



WILLIAM C TRUDGEON

Out of many individuals involved in Gunstock Mountain Resort's history, William C. Trudgeon has the longest continuous involvement with the ski area located in Gilford, NH. He spent over 40 years skiing, jumping, and coaching, always inspiring the next generation of athletes.

His ski jumping career began in 1935 as a competitor with the Duluth Ski Club, working his way to becoming a Class A jumper. In 1947, he moved to Laconia, NH, and became a member and head coach of the Winnepesaukee Ski Club. In the fall of 1948, Bill spearheaded the effort to construct the 40-meter jump at the Belknap Mountains Recreation Area in Gilford, NH (today's Gunstock Mountain Resort).

Under his guidance, the ski area became the place of national and international jumping competitions, serving as Director of Ski Jumping for the 1950 Eastern Ski Jumping Championship Meet. Bill's brainchild, summer ski jumping, was brought to Gunstock in July 1949 with tons of chipped ice being spread over the landing hill.

It was in 1972 he became a founder of the Gunstock Nordic Association and three years later became an Eastern-jumping judge. A year later, Bill was designated as a national judge, but continued to work locally and helped revamp Gunstock's 60-meter jump into a 70-meter. From 1977 to 1980, he was co-chairman of the Gunstock International FIS held there each year.

He was honored in 1980 with being asked to be the Assistant to the Chief of Hill during the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, NY. Soon after, he retired from actively participating in the sport.

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