

2010 Heinz Niederhauser Coaching Award Recipient



The recipient of this year's Heinz Niederhauser Award is Dave Mallory of Nakkertok Nordic. Dave Mallory has been a coaching fixture in Ontario and Nakkertok for the past 30 years. He has coached countless athletes, revolutionized training techniques and dedicated an unbelievable amount of time to the sport.

Dave's focus has always been the athlete. He has coached athletes of all ages and at many different levels from Jack Rabbits to National Level skiers. In his relationship with athletes, he is known for being patient, generous, supportive, enthusiastic and calm. While his technical skills as a coach are excellent and he is an incredibly talented wax technician, it is Dave's ability to develop athletes at all ages and stages that is considered most exceptional. Whether it is his encouraging and supportive attitude in goal setting, or his calm and rational demeanor during hectic race day preparations, Dave has a positive attitude which brings out the best in those around him.

Dave also contributes in other less visible roles. He has created dozens of new training tools, from strength contraptions to developing Nakkertok's first lit ski trails at night. Furthermore, he is a dedicated groomer and is often out on the trails hours before anyone else early in the morning, ensuring the tracks are perfect.

Dave is one of Ontario's most valuable coaches. Former and current athletes, parents, club volunteers and coaches all recognize the enormous contribution Dave has made to not only to skiing at Nakkertok and in Ontario, but to the sport as a whole. Athletes who Dave has coached have gone on to national and international skiing success as well as becoming coaches and participants in the sport for life. In a most telling example, during a recent goal setting meeting the question was asked 'Where would you like to see yourself in 20 years?' On more than one occasion the response involved 'skiing forever, just like Dave Mallory.' For the past 30 years, as well as his continued presence, we congratulate Dave Mallory.