

## Biathletes Compete in Charlo

Last weekend (Jan. 10-12) Miramichi Biathlon Inc. sent 3 local athletes to represent the club at the **Atlantic Cup #1** and the **New Brunswick Provincial Biathlon Championships** held in Charlo, NB. Emma Septon and Lauren Martin represented Miramichi in the Junior Girls Category (ages 13-14) while Nicholas St. Germain was in the Senior Boys Category (ages 15-16). Coaches were Yves St. Germain, Denis St. Germain, Dave Veysey and Trent Martin.

Saturday's race conditions were perfect! It was only -13 and there was no wind! The athletes participated in the Sprint. For the Junior Girls, this meant that they would ski a total of 4.5 km while stopping twice to shoot five targets. The Senior Boys, however, would ski 6 km and stopping twice to shoot five targets. For the Sprint, Emma Septon was awarded with a Silver Medal for the Atlantic Cup and a Gold Medal for the New Brunswick Championship. Lauren Martin brought home the Bronze Medal for the Atlantic Cup. Nicholas St. Germain came in 6<sup>th</sup> in his race.

Sunday was a totally different story! The province had been engulfed in a Freezing Rain Warning the night before and there was ice everywhere. The Organizing Committee in Charlo did a wonderful job of getting the trails ready for the competition – we started only ½ hour late and the trails were fast! Sunday was the Pursuit which would have the Junior Girls skiing 5km and shooting 3 times and the Senior Boys skiing 7.5 km and shooting 3 times. On Sunday, we only had Emma and Nicholas competing as Lauren was not feeling well. Emma received a Silver Medal for the Atlantic Cup and a Gold Medal for the New Brunswick Provincial Championship. Nicholas received a Gold for the New Brunswick Provincial Championship.

The next competition for the athletes will be the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 2 in Martock, NS. Nova Scotia will host the Atlantic Cup #2 in the Atlantic Cup Series.

During the banquet, several awards were handed out. Yves St. Germain was presented with Coach of the year for 2013. Yves coached Team NB at the 2013 Canadian National Biathlon Competition in Whistler, BC. Under his supervision, a New Brunswick athlete won 2 Gold Medals and a Silver. Yves coaches at the local, provincial and national level.

Miramichi Biathletes ski out of the Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club. They host learn to ski classes for all ages. As well, Miramichi Biathlon runs a Biathlon Bears program for children from 9-14 who are interested and have an ability to ski. For more information, please see the website: [www.skimiramichi.com](http://www.skimiramichi.com) or find us on Facebook.

