us something to dream about as young women. The gold medal this winter has not only been an achievement for our team, but for the larger "team" that Alison truly championed. Our team bond and commitment was evident on that

evening along the finish line in South Korea, but it runs so much deeper than the seven girls that showed up to fight. It is the 52 women that have been a part of US Women's Cross Country Skiing history, all of which started with a leader who wouldn't take "no" as an answer.

We would like to nominate Alison Owen Bradley into the National Ski Hall of Fame for the role she has played in truly "shattering the glass ceiling" and inspiring all of us to dream of conquering the "impossible".

Sincerely,

The 2018 US Women's Cross Country Ski Team

Sadie Bjornsen, Kikkan Randall, Jessie Diggins, Ida Sargent, Sophie Caldwell, Rosie Brennan, Liz Stephen, and Matt Whitcomb



Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation

PO Box 203 Sun Valley, ID 83353 208 726-4129 www.svsef.org

May 20, 2018

Dear US Ski Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

I am writing in support of the nomination of Alison Owen Bradley to the US Ski Hall of Fame. In my life as a ski coach, I can think of no candidate more deserving of consideration than Alison. She has impacted ski sport in many ways but I would like to specifically address her role as a cross country ski coach with the Sun Valley Ski Foundation.

When I first assumed the role of Head Nordic Coach for the SVSEF in 1987, one of my first decisions was to hire a coach who would help us develop and elevate our junior nordic racing program. Being new to Sun Valley, I was aware that Alison lived in town, raising her young family but I did not know Alison personally. However, when I contacted Alison regarding the position, she immediately agreed to join our program and to this day, this remains one of the most fortuitous decisions I ever made.

Of course, I was well aware of Alison's successes as the leader of our US Women's Team but I did not entirely understand the many qualities that she possessed as a ski racer would also transfer to her ski coaching. Alison possesses a unique intellect and drive. Obviously she was an elite international competitor but what I came to appreciate in Alison was her ability to think very deeply about how to apply sport knowledge to coax the best out of every skier on our team. This might help you to better understand the impact she had on our program. Prior to her involvement with the Sun Valley Team, our program was a good but we often fell short of reaching our potential. Upon Alison's arrival, our skiers almost immediately started winning US Junior National Championships. In Alison's time with us, she directly coached 6 US Junior Champions and World Junior Team Members and moreover, she helped us build our team into the program we are today. Excellence became the norm because Alison showed all of us, myself included, how champions think and act. She treats every skier with respect and in her own quiet way fosters within skiers a confidence that leads to achievement. Every day, in my role as Head Coach and Program Director for the SVSEF, I utilize information and concepts that I learned firsthand from Alison. Our SVSEF Cross Country Ski Team is now recognized as one of the very best programs in the US and I attribute much of our success to the standard that Alison infused into our program.

Alison coached with our SVSEF Nordic Team for ten years after which she then took on the challenge of building the first ever US Elite Women' Nordic racing team titled WIND. Alison saw what was possible in ski sport for US women and single handedly established the first ever women's professional ski racing program in the US. Her skiers went on to represent the US at Olympics and World Championships and I suggest that the recent successes of our US Women's National Team sits squarely on the shoulders of Alison's vision and commitment to developing sport opportunities for women. She was a leader as an elite international ski competitor and she was continued on after her won racing career by giving back to the sport in a way that has proved hugely beneficial to the generations of skiers who followed her path.

I believe one of the primary missions of the US Ski Hall of fame is to recognize those in ski sport who are transformational in their role as ski sport leaders. Alison is undoubtedly one of these individuals.

I highly recommend her for inclusion in the Ski Hall of Fame

Sincerely,

Rick Kapala
Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation
PO Box 203
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May 10, 2018

Dear Selection Committee:

I strongly support Alison Owen for membership in the U.S Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

As the first female to ever compete in a U.S. National Nordic Ski Championships (Junior National Nordic Championships for boys 1966) Alison broke the American gender barrier against females competing in National Nordic Championships. Because of her, in 1967 the first National Women's Nordic National Championships were held. Every female Nordic competitor in America since that time, including Kikkan Randall and Jessie Diggins, followed in the tracks Alison Owen laid down.

Her subsequent results in National and International competition include several National Championships, winning the first female World Cup Nordic ski race in Telemark, Wisconsin against the Nordic skiers of the world (It was reported in Ski Racing Magazine and every other major ski publication as the first World Cup, though for unexplained reasons it was later termed by the FIS to be a 'test' race and not official World Cup), five top three places in official World Cup races and 7th overall in world Cup standings, 2nd in the Holmenkollen, three times a member of the U.S. World Championship team and twice a member of the U.S. Olympic team.

I did not get to know Alison until her competitive career was over and she was coaching Nordic skiing in Sun Valley, Idaho. She was a superb coach who instilled in her team her own fierce work ethic, sports(wo)manship, attention to the smallest details, love of the sport of skiing and passion for life in the moment. She still skis regularly and is actively engaged as a supporter and spokeswoman for U.S. Nordic skiing.

Please accept my endorsement of Alison Owen for membership in the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Dick Dorworth
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Please provide a list of sources for visual material that can be used at the candidate's induction presentation:

Tom Kelly
Tom.kelly@usskiandsnowboard.org

Ski Racing
Ski Racing Redbook

Peter Graves
peterg72@hotmail.com

Bozeman Daily Chronicle

Anchorage Daily News

Wenatchee Daily World



Signature of nominator

Mail completed nomination form to: U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 191, Ishpeming, MI 49849 or email to: administrator@skihall.com

ADDITIONAL UPDATE TO NOMINATION OF ALISON BRADLEY

We want to add a brief addendum with some further information as to the background and current information regarding the nomination of Alison Bradley for the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Her cross-country ski racing career, as well as her post-racing resume attests to that of a pioneer and groundbreaking athlete for women in the sport.

As previously noted in her nomination form, she was the first girl ever allowed in the United States to take part in the USSA Junior National Championships, at age 13, back in 1966. At age 16, she was named to the first U.S. national team. In 1970 she also was a member of the first U.S. women's national team in then Czechoslovakia. She competed on the U.S. first-ever women's cross-country Olympic Team in 1972 in Sapporo, Japan.

Her racing career demonstrates an inspiring record of firsts.

Later she became, the first U.S. woman to ever win a cross-country skiing FIS World Cup, a feat she achieved at Telemark Resort, in Wisconsin back in 1978.

Shortly thereafter, Alison (nee Owen) skied her way onto the FIS prestigious Red Group, the top seeded group in the world, that received stipends for racing and travel, the first U.S. women in XC to do so. And in doing that she achieved a 7th place overall one season on the FIS World Cup. This point was not covered in her first nomination packet.

She was an eight time national champion and the winner in 1980 of the overall Dannon cup, a prestigious national series.

To remain relevant, we will refer you to read her racing and achievement resume, which is already a part of her nomination packet. She went on to coach and made a huge impact on the sport in many ways. She coached for 12 years at the Sun Valley Ski Educational

Foundation, helping a number of athletes achieve their U.S. Olympic team dreams.

Most recently she is playing an instrumental role in bringing the 52 U.S. NOW (U.S. Nordic Olympic Women) together by helping found a working group. Utilizing and focusing the energy, drive and wisdom of these successful women into projects that they are currently choosing. They had a recent meeting at the FIS World Cup in Quebec City last March.

It is clear they will be a powerful force for good in many ways. We trust you will agree with us, that we vote to elect Alison Bradley to the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame, for her remarkable achievements. Her on-going work on behalf of Nordic skiing is exemplary

There are few that are more deserving of this wonderful recognition and honor.

Thank you very much.

Peter Graves
Marty Hall

May, 2019