



AWSA Southern Region Mid-winter Meeting

Birmingham, Alabama

January 8th, 2022

The mid-winter meeting of the American Water Ski Association's Southern Region began at 9:00 a.m. Central on Saturday, January 8th, 2022, in Birmingham, Alabama. Attendance of Southern Region Directors and state council members can be found at the end of the meeting minutes. Quorum was established. Over twenty individuals, including council members and committee chairs, joined virtually.

Lyman Hardy made a motion to accept the agenda. Joy Coomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Lyman Hardy made a motion to accept the minutes from the Southern Region's summer meeting held during the week of the 2021 Regionals held in South Carolina. Jazmine Gagner seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Cynthia Logan provided the treasurer's report. Important to note, two significant items increased revenue in 2021- Junior Development funds and sanction fees. Expenses were down due to decreased travel brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ray Crenshaw made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Pat Coomes seconded the motion. All voting members approved the motion.

Next, Bob Harris provided a high-level summary of the "EVP Winter Newsletter." This included a review of the AWSA licensing fee; Bob reiterated the licensing fee's purpose of supporting tournament cost mitigation.

The next item on the agenda was the USCOP discussion which included: Safe Sport and MAAPP Requirements, Officials Background Screening Requirements, and the updated communication from the Executive Director.

- Safe Sport and MAAPP requirements distributed in the mid-winter meeting packet.
- MAAPP requirements
 - If you register online, there is not a significant change in the process. If you forgo online registration, a significant amount of additional work and responsibility will be placed on the LOC.



- The LOC can post the MAAPP requirements onsite (e.g., on the results board/scoring area) and meet the requirements.
- Background screenings
 - Appointed and assigned judges at Nationals will be required to have background screenings.
 - This will be vendor specific. Background screenings completed for other organizations will not be accepted.
- Only competing or officiating AWSA members must complete the Safe Sport training. This comprises 41% of AWSA membership.
- Dana Garcia inquired as to the impact of Safe Sport training requirements on international competitors who participate in AWSA tournaments.
 - Bob Harris will provide Dana Garcia with more details post-meeting.
 - Bob Archambeau provided additional details.
 - If you are Safe Sport certified in another sport, the certification should be sufficient. If an international skier participates in a USA Waterski tournament, they must have Safe Sport training. If they ski in the USA for an IWWF tournament, their NGB requirements are sufficient.
 - Bob Archambeau following up post-meeting to verify.
 - *Note added post 01/08 meeting:* Per Nate Boudreaux during January 17th's town hall, if someone in USAWS completes the Safe Sport training for another NGB, that will also cover USAWS. They need to go into their Safe Sport account and list USAWS as one of their sports so that completion of the training transfers to USAWS.
 - Brett Gagner and Dana Garcia requested copies of the mid-winter meeting packet.
- The takeaway - background screening requirements have been scaled way back.
- Jazmine Gagner asked how AWSA's insurance will be impacted if an individual who has not taken the Safe Sport training, but is within the 30-day window to complete the training, violates the Code of Conduct.
 - Per Bob Archambeau, something of this nature will not impact our insurance.
- A defined process has not been developed for handling skiers' scores if the skier participates in a tournament after the 30-day grace period and neglects to complete the training.
- There will be some MAAPP requirements for LOCs, even with online registration, because a significant number of officials are not participants.



Lyman Hardy then provided an update on the 2022 Southern Regionals hosted by Lymanland USA. Lyman's update included:

- Dates: Wednesday, July 20th - Sunday, July 24th.
- Essentially the same schedule as 2021.
- General membership meeting will be held Thursday, July 21st.
- Junior Banquet will be held on Friday, July 22nd.
- Lymanland USA financial support request:
 - \$2,000 for t-shirts.
- Cynthia Logan made a motion to approve the report. Joy Coomes seconded the motion. All in favor. No opposed. The motion carries.

Next, the various Federation Presidents provided their annual reports.

- Alabama - Brad Brascho
 - Junior Development was a success in 2021.
 - The position of Collegiate Outreach Coordinator was established. Kate White has taken on this position to assist with collegiate involvement.
 - Joe Ray and Mike Moseley were inducted to the Alabama Waters Ski Hall of Fame in November 2021.
 - In July 2022, the World Games will be held at Oak Mountain State Park. We are planning ways to maximize our exposure leading up to and during the Games.
- Florida - Camille Tyler and Andre Broussard
 - Recent officer turnover.
 - Scott Ellis is the new President.
 - Jeff Clark is the new Treasurer
 - Increasing robustness of junior development outreach and clinics in 2022.
- Georgia - Chris Hall
 - We will be focusing on junior development and outreach in 2022.
- Kentucky - Joy Coomes
 - Hosting Adaptive Nationals in September 2022.
 - Volunteer support is needed.
- North Carolina - Ari Grode
 - Hall of Fame induction ceremony held and Award of Distinction awarded.
 - SkyView hosted the CanAm Team Challenge in 2021.
 - They also were awarded the bid for the Collegiate All Star tournament in 2022.
 - Successful junior development clinic.
 - Thanks to Tommy Harrington for his social media efforts.
- South Carolina - Abbie Skeen and Meg Deeley



- Southern Regionals and Malibu Open were held in South Carolina in 2021.
- Junior development clinic to be held in 2022.
- We will host the first ever Trophy Lakes Pro tournament on June 11th and 12th.
- Tennessee - Greg Webb
 - Hosted Collegiate Regionals in 2021.
 - Sharon Taylor passed away in Spring 2021.
 - Sharon Whetsel passed away in December 2021.

To close out this segment of the agenda, Bob Harris reminded the group that junior development clinics must be sanctioned for the Southern Region to reimburse the Federation hosting the clinic. Additionally, Bob asked everyone to verify their email addresses and phone numbers are up to date on the attached document (“2022 Southern Region Directors Council and State Officers”).

Next, the various Committee Chairs delivered their reports.

- PanAm - Dana Garcia
 - Majority of details in the packet circulated prior to this meeting.
 - Dana will include Federation presidents on PanAm communications going forward.
- Tellers - Taylor Hardy
 - Taylor recognized Eric Kelley, Andy Griffin, and Kirby Whetsel for serving on the Tellers Committee.
 - Results will be delivered later in the meeting.
- Announcers
 - No report as no committee members were present.
- Awards - Jim Jaquess
 - Currently, there is no specific criteria for award selection.
 - The recommendation of the committee is as follows:
 - Establish base criteria for awards.
 - Revert to original awards breakout (e.g., male and female awards).
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to accept the recommendation. All in favor. None opposed.
- Boat Drivers - Eric Kelly
 - There is currently a proposal to use Sure Path for all Class R tournaments in 2022, but it has not yet been approved.
- International Activities - Lyman Hardy
 - Challenges in 2021:



- Participants feeling overloaded with tournaments due to Covid-19 postponements in 2020.
- Insufficient number of three-event skiers, especially men.
 - IAC is forming a committee to coordinate efforts to increase three-event skiing.
- Finding coaches for IAC teams.
- A new guide for IAC teams is in-progress.
- Bylaws - Jeff Clark
 - Sandy Cates requested more information on the policy surrounding transgender athletes.
 - Jeff Clark shared that this issue has come up in previous years and the resolution was to rely on the skier's gender information as listed in the database.
 - Matt Page made a motion to approve revisions to Article 3 Section 1 of the Southern Region Bylaws on membership. The motion was seconded by Andre Broussard. Five individuals opposed the motion. The motion carried.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve revisions to Article 14 Section 1 of the Southern Region Bylaws related to conduct, ethics, and conflicts of interest. Matt Page seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed.
 - Jazmine Gagner made a motion to approve the revisions to Section 7 of the AWSA Southern Region Policy & Procedures Manual on committee assignments. Jim Jaquess seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed.
- Judges & Scorers - Ray Crenshaw
 - In the process of finding a new location to store trick videos for training purposes due to YouTube's privacy standards.
 - Hard copy of report distributed. See attached ("Judges & Scorers Committee Report January 2022").
- Junior Development - Allison Blair
 - *Note: Allison provided this update later in the meeting, but it has been included here for clarity.*
 - Update on junior development efforts and activities at 2021 Regionals.
 - We are planning to continue the successful sponsor donations program at Regionals this year, along with trying it at Nationals.
 - Changes to the criteria for inclusion on regional and national teams.
 - Do the national junior team and the regional junior team overlap?
 - National team includes:



- Top two overall skiers in each division for both the previous year and trailing twelve months.
 - Skiers can be added throughout the year.
 - Open rating skiers are automatically added to the team.
 - Regional team includes:
 - Level eight skiers.
 - New criteria is far more objective and less subjective.
- Discussion on ways to adjust budget expenses to better support Junior Development.
 - Option to continue the practice of giving the EVP and Treasurer the discretion to support Junior Development's shortfalls.
 - Option to reorganize the junior development clinic reimbursements so they come out of the general budget as opposed to the Junior Development budget.
 - Option to designate a set amount to contribute to Junior Development per year.
 - Allison Blair made a motion for the clinic reimbursement money to come from the general budget.
 - Jazmine Gagner made a motion for the \$1,500 regional clinic reimbursement funds to be designated for Junior Development purposes. Ray Crenshaw suggested making it \$4,000.
 - Matt Page made a motion to cover all Junior Development costs out of the general fund (P&P states up to \$2,800 can go to state clinic reimbursement, and \$1,500 can go to regional clinic reimbursement) per Junior Development request. Joy Coomes seconded the motion.
 - All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.
- Nominating Committee - Kirby Whetsel
 - No update at this time.
- Rules Committee - Scott Snape
 - The Rules Committee requested the Drivers Committee and Towboat Committee come to a consensus on weighting the bow of the boat.
 - Jim Jaquess asked if the committee had any discussion on eliminating Class E tournaments.
 - There are members on the Rules Committee that want to keep Class E tournaments as Class E tournaments are used for judges rating maintenance.
 - Discussion was had on the pros and cons of Class E tournaments.



- Discussion on the trick flipping (max: 6 flips) rule.
- Pat Coomes made a motion to approve the committee report and their recommendations. Lyman Hardy seconded the motion. One opposed the motion. The motion carried.
- Technical Report - Jerry Jackson & Rodger Logan
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve proposed adjustment 1.01 and 11.13. Bob Harris seconded the motion.
 - The motion was already approved in the previous motion to approve the rules committee recommendations.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve proposed adjustment 14.02. Jazmine Gagner seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.
 - Tech Committee requested SurePath be used in Slalom and Jump for all Southern Region L and R tournaments. SurePath will be used for data collection purposes in Jump.
 - Regarding SurePath, there will be two different deviation benchmarks/requirements for L and R tournaments.
 - Ray Crenshaw made a motion to use Sure Path in Class R/L/E tournaments, and use the rule as written in 8.1.5 unless adjustments are made at a higher level. Jim Jaquess seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve proposed adjustment 8.03. Pat Coomes seconded the motion. Three opposed the motion. The motion carried.
- Safety - James Cawthern
 - No update at this time.
- Seeding - Kirby Whetsel
 - No update at this time.
- Towboat/Speed Control - Greg Webb
 - Discussion has been had on the subject of adding weight to the bow of the boat. Towboat policy states that towboats are to be used as tested (they are tested *without* weight in the bow of the boat).
- Foundation - Jeff Clark
 - Things are going very well.
 - Regarding the scholarship program, we are awarding increasing funding to students.
 - The Hall of Fame is scheduled March 5th, 2022.
 - Upcoming events will be held in Winter Haven to celebrate 100 years of waterskiing.



The next segment of the agenda concerned old business.

- Lymanland USA's bid to host the 2023 Regionals needs to be approved.
 - Ray Crenshaw made a motion to approve the bid. Joy Coomes seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carries.
- Taylor Hardy provided the results of the voting for Regionals and Nationals officials. See attached documents ("2022 Regionals Officials Results" and "2022 Nationals Officials Results").
- A digital copy of the Regional Guide will be distributed this year. The tournament list will not be included; however, a link to the events guide will be. Bob Harris requested content and photos be sent to him as soon as possible. The regional guide will be housed on the AWSA Southern Region website; there will also be a link on the USA Waterski website.
- Insurance is secured.
- Bylaws & P&P Amendment Proposals
 - Clean up and housekeeping items regarding how things are progressing in practice.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Jazmine seconded. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carries.
 - Article 1.3.3: Tournament Fees
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Eric Kelley seconded the motion. One opposed. The motion carried.
 - Mandatory requirements 12 and 13
 - General housekeeping items.
 - Approved. None opposed.
 - Article 1.1.3: Entry Qualification and Skier Seeding
 - Per Jeff Clark, maintain as is.
 - Article 1.1.6.B: Qualification Required of Officials
 - Approved by all. None opposed.
 - Article 1.2: AWSA Nationals Officials Selections
 - Clean up wording.
 - Article 1.3.1: Scheduling Tournaments
 - Lyman Hardy made a motion to approve. Ray Crenshaw seconded the motion. Two opposed the motion. The motion carried.
 - Motion details: All tournaments in the Southern Region will accept federation membership from other states within the region and not charge an additional membership fee on behalf of the state where the tournament is located.
 - Jeff Clark wordsmithing.



- Article 1.3.2: Sanction Approval
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Joy Coomes seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.
- Article 1.3.3: Tournament Fees
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Pat Coomes seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Article 1.3.4: Tournament Operational Guidelines
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to accept. Sandy Cates seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 1.3.5: Records and Meetings
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to accept. Kirby Whetsel seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 5.0: Schedule for Payment for Expenses Rendered by Volunteers
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Pat Coomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 7.2: Regional Nominating Committee
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Pat Coomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 9.0: Southern Region Winter Newsletter
 - Clean up wording.
 - Pat Coomes made a motion to approve. Jim Jaquess seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 10.0: Regional Guide
 - Jeff Clark wordsmithing.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Joy Coomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Appendix 4: AWSA Tournament Sanctioning Process
 - Pat Coomes made a motion to approve. Kirby Whetsel seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Article 1.3.3
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Kirby Whetsel seconded the motion.
 - Discussion on this matter continued.
 - Jim Jaquess made a motion to approve. Matt Page seconded the motion. One opposed. The motion carried.
- Request for bids for 2024 Regionals
 - Asked LOCs to consider.
 - Lyman Hardy also requested LOCs consider hosting 2024/2025 Nationals.



- Thanks Tommy Harrington for his social media and website efforts.
- General membership business
 - The AWSA Board packet was not distributed until the evening of Thursday, January 6th, before the mid-winter meeting held on Saturday, January 8th.
 - Clarification: It is the responsibility of the AWSA Chairman to distribute this information, not the President.
- Payment issues on the website.
 - The new membership database is going to integrate with online registration. Once this is completed, the process should be much improved.
- Nominations of Officers
 - EVP and Alternate EVP
 - Kirby Whetsel nominated Bob Harris for EVP. Rodger Logan seconded the nomination. Bob Harris accepted the nomination. Lyman Hardy moved the nominations for EVP to be closed.
 - Jim Jaquess nominated Scott Snape for Alternate EVP. Joy Coomes seconded the nomination. Scott Snape declined the nomination.
 - Jim Jaquess nominated Kirby Whetsel for Alternate EVP. Joy Coomes seconded the nomination. Kirby Whetsel declined the nomination.
 - Kirby Whetsel nominated Jim Jaquess for Alternate EVP. Joy Coomes seconded the nomination. Jim Jaquess accepted the nomination.
 - AWSA Director and Alternate AWSA Director
 - Jim Jaquess nominated Lyman Hardy for AWSA Director. Lyman Hardy accepted the nomination.
 - Ham Wallace nominated Jim Jaquess for Alternate AWSA Director. Jim Jaquess accepted.
 - USA-WSWS Director
 - Jim Jaquess nominated Andre Broussard for USA-WSWS Director. Andre Broussard accepted the nomination.
 - Lyman Hardy made a motion to close all nominations.

Bob Harris called for any other business. Lyman Hardy made a motion to adjourn. Eric Kelley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

END



Attendance

| Last Name | First Name | Attendance? |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Bally | Marsha | No |
| Bleier | Erica | No |
| Brascho | Brad | Yes |
| Broussard | Andre | Yes |
| Bryans | Craig | Yes |
| Burkhead | Cathy | No |
| Cates | Sandy | Yes |
| Coble | Valerie | No |
| Coomes | Joy | Yes |
| Coomes | Pat | Yes |
| Crenshaw | Ray | Yes |
| Deeley | Meg | Yes |
| Dillard | Janet | No |
| Doster | Donnie | No |
| Eller | Chris | Yes |
| Gagner | Jazmine | Yes |
| Gagner | Brett | Yes |
| Galloway | Michael | No |
| Griffin | Andy | Yes |
| Grode | Ari | Yes |
| Hall | Chris | Yes |
| Hamrick | Doug | No |
| Hardy | Lyman | Yes |
| Hardy | Taylor | Yes |
| Harris | Bob | Yes |
| Harris | John | No |
| Hill | Tina | No |
| Hill | Bobby | No |
| Jaquess | Jim | Yes |



| Last Name | First Name | Attendance? |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Kelley | Eric | Yes |
| Larson | Leon | Yes |
| Leonard | Leon | No |
| Logan | Cynthia | Yes |
| Long | Alan | Yes |
| Longo | Dennis | Yes |
| Miller | Payton | Yes |
| Moore | Jerry | No |
| Morgan | Kerry | No |
| Nichols | Brenda | No |
| Page | Matt | Yes |
| Pauley | Nicole | Yes |
| Pfister | Matt | Yes |
| Pierce | Trace | No |
| Skeen | Mark | No |
| Skeen | Abbie | Yes |
| Sparks | Amanda | No |
| Sparks | Brent | No |
| Stallings | Ric | Yes |
| Tate | Kyle | No |
| Terry | Cheryl | Yes |
| Tyler | Camille | Yes |
| Wallace | Ham | Yes |
| Webb | Greg | Yes |
| Webb | Kathy | No |
| Whetsel | Kirby | Yes |
| Wood | Jennifer | Yes |