



COLORADO SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME NOMINATION  
BRUCE CRANMER  
SPONSORED BY BILL MAROLT  
CATEGORY INSPIRATIONAL  
ACHIEVEMENTS 1968 – PRESENT





January 25, 2016

Dear Nominating Committee,

As a native Coloradan who has been involved in skiing for his entire life, I nominate Bruce Cranmer for membership in the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. His family arrived before Colorado was a state in 1868 when his great grandfather drove cattle from Texas to Colorado and settled in Deer Trail. Skiing is part of the Cranmer family heritage starting in 1913 when his grandfather, George (CSSHOF 1977), took up the sport during the historic Denver Blizzard. As manager of Parks and Recreation for the City of Denver, George Cranmer was the visionary who started the Winter Park Ski Area for the City of Denver in 1940. "Cranmers" is a ski run in Winter Park named after George Cranmer where literally thousands of youngsters have competed through the years.

Bruce's parents loved the mountains as well, and spent time with their children skiing and touring. From his earliest memories, Bruce has been on skis and eventually developed an interest in competition and trained and competed in local ski clubs, including; A-Basin, Vail and Aspen. He was a successful junior racer competing in the Jr. Nationals in 1969.

After graduating from High School, Bruce entered the University of Colorado where he was an outstanding student athlete. He was a valued alpine member of the 1972 and the 1973 CU teams that rejuvenated the CU program and went on to win eight consecutive NCAA titles. During that time he placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the famed Roch Cup Downhill in Aspen and later raced on the Pro Circuit for a short time.

In an unusual career move Bruce decided to become a cross-country skier and made smooth transition from Alpine into the Nordic World. He was named as a member of the US Cross Country Ski Team from 1980 through 1989 during which time he competed in the Nordic World Championships in 1985. During this same time, Cranmer competed in the Great American Ski Chase, a marathon circuit made up of 50 kilometer competitions. He won the overall Ski Chase Title in 1986 and was a 7 time winner of the Yellowstone Rendezvous.

Cranmer's love for skiing did not end with his retirement from competition, when he was hired as the cross-country coach at the University of Vermont. After a successful coaching stint at UVM, he returned to the University of Colorado in 2000 to become the head cross-country coach at CU. He remains in that position.

During his coaching career at CU, four of his teams were national champions and 14 of his athletes were NCAA Champions. For all of his achievements as an intercollegiate Nordic coach, he was named as the National Collegiate Nordic Coach of the year in 2015 and has been the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Nordic Coach of the year three times. In addition, he was a member of the US Cross Country Staff during the 1992 Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway and the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan.

He has technical skills serve the Nordic sports in other ways. He is a level 3 FIS Technical Delegate as well as a Nordic Homologation Inspector and homologated the race trails in Aspen.

To honor his achievements in cross-country skiing, Snow Mountain Ranch Cross Country Ski Center has named a trail in honor of Bruce Cranmer, it mirrors the Cranmer trail across the Fraser Valley at Winter Park.

Bruce is multi-talented and he has spent his life pursuing his passion for skiing. His amazing biography demonstrates a life-long commitment to the ski sport, which should be recognized by his inclusion into the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

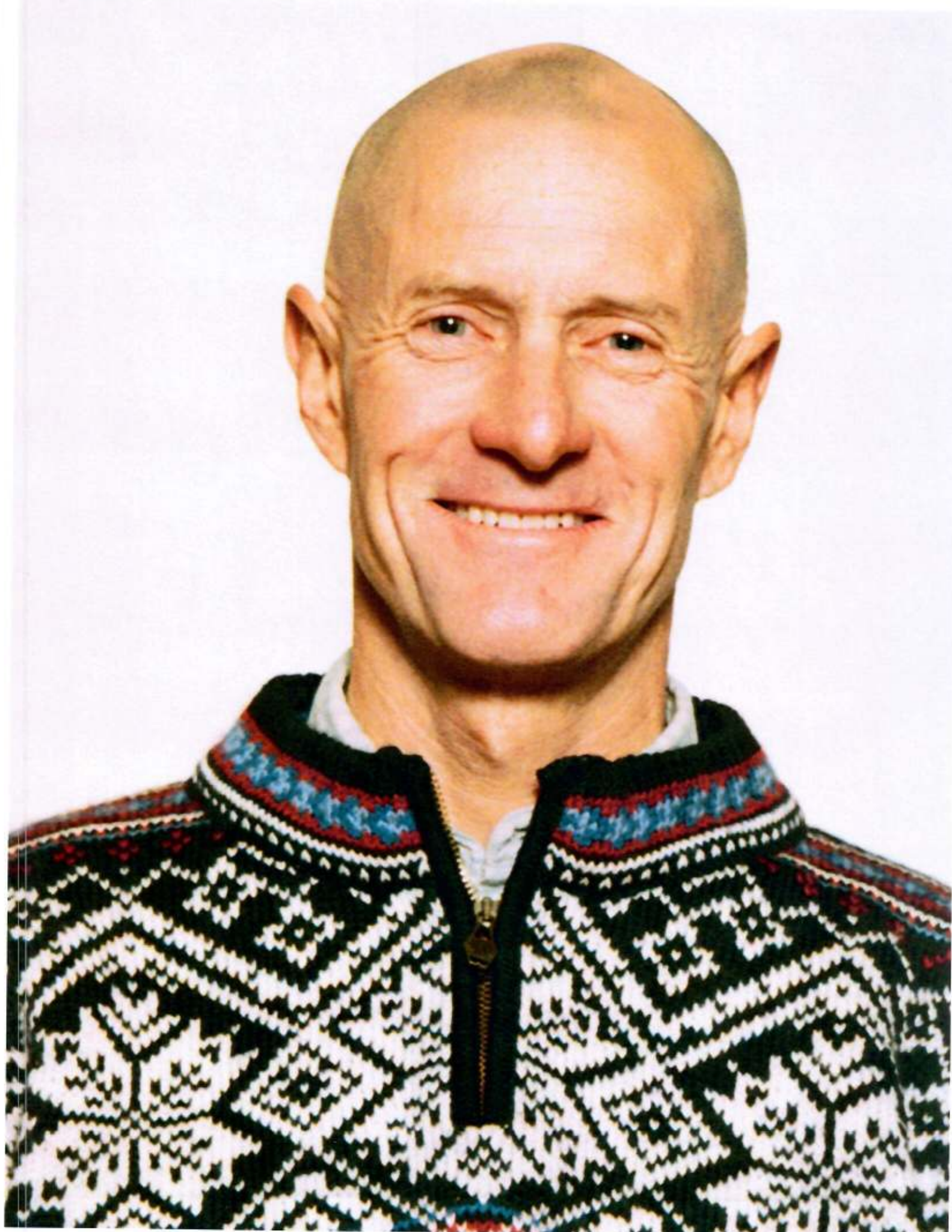
Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Marolt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bill Marolt  
Honored Member  
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame  
U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame







# Bruce Cranmer

## Biography

Bruce Cranmer has represented Colorado for over 50 years in his ski career, which began with junior racing at Arapahoe Basin in 1961 and he progressed to the Junior National Championships in 1969. After high school Cranmer competed as an alpine racer for the University of Colorado. He raced in downhill events and contributed to CU winning NCAA Championships in 1972 and 1973. Following college Cranmer's racing career changed direction as he took up cross-country skiing and became a member of the US Ski Team from 1980 to 1988. Cranmer skied as a member of US World Championship Ski Team in 1985. After skiing for the US Cross-Country Ski Team, Cranmer went on to coaching which he has been doing for 27 years; the last 16 at the University of Colorado where he is currently the head cross-country ski coach. He has also had the honor of coaching for the U.S. Olympic Cross-Country Ski Teams in 1992 and 1998.

Cranmer's ties to Colorado go back to before Colorado was a state when in 1868 his great grandfather drove cattle from Texas to Colorado and settled just east of Denver in Deer Trail. Skiing became part of the family heritage when his grandfather George Cranmer (CSHF 1977) took up skiing in 1913 during a historic Denver blizzard. As manager of Parks and Recreation for the City of Denver, Bruce Cranmer's grandfather started the Winter Park Ski area for the city of Denver in 1940. A ski run at Winter Park, "Cranmer" is named in his honor.

Bruce Cranmer began his alpine ski career as a junior racer at Arapahoe Basin and went on to compete for the Vail Ski Club and Aspen Ski Club and represented Colorado at the Junior Nationals in 1969. Cranmer's primary focus was downhill and he competed in the Roch Cup in 1969 (15<sup>th</sup>) and eventually finished 3rd in Apen's Roch Cup downhill in 1973. After high school Cranmer attended the University of Colorado where he alpine skied under coach Bill Marolt and won many college downhill races. He skied for the CU Buffaloes and helped them win two NCAA National Championships in 1972 and 1973. After graduating from college he had a brief try at the Pro Circuit but the format didn't suit his downhill strength.

Cranmer left alpine racing and made a smooth transition to cross-country ski racing. Cranmer, from age 5 was running and hiking in the Rockies with his father. As a result, his transition to cross-country skiing suited him well. He quickly was named to the U.S. Cross-Country Ski Team. Cranmer competed on the U.S. Cross-Country Ski Team from 1980 to 1988. Highlights in his cross-country ski career include competing on the U.S. World Championship Team in 1985 and the World Cup in the US the same year. During this same period Cranmer competed in the Great American Ski Chase circuit, a marathon circuit of primarily 50k races. Cranmer won many of these races, 7 times at the Yellowstone Rendezvous and was the overall Ski Chase winner in 1986.

Cranmer's love for skiing did not end with his racing career, in 1988 he was hired as a cross-country ski coach at the collegiate level. Cranmer began coaching at the University of Vermont before returning to Colorado in 2000 to become the head cross-country ski coach at the University of Colorado where he is still coaching. During his coaching career Cranmer has lead 8 ski teams to be NCAA Champions, 4 at CU. Cranmer has coached individual athletes to win a total of 26 first place national titles, 14 of which were CU student athletes. While at CU, Cranmer's Cross-Country Ski Team has won the most cross-country ski team points 7 out of 15 times at the NCAA Championships. Cranmer also had the distinct honor of coaching for the U.S. Olympic Cross-Country Ski Teams at the 1992 Lillehammer and 1998 Nagano Olympics. Cranmer has been the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Nordic Coach of the Year 3 times and National Collegiate Nordic Coach of the Year in 2015. In addition to being a coach, Cranmer is a level 3 FIS Technical Delegate and has works as a TD at many races and is also an FIS Homologation Inspector and homologated the race trails at Aspen.

To honor his achievements in cross-country skiing Snow Mountain Ranch Cross-Country Ski Center has named a trail in honor of Bruce Cranmer, "Cranmer". The trail mirrors the Cranmer ski trail across the Fraser Valley at Winter Park where a trail is named after his grandfather.



# WINTER PARK RESORT

MORE THAN YOU IMAGINE.

February 17, 2016

To: Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

I am very pleased to second the nomination of Bruce Cranmer to the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. Bruce's ties to Winter Park go back to his Grandfather George Cranmer who was the Manager of Denver Parks and Improvements when he started Winter Park. Given his family background, Bruce's passion for skiing started at a very young age and that passion only got more intense the more he got involved in our sport.

Following Bruce's growth and transition through our Industry is fascinating. Of course he grew up on skis and his love for skiing convinced him to get into racing. His focus was downhill and after high school he moved on to the University of Colorado where he skied under Bill Marolt. Bruce won many races and helped CU win two NCAA National Championships in 1972 and 1973.

He transitioned from Alpine racing to Cross-Country racing and competed on the U.S. Cross-Country Ski Team from 1980 to 1988. This part of his career brought Bruce many wins and successes including competing on the U.S. World Championship Team and the World Cup in the U.S. in 1985.

When Bruce ended his racing career he did not end his ski career but rather became a cross-country coach at the collegiate level in 1988. Once again this part of his career was met with great success and among other honors, he lead 8 ski teams to be NCAA Champions, four of those being at the University of Colorado.

And finally, in addition to being an accomplished racer and coach, Bruce is a level 3 FIS Technical Delegate and has worked as a TD at many races and is also an FIS Homologation Inspector.

Bruce is someone who has truly dedicated his life to skiing and he has truly made an impact that has affected not only our sport but also many athletes who have been fortunate enough to work with him.

I am very proud to second this nomination to the Hall of Fame and hope you will give Bruce serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary DeFrance  
President / COO Winter Park Resort





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January 30, 2016

Nominating Committee  
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame  
Re: Bruce Cranmer Nomination

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Bruce Cranmer to the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. I have known Bruce for most of his life as both of our families were involved in the early development of skiing in Colorado. As a junior alpine racer, I competed with Bruce when he was one of the top-ranked alpine competitors in the United States.

As a fourth generation Colorado native, Bruce is the classic definition of an “inspirational” *Colorado* ski sport builder. He has achieved extraordinary success nationally and internationally in two widely diverse snow sports—alpine and cross country—as both an athlete and coach. Spanning a 55-year career, Bruce continues selflessly to give back to skiing and youth development as the cross country coach at the University of Colorado.

By distinguishing himself at the highest levels nationally and internationally, Bruce Cranmer deserves to be inducted into the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame for the following three reasons:

1. Representing the University of Colorado, he was a member of two National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) National Championship ski teams as an alpine athlete,
2. In a highly unusual move, Bruce transitioned from alpine to cross country skiing and was named to the U.S. National Cross Country Ski Team and the 1985 World Cross Country Championship Team,
3. During his cross country coaching career at CU, four of his teams were national champions and 14 of his athletes were NCAA Champions. He was named National Collegiate Nordic Coach of the year in 2015 and has been the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Nordic Coach of the year three times. In addition, he was the U.S. Olympic Cross Country coach during the 1992 Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway and the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan. To honor his achievements in cross country skiing, Snow Mountain Ranch Cross Country Ski Center has named a trail in honor of Bruce Cranmer, it mirrors the Cranmer trail across the Fraser Valley at Winter Park.

Bruce Cranmer has been a great ambassador for the sport of skiing and for Colorado. He has promoted Colorado through his achievements as an athlete, coach, and mentor to youth.

Thank you for your consideration.

John McMurtry  
Honored Member  
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

# Bruce Cranmer

## Summary

Bruce Cranmer has represented Colorado for over 50 years in his ski career. Cranmer's Colorado heritage dates back to 1868 through his great grandfather. He is the grandson of George Cranmer CSHOF 1977. Bruce competed for CU as an alpine skier contributing to win the 1972 and 1973 National Championships. Cranmer switched to become a cross-country skier and was on the U.S. Ski Team from 1980 to 1988 and represented the U.S. at the 1985 World Championships and World Cup. Cranmer advanced to coach cross-country skiing at the collegiate level winning 8 National Championships, 4 for CU. Cranmer has coached individual athletes to win a total of 26 first place collegiate national titles, 14 were CU athletes. Cranmer also had the distinct honor of coaching for the U.S. Olympic Cross-Country Ski Teams at the 1992 and 1998 Olympics. He was named Nordic Collegiate Coach of the Year in 2015.



1985 U.S. CROSS COUNTRY SKIING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
MARCH 19 - 28, 1985

