

YEAR 2023 REPORT

Sports club (Leader: Even østmoe)

Activities

Evenstad sports-club offers several different activities. We have equipment for volleyball, basketball, floorball, disc-golf, football, dodgeball, table tennis, spikeball etc. We also have a newly renovated gym for all the students to use. The most popular activities are volleyball, disc-golf, and weightlifting.

Volleyball

Volleyball has been the most popular activity for several years, and 2023 was no difference. We play every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 19.00-21.00, with up to 25 students participating.

In the spring we arranged a beach-volleyball tournament on campus. 10 teams with a total of 34 students playing. Additionally, a lot of students came to watch the tournament, so it was a big success. Prizes for the top three were given. This was funded by the sports-clubs budget.

Because of the big interest in volleyball, we have invested in good quality balls for both beach-volleyball and indoor-volleyball this year.

Disc-golf

Another popular activity is disc-golf. Our disc-golf course was created by students (with fundings from StudiINN), in the end of 2022. This course has been used a lot by both students and visitors. Every Tuesday students arranged trainings, so both beginners and experienced disc-golf players could learn and compete against each other.

The course has also been added to the UDisc-app which has attracted other disc-golf enthusiasts to try our course. We now have 9 holes but hope to expand this course to 18 holes in the future.

Since the course were created in 2022, we haven't had to many expenses regarding disc-golf this year. Just some small maintenance has been done in 2023.

Gym/Weightlifting

The gym is used by students and staff every day all year, and we have therefore focused on creating a better gym in 2023. Therefore, we invested more money at this post this year. Benches (flat and incline), leg curl machine and a dip-rack are examples of some investments we have done. Other accessories like belts, crash pads, rubber-bands, mats, bar pads and different types of handles/grips have also been bought after request from students.

Challenges

There has not been a lot of big challenges for the sports-club this year. However, with sports there are always a risk of equipment being broken. We therefore sometimes had to replace equipment on short notice which made changes to the original budget. A good example of this is the wires on our multi-gym machine in the gym. These tends to snap and therefore need to be replaced a few times every year.

Outdoors club (Leader: Stephanie Jones)

This past year the Outdoor Club at Evenstad spent the majority of its budget on inventory and a small portion on organized trips. Equipment for outdoor activities is available for students to rent on a weekly basis. Most of this equipment is typically rented when there is little to no snow coverage (April, May or September, October). Activities organized were three workshops: two on Nordic skating and one on outdoor rock climbing; as well as day trips climbing at Elverum, Opphus or weekend trips to the Lillehammer region. The outdoor club has also organized smaller chats for students that are particularly interested in organizing small hikes with each other. Over the last year, I also organized weekly group yoga sessions.

Equipment that has been bought in the past year has primarily focused on rounding out supplies that were already there. This included a lightweight hiking tent and cooking set and stove for those who wanted to commit to overnight backpacking. Via ferrata slings and harnesses to complete a climbing set (helmets were already available) as well as a crashpad for bouldering. Due to interest at the Nordic skating workshops, I also bought three sets of necessary equipment for skating so groups are able to go out. Extra fishing equipment was bought as well since that activity seemed particularly popular during Spring.

One of the most limiting factors has been organizing larger trips that require pre-booking. There are two main reasons: 1. The club is open so there is no system to decide who should be prioritized for funding (ie if I was to take a group for a via ferrata; I have budgeted for 10 people to have the activity paid for) and 2. Many of the activities are also only available in summer (May - September) when students are either in exams and leaving or just arriving. However, I would say the club is fairly active particularly when activities are organized by a leader.

Brewery club (Leader: Klara Pfeiffer)

Activities

The club was determined to brew and teach students the process of different types of fermentations, both from scratch materials and from pre-made packages. Each brewing took place at Biotopen or the White House during several days according to each brewing schedule. Once successfully fermented, students enjoyed the outcome paired with food that matches the style of brewing in an event called "social". Only the students that contributed to the brewing could join the social, so the attendees of each social matched each brewing event.

Spending (%)



-  Materials
-  Food
-  Equipment

Challenges

The greatest challenge the club experienced was the large quantity of members which proved difficult for making a regular appointment to include the majority of people. This also resulted in a lack of commitment in some demanding brewings. The solution was to pre-schedule the brewing through the semester and to survey which members were interested in certain types of alcohol, adjust the materials to the number of possible members and enforce the participation rule for tasting events. In the future, it is suggested that members pay a small fee to guarantee fidelity to the brewing and secure more budget for materials.

The club adjusted the brewing events and socials to the budget to adjust for cost overruns and avoid imbalances.

Culture club (Leader: Marion Verschueren)

Activities

Culture club is a very active club and brings together a lot of people.

Every Sunday, there is a Sunday café where people get together and eat cake and drink coffee and tea and can get to know each other. Sometimes people also play board games.

During Fall 2023, we also organized a Baking competition and that was a big success.

Culture club also organizes a cultural trip every semester. During the Spring of 2023, we visited Lillehammer and some visited the Art museum or Maihaugen. And in December, we went to Røros to visit the Christmas market. Both of these trips attracted a lot of students. In Fall, we also tried to organize more art evenings on Thursdays since there were a lot of people who liked to get together and make art. Around November and December, there were not many art evenings since a lot of people were very busy. But they will continue in 2024.

And lastly, we organized Høsttakkefest (Thanksgiving party at Evenstad) in November. It is the biggest event of the year on our campus.

Spending

The biggest expense for Culture club are the busses we rent for our trips.

Besides that, we also spend money for decorations for the Thanksgiving event. But most of it can be reused for Sunday cafés or art evenings, like candles, candle holders, etc.

Challenges

There have not really been much challenges with Culture club. The main challenge we face is that there is a lot of time that goes into the club and it sometimes can be a bit hard for one person.

Overall, it is a very active club and it brings together a lot of people. We hear mainly positive reviews from students on this club.

Photography club (Leader: Wessel Veenbrink)

The Photography Club was less active throughout 2023 than it was during the last semester of 2022. After the club was started up again from zero in Fall 2022, the club quickly gathered some members and was quite active.

Many students participated in the photography contest, and the winners were able to go on a nice photography trip as their prize.

However, during 2023, the number of students participating actively in the club went down, mainly because fewer students were interested in photography, or were busy with other priorities. This also goes for the leader of the club, who has taken on the leadership for 2023/2024 as well, but has had less time to organize activities.

However, the club has successfully acquired more camera traps for students to rent out, and which are being used more often now.

We also organized a small 'Camera trapping Workshop' for students, to make them aware of the possibilities of renting them out.

Lastly, we did not organize a Muskox photography trip to Dovrefjell National Park this year, mainly because of time constraints.

However, we did organize one in Fall 2022, and this was a great success, so we will organize another one during Spring 2024, and hopefully every semester/year that follows.

The same goes for the photography contest, which will be held again during Spring 2024.

The main strength of the Photography Club comes from only a few students that are passionate about photography, but that really varies per semester. Most of the budget from 2023 was divided to other clubs, but in 2024 we will acquire more photography equipment again, for students to enhance their skills. We hope the club will find a new leader as of Fall 2024 and will continue to organize activities like these, and maybe even expand the club in the future.

Music club (Leader: Emil Robertsen)

The music club in 2023 has been doing a lot of jam sessions in the spring, and due to a lot of people finishing their studies at Evenstad in June, we tried to rebuild that part.

The music club also arranges karaoke evenings. We usually organize them around 1 to 2 times per semester. It is a very popular event.

In the fall of 2023, the biggest activity has been renting out music equipment.

The future the costs will mainly be in maintaining equipment, like for example the electric guitar.

In general, the music club will still have people and it is a great club to use for playing music in a unique setting at Evenstad.

The Wildlife Society (Leader: Kelsie Bomke)

Current board of TWS:

Current President – Kelsie Bomke

Current Vice President – Angelica Greyfield

Outgoing President – Amanda Harmon

Current Secretary-Treasurer – Wenke Zimmerman

Current Board Member(s) – Anna Schaeffer & Charlotte Patterson

Faculty Advisor – Dr. Scott Brainerd

Activities

Activity 1: Monthly Meeting and Guest Speaker Series

Date/Time/Place: Once per month school is in session

Number in Attendance: 6-27 in person; 0-3 via Zoom

Short Description: (open to all students) There is a short meeting once a month to discuss general business, potential opportunities, and upcoming events. Guest speakers are invited to come give a short, informal lecture at some of these meetings about their careers working in the wildlife field and give an introduction to model organisms. We try to provide topics and species that students are not familiar with in class, in order to broaden horizons.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 2: Ocean Film Festival

Date/Time/Place: 9 February 2023, 19:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 7

Short Description: (open to all) Joint function with Outdoors Club. We hosted a screening of the Ocean Film Festival, which featured a series of short films celebrating our world's oceans. Sustainable: See 'Challenges' below.

Activity 3: PowerPoint Karaoke(s)

Date/Time/Place: 23 February 2023, 19:00, Evenstad; 6 October 2023, 19:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 17; 25

Short Description: (open to all students) Participants give presentations on a variety of wildlife species and topics from presentations they had not seen before. (Presentations were made by TWS Board prior to event.) The purpose is to assist students with public speaking skills in a low stress environment while learning more about wildlife.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 4: "Albatross" Documentary Night

Date/Time/Place: 16 March 2023, 19:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 6

Short Description: (open to all) We hosted a screening of the nature documentary, "Albatross". Sustainable: See 'Challenges' below.

Activity 5: Norsk Skogmuseum Day Trip

Date/Time/Place: 25 March 2023, 10:00-4:00, Elverum

Number in Attendance: 8

Short Description: We took a day trip to the Norsk skogmuseum in Elverum to learn more about Norwegian forestry practices and wildlife.

Sustainable: Yes, so long as there are students available to drive. Otherwise, students would have to take the train, which is more inconvenient and costly.

Activity 6: Quiz Bowl(s)

Date/Time/Place: 11 May 2023, 19:00, Evenstad; 2 November 2023, 19:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 34; 33

Short Description: (open to all students) Once a semester, TWS hosts a pub-style quiz with questions covering various conservation and wildlife topics. Teams compete for grand champion title and chocolate bars as awards. Often the largest event of the semester.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 7: Camera-trapping Workshop

Date/Time/Place: 14 May 2023, 11:00-2:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 12

Short Description: (open to all students) Joint function with Photography Club. Workshop taught students how to set up and use camera traps, as these are a useful tool in wildlife research.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 8: Langedrag Naturpark trip

Date/Time/Place: 19-21 May 2023, Tunhovd

Number in Attendance: 5

Short Description: Some members took a weekend trip to Langedrag Naturpark. There they learned more about Norway's iconic wildlife, including species such as arctic fox, lynx, moose, reindeer, and wolves.

Sustainable: Debatable. While the students enjoyed the trip and learned a lot, the stay was a bit expensive. Future TWS leaders will need to decide if they want to allocate their funds to this kind of trip, or whether it should be student-funded or to even do the activity at all.

Activity 9: Bird ID Workshop

Date/Time/Place: 29 May 2023, 16:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 9

Short Description: (open to all students) TWS hosted a workshop on how to identify common bird species found in Norway and around Europe. Topics covered were different groups of birds, identifying characteristics, and how to identify individual species of birds, with focus on size, coloration, and voicings.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 10: "Annual Meeting"

Date/Time/Place: 7 September 2023, 16:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 11

Short Description: (open to all students) At the annual meeting, information is presented about TWS, a review of activities and other business of the previous year, and officer

elections are held.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 11: BioBlitz

Date/Time/Place: September-October 2023

Participants: 10

Short Description: (open to all) Students participated in a competition and aided citizen science networks by documenting as many different floral and faunal species as they could find through the months of September and October 2023. Documentation of species was uploaded to iNaturalist under the project named "Evenstad Student Chapter of TWS". There were a total of 170 observations.

Sustainable: Yes

Activity 12: Arctic Fox Research Center trip

Date/Time/Place: 24 October 2023, Oppdal

Number in Attendance: 17

Short Description: Some members took a day trip to NINA's Arctic Fox Research Center in Oppdal. There they met with researchers to learn more about arctic foxes and ongoing research projects by NINA about the species.

Sustainable: Yes, so long as there are students available and willing to drive, and if permission to visit is received from the center.

Activity 13: Whale-watching trip

Date/Time/Place: 23-26 November 2023, Tromsø

Number in Attendance: 15

Short Description: Some members took a 4-day trip to Tromsø to go whale watching. Along with whale watching, the group went to various museums in the area and had the opportunity to explore the town.

Sustainable: Debatable. While the students enjoyed the trip and learned a lot, the cost of the tickets and stay was a bit expensive. Future TWS leaders will need to decide if they want to allocate their funds to this kind of trip, or whether it should be student-funded or to even do the activity at all.

Activity 14: 5 Minute Thesis

Date/Time/Place: 7 December 2023, 17:00, Evenstad

Number in Attendance: 7

Short Description: (open to all students) Participants had the chance to give a 5 minute presentation on their thesis or other topic of choice. The purpose was to help students prepare for their own thesis presentations or practice their public speaking skills.

Sustainable: Yes

Activities planned for the first half of 2024

- Monthly meetings with guest speakers
 - o Levels of Management in Norway - Per Anders Robertsen (February)
 - o Migrational Species - Paige Hellbaum (March)
 - o Guest speakers for April, May TBD

- Resume/CV Workshop - 7 March
- Norsk Skogmuseum day trip - 23 March
- Quiz Bowl - 11 April
- PowerPoint Karaoke - 16 May
- Workshops - Plant ID, Bird ID
- Possible trip - TBD

Challenges

Sometime during the middle of the year, the club leaders were informed we were not allowed to host movie nights as a featured event. Therefore, we stopped hosting documentary nights as an activity.

In the fall semester, while dividing the allotted budget with the other club leaders, the TWS Vice President - who was acting as club representative (the President was away at the time) - asked for much more budget than was originally discussed by the TWS leaders and what was allotted for in the budget by the past president. The purpose of the extra budget request was because she wanted to bring along as many students as possible for the whale watching trip and to reduce the personal financial burden of those students. This led to some discord between the various leaders and many subsequent discussions. The eventual agreement was that TWS could pull the budget it requested from other clubs' leftover funds with the assurance that future TWS budgets would allot funds for fewer students for future trips to prevent something similar from happening again.