

- **2016 AWSA Southern Region Winter Meeting Minutes**
 - **January 9, 2016 Atlanta, GA**

- After a few brief comments the meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.
- Jeff Clark was appointed as Parliamentarian.
- Roll Call - EVP – Bob Schouten Directors – Jody Seal, Lyman Hardy, Jim Jaquess
 - Treasurer / Bylaws (S Region – AWSA – USAWS) / AWSEF – Jeff Clark
 - AL – Jazmine Gagner, Chris Logan, Milton Weathers
 - FL – Curtis Rabe, Monica Seal, Stan Switzer, Dennis Longo
 - GA – Elaine Guarino, Ray Crenshaw, Rob Blair
 - KY – Pat Coomes, Bob Harris, Eric Kelly
 - NC – Chris Eller, Jerry Hargis, John Brooks
 SC – Alan Long, Grace Wilkins, Ricky Walters
 TN – Julie Yancey, Kirby Whetsel, Ham Wallace
 Other Members – Seth Berry, Bob Archambeau ,
 James Cawthern , Greg Webb, Leon Larson,
 Ruth Johnston , Jerry Jackson, Jeff Pohlig, Dana Garcia,
 Brenda Hargis, Craig Bryans

A Quorum was announced.

The 2016 Southern Region Winter Meeting Agenda was reviewed and there was nothing new to add. The Agenda had a motion to accept and a second – Agenda approved.

2015 Southern Region Summer Meeting Minutes were put up for discussion. There was a motion to accept the minutes as posted and there was second. Minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report – Jeff Clark (highlights below of details presented)

Income:	Interest	\$57.72
	Contributions	\$1000
	Junior Development	\$4,440.48
	Regional Guide	\$1,550
	Regional Head Tax	\$203
	Regional Medals LOC	\$386.90
	Sanction Fees	\$16,950
	Refund Income	\$448.47
	Total Income	\$25,036.87
Expense:	Awards	\$3,915.92
	AWSA Region Support	\$300
	Bank and PayPal	\$316.90
Expense Cont’d:	Committee Expenses	\$2,100

Contribution Expense	
AWSEF Facility Fund	\$201
AWSEF Scholarship	\$2,300
Total Contributions	\$2,503.00
Directors Expenses	\$4,400
Junior Development	\$4,639.68
Meetings Exp	\$3,496.31
Nationals Officials	\$2,700
Office Supplies	\$2,700
Clinics	\$2,208
Regional Guide	\$1,336.67
Team Expenses	\$1,500
Website Expense	\$1,852.13
Total Expenses	\$31,547.21
2014 Net Income	(\$6,510.34)

As of December 31, 2015

Checking Accounts:

Junior Development	\$405.21
Other	\$4,871.05

Money Markets:

Junior Development	\$9,900
General	\$48,356.87

Total Cash \$63,533.13

A motion was made to approve the Treasurers Report and seconded. Treasurers Report approved.

EVP Report – Bob Schouten

Thanks were given for having the faith in Bob to act as EVP. EVP has been through the cycle and is learning a lot and will be more efficient in 2016.

Points – will be sanctioning tournaments 2 months in advance instead of 1 month if everything is inputted correct.

- Need help obtaining ads for the Regional Guide
- Regionals will be at Lymanland in both 2016 and 2017, be aware everyone with a Regional medical excuse will have to pay an entry fee.
- Tommy Harrington is doing a great job with the website and needs a pat on the back with encouragement.
- Operation Regional 216. We are expecting a low turnout because of location of the Nationals, so we need to all bring one person to Regionals so we can meet the 216 number
- Lastly, we need to stop the bickering and backstabbing among ourselves. If we can't get along, how can we expect the sport to grow.

Alabama Report – Caldwell Marks presented by Chris Logan

Alabama Council – Jazmine Gagner, Milton Weathers, Chris Logan

National Director – Lyman Hardy

Officers

President – Caldwell Marks

Secretary – Anne Henley

Treasurer – Shauna Crenshaw

Jr. Development – Wendy Goldstein/Caldwell Marks

2015 Highlights

- Alabama had 9 tournaments in 2015, down from 17 tournaments in 2014, 17 tournaments in 2013, and 12 tournaments in 2012. Two of our 2015 tournaments were record tournaments.
- We had 219 tournament entrants in 2015, 405 entrants in 2014, 434 entrants in 2013, 344 entrants in 2012 , and 271 entrants in 2011. We had several sites either not host tournaments at all in 2015 or host fewer tournaments than they had in the past.
- The AL State Tournament was held at Clearwater Lake in Huntsville and was a great success. We had 38 skiers enter with 16 being juniors. Many thanks to Kim McCorvey and Clearwater for hosting us at their beautiful site in Huntsville
- Russell Marine paid the first \$500 of entry fees for new skiers at our State Tournament
- Lyman Hardy and the city of Tuscaloosa, AL, hosted the Malibu Cup over the July 4th weekend. The tournament consisted of a qualifying round held at Lymanland, but the main event on the Black Warrior River in downtown Tuscaloosa had to be cancelled due to bad weather. There was some great action on the water at Lymanland, with some of the biggest names in skiing in attendance. 39 off was run 38 times and there was some 43 off action as well.
- We had our 5th annual slalom clinic and tournament on Lake Martin (public) in late June. This was a 2-day event and had about 17 participants.
- Alabama had 16 skiers go to Nationals, bringing home 10 medals, two of them gold.

- We held our Alabama Water Ski Hall of Fame ceremony at Lake Martin in November 2015. This year we inducted Jerry and Margaret Ann Woodard and Leah Marie Rawls Atkins for their many contributions to the sport of water skiing.

Looking ahead into 2016 and beyond

- We are planning to combine our AL State Tournament with the GA State Tournament at Divorce Lake in Valley, AL in 2016. We think this will be a great way to bring more attention and PR to our sport by having more competitors in one place. We plan on having some head-to-head style competitions between the states. More details to come.
- The 2017 Junior U.S. Open will be hosted in Mobile at Ski Chaste.

FLORIDA STATE REPORT – Curtis Rabe

Great year in Florida again this year! Many thanks to all the site owners, sponsors, officials, drivers, scorers, tech controllers, safety personnel and volunteers that made this year very successful! A special thank you goes out to Ski Club of The Palm Beaches for hosting our State Championship as well as our National Championship...job well done!

In addition to the many records and performances, most notably were Regina and Freddy, winning the USA Water Skiers of the Year. We also have other recognition going to Hall of Fame recipients Leza Harrison, Les Todd, Mark Voisard, and Hank Longo. Additionally, Harry and Artis Price will be receiving the first inaugural lifetime achievement award. On the Jr National Team from Florida are Anna Gay, Brooke Baldwin, and Kristen Baldwin. Congrats all!

During the past year we have had some changes in our officers starting with Gordon West stepping down after many years as our President. His dedication to the sport and federation was tremendous and his shoes will be hard to fill. Jody Seal has moved up to National Director and Monica Seal was voted in as our newest Board Member. Curtis Rabe has assumed duties as President.

The state held an officials, scorers, safety clinic hosted by Florida Southern College and very well attended (16 of them were from FSC, so we do have new blood in the pipeline).

On a sad note, we lost three very dedicated skiers. Andy Mapple, John Worden, and Roger Skalco. RIP and may they never be forgotten...

2015 State Report, Georgia Water Ski Federation - James Cawthern

AWSA Southern Region State Report - James Cawthern, President (bold type noted at region meeting)

Tournaments in Georgia:

- 1- 1 - Masters
- 2- 9 - slalom tournaments
- 3- 2 - 3 event Class C
- 4- 1 - East Regional Collegiate Tournament
- 5- 1 – State Tournament held just of State (Alabama)

2 state records were broken in 2015, both in Jump. Graham Fizer M3-reached 161ft. and -Carey Zimlich M6-reached 113ft. Bill Furbish who is a well-respected person and skier in the Disabled Discipline competed at Worlds held in California and brought home silver medal for slalom.

46 Skiers at the State Championship

22 skiers at the Regional Championships – 5-1st place Overall Champs! 15 skiers medaled!

12 skiers at the National Championships – 5 Skiers medaled !

Our friends in Georgia continue to make sure Jr. Development remains a highest priority. From local to pro coaching there are those who continue to raise the bar for these fantastic kids and introduce skiing to new young talent. There were several offerings last year and the GWSF plans to meet or exceed that progress again this year.

For 2015 the GWSF sponsored the following clinics:

Safety – 10 participants, Jr. Spring Training – 15 participants, Jr. Only Clinic with Jeff Rodgers – 25 participants, Summer Camp at Soggy Bottom 4 participants – Drivers Clinic – to upgrade driver(s)

The 2016 Georgia State Water Ski Championship Tournament will be once again at Divorce Lake, hosted by Bob & Judy Wilkinson and Billy & Kim Pilcher. This year's tournament will be a 'Dual State Challenge' with Alabama skiers competing side by side. We also hope to create some 'bragging rights' competition between the skiers/divisions.

Many skiers in Georgia were saddened to hear about the passing of Steve Raybourne of Tennessee. He will be remembered fondly.

If it so pleases the Council: (not shared openly at meeting to save time)

A challenge for 2016 was set forth to grow our sport at the competitive level by offering a Grass Roots series at every tournament. That message has been received. The AWSC has previously sanctioned Grass Roots and Disabled at its class C and State tournaments. We have seen anywhere from 1 to 10 participants that we would not have otherwise. I can tell you it does not happen naturally. It will take an effort to get the word out and talk about it, advertise and go places to bring people in. In my opinion, that is the real challenges.

On a not so positive note, there were less 'active' clubs in Georgia for 2015. 2016 appears to be no exception. I can count only 3 clubs right now making a commitment to hold a tournament. As you know WSA was forced off their site and this year Legends Ski Club which is a single private ownership is taking a step back for 2016. For clubs that thrive, it is becoming increasingly difficult to hold a tournament & development training at any level. Georgia has boasted a decent pool of officials in years past. This pool (especially senior officials) is shrinking. It is increasingly difficult to schedule a

tournament in advance. It seems that if a tournament around the state, there are not enough resources to hold a second. Another difficulty factor is towboat availability. Promo programs may soon be doing less/or nothing at all for promo reps. Forget that there are so few boats to begin with. Personally speaking, it is discouraging to organize an event because I feel I have to beg and cry for boats and officials. If unilateral changes are not agreed upon, you can forget about this sport growing once again.

This is not a cheap sport, boats and lakes cost money. Public site clubs seem almost extinct. It should be noted that Whitestone Lakes Estates and several members work year round to host several Class C and Collegiate functions. They are a private ownership club that opens its gates and provides its membership boat(s) to continue the water ski tradition. This should be applauded.

Our GWSF website attracts many people. Some are looking for a place to ski for various reasons. It is hard to speak for others when someone is looking for a pull. Not only am I promoting to contact the nearest club, I am recommending that inquirer check out Wake-Scout. But that is just a tool. It is a useless tool unless people are willing to put themselves out there and offer up their time and resources.

2015 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

STATE of KENTUCKY – Joe Burkhead

The 2015 season in Kentucky was one of the busiest ever, from a tournament standpoint.

- A total of nine tournaments were held at three different sites, with the Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts hosting five of these events.
- The Ski Nuts, with the help of other members of the KWSF, hosted the 2015 Southern Regionals Water Ski Championships. General consensus was that this Regionals was a smashing success. Perhaps the best news of all was that the entry count showed a slight increase over 2014, with a total of 220 skiers pulled. The Ski Nuts were able to comfortably complete the tournament schedule in four days, with minimal use of the north lake for some of the tricks event.
- The second "Ordinary Joes vs. Women Pros" cash prize competition, pitting top Open Women skiers against top Masters Men skiers from around the country, was held as an overlapping event to the Southern Regionals, and following the Regionals. This event, a fund raiser for "In His Wakes" ministry and with total prize money of \$5,250, again attracted a large entry of 34-mph skiers of both sexes. Tim Huston came away with the top prize, with our own Eric Kelley finishing in the runner-up slot. This uniquely formatted day and night competition, the "brain child" of Bob Harris and Eric Kelley, was also sponsored by the Ski Nuts.
- Two water ski clinics for juniors were held. A one-day clinic was held ahead of the state tournament. The 10th Annual "Kentucky 3-Day Juniors Clinic and Ski School"

was again held at Twin Oaks Lakes in Paducah, with Dane Mechler as the featured instructor. Eighteen skiers attended this second and larger instructional session.

A new competition site near Bowling Green is in the final stages of preparation. Newly owned by Eric Kelley, this lake is expected to add to the list of lakes holding competitions in Kentucky in the near future.

Key state awards were presented at the annual summer meeting and awards banquet in July. They were (for the ski year 2014):

Junior Skier of the Year – **Austin Collins (Murray)**

Adult Skier of the Year – **David Keller (Somerset)**

Federation Member of the Year – **Eric Kelley (Bowling Green)**

Federation officers elected for 2016 are:

President – **Joe Burkhead**

Vice President – **Joy Coomes**

Secretary – **Tom Bolger**

Treasurer – **Hartley Davidson**

Jr Development Coordinator – **Bob Harris**

Council Representatives:

Bob Harris (3-yr term)

Eric Kelley (2-yr term)

Pat Coomes (1-yr term)

And finally, it has just been announced that Kentucky's **Bob Harris** has been recognized as the

"2015 AWSA Volunteer of the Year" by USAWS. Bob has been instrumental in the development and administration of the on-line judge's and scorer's clinic program, with approximately 18 clinics and 270 officials participating to date, in the three years of this endeavor. It is conservatively estimated that, aside from the countless reduction in travel hours and mileage for our sport's officials, this program has saved officials up to \$50,000 total in travel and overnight expenses to attend clinics. Kudos for Bob!!

North Carolina Report – Chris Eller

We had our typical number of tournaments and clinics in 2015. After a disappointing turnout at this year's State Championships we have decided to change our focus and make our own way. Chuck Forrest was inducted into the NC Hall of Fame. State Championships will be hosted at Coble Ski School in 2016.

There will be night jump at Beaver Lake, Big Dawg and Queen's Cup at Little Mountain ski club. We look forward to fun skiing in 2016.

South Carolina Report – Bud Davis presented by Alan long

South Carolina hosted several tournaments last year at three different lakes.

The tournaments at Trophy Lakes in Charleston were typical examples of well run tournaments and all about getting good scores. They did everything well and records were broken. Their tournaments attract high level skiers, and they do a great job of putting on a professional feeling tournament.

The tournament put on at Bud Lake near Columbia focused on a combination of offering a record capable site, top notch driving, with the goal of fun and competition for every skier from the beginners to the elite. A PA system allowed everyone to hear who was skiing and the line lengths they were on. In addition to the skiers getting their Class C scores for the national rankings list, their scores were handicapped so that everyone was on a level playing field to compete for the cash prizes. Sponsors donated prizes for all participants. Lastly, a provided lunch added convenience and great fellowship for the skiers.

The Class C state championship demonstrated areas that we could improve to help our sport. We did not have the skier buoys properly inflated or attached which caused most of the morning skiers to fall early. At least two young skiers went together to the chief judge to ask for a re-ride and were denied. About half way through the tournament, and during a division, the tournament was stopped for the buoys to be pulled down, and then the last skier was given a re-ride. The tournament was stopped again while one skier was in the water waiting to start their round, when a second skier demanded to have the waiting skier's handle measured before they skied. The first skier had to float at the starting buoy while their handle was compared to two other handles. Once the second skier, that happened to have a Panam judge rating, who called for the measuring was satisfied, the tournament continued. We did not provide a good experience to many skiers to encourage them to want to come back.

It takes a lot of work to put on a tournament, but no matter how hard we work, if we do not do it right and give the skiers a bad time, it will be hard to get them to come back. Without skiers, there will be no tournaments.

Our goal should be to give skiers a good experience. This includes following the rules. In the event of ambiguity, rules should be interpreted in a way to grow the sport and not hurt it.

Due to our shortage of officials; I propose to have clinics at no charge to state members. Offer incentives to lake owners to host tournaments using the new officials. In exchange for using the new officials, the state can pay the tournament sanction fees. To encourage skiers to come ski and help season the new officials, the entry fees can be very low, since the lake owner did not have to pay for sanctioning. These tournaments can also use the same handicap format as mentioned earlier so that everyone can equally compete for a cash prize.

I feel a low price, one day, multi round, handicapped scored, cash prize tournament would attract more skiers. Commonly, tournaments are pricey, lengthy, limited in competition and the only prize is a score. This proposed format could be combined with INT skiers at the same tournament.

2015 Tennessee Water Ski Association - Ham Wallace

2015 started out with the usual New Years Day skiing around the state. I had reports from various locations about their gatherings. Tennessee had 10 tournaments, 2 junior Development Clinics (one at Swerve Water Sports and one at Lake Pryor). There were 2 Driver's clinics and one Judges Clinic. I look forward to jump starting our officials development in 2016. I will encourage skiers to begin the process this season to judge, score, drive and especially get Safety officials rating. It's time to give back to the sport that we all love. Pay it forward for our future generations.

Tennessee had a good year despite a high number of injuries. I blame attendance at our tournaments being down slightly due to injuries. We are gaining some new juniors, which is a great thing. The participation level is rising because of this. 2016 should see more and more competition among the junior skiers.

The 2015 Tennessee State Championships was held at Tommy Newman's Lake Pryor in McDonald, Tennessee. The Hospitality was top notch and the food was outstanding. The State Meeting was held and Brian Sparks (who's job has relocated his family to South Carolina) , was inducted into the Tennessee Sate Water Ski Hall of Fame. Greg Webb received the Tim Denny Award for excellence in officiating and the Vic Varallo Award for service to the Tennessee water Ski Association went to Dr. John Carder. The Roger Whetsel Scholarship went to John Bull for the second year.

The 2015 Regionals, were held in Paducah, Kentucky by Joe Burkhead and the Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts. Tennessee had a good showing. Kirby Whetsel was Chief Judge, Ham Wallace was Chief Driver, Ric and Heather Stallings were appointed officials as was Seth Berry, and several more in participatory rolls. I would like to thank the Ski Nuts for all of their hard work.

The Nationals were held at Okeehetee Park in West Palm Beach. As usual, Charlotte Melchers and the Ski Club of the Palm Beaches ran them like a "well oiled machine". Thank the SCPB for all their hard work. They have been continuously devoted to this sport for over 36 years, and, counting. Thank You.

At the 2015 Nationals, Tennessee had 19 skiers bring home 20 top 5 places. These included 8 Gold medals! Charley Newman started the week off by clinching the Girls 2 Jumping Gold Medal. I have never seen a more excited young lady and prouder dad! Swerve Water Sports proprietor, Michael Bullock snagged the Mens 1 slalom Gold by running 1 ½ at 39 ½ off. Michael also grabbed a 5th Overall. Knoxville's Matt Curmi got 3rd in Mens Tricks. Joy Kelley was our biggest winner with 3rd in Women's 5 slalom, 1st in tricks, 1st jumping, and 1st Overall. Kara MacIntyre scored 2nd Overall and 2nd in Slalom in Women's 1. Brother Zack MacIntyre got 5th in a heated Boy's 3 slalom event. Tommy Newman, coming off an ankle injury got 5th in Men 4 tricks and 5th Overall. Allie "The Cat" Nicholson gathered a 3rd in Girls 3 slalom. Garrett Stallings was 2nd in boys 3 tricks and his dad Ric Stallings was 1st in Men 3 tricks. Ham Wallace, in his 50th year of skiing competitively won his first National Overall title while getting 1st in Men 6 jumping. Greg Webb took 4th in Men 4 Jumping and 3rd Overall. Other participating Tennessee skiers were Paul Turner 7th in Men 3 slalom with 1 ½ @ 39 ½ off, Kirby Whetsel barely out of overall contention, Freddie Snell in Men 5 overall, Chanah "Bama" Carter, Hilliard Crews, Cole Hogan, Zane Nicholson just out in Open Men Slalom.

On a sad note, we lost a good friend, coach, National Champion and more. Steve Raybourne passed away on November 14th. Steve had been an avid skier and competitor for many years, specializing in jumping. Steve still holds the Tennessee State Men's 4 Record of 161' at 31.7 mph. Steve was the 2005 National Jump Champion. He had many top 5 finishes in jumping and overall. He is a member of the Tennessee Water Ski Hall of Fame. He especially enjoyed skiing at Lake Pryor with his long-time friend Tommy Hendrix. Steve was always there to coach and help our junior skiers. He was a long time state director and was our association's secretary/treasurer. He always helped our kids and each year the ski club at Lake Pryor put on a ski show for the kids. Steve portrayed Lewis "The Nerd" and was the crowd's favorite. He leaves behind his wife, Donna and Ashley his step daughter. We will all miss his friendly demeanor and his quick wit. Rest in Peace, Steve. We'll see you on the starting dock some day!

Thanks to an unseasonably warm fall, I look forward to a great 2016! The 2016 Regionals will be held in Tuscaloosa, Alabama at Lymanland U.S.A and we will trek to Caldwell, Idaho for the Nationals. It is going to be an outstanding year!

Tellers Committee – Alan Long

Officials for 2016 Regionals and Nationals are as follows:

2016 Southern Regional Officials

Chief Judge - Assitant Chief Judge

Ray Crenshaw – Milton Weathers

Appointed Judges

Bob Harris

Ric Stallings

Jazmine Gagner

Jim Jaquess

Kirby Whetsel

Jody Seal

Curtis Rabe

Bobby Hill

Chief Scorer - Appointed Scorers

Elaine Guarino - Anne Henley

Jennifer Hunter

Chief Driver - Appointed Drivers

Gordon West - Greg Webb

Lyman Hardy

Chief Safety - Appointed Safety

JR Henley - Leon Larson

Chief Technical Controller

Rodger Logan

2016 National Officials

Appointed Judges

Bob Schouten – Bob Harris

Appointed Scorer

Elaine Guarino

Appointed Driver

Lyman Hardy

Rules – Ruth Johnston / Jeff Pohlig

RULES PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO S REG COUNCIL

PROPOSAL 1:

1.03 Sponsor Qualifications

All tournaments shall have at least one USA Water Ski-affiliated club as one of the sponsors. ~~In order to sponsor a tournament, one or more of the sponsoring affiliated clubs shall meet the following qualifications:~~

~~Class R, L, and E Tournaments: An active sponsor of a sanctioned tournament held during or since the prior two calendar years. In addition, the Chief Judge of that tournament must certify that no serious deficiencies on the part of the sponsor existed, and that he would recommend sanction be granted for a Record Capability tournament. When a tournament is sanctioned as Record Capability, the special requirements of Rule 15 apply in addition to all others.~~

~~Regional or National Tournaments: Qualifications for hosting a Regionals or Nationals are the same as those for a Record Capability tournament.~~

~~Class C Tournaments: An active sponsor of a water ski tournament, sanctioned or unsanctioned, held during or since the prior two calendar years. In addition, the Chief Judge of that tournament must certify that it was run according to AWSA Rules, and that in his opinion the sponsor could produce a satisfactory tournament.~~

~~Class F (Grass Roots) and X Tournaments: No experience qualifications are necessary.~~

Rationale: With all of the requirements that the officials have to follow along with the technical standards, if a site wants to have a tournament the rules are specific. There are so many regulations, sanctioning requirements, and rules that serve to guide a tournament LOC through the process, there should be no reason to **not** allow any new club to host an event C, E, L, or R if they can meet all the required criteria.

PASSED

PROPOSAL 2:

1.05 Regional and National Dates

Tournaments are held on an annual basis. The Regional Tournaments shall be held to conclude on a weekend, one to six weeks prior to the National Tournament, ~~which shall be held during the second or third full week in August.~~

Rationale: It's time to give the LOC some flexibility on this and let the BIDS be decided by the board. There is still some opposition to having it too early because of the weather in some regions.

Passed

PROPOSAL 3:

3.01 Amateur and Professional Status

This rule has been deleted ~~There shall be no distinction between amateurs and professionals.~~

Rationale: RC felt this could open up the door for the elite athlete to have pro status. By deleting this we still haven't defined a PRO skier, but could work at a definition.

NOT Approved

PROPOSAL: 4

Proposal Summary:

Entry into the Open and Masters divisions remains optional for Level 9 skiers, but is now mandatory for a new category of Level 10 skiers (the 3% ranked elite skiers). Level 9 skiers who choose to ski in Open or Masters must then compete only in that division through Nationals. Juniors can be exempt from the level 10 mandatory requirements.

Rationale:

Under this proposal, the top-ranked elite skiers would ski only in their appropriate elite division (Open or Masters) and leave the age divisions to the lower-ranked skiers. This rule seeks to foster healthy competition within the age divisions and allow for deserving tournament winners and ranking list champions (not pros) in the age divisions. This rule also aims to help create a more defined Open (or "Pro") division of skiers for the up-and-coming skiers to aspire to join.

Open Skiers have contracts with boat companies , so they want to ski in age divisions. This rule is totally about MM. Open skiers should be exempt. FAILS

3.03 Elite Division Competition

A. Elite Divisions.

There shall be two Elite Divisions of competition:

1. The Open Division may be entered by any skier of any age who is Open Qualified.
2. The Masters Division may be entered by any skier age 35 or greater who is Masters Qualified.

Entry into either Elite Division may be **Required** or **Optional** depending on the Qualification Level as defined below.

B. Elite Qualification Levels and Durations.

For each of the two Elite Divisions, there shall be two Qualification Levels: Level 9 (which is optional for Elite Division participation) and Level 10 (which is mandatory for Elite Division participation). These Qualification Levels are further described in sections 1-2 below.

1. **Open Qualification:** A skier of any age shall be **Eligible** to compete in the **Open** Division in an event (or in Overall) if his ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the **Level 9 Cutoff** ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year.

Additionally, a skier of any age shall be **Required** to compete in the **Open** Division in an event (**or in Overall**) if his ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the **Level 10 Cutoff** ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year. However, Junior skiers in the Boys 1-3 or Girls 1-3 age divisions shall be **exempt** from this mandatory requirement to compete in the **Open** Division, and may continue to compete in their age division if they so choose.

A skier (including a Junior skier) who **Elects** to compete in the **Open** Division in any event (**or in Overall**) during that ski year shall thereafter be required to continue to compete **only** in the **Open** Division in that event (**or in overall**) through the National tournament at the end of that Ski Year.

However, this mandated lock-in does not apply where participation in the Open division for individual events is part of an Open Overall performance.

In addition, skiers who participate in the U21 World Championship, 35+ World Championship, Junior World Championship, Can Am Challenge (U17, U13), and/or Pan Am Championship (Elite, U21, Junior, U13, and the two veteran teams) as part of a US delegation (either as a team member or as an independent skier) will **not** be considered to have entered the Open division electively through their participation in that international event.

However, skiers who participate in the Elite World Championship, the Pan Am Games, and/or the World Games **will** be considered to have entered the Open division electively through their participation in that international event.

2. **Masters Qualification:** A skier age 35 or greater shall be **Eligible** to compete in the **Masters** Division in an event (**or in Overall**) if his ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the **Level 9 Cutoff** ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year.

Additionally, a skier age 35 or greater shall be **Required** to compete in the **Masters** Division in an event (**or in Overall**) if his ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the **Level 10 Cutoff** ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year.

A skier who **Elects** to compete in the **Masters** Division in any event (**or in overall**) during that ski year shall thereafter be required to continue to compete **only** in the **Masters** Division in that event (**or in overall**) through the National tournament at the end of that ski year. **However, this mandated lock-in does not apply where participation in the Masters division for individual events is part of a Masters Overall performance.** In addition, skiers who participate in the 35+ World Championship and/or Pan Am Championship (Elite and the two veteran

teams) as part of a US delegation (either as a team member or as an independent skier) will **not** be considered to have entered the Masters division electively through their participation in that international event. However, skiers who participate in the Elite World Championship, the Pan Am Games, and/or the World Games **will** be considered to have entered the Masters division electively through their participation in that international event.

3. **Duration.** A skier will maintain his **Open** or **Masters** Qualification status through the National Tournament at the end of the ski year in which he attained that Elite (Level 9 or 10) ranking.

4. **Elite Overall Provisions:**

- a. A skier having an Elite Qualification **in Overall** may compete in the Elite Division in any of the three events, even if he does not have an Elite Qualification in that particular event.
- b. Skiers having a **Level 10** qualification **in Overall** and wishing to compete for **Overall** may only do so in the Elite Division, and shall be required to ski all three events in that Elite Division.
- c. Skiers who are either required to, or who elect to, ski one or more of the three events in the Elite division, may only compete for **Overall** in that Elite division, and shall be required to ski all three events in that Elite division if competing for **Overall**, and shall thereafter be required to compete for **Overall** in the Elite Division for the remainder of the ski year. **However, if a skier subsequently enters a tournament only in one or two individual events for which he is not qualified as elite, and is not skiing for overall, then he may enter in his age division. He will not be locked in to an individual elite division for which he is not qualified solely because he was mandated to ski in that division for an Overall performance.**

C. **Determination of Elite Cutoff Scores.**

1. **When:** The **Open** and **Masters** Cutoff ranking scores shall be determined each day, from the distributions of ranking scores in each event on that day.
2. **Open Cutoffs:** The **Open Cutoff** (Level 9) ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9 – and the Level 10 ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 10 – of the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M1, M2 and OM divisions for men, and the W1, W2 and OW divisions for women.
3. **Masters Cutoffs:** The **Masters Cutoff** (Level 9) ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9 – and the Level 10 ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level

10 – of the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M3, M4 and MM divisions for men, and the W3, W4 and MW divisions for women.

4. **Governance:** The percentile targets for Levels 9 and 10 shall be set by the Skiers Qualification Committee in accordance with directives approved by the AWSA board.
5. **Dual Rankings:** If a particular skier has rankings in more than one of the divisions in either of these collections for an event, that skier shall only be counted once for that collection, with the higher of those ranking scores.
6. **Jump Variations:** Where jumping speeds and/or ramp heights differ between the divisions which contribute to one of these collections, suitable adjustments (as defined by the Skiers Qualification Committee) shall be made to those scores to put them on a common basis for the applicable Elite Division.

Fails

PROPOSAL 5:

Placement Qualifications:

4.02A3 Overall: For those qualified by placement in overall without Level 8 rankings, scores for all events required for overall for the applicable division at the current Regionals or immediate past Nationals, must be above zero ***unless the skier has a current level 7 ranking in that respective event.*** (Also see 5.01-overall qualification)

Rationale: This was readjusted to add the level 7 stipulation so that skiers can still use the option of placement if they score zero in the Regionals. It shows that the skier actually has scores in an event. Our goal is to **NOT** have skiers who have never scored allowed to “compete” at Nationals.

Passed

PROPOSAL: 6

6.09 Changing Officials

At the discretion of the Chief Judge, any or all officials may be changed during a large Slalom or Jumping event. The event may be divided into groups to accommodate officials changing, although no such group shall have fewer than ~~15~~ **10** skiers. Under exceptional circumstances, the Chief Judge may change any official at any point during an event.

Rationale: Currently this could keep officials in an event that has 29 skiers. This could prove to be a very long event.

Passed

PROPOSAL 7:

7.05 Protests

Protests shall be considered only for failure of the tournament committee or the officials to comply with these rules. No protest shall ever be considered on judgment decisions by the judges **except as noted in 10.08F and 11.09D**

Rationale: There are questions regarding the difference in protest vs review/challenge. IWWF is also putting wording into their rulebook, we might change just a little to match.

Passed

PROPOSAL 8:

8.02 Boats

G The Nautique Hydrogate can be set in one of two positions, slalom or tricks/jump (may not be set in between modes).

Tricks: The default position is the trick mode. The skier has the option of using the slalom mode. It is the skier's responsibility to inform the boat crew when choosing the slalom option. The skier may choose to change the setting between passes.

Jump: The default position is the jump mode. The skier has the option of using the slalom mode. It is the skier's responsibility to inform the boat crew of slalom option prior to leaving the dock. ***In Class C tournaments only, the skier may choose to change the setting between jumps.***

Rationale: Not all jumpers have access to the Hydrogate, why not let them try it in jump mode on jump 1 and let them switch. Towboat Committee reminds us that it will affect the skier's letter and along with the power factor but they can work with this.

Passed

PROPOSAL 9:

8.03 Skis

A. Maximum ski width shall not exceed ~~30~~**35**% of the length.

Rationale: This is felt to be a stepping stone for trick skiing. Several regions have skiers who use wakeboards, but the current configurations are wider and don't fit into the former 30% rule

IWWF approved

Passed

PROPOSAL 10:

8.03 Skis

D. Trick skis:

1. Skis used in the Tricks event shall not have fins.
2. Trick skis with molded rails/grooves less than $\frac{1}{4}$ **1/2"** are allowed

Rationale: Same as above for width.

Passed

PROPOSAL 11:

9.08 Officials

B Event Judges: The Chief Judge shall **may** appoint two event judges in addition to the judge in the boat.

Rationale: These 2 spots have become water watchers. Let's just leave event judge decisions up to the boat judge to make this call just as we do in tricks. If judges need credit then let them sit with the computer judges and the CJ may still assign shore judges if needed.

From Judges and Scorers Committee: **Passed**

SHORE JUDGES: Eliminate the two shore judges in Jump who, in our rules, have no designated responsibilities. If there is a requirement for event judges for other reasons (passing between the ramp and boat wake, handle throw, etc.) assign these to the BJ or allow the Measurement Judges to act, in addition, as event judges (as in IWWF).

J&S Committee passed

PROPOSAL: 12

9.16 Jumping Equipment and Definitions

There are proposed changes to the measurement of the jump ramps which we will need to incorporate into our rules. We would like to wait for wording from IWWF. These include surface deviations, buoys in line with landing and certification of ramps by site owners.

RC will continue to work with IWWF along with Technical Committee to come up with appropriate wording.

Passed after getting IWSF wording

PROPOSAL 13:

9.16C8

Color Specifications: The ramp aprons and ramp surface shall be of different colors, both of which shall be different from the water surface. The ramp surface shall be one solid color **red-orange color** without borders or decorations. An X may be allowed in the top left corner of the ramp, with the maximum allowable size of the X approximately 2'x2'. The X must be next to the top and left edges of the surface of the ramp.

Rationale: Realized that the color of the ramp was not in the rule book currently and have put the color back. Red-orange color, consistent with IWWF wording. TC OK also

Passed

PROPOSAL 14:

The following provisions shall apply to all Juniors divisions -- B1/B2/B3 and G1/G2/G3 -- for the remainder of the 2016 ski year only, in place of the existing Rule 10 sections noted:

(1) We are eliminating divisionally-oriented Maximum boat speeds, and instead substituting only the Gender-based "Ceiling" boat speeds, of 34 or 36 mph. Consequently, all of the old provisions about "below maximum speed" and "above maximum speed" can simply be dropped.

(2) We are equating the "reward" (score) for each interval in either line shortening or in boat speed – so 6 additional buoys will be earned by either shortening the line by one interval, or by increasing the boat speed by one interval.

(3) Hence this offers skiers more flexibility with respect to what speeds and line lengths they choose to ski at, particularly as they move between divisions which formerly had different maximum speeds. Now they can "plot their own course", and we'll reward them accordingly.

10.06 Boat Speeds and Line Lengths (*Optional rules for juniors inserted in Italics for rest of 2016 ski year*)

A. The minimum starting speed for all divisions shall be 25 kph (15.5 mph).

1. At the option of the LOC, a skier may start below the minimum speed in Class F only and the pass(es) shall not be scored at or above zero

until they have reached the official minimum starting speed. (Also see Rule 3.06).

2. Also, at the option of the LOC as stated in its tournament announcement, or by majority vote of the Appointed Judges, the number of passes may be limited to a specific number but not less than four.

Male Divisions	Maximum Speed	Female Divisions	Maximum Speed
Boys 1	49/(30.4)	Girls 1	49/(30.4)
Boys 2	55/(34.2)	Girls 2	52/(32.3)
Boys 3	58/(36.0)	Girls 3	55/(34.2)
Men 1	58/(36.0)	Women 1	55/(34.2)
Men 2	58/(36.0)	Women 2	55/(34.2)
Men 3	55/(34.2)	Women 3	55/(34.2)
Men 4	55/(34.2)	Women 4	55/(34.2)
Men 5	55/(34.2)	Women 5	52/(32.3)
Men 6	55/(34.2)	Women 6	52/(32.3)
Men 7	52/(32.3)	Women 7	49/(30.4)
Men 8	49/(30.4)	Women 8	49/(30.4)
Men 9	49/(30.4)	Women 9	46/(28.6)
Men 10	49/(30.4)	Women 10	46/(28.6)
Men 11	46/(28.6)	Women 11	46/(28.6)
Open Men	58/(36.0)	Open Women	55/(34.2)
Masters Men	55/(34.2)	Masters Women	55/34.2

- B. The boat speed shall be advanced by 3 kph (1.86 mph) on each pass until the maximum speed for the division is reached according to the table above, at which time the speed will remain constant and the line will be shortened in accordance with the table below. ***(Juniors 2016, The maximum boat speed for males skiing as B3 shall be 58 kph (36.0 mph), and 55 kph (34.2 mph) for all others.)***

1st cut - to a 18.25 meter (59' 10.5") 2nd cut - to a 16 meter (52' 6") 3rd cut - to a 14.25 meter (46' 9")	} ± 15 cm (5.906")	
4th cut - to a 13 meter (42' 7.8") 5th cut - to a 12 meter (39' 4.4") 6th cut - to a 11.25 meter (36' 10.9") 7th cut - to a 10.75 meter (35' 3.3") 8th cut - to a 10.25 meter (33' 7.6") 9th cut - to a 9.75 meter (31' 11.9") 10th cut - to a 9.50 meter (31' 2") 11th cut - to a 9.25 meter (30' 4.2")		} ± 7.5 cm (2.953")

All subsequent cuts shall be made in .25-meter (9.844") increments.

- C. A skier may elect to start at a speed higher than his division maximum speed, up to his respective Open Division maximum speed, and may not return to his division maximum speed on subsequent passes. Any passes skied at that higher speed shall receive credit for buoys as though they were being run at his division maximum speed. A skier cannot set a National record unless they ski at the actual age division maximum speed. An OM may not ski at 36mph (58k) set a record there and then drag that score to a 34mph (55k) division (M3). See Tow Lines Dimension Chart in the Appendix, and the table above. (also 14.02). ***(Juniors 2016, A skier may start their run anywhere in the matrix shown in 10.06(g) below.)***
- D. A skier shall have the option of selecting his starting speed (at or above the minimum for his division) and rope length. ***(Juniors 2016 see below wording in italics for 2016.)***
1. If any but the minimum starting speed for the skier's division is selected and the first pass is completed, the skier is credited with all skipped passes. If the selected pass is missed, the skier will receive credit for actual buoys rounded as if it were the minimum starting speed.
 2. With the exception of items A and B above and at the option of the skier, slalom may be run starting with any line length, below maximum speed. When the maximum speed is reached, if the skier makes a complete pass, he then receives credit for any longer line pass(es). If the pass is missed, he will receive credit for buoys as if it were the 23-meter line pass.
 3. Opting Up
 - a. Upon completion of a pass, the skier shall have the option of skipping a pass in the sequence defined in 10.06C.
 - b. Skiers not at maximum speed must always increase their speed, with each pass, until their maximum speed is reached.

- c. If the skier elects to opt up in this manner then the skier must complete the selected pass to receive credit for the skipped pass and/or passes. If the pass is not completed the skier will receive credit for buoys at what would have been the consecutive rope length or speed.

Options for Juniors:

D. Upon completing their first pass, the skier will then receive credit for all of the initially skipped speeds and/or line length passes. However, If that first pass is not complete, then it will be scored as though it was run at the minimum speed and maximum line length.

E. After each completed pass, the skier may only advance to a higher speed, or a shorter line length (but not both at the same time) -- ie pass-to-pass movements in the matrix may only go down, or to the Right.

F. Opting Up.

1. After completing a pass, a skier may advance two or more intervals either faster or shorter (but not both at the same time).

2. If the skier elects to opt up in this manner then the skier must complete the selected pass to receive credit for the skipped pass(es). If the pass is not completed the skier will receive credit for buoys at what would have been the first immediately sequential skipped speed or line length.

G. Advancement and Scoring Matrix ...

Revised AWSA Slalom Scoring Matrix -- Buoys Earned on Completion of cited Pass

<i>Boat Speed</i>		<i>Line Length -- AWSA Feet off Upper, Metric Length Lower</i>											
		<i>Long</i>	<i>-15</i>	<i>-22</i>	<i>-28</i>	<i>-32</i>	<i>-35</i>	<i>-38</i>	<i>-39.5</i>	<i>-41</i>	<i>-43</i>	<i>-44</i>	<i>-45</i>
<i>KPH</i>	<i>MPH</i>	<i>23.00</i>	<i>18.25</i>	<i>16.00</i>	<i>14.25</i>	<i>13.00</i>	<i>12.00</i>	<i>11.25</i>	<i>10.75</i>	<i>10.25</i>	<i>9.75</i>	<i>9.50</i>	<i>9.25</i>
<i>25</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>17.4</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>
<i>31</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>34</i>	<i>21.1</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>
<i>37</i>	<i>23.0</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>
<i>40</i>	<i>24.9</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>
<i>43</i>	<i>26.7</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>
<i>46</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>114</i>
<i>49</i>	<i>30.4</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>120</i>
<i>52</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>126</i>
<i>55</i>	<i>34.2</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>132</i>
<i>58*</i>	<i>36.0*</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>138</i>

* *Note -- Last row above, 58 kph and 36.0 Mph, applicable only for Males skiing B3 or above*

10.13 Scoring

10.13c2 When skiing above division maximum speed, the recorded speed will be as if at division maximum. **(except when applied to the new 10.06 for juniors)**

10.14d4 Skier Elects the Option to Start at Any Line Length Other Than 23-meter at Below Maximum Speed: He shall be credited with six buoys for every pass he makes below the maximum speed. When the maximum speed is reached, if the skier makes a complete pass, he shall receive credit for any longer length passes. If the pass is missed, he shall receive credit for buoys as if it were the 23-meter pass. **(except when applied to the new 10.06 for juniors)**

Rationale: Change this to set the max speed for all male divisions at 36 and female at 34. Then allow skiers to shorten the rope at any speed. If a skier enjoys a slower or faster speed why hinder them, let them ski that, our foundation of zero based slalom scoring will even that out. 6 @ 35off @ 34mph is equivalent to 6 @ 32off @ 36mph. This proposal came about because many feel Boys 3 are not ready for 36 so we thought why make them, if they are not ready yet let them shorten at 34mph and be 6 buoys behind. Similarly, Boys 1 graduating to Boys 2 now have to jump 4 mph faster overnight. But under this proposal, could take their time increasing their speed, and in the meantime get credit for their shortline passes at slower speeds.

Why not do this for all divisions. Some Men 7 don't want to go slower and although they are allowed to ski faster, they receive nothing for it. Under this proposal they would. The downside is the confusion of knowing what's winning, but we will get used to it, it's all about buoys count. This could really increase member retention for those that would rather ski at slower speeds but deeper line. I would propose that all open and elite divisions must ski division max speeds as they currently are. Now this would also open us up to combine some of our older divisions, since some were created b/c of slalom speeds. And less divisions equals more competition.

The Rules Committee recommends that we trial run this in Juniors and see how it works.

Failed

PROPOSAL 15:

Add 10.07B. **Where end course is available,** ~~In no case shall~~ the towboat pylon **shall not** deviate by more than 20cm (7.87in) from the course centerline. **For instances without end course video, the boat shall follow a straight path as close to the centerline of the course as possible.**

~~10.07C : The bounds of the boat gates shall be defined by the center of the attachment point of each buoy.~~

Rationale: 10.07B has been confusing and frustrating for LOCs that do not have end course video. 10.07B second sentence matches the wording for IWWF. 10.07C should have been removed when we changed the wording for 10.07B.

Approved

PROPOSAL 16:

10.08A3: *Only* one event judge shall ride in the towboat, hereafter referred to as the boat judge.

Rationale: RC committee had been asked if there could be two boat judges since it is a "better view". We made a ruling earlier in the year that only one event judge be in the boat.

Approved

PROPOSAL 17:

(awaiting formal wording from IWWF)

ADD 10.08C1a For Class L & R, reference the IWWF Rule for tower judge configuration (Class R requires gate and boat video under all configurations). ***If tower judges cannot be located as described below in configurations D1,2,&3, a rule exception is required per IWWF.***

Class L & R meets or exceeds the requirement for Class E. Reference 14.04B for Boat Video requirement for Elite Division Record Application

Rationale: This was brought up at the IWWF TC meeting. The concept of complete video judging for slalom that as has been requested as an exception for some sites due to their physical limitations. The TC agreed to continue these exceptions except that a judge would also be required for direct observation of the runs to make judgments on situations that occur outside the view of the camera and outside the course (i.e. rough water, obstructions, etc.)

Approved

PROPOSAL 18:

~~10.08C1b A judge's tower is defined as an elevated observation point, **with a floor at least 3m above the surface of the water**, that provides an unobstructed view of the slalom course. ~~at least ten feet (3 m) above the surface of the water.~~~~

Rationale: Clarify the 3m rule, the floor or the line of site by the judge? This matches the IWWF wording which says floor.

Not Approved wil change a lot of towers

PROPOSAL 19:

10.08C2c: The camera shall be adjusted to show both buoys in clear focus, and equipped with ~~optical (not digital) magnification~~ of sufficient power to display the gate at least 1/6th of the full width of the screen (1/3 width or larger is recommended).

Rationale: From Technical Committee. Technology has advanced past this rule and to allow options.

Approved

PROPOSAL 20:

11.03 Trick Pass

Positioning tricks at the start of a pass must be done before the entrance buoy, ***unless the skier declares a positional trick to the dock starter prior to his run.*** Any trick completed before the entry buoy will be treated as a positional, out of course trick. Any trick completed after the entry buoy will be treated as an in course trick, ***unless the skier declares a positional trick to the dock starter in advance.***

A. After passing the approximate position of the entry buoy ***or after completing the declared positional turn,*** the beginning of the trick pass shall begin:

Rationale: Modify AWSA Rule 11.03 to align with the change from IWWF. IWWF allows a skier to declare their intent to start his run with a positional trick which enables the skier to complete the positional trick either before or after the entrance buoy (IWWF Rule 15.06).

Approve but take out Dock Starter

PROPOSAL 21:

11.08 Officials

C. Boat Judge: An additional judge shall ride in the boat. He shall check speeds, observe the boat path and stop the boat in the event of a dangerous condition. He shall be authorized to grant rerides, at the skier's option, for deviations in boat speeds and path as governed by Rules 7.01, 11.06 and 11.07. ~~The Chief Judge may designate the boat driver as the boat judge in the event that a camera is operated from the boat.~~ ***In a Class C tournament, the Chief Judge may designate a boat driver, who has at least a Regular Driver rating or has at least both an Assistant Driver and an Assistant Trick Judge ratings, as the boat judge.***

Discussion J&Ss- several have recommended this. In an E, L, R where boat video is used the driver can be the boat judge. So it does not make sense to require the above any longer, especially in Class C tournaments where we end up requiring more judges than in an E, L, or R! Also, the requirements to be a BJ are far less demanding than those for a shore judge calling the tricks. In several instances, we have boat drivers who simply get an Assistant Judges rating so they can be a boat judge for Class C tournaments with no intention of calling tricks. Also, adding the existing BJ requirements to the Driver's program would not be difficult, i.e. falls, rough conditions, course, speed, and sit down times.

Rationale: RC was not as open to the Boat Judge being an assistant only. We did not follow all of the Judge and Scorers recommendations. Felt that the boat driver would still not know all of the rules for tricks. In situations where a driver needs to upgrade his rating, then maybe a judge could be the camera operator.

Approved

PROPOSAL 22:

ADD

11.09D If a skier/representative believes that there was an error in the timing of a trick pass, he may challenge it by notifying the Chief Judge as soon as is practicable and by putting up US\$100. The Chief Judge and a designated review judge will re-time the pass. If they both agree on the timing, that will be where the run will end. If they disagree or agree that the video does clearly overrule the original time given by the judges, then the timing will change. The \$100 will only be returned if the original time was changed.

Rationale: Option for skier to request review of timing if using computer timing. This matches the rule in IWWF , but the dollar amount is consistent with AWSA rule.

Passed

PROPOSAL 23:

Clarification on Reverse trick question 11.12F

1. For trick numbers 1 (S), 2 (TS), 3 (B), 4 (F), 8 (TB), and 9 (TF) only, if the original trick is creditable, but a first attempt at the reverse trick is not, the skier need not repeat the original trick before making another immediate attempt or attempts at the reverse. Therefore, the following sequences are allowable:

S, RS nc, RS credit (trick number 1)

TS, RTS nc, RTS credit (trick number 2)

B, F, R nc, R nc, R credit, R credit (trick numbers 3 and 4)

TB, TF, R nc, R nc, R credit, R credit (trick numbers 8 and 9)

For all other tricks, the reverse trick must be creditable on the first attempt following the original trick. A second attempt may not be credited without performing the original trick again first.

2. No reverse trick shall be disallowed simply because it follows an original trick that is ruled no credit or because the original trick is a repeated trick.
3. For trick number 5 (~~0~~, ~~BB~~, ~~5B~~, ~~5F~~, ~~7F~~, and ~~7B~~), reverse tricks are limited to 360 degrees (~~0~~ or ~~BB~~) but may follow a 360-degree (~~0~~ or ~~BB~~), 540-degree (~~5B~~ or ~~5F~~), or 720-degree turn (~~7B~~ or ~~7F~~).
4. For trick number 12 (~~T5B~~ and ~~T7f~~), reverse tricks are limited to 540 degrees (~~T5B~~), but may follow a 540-degree turn (~~T5B~~) or 720-degree turn (~~T7F~~).

Rationale: Felt that the examples actually confused rather than clarified. The committee removed the descriptions only.

Passed

**PROPOSAL 24:
(Waiting for formal wording from IWWF)**

There was discussion about the rope in the water on ski line and toe line tricks. The rule clearly states for ski line tricks "The line must be out of the water during the execution of the turn."

This sentence will be put in bold in the rule.

For toe line tricks the foot is required to be out of the water during the execution of the trick

Rationale: These two types of tricks need a little more clarification regarding the rope either in the water or not. We need to align with IWWF in the judging standards. Want to put the same wording in our rulebook.

Passed

**PROPOSAL 25:
(Waiting for formal wording from IWWF)**

The issue of ski line, line tricks and toe line tricks where the trick seems like it was going to be attempted but the ski or leg did not go over the rope. In this case, the trick is scored as the surface or wake turn that was actually performed.

Rationale: Also want to be aligned with IWWF on these trick judging standards.

Passed

PROPOSAL 26:

(Waiting for formal wording from IWWF)

The TC considered the recommendation that a differentiation be made between a Front Flip done inside the line and a front flip done outside the line. As a result there will be two tricks under the same number, an inside Front Flip worth 700 points and an outside Front Flip worth 800 points each with its reverse. An inside flip can be done as a reverse of the outside flip and vice versa given that the other requirements for the reverses are met.

Rationale: Also want to be aligned with IWWF on these trick judging standards.

Approved above changes in concept waiting for wording

PROPOSAL 27:

Delete second sentence in 12.05C. and move to 11:18 B. thus creating 11.18 A. The sentence in bold is added to clarify the penalty for 11.18 B. Also adding reference point in 11.16C.

11.16C. Trick Release: If used, the trick release shall normally be skier-supplied equipment. However, a skier may accept a tournament-supplied release mechanism. In either case, the skier is fully responsible for any release or malfunction of the device, and no request for a reride will be granted for premature or accidental release or any other type of malfunction. A rope trick release mechanism up to 60cm (24") may be used (see Rule **11.18B**).

11.18 Interference by the Release Operator

A. If the skier-supplied release person interferes vocally or physically with the duties of the boat driver or the boat judge in the first pass, then the skier will receive a score of zero in that pass and not be allowed a second pass. Interference in the second pass will result in only the first pass being scored. Communications with the skier, including coaching, after a fall or in the sit down period, are allowable, provided the communication does not interfere with the officials.

B. In the trick event, the tow rope will be attached directly to the tow pylon or supplied trick release. Manipulation of the tow rope by the release person during the performance of tricks is prohibited. This person will be considered part of the skier's equipment and subject to Rule 7.07.C.

12.05C In the trick event, the tow rope will be attached directly to the tow pylon or supplied trick release. ~~Manipulation of the tow rope by the release person during the performance of tricks is prohibited.~~

Rationale: Rule 12.05C second sentence should be moved to 11.18 with the other release rules. It states manipulating the tow rope is prohibited but it

doesn't state what the penalty would be. We have kept the portion that applies to safety in that rule. The rules in 11.18 reference that there is to be no manipulation of the release and the consequences.

Approved

PROPOSAL 28:

11.20 G: At the request of an event judge (and approved by the Chief Judge) the video may be reviewed to establish credit or no credit of a trick or tricks. ~~**provided that the judge(s) states which trick(s) he wishes to review. It is not the intention to review the entire run.**~~

Rationale: Judges should not discuss credit/no credit on tricks during an event. When a judge requests video review, per the rules, the judge must state which trick he wishes to review. By making this statement, the judge could be biasing the other judges to look more closely at a specific trick. Recommend removing the requirement for a judge to indicate which trick he wishes to review. Additionally, in video reviews, the entire pass is typically replayed. Thus, recommend removing the final sentence in 11.20G. This differs from IWWF but is more fair to the skiers.

Approved

PROPOSAL 29:

Rule 13.03 Turn and Burn Format

A. DEFINITION: In Class C, unseeded tournaments and at the discretion of the LOC, a skier may elect to begin his FINAL round of a multi-round SLALOM event immediately upon the completion of his current round; i.e. "turn and burn (T&B)."

~~1. Only applies to FINAL round of a multi-round SLALOM event, not to the trick or jump events.~~

Rationale: Skiers have requested this option too. This just adds another option to bring in skiers.

Approved

PROPOSAL 30:

15.05J: IWWF-sanctioned Record Capability tournaments (Class L or R) must include one official certified by the Pan American Confederation who may also be one of the chief officials. ***That official needs to be on site during a multi round tournament only while those events are being run.***

Rationale: Some multi round tournaments have just a portion of the tournament being run as a class L & R. Should the Pan Am have to stay the whole weekend if those events only run for half a day?

Approve if stating bot a chief official

PROPOSAL 31:

15.06D1: End-course video shall be recorded in the Slalom event for all passes. A rigidly mounted video camera shall be operated from a point on the centerline on at least one end of the slalom course, adjusted to show all of the boat guides in clear focus and equipped with optical (not digital) magnification of sufficient power to display the far entrance/exit gate occupying at least 1/6th of the full width of the screen (1/3 width or larger is recommended).

Rationale: From Technical Committee. Technology has advanced past this rule. Allows the TCs to use more options. Approved

PROPOSAL 32:

[AWSA National Championships Event Classification](#)

Divisions	Slalom	Trick	Jump
B1/G1	E	<i>E/L*</i>	--
B2/G2	E	<i>E/L*</i>	L
B3/G3	L	L	L

M1/W1	L	L	L
M2/W2	L	L	L
M3/W3	L	L	L
M4/W4	L	L	L
M5/W5	L	L	L
M6	L	L	L
W6	L	E/L*	E/L*
M7	L	E/L*	E/L*
M8-10/W7-10	E	E/L*	E/L*
MM/MW	L	L	L
OM/OW	R	R	R
<p><i>Trick divisions that may expect scores of 10,000 points or higher should be run as an "R" classification.</i></p> <p><i>*At the option of the skier</i></p>			

Rationale: We have tried multi class events and have found they work. Let other divisions also use this. It also was very discouraging for the B1/G1 trick skiers who fell out of course. Also takes into account the skiers trying out for the +35 IWWF tournaments.

Approved

CLEAN UP ITEMS

PROPOSAL 33:

1.13 A skier having fewer than three tournament scores will have penalties applied to the average of the scores they do have, in the respective classes reported, and based on the table below:

Penalty	
One Class C Score	10%
One Class E or above Score	5%
Two Class C Scores	5%
One Class E Score AND one Class C Score	2.5%
Two Class E or above Scores	0.0%

Rationale: Need to add wording that skiing two Class E or above will not have a penalty adjustment.

Approved

PROPOSAL 34:

Change names of judges for other confederations, might need to refine more after meeting.

6.10 Defining "Judge"

The term "Judge" refers to an AWSA-rated Senior, Regular or Assistant Judge, ~~IWWF Class 1, 2 or 3~~ Judge or any Pan American equivalent. Other federations' or regions' judges' ratings are equated to those of AWSA for use in assigning tournament personnel as follows:

AWSA	AWSA Class tournament	IWWF
Senior	C, E, L & R	Pan Am, E & A Senior, Canadian level 3, Australian
Regular	C, E	As above but adding, E & A National, Canadian Level 2, Australian
Assistant	C	As above but adding Canadian Level 1, Australian

E & A = Europe and Asia **Approved**

PROPOSAL 35:

11.20F change: In circumstances which the Chief Judge regards as exceptional, the Chief Judge may review the ~~tape~~ **video** and ask the Event Judges to look at the run again so that the correct score may be established.

Approved

PROPOSAL 36:

15.02 Sanction and General Tournament Organization

The sanction application for a tournament with Record Capability (**Class E or, L or R**) must be submitted directly to USA Water Ski Headquarters no later than seven days prior to the scheduled start of the tournament.

Rationale: Inadvertently had Class R in this section but was correct further in the rule.

APPROVED

RECOMMENDATION – WE MIRROR IWSF RULES ABOUT SANCTIONING 4 ROUNDS IN A WEEKEND UNDER ONE SANCTION

AWARDS – Michele Seal

AWSA

Male Athlete of the Year	Freddy Krueger
Female Athlete of the Year	Regina Jaquess
Slalom Skier of the Year	Nate Smith
Tricks Skier of the Year	Anna Gay
Jump Skier of the Year	Alex Lauretano
Overall Skier of the Year	Regina Jaquess
Rising Superstar of the Year	Griffin Stange
Volunteer of the Year	Bob Harris
Team of the Year	Pan American Water Ski Team

BYLAWS – Jeff Clark

The committee members Lisa Holland SCR, Bill Murbach MW, Brad Conger W, Steve Vincent E, Brenda Baldwin AAC, Brian Detrick AAC, and I would like to express our appreciation for allowing us to serve the organization.

The AWSA Bylaws Committee has not had any issues to consider since the summer meeting and do not have any issues for the Board of Directors to consider at this time.

We remain open to the membership and the Board of Directors for issues to consider.

Judges and Scorers – Ray Crenshaw

A lot of discussion about the upcoming downgrades and ways the committee can help alleviate the pending situation. The online clinics, mainly put on by Bob Harris are helping with the clinic downgrade situation. There was talk of putting a standard clinic online that you can take at any time.

There was a lot of good discussion about how to keep officials active and the committee will be looking at a lot of options. We need to have some work with judges on Trick Calling.

Technical – Jerry Jackson

This report from the AWSA Tech Control Committee is to update the Board on items the committee has been involved with since the last board meeting. **There's no actions that requires the BOD Approval at this time.**

Special thanks to all Record Review Board Members, and USAWS Headquarters- Melanie

Hanson and Scott Atkinson 2015 Nat'I Records (Calendar Yr): 14 records submitted

(compared to 49 submitted in 2014)
11 Approved/ 3 declined

2015 TCs (approx. total 73)

South-20, S Central-16, West-20, Midwest-11, East-6

23 TCs have not meet all the requirements as 12/1/15. A separate Email was issued to all, as a reminder to complete the requirements/apply for hardship.

An Online Clinic was available in 2015 for maintenance only.

2015 Tech Issues:

Jump Surface- IWWF is going to have each jump site owner sign a statement, that their jump meets the current rule, not modified to enhance skier performance.

Slalom ropes- With all the different slalom ropes being made; how do we know that the slalom rope used at tourn meets the AWSA/IWWF Requirements. Not feasible to verify at the site/tournaments. Masterline has submitted a Lab Test Report.

TC vs site owners- The purpose of the Tech controller is to ensure that the site meets all the requirements (same for everyone). How do we maintain a check and balance for site owners who performing the technical duties at their own tournaments? Conflict-of Interest rule. Each Regional EVP who approves the sanction of the tourn, should ensure that a different TC (other than site owner) performs technical duties at some of the tournaments (random). With the amount of tournaments, it is not feasible to make it a requirement that a TC in the club/site cannot perform TC duties at the tournament.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TC Qualification Requirements: Moved the renewal qualification from the TC Application (where it was lost in), to the Judges/Drivers/Scorers Renewal Form.

New TC Rating Level

TC Ambassador: All Class Tourn (Ed Brazil, Dave Clark, Bob Corson, Roger Dilling)

TC Senior/International: All Class (R/L/E/C)(Qualification – complete the Regular TC Rating requirements, plus 2 additional yr/application) All TC that were qualified as of 2014, were grandfathered in as Seniors.

TC Regular/National: Class C/E only; (TC application is same requirements prior to 2015) All new application in 2015 were approved as Regular TC.

TRICK TIMING PROGRAM: Quicktime Pro was approved which is a frame counter program that can be used in newer Windows Program. Disadvantage- Must know the fps that the video is in, and the timer has to be able to add the correct frames to determine the last trick- Human Error. Not recommended for Major tourn- Regionals/Nationals. Class C, the program can be operated in seconds, which would have less chance of human error.

AWSA TC Web Page –Tech Controller Resources: Scott Atkinson has been keeping this updated, and we continue adding additional information.

2015 AWSA Rule Change Request: All covered under the Rule Change Request.

2015 IWWF-TC Committee Meeting in 11/15

Olaf Boettcher made a presentation to the TC suggesting that displayed average speed captures could be used instead of segment times to simplify the process and make it more understandable. The concept is that the average speed needs to be in a speed tolerance instead of a time tolerance. It is the same thing, but it would replace all of the segment time tolerances with one speed tolerance. The TC will ask Olaf for more information on this technique. Which I have the speed control/boat committee to look into. We would have to get Zerooff to change software.

TC Manual: *Still need to update: Roger Logan will take on task to updated manual.*

AWSA TC Co-Chairs: Peter Dahl/Jerry Jackson

IAC - Stan Switzer

There are 3 events in 2016, Can Am Championships, Pan Am Championships and the Junior World Championships.

- We are not going to be having team trials in the near future
- We are moving to a 6 member team for the 2016 Jr Worlds and possible Pan Am Teams
- There has been a new Code of Conduct contract for next year's teams

Junior Development - Seth Berry

Junior Development and our juniors had a successful season in 2015. After a great Regionals with some tremendous performances, our Juniors (National and Jr. Team) went on to win at Nationals with 44 top 5 placements (including overall) at Nationals. Our weak area was G1 with only one placement.

Our Juniors also had a great time at the Junior Banquet at Regionals. A special thank you goes out to our host site the Ski Nuts. Raffle was huge success and of course bidding was fierce for the "helmet". We have great donors and support for our region, and we could not continue without them. Some of the items were very unique including the Ski Lamp donated Amy Newman.

We will be having a clinic for the junior team possibly in April or May. Tentatively it will be held at Cory's. Details to follow. We have selected our 2016 Junior Team. Our congratulations to them and to their continuing success this upcoming ski season. Junior Team list is attached below.

Junior Development is outlining two goals this year. 1. to continue working on the development of our existing Juniors. 2. Find new ways to bring in new skiers.

A special thank you to Amy Newman again for being Jr. Development Coordinator. While she has stepped down from this role, she has been and will continue to be a great supporter for our Juniors and we thank her for our support.

Blair, Hayleigh	GA	G3
Blair, Wesley	NC	B1
Blair, Will	NC	B2
Bryans, Amanda	GA	G3
Burris, Hallie	NC	G3
Caffey, Austen	FL	B3
Davidson, Saylor	KY	G3
Fowler, Garnet	KY	B3

Fry, Cullen	FL	B2
Haertel, Lee	GA	B3
Hall, Elizabeth	GA	G2
Hansen, Kennedy	FL	G2
Hawkins, Cassidy	KY	G3
Kerr, Nicholas	GA	B3
Kubit, Joshua	NC	B3
Lowe, Chance	FL	B3
Marks, Wells	AL	B2
Mckune, Betsy	KY	G3
Nelson, Nicolas	FL	B2
Norton, George	TN	B2
Riggs, Cooper	TN	B2
Schouten, Joseph	AL	B3
Snell, Fred	TN	B2
Walsh, Connor	FL	B2

Safety – Leon Larson

The Safety Committee received no action item. However, we did receive two “Hardship Requests” that we addressed, voted and granted.

I would like to thank the AWSA Regions Committee members for their work. The AAC members posted to the Safety Committee have not responded to any emails from me that needing there input in at least four years. I have asked in the past for new and active members and I am asking again.

Tournament Seeding – Kirby Whetsel

Being a new appointment as Seeding Committee Chair, I would like to focus on moving forward and the future of our sport.

The seeding committee is a bit unique in that we have a system in place that, for the most part, takes care of all the seeding for us. Some may wonder, “What does the seeding committee actually do?” Good question.

At the completion of any tournament, it is the responsibility of our LOC’s , CJ’s, and CC’s to make sure the scores are accurate and correct when they are sent in to our regional seeding reps to be uploaded to our system. They ALL do an excellent job with this and continue to improve as they become more familiar with WSTIMS and getting the scores to the regional

seeding reps by Tuesday each week. We are starting to see some as soon as the event is completed Saturday or Sunday evening. It is then the regional seeding reps responsibility to make sure those scores are correctly uploaded to the system and bring it to the CC's attention if they see anything strange during the upload of the scores.

Something we have lost in the recent past is the need to take a "human" look at the skiers, their scores, their season, and how they should actually be seeded for a regional or national competition. We get too comfortable with, "that's what the computer showed" when we make an evaluation. Without getting too in depth for now, I would just like to bring this up as something to think about when we are planning for events in the future. The performances and scores should be the driving factor and they do tend to produce a reasonable seeding for events.

However, it should not always be the final deciding factor in some cases.

With some new proposals being discussed and possible changes in our sport's future, I am looking forward to working with everyone and most of all ENJOYING the future of our sport!

Skiers Qualification – Dennis Kelly

The member survey results have been used as a background for discussion regarding options for competition and qualification in the future. I want to thank the committee for being so engaged and dedicated to our sport.

Please see the attached documents regarding updated Skiers Qualification Methodology with a template for qualification percentiles to implement as soon as it is feasible. It does not vary significantly from our current system for this year.

When looking at the current state of qualifications it was hard to find a pattern. The percentiles had certainly changed since the last methodology was described in 2009. Challenges that were faced over the last 7 years included significant shifts in the size and skier performance in many of the divisions and a relatively small number of skiers in many divisions. The ultimate goal is to find a fair way to reconcile these differences and encourage participation and competition in the sport. What is being presented for approval at this meeting is an attempt to work toward that goal with our current system.

There has been extensive discussion as well in regards to alternate systems that may help us reach our goal. The survey results and member contributions have suggested many options to be considered.

Skier Qualification Methodology 2016 **(Update from 2009)**

A. SCORES USED:

In each event and overall in each division, Ranking Levels will be set using the skier's best average score per Rule 1.13 for every skier who participates in at least one AWSA Class C tournament or above.

B. RANKING LEVEL PERCENTAGES FOR AGE GROUPS

Ranking Levels for each event will be set to include skiers in the percentiles listed below. If the total population in any event is less than 35 skiers, the Level 8 Ranking percentile in that event will be lowered to ~~include a minimum of 10 skiers in slalom, 6 in trick, jump, and overall~~ **the 40th percentile and consideration will also be made by the Skiers Qualification Committee to honor a reasonable accomplishment for Level 8 qualification.**

Level 8 = 70th percentile (**67th for divisions that feed to masters or open**) with adjustments as **needed to obtain minimum number of skiers**

Level 7 = Level 8 minus 20 percentiles (**minus 40 percentiles in M/W7 and above**)

Level 6 = Level 8 minus 40 percentiles

Level 5 = Level 8 minus 50 percentiles

Level 4 = Level 8 minus 60 percentiles

~~**C. RANKING LEVEL PERCENTAGE FOR BOYS & GIRLS 1-3**~~

~~For juniors the Level 8 Ranking percentile in that event will be lowered to include a minimum of 30 skiers in slalom, 20 in trick, jump, and overall~~

~~**DC. RATING PERCENTAGE FOR OPEN-LEVEL 9 (OPTIONAL OPEN/MASTERS)**~~

The ratings are set to include skiers in the 93rd percentile of the total M1/W1/M2/W2/OM/OW and M3/W3/M4/W4/MM/MW skiing population or as described below:

1. for men in jumping:

- 5.5' Ranking, 93rd percentile of M1 & M2
- 6' rating, twelve feet is added to the 5.5' rating
- 5'/~~33.6~~ **35.4**mph Ranking, 93rd percentile of all those jumping at 5'/~~33.6~~ **35.4**mph
- for ratings at lower speeds, eight feet is subtracted for each 2mph decrease
- the 5.5'/32mph rating, twelve feet is added to that for 5'/32mph

2. for women in jumping:

- 5'/33.6 Ranking, 93rd percentile of W1 & W2
- for ratings at lower speeds, eight feet is subtracted for each 2mph decrease
- the 34mph/5.5' rating, twelve feet is added to that for 34mph/5'

D. RATING PERCENTAGE FOR LEVEL 10 (MANDATORY OPEN/MASTERS) The ratings are set to include skiers in the 97th percentile of the total skiers in the respective groups listed in C above.

~~**E. MAXIMUM CHANGE**~~

~~The current Ranking Levels will be raised by a maximum of 7 percentiles each ski year until the 70th percentile is reached for all divisions and all events except as noted above for groups with less than 35 skiers.~~

~~All other Ranking Levels will be based off the Level 8 Ranking and set according to the schedule above.~~

E. TIME FRAME

~~The above ratings and cutoff levels will be based on the previous year ski data and will be proposed each winter meeting to be effective at the following ski year. For example 2015 ski year data will be used to determine the 2017 ski year Qualifications and will be presented at the 2016 winter meeting.~~

Upon approval from the board, implement the current proposed percentiles for 2016 ski year. Starting with 2017 ski year, have data prepared annually for review at the summer meeting to become effective immediately after Nationals.

Boat Drivers – Ham Wallace

At this time, the Drivers Committee report has no action items for the Board to act on. Topics covered below are for information only.

This is the year for ratings renewal. Melanie has been busy sending out notices to officials who are short on requirements for maintenance. There are quite a few rated drivers that need a clinic to keep from being downgraded. In anticipation, we have been discussing an online clinic for maintenance only using the “Go To Meeting” format. Since “on the water” practical is not required for just maintenance, having several online clinics should cut down on the complaints of having to travel, etc. to attend a clinic. It has worked well for judges and scorers.

Ham Wallace is now chairman of the committee. Ham has been the Southern rep for many years is perfect for the position.

Other than incorporating any rule changes that are approved at this meeting that impact drivers, our clinic and testing materials are up to date.

Towboat/Speed Control – Greg Webb

AWSA Tournament use – Open / Closed Tournaments

The towboat companies requested a change to the tournament sanctioning program to better determine whether a tournament is open for use by all manufacturers or is limited to specific manufacturers. The sanction process has been modified to add a drop down menu to indicate if the tournament is “OPEN” or “CLOSED” to all towboat companies. Towboat open means all towboats are welcome. Towboat closed means only specified towboats will be welcome.

Also, the manufacturers are asking for real time reporting of use by regions. USAWS Staff and the Committee are currently working to implement.

Speed Control – 3 event Zero Off – Garmin Pucks / ECI

All towboat manufacturers are in the process of installing the Zero Off ECI Single Puck in-lieu of the dual Garmin pucks used in prior years. The manufacturers have tested each towboat model with the new ECI Puck and have been approved for use.

Towboat Tests

]

Towboat Tests were held on October 25-27, USAWS Headquarters, Lake Grew, Polk City, Florida. Attached is a list of the Approved 3 event boats.

Announcer – No Report

We need a Chief Announcer for the Southern Regional Championships

Old Business - None

New Business

Team Competition- Bob Archambeau

In 2016, there will be team competition at Regionals to qualify for the 2016 Nationals. Teams shall be divided by states or however the EVP determines. On each team, there shall be 5 Slalom, Trck, and jumpers from 3 categories (men,women and juniors). If you are selected to a team you do not have to be qualified to ski in the Regionals. This means a team may comprise on 5 to 45 individual skiers.

The winning team from the Regionals will move onto the Nationals. Each individual does not have to be qualified for the Nationals to participate in said event. Let's promote this team concept.

P & P 1.1.5 Driver sit out rule JFJ

Eliminate the sit out rule for Regional Tournament Drivers. There are not enough qualified drivers and this will parallel the other officials – **Passed**

INSURANCE – Lyman Hardy

We thank Lyman Hardy for working on the Insurance Task Force. He expressed his concerns about our current insurance and that we should discontinue insurance altogether because it has a high percentage of our membership fees. There was discussion and will be looked at continuously.

State Dues – Jim Jaquess

A state should not be able to make non state residents pay a membership fee. **Motion withdrawn**

Action Item – The EVP will talk with the National LOC to talk about tent prices and feasibility.

Recommendation – The Rules committee will go back to meeting every other year instead of annual.

Nominations:

EVP – Bob Schouten

Alternate EVP – Bob Archambeau

National Director – Lyman Hardy

Dennis Kelly (withdrawn after the meeting)

Alternate National Director – Leon Larson