

Southern Region Winter Meeting 2012. Time 9:04 a.m.
DoubleTree Hotel, Atlanta, GA

I would like to call the meeting to order. Did everyone get a chance to look at the agenda, read through all of the material – any questions before we start? Okay, I guess we're ready to rock-n-roll.

Jeff, would you be parliamentarian. Accepted

Introduction, roll call. Alabama (Jay Estes/Bob Schouten/Milton Weathers), Florida (Gordon West/Mark Griffin/Brenda Baldwin/Stan Switzer), Georgia (Ray Crenshaw/Elaine Guarino/Craig Byrans), Kentucky (Joe Burkhead/Tim McKune/Pat Coomes), North Carolina (Johnny Thomas/Jerry Hargis/J Alan Long), South Carolina (Jeanette and Rob Van Akelijen), Tennessee (Julie Yancey/Ham Wallace/ Kirby Whetsel), Directors (Jim Jaquess/Lyman Hardy/Chris Eller). Officers and Committee Leads (Bob Archambeau/Jeff Clark/Gene Davis/Gerald Kirschner/Eric Kelly/Jerry Jackson/Greg Webb). A number of additional individuals were also on hand. The meeting sign in sheet are available for review. Jeff noted we have a quorum.

We have reviewed the agenda. There is a lot of information present on that. I am not going to try to railroad anything on that. I want to have great discussion throughout the day but we have to keep the pace up to complete the agenda.

Review of the summer meeting minutes 2012. I did note that we added two individuals from the meeting previously excluded. Other than that, did anybody have any changes to the summer meeting minutes? Do I have a motion to approve? Motion to accept – Seconded - Passed

Treasurers Report. (Jeff Clark) There is no formal written report but we will review a number of spreadsheets explaining where we are today. We have itemized the contributions as you can see and had an income of approximately \$28,500. Our big expenses are in awards (where we had to reorder a 2 year supply of regional medals), reimbursement for Director Meetings, National Officials, Meetings, Clinics and Junior Development. The latter of the expenses are pretty much the same every year. This gives us a net Income of \$3957.56 for the year. In our combined accounts we have \$66,150. We have looked at Budget numbers going forward and know that our expenses pretty much stay the same each year. Looking forward we should be making \$3800-4000 a year which shows we continue to be on track. Any questions? None. Motion to accept – Seconded – Passed.

Would the directors like to introduce themselves? Jim Jaquess, Lyman Hardy and Chris Eller. I apologize for not including you up in our initial role call. I would like to welcome all of you.

EVP Report (Bob A):

Thank you all for coming to Atlanta and more importantly being involved in so many ways with our sport of Water Skiing. It takes commitment from volunteers like yourselves to keep things going and you all do a great job, sometime without a thank you or any acknowledgement. To change things up a bit – I'd like to thank the Council and Committee Leads - from the members of the Southern Region for what you do.

I began to gather information on what happened this year and quickly realized that I could speak for hours. Those that know me know that is way too possible. Instead I will highlight some of the things and apologize for any achievement, event or person I do not mention. Hopefully we have caught these on the Southern Region Web Site along the way. Speaking of which our web site is kicking out on the number of visits (480,000 in 2011) and searches and getting back to where it needs to be. Thanks to everyone behind the scenes on this and if we are missing something or ideas you want to share just send it my way and we will get-R-done.

We have had some great highs and some unfortunate lows this year. We lost some good people this year - Carlos Maciel, Haley Mitchell, Dale St John, Gary Pressley, Vic Varallo and Nell Drake. These folks and others not mentioned will be missed. But not everything was a miss this year. Our Elite Athletes put up some great performances on all of our teams and new world records were set.

We held roughly 136 tournaments this year. The spring was killer across the region with nasty storms and flooding conditions cancelling many tournaments and delaying quality practice at the start of the season. Bouncing back we had super Regionals thanks to the members of Ski Paradise (Ruth, Donna, Stan and their team). We should mention Stan Switzer for making the cover shot of the Water Skier Magazine. (I hear he will be signing copies in the lobby latter today.) Some tournaments that were not held this year have already contacted us and are returning for the 2012 season. The numbers of entries were down across the board which should be a real area of concern for all of us. We have to continue to reach out for new members and participants to join our sport. Juniors are a great way to do it but we also need to encourage our collegiate athletes to continue skiing and really think about other novice activities (grass roots) to build up our numbers

Junior Development continues to do well and with the help of so many including Tommy Newman, our lead auctioneer, we raised a ton of money for the juniors at the regional banquet. Again we want to thank everyone who donated their time, gifts and cash throughout the year to make this a success. I know Elaine is looking forward to making even a bigger splash this year.

Financially our Region is doing well thanks to all of you – we have great people and sites to continue to get us where we need to be. Nationally we continue to look for new and better ways to increase membership, have the ability to fund our Teams and look to all of you for ideas on how to better do this. Even better, if you know of anyone who would like to lead such activities let me know. We have some great AWSEF fundraising activities in the legacy program and we have brought back the commemorative brick program.

I look forward to 2012 (weather permitting). The Ski Nuts in Paducah have been working hard to produce great Regionals and with the Nationals in West Palm Beach, I would anticipate a great turnout for Nationals. I will see you at both.

Federation Reports:

Alabama (Bob S):

- Alabama had 10 tournaments in the Calendar Year of 2011, with two being record tournaments. The total number of entrants was 271 for the 2011 calendar year. This number was calculated instead of total pulls this year.
- The State Tournament was held at Ski Chaste in Axis, AL. For the third year, we implemented the “adopt a skier” program, where if you bring a new skier to the State, your entry is paid for by the Federation.
- We had two Junior Clinics. Dylan Schaffer was our Coach at our State Junior Clinic
- Our website <http://www.AlabamaWaterSki.com> went from 5000 to 12,500 hits in the last year.
- We had a huge Slalom Clinic on Lake Martin (public water) sponsored by Russell Marine. It looked like the “Masters”. We are looking to follow up on Lake Martin and other public lakes.
- The Grand Prix was cancelled in 2011 due to lack of administrative support.

Looking ahead to 2012

- We have 17 Tournaments scheduled for the Calendar year of 2012 with 2 being Record Capability.
- The Alabama State Tournament will be held at Buck Lake in Chelsea, AL
- We are going to hold an officials clinic in May (Drivers, Safety, Scorers, Judges)
- Alabama has 2 Junior Clinics penciled in for 2012.
- We will continue our “adopt a skier” program
- The Slalom Grand Prix will resume in 2012 sponsored by H2Osmosis.

Florida (Gordon W):

Florida had another year similar to the past. 2011 we hosted an Officials/Drivers Clinic early spring along with several Jr. Clinics held by several gracious hosts. Our state hosted approx 70 +/- tournaments. Our State Championships & the Southern Regionals were held in Mulberry, Fl at “Ski Paradise.” Quite a few new state and regional records were set. Also at the state meeting we had the election of officers for 2012. The results were forwarded to the EVP. WFSF Hall of Fame inductees, Bill Wenner – Ron Scarpa – Mark Jackson & Ted Bevelacqua were honored. Once again this year the LCQ, a 3-day Masters qualifier was held at “I.T.S.” hosted by the Travers’ family. The LCQ is again scheduled there for 2012. The stage was set for the 2nd annual, highly anticipated “Rocketman Night Jump” but Mother Nature dealt a nasty blast of 24-hour rainfall to cancel the fun.

They are already working on the 2012 event to be held in October. The Jr.17-20 team trials will be held at Fluid Ski & Sports.

2012 appears to be business as usual and we will once again have quite a large number of tournaments. At our December scheduling meeting we implemented a 14-day lead time for additional tournament approvals that were not approved at the scheduling meeting. We will be having a judges/drivers clinic in mid March at Lake Grew / USA Waterski Headquarters. A Jr. Development Clinic is in the works for February at the Travers'. Our State Championship will be returning to Ski Paradise. We welcome the Nationals and Big Dawg finals back to West Palm.

Georgia (Elaine G / Craig N):

Waterskiing in Georgia has been a great success in 2011. There were nine sanctioned tournaments held this summer in Georgia. We look forward to even more tournaments next year.

After elections at the state tournament meeting, the current Georgia Federation officers and councilmen are as follows:

President: Craig Nolan / Vice President: James Cawthern / Secretary/Treasurer: Rob Blair / Junior Development Coordinator: Kim Bryans
Regional Council: Ray Crenshaw / Elaine Guarino / Craig Bryans

As should be every year, Junior and Adult Development has been our primary focus. We held three clinics this year: 1 Junior Development, 1 Safety, and 1 Judges/Scorer Clinic combined. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in the success of the clinics.

The GA-TN State Challenge, sponsored by the Soggy Bottom Ski Club, was held at Callaway Gardens and was quite an accomplishment. Thanks to all the volunteers, from transporting the jump to coordinating all the events, the help was appreciated by all. Special thanks to Co-Tournament Directors: Elaine Guarino (GA) and Steve Raybourne (TN) for all their hard work. The feedback was very positive. Tennessee ending up winning in overall points by a NARROW margin. We'll get them next time.

We have some exciting events planned for the upcoming ski year. We have tentative plans in the works for Junior Development and Adult Development clinics so we can get more officials in Georgia. Recruitment of officials and junior skiers is a priority.

In closing, I look forward to a promising ski season for Georgia. See you on the water.

Kentucky (Eric K).

The 2011 Water Ski season in Kentucky was typical in nature. We hosted the usual amount of tournaments in Kentucky with the exception of the addition of Waterskiing into Kentucky's Bluegrass Games. The Bluegrass Games are annual in nature and promote competition at the highest level for amateur athletes. We were again successful with our Jr. Development programs. We held 1 clinic and 1 three day school that were well attended.

One of Kentucky's strengths continues to be our number of officials as we are fortunate to have many people who are willing to serve in many capacities and we thank them for this.

We are pleased to be hosting the 2012 Southern Regionals. The Ski Nuts began some site improvements this Fall for the tournament. We plan to host a great Regional tournament and look forward to treating everyone to some good Kentucky hospitality.

2011 Statistics

- Number of tournaments: 6
- Number of members: 58
- Number of officials: 32
- Number of tournament Sites: 4

- Number of Records broken: 9 in State Championships

Officers: President: Eric Kelley / Vice President: Joy Coomes / Secretary: Bob Harris / Treasurer: Ann Catlett / Council: Joe Burkhead, Pat Coomes, Tim McKune / Jr. Development: John Fowler / Webmaster: Suzanne Webb

North Carolina (Johnny T / Chris E): North Carolina held 15 tournaments in 2011, including the NCWSA All-Stars at Beaver Lake. We had a Driver, Judges, Scorers and Jr. Development clinics. All were well attended and a huge success.

We awarded the newly renamed Gary Presley Memorial Scholarship to Mary Ellen Cain who received a \$500 scholarship and \$250 each to Kelsie Mitchell and Emily Werk. Our NC Team Slalom event raised over \$1000 again to go towards funding this award. As many people know we lost this amazing member of our waterskiing family this fall and in his memory our scholarship was renamed after him. We hope to begin the process of funding a legacy in Gary's honor with USA Waterski as well.

This year's inductees to the NC Waterski Hall of Fame were Jerry and Brenda Hargis.

Kristi Overton-Johnson was inducted into the NC Sports Hall of Fame this past week.

South Carolina (Jeanette V / Scott S):

Officers for South Carolina:	President:	Scott Snape
	Secretary:	Kathy Shirley
	Treasurer:	Mike Galloway
	Junior Development:	James Hill
Council:	Robert van Akelijen	
	Jeanette van Akelijen	
	Matt DuBon	

<u>SC State Records 2011:</u>	Slalom:	M-1 Kyle Shirley tied 3@11.25
		M-5 Bud Davis .5@10.75
		W-4 Pam McNairy 5@12
		M-4 Mike Robinson 4@10.75
		M-4 Scott Snape 142' @ 5'
	Jump:	M-4 Scott Snape 142' @ 5'
	Overall:	M-4 Scott Snape 2295

2011 Tournaments Completed:

SC hosted 10 water ski events including 1 Junior Development Clinic and the SC States, all hosted at Trophy Lakes. 4 of these events were ELR, the rest were C

2012 Tournament Schedule:

1. May 19 Free Ski Day @ Lake Flumi (Fun ski day to encourage new-comers, free to all)
2. May 27-28 Memorial Day @ Trophy Lakes (Slalom C)
3. June 30-July 1 4th of July @ Trophy Lakes (Slalom C)
4. Sept. 1-2 Labor Day @ Trophy Lakes (Slalom C)
5. July 7-8 SC State Championship @ Lake Flumi(3 Event CEL)
6. Oct 6-7 Gary Pressley Memorial Slalom @ Trophy Lakes (Fall Swerve slalom 6 round CELR tournament)
7. Oct. 27 BOOOey Fest @ Trophy Lakes (Slalom C)
8. Seth Stisher expressed interest in hosting Jr. Development Clinic (date to be determined)

Tennessee (Kirby W): 2011 Jr US Masters Zane Nicholson, Kara MacIntyre, and Brie Carter compete

State records (2010 & 2011 updates)

2010

Julie Yancey W4 Slalom 2 @ 22off Crews Fall tourney

Garrett Stallings B1 Tricks 3940

Zane Nicholson 3 @ 39 June 12 Ski Ranch Covington, LA

2011

Jim Bull M6 Tricks 1340

John Carder M4 jump 163 (33.6)

Zane Nicholson 4 @ 39 July 4th Cedar Ridge

TN hosted 14 tournaments and several Clinics in 2011

2 Collierville Ski Club

2 Hilliard Crews

2 Lake Pointe

2 Lake Fridley

1 No Wake Lake

1 Lake Pryor's Wallys Ski Club

4 Soggy Bottom Ski Club

John Carder and Dennis Kelly's new site is a huge success. They held 2 tourneys, one of which was a record tournament in September. Both produced great scores.

Clinics

2 Junior Clinics

1 Judges

1 Scorers

2011 Joint State Championships with GA at Callaway Gardens was a HUGE success with 35 skiers from TN. Steve Raybourne (TN), Kirby Whetsel (TN), Elaine Guarino (GA), and Michelle Roberson (GA) were appointed committee members for the 2011 TN/GA State Tournament Challenge. John Carder, Tommy Newman, Joel Norton, John Seiler, Carey Zimlich, Alston Roberson, Callahan Roberson, Heather Stallings, and several others worked their butts off to make this happen. Special thanks to Steve, John, and Tommy.

2012 State Championships will be at John Carder's. I am sure it will be a great event.

Tennessee performances

2011 Regionals

19 skiers

12 skiers winning 28 medals

6 - 5th

4 - 4th

6 - 3rd

7 - 2nd

5 - 1st

2011 Nationals

19 skiers

10 skiers winning 16 medals

3 - 5th

3 - 4th

5 - 3rd

1 - 2nd

4 - 1st

U21 Worlds held in Mosaec, France

Caroline Hensley wins Women's Overall and helps the US Team secure a Gold Medal

The Tennessee water ski family lost another icon in 2011. Vic Varallo passed away on Nov 25th. Vic was a competitor, pioneer, coach, mentor, and friend to many, not just in our water ski community, but in all aspects of his life. He was the catalyst for starting the Vet Men/Women divisions in the early 80's. You can read Vic's obituary in the Jan/Feb 2012 issue of "The Water Skier".

Committee Reports – A motion was made (Ham W) to accept all committee reports with an automatic second. Seconded (Gordon W). Motion was Passed

Tellers Committee (Gerald K) – Everything went great this year. The change in voting by marking the box worked well. Ray C was the first to get his ballot in right away. Some of the Council waited till the last day to get their ballots in and a few did not vote for everybody (that was allowed) but overall it went well. (Bob A - The Officials for the 2012 Regionals and Nationals has been reviewed by committee. Please look over the regional and national officials. We will take a 10 min. break and allow for review of officials. On return there were no questions and congratulations went out to all the chiefs. Kirby, congratulations on leading this group. Please note that alternates on the list in case we are in need of their services.)

Awards Committee (Michele S) – Nothing additional to the National Report.

Bylaws (Jeff C) – Southern Region By-Laws has no proposed changes.

Only thing AWSA going before the board is the change to the Midwest. Midwest has several states which have minimal skiers, some less than 5, so getting representation on their counsel has been an issue. To correct their bylaws, they are saying that any state with a skiing membership can produce one councilman per, but it is not a requirement that every state have it. USA water ski when we review membership numbers and seeding allocations for directors will not change much, and director votes will not change significantly among the sports disciplines. I would note for this period 2009 to 2011, we went from 19,550 members; we are down to 17,515 active members. AWSA contributed to the loss of 1,900 members. If you go back historically and look at it over the past 10 years, every two years we review it, and every two years I sit here and make the statement and nothing happens. What happens and we have lost 10,000 members in the past 12 years. It cannot be the increase in dues, or dues for families, these are just an excuse. We are losing members because they are not having the opportunity to participate. Too many E, L, R with entry fees at or near \$200. Blue collar individuals cannot afford to enter these. One example of this is at a Big Dawg - C, E, L, R event over 1/3 of participants elected to enter the class C portion of the event saving themselves almost \$100. We need to P&P is the manual that compliments the bylaws. Once we get back into new business, we need to review the P&P changes and make sure it is what we want, because it will become an immediate change with no further review.

International Activities (Stan S). We had our meeting in November, we are going back to team trials to select teams. Jr Team trials held in end of June and tournament being held in Australia in Feb or March. Under 21 team of the year really skied well. Pan American team also skied very well. Pan American Championships will be held in Destin, Sept 11 thru 15. Also we picked the over 35 team for the worlds and Pan American, both are really good team selected. Discussion of team trail format allowing others than team competitors allowed to ski, concerned running IWWF and AWSA formats simultaneously. Noted that the scoring format is not an LOC decision and must be run in accordance with IWWF standards. It would be preferred to hold all team trials at AWSA headquarter lake.

Judges, Scorers Qualifications (Ray C). National senior judges and scores clinic is scheduled for Feb 10-12, 2012 in Colorado Springs. Many of you know Traci Baylon has left AWSA, she certainly will be missed. Her duties will be covered by Melanie and Sandy. Downgrades this year, 35% of judges will be receiving downgrade notifications. 90% of which is due to clinics, this includes judges and scorers. Officials need to find and attend clinics. We are going through and updating all the tests. The 50% non-elite judges rule has been

squashed for now, it will likely remain in the hands of IWWF for now. Good news, we have had 142 new judges and 34 new scores.

Rules (Bob A) – Please refer to the attached document identified as **Rules Rpt 2012**. Note: this section had extensive discussion and comments to discuss each point. Included here are the proposed changes and the Southern Region response to those changes and actions that the directors will take at the upcoming Board Meeting (highlighted in Blue and Bright Green).

Technical (Jerry Jackson).

2011 Nat'l Records as of 12/28/11: 36 new records (plus 11 dual records).
25 approved, 10 rejected, 1 pending

We have 5 new junior records approved for 2012.

(B2 Jump, Taylor Garcia, 143ft/43.5m)

(G3 Trick, Erika Lang 8990 pts)

(G3 Slalom, Haw Makayla 4@ 38/11.25m off)

(G1 Slalom, Neilly Ross 2@ 35/12m off)

(G1 Tricks, Neilly Ross 5340 pts)

Requested that AWSA purchase/present a plaque for all National Junior records (1 per year from Jan to Dec based on same div). This is not to replace the certificates.

World Records: Since IWWF does not present an award for World Record Holder, Southern Regional agreed to purchase a plaque for all Current USA World Record Holders (currently all are from SR). These plaques were presented at the Malibu Open. Sponsors (**Correct Craft, Goode Ski, Malibu**) paid for the plaques, reimbursing some of the monies. These are one time plaque per skier/event. Thanks to Jeff Clark for working on the design/getting the plaques made.

This is a program that I would like to keep ongoing for all USA skiers that set a World Record (One time plaque per skier per event).

Regina Jaquess set two (2) new World Record in the year 2011;

Women Slalom 2 @ 41 off and Women Overall World Record of 3,033.01 pts.

TCs: We have three new TCs, making a total of 72 TC in USA: John Carder and Ric Stallings from TN, and Jake Southern from FL. We need to focus on getting additional TCs. I'm requesting that all TCs find someone to mentor to help make a great TC. In additional approx. 58 TC are short on clinic/tourn for renewal!! We need to come up with a Web Based Clinic. The new TC Maintenance Requirement has been submitted to AWSA for update. A judge's clinic may be used for TC clinic for maintenance only.

Record Review Board: We have added 3 additional judges to the RRB for tricks, making total of 8 (two are elite skiers). For trick to be credit it must be accepted by majority of RRB members (5 out of 8). When its split and it affect the outcome, 3 additional judges will be added to the RRB. The RRB is selected by the TC Chairman and Approved by the Rule Chairman and AWSA President.

Reports: The TC report was revised in 2011 to include the site GPS # and Site ID #. In addition the TC reports had to be submitted with the scorebook as a text file (Ex. 11S35OHD.txt, First 6 numbers/characters of the sanction # with HD.TXT; Note: we do not list the class), in lieu of submitting as individual report. Overall there were no major issues in 2011; Thanks to Jeff Clark and Dave Clark for correcting the ones that were incorrect.

All site IDs have been verified by Regional EVPs for duplications and multiple ski sites. IF a new lake is being developed which will hold a tourn, AWSA will assign a site ID #, which requires approval by AWSA President. The Regional EVP/AWSA President will ensure that we have only one site ID per facility unless it is owned by a different party. These site ID#s may be obtained from the USAWS Web site from the Tourn Posted. Most site ID#s are listed in the TC report.

Jump Program: Felix Loreto has developed a new jump program, approved by IWWF, something similar to Boetcher System, except it uses standard off-shelf computers and camera as Corson VJ program. It also has a trick timing program and slalom capture program. Eddie Roberts has used the VJ program and states that it easy to use, the big advantage you don't have to go 20 ft on a pole to mount cameras!
Four (4) approved Jump Program: Loreto, Splasheye, Boetcher, and Corson.

Rule 8.03: It was requested by AWSA BOD that the TC Committee to review 8.03 for the following:

- 1) Could two skies be connected together under Rule 8.03(d).
- 2) If two skies were connected together based on rule 8.03(d), does rule 8.03(a) apply to the combination of both skies as one (measured as one ski).

A result of the seven (7) TC Committee Members of rule 8.03 was as follows:

By the majority of the TC Committee Members, Rule 8.03(d) did NOT allow two skies to be connected (rope/bar/etc) together.

By the majority of the TC Committee members, Rule 8.03(a) would apply to the combination (if connected) as one ski.

It was also based on the majority that Rule 8.03 (a) and (d) are acceptable as written. A rule interpretation was submitted to the Rules Committee to be added in the 2012 AWSA Rule Book, Appendix (Rules Interpretations). See Attached.

Rule 14.01: Dual citizenship: Recommend adding "Must be USA citizens on the date of the tournament in which the performance occurred. Any USA citizen that has previously represented another country in competition must be eligible to represent USA at international competitions on the date of the record performance up to next three years. If skier elect to represent another country within the time prior the record shall be removed. (subject to IWWF and IOC Rules).

Jump Timing Chart (pg 97): The Chart has been revised for the following:

- 1) RTB tolerance was corrected to match IWWF;
 - 2) To record the first 52m, 82m(original 1st seg), and 42m for Class C and above tourn.
- The 52m for the Class C/F tourn is not a tolerance, only a reference until additional times are evaluated. The times for the 52m for Class C are based on data collected in 2011.
Example 57Kph: 52m 1st seg **3.30**, 30m 2nd seg 1.48(not recorded),
3rd 82m (1st+2nd= 3rd):5.11-5.25), then 41m 4th seg 2.40. See Attached time chart.
Thanks for all work that Will Bush has put into helping revise the jump timing chart (coordination between IWWF and Zeroff)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Judges Clinics: Everyone needs to get more involved in setup of computers for Video Jump and Tricks, operating cameras for tricks and slalom. As our sport becomes more technical, the officials need to become more technical. The JUDGES CLINIC should include setup of VJ/VT and slalom Gate/Boat video.

INTERPRETATION RULE 8.03

Date 10-29-11

Rule 8.03 (a): Maximum ski width shall not exceed 30% of the length.

Rule 8.03 (d): No other devices are permitted, except that devices affixed to the ski intended to control or adjust the skiing characteristics of the ski are allowed as long as they are fixed, in that they do not move or change during actual skiing.

Interpretation: AWSA Rule 8.03(d) and IWWF Rule 10.03(B) & (C) state only a DEVICE may be attached to the ski with that the intent to control or adjust skiing characteristics of the ski. NO other DEVICE is allowed.

The intent of Rule 8.03(d) is to cover wings, fins, etc, that are mounted to the fin and to cover fins that are adjustable. The TC Committee voted and majority agreed that the intent of Rule 8.03 (d) does NOT allow another ski to be attached to another ski either by a rope or hardware.

Interpretation: AWSA Rule 8.03(a) states maximum width shall not exceed 30% of the length. This is a defined measurement to ensure that a ski is a long slender board and does not fall within the category of a wake board, etc. The TC Committee voted and majority agreed that the intent of Rule 8.03 (d) does NOT allow two skies to be tied together. However, if two skies were permanent attached together as one ski by fiberglass, bars, rope, etc, then it would have to meet the requirement of Rule 8.03 (a) as one single ski

Coaches Advisory (Jim Grew). No report available and nothing noted in the National Report.

Junior Development (Elaine Guarino).

We held two junior clinics this year. The first was in early April at Sunset Lakes, which was open to all junior skiers who skied at Regionals. The second was held at Lake Pryor in TN, and was for our 24 member SR junior development team. Matt Curmi was the coach for this tournament. We would like to thank the Travers and their coaches for all their hard work, and Tommy and Amy Newman for again hosting the team clinic.

Our junior banquet was a huge success. We made a total of \$3,835.00 in combined auction and raffle items. We would like to thank Mastercraft for hosting the banquet, and all the people and companies who donated items and coaching for the auction/raffle.

The Southern Region All Star Team won Nationals!

We plan to have more detailed information available for 2012 about the different junior teams and their benefits. There has been confusion in the past as to what goes along with being chosen for a team.

We are in the planning stages for clinics for 2012. We are hoping to do a few clinics, and will be passing along the info as it becomes available. Jack and Lelani Travers are offering scholarships over a two year period to the 24-member team of \$500.00 a week for two weeks each year.

As we look forward, I would like to encourage each state to do a grassroots clinic. This is a great way to keep new kids coming into the sport. Also remember to talk to new parents as they start participating in tournaments. There is a big learning curve, and it can all be very intimidating. I speak from personal experience, and have had many others tell me about similar experiences. Sometimes a volunteer is only an introduction and an invite away.

Junior teams were announced and will be posted on web site.

Safety (Scott Crenshaw). There have been no new updates for some time and nothing to note from the National Report. (Bob A – this is a continuing area that each state needs to support. We are in need of new safety officials on a local level as well as assistance for the Regional and National tournaments. Notes will be going out requesting your participation.)

Tournament Seeding (Kirby Whetsel). This has been a big learning curve and Gary P did a great job on a crash course to get up to speed. Still learning and things are going fine. Problems encountered seem to come from the changes in the new program and making sure everyone is up to date. The one thing that we need to fix or change is the Overall Regional Qualifications. This also goes back to the rule we discussed regarding a score of zero. The filters we use do not allow us to use “multiple level qualifications”. Kirby was thanked for stepping up to the plate with little notice and taking over a critical position.

Skiers Ranking (Joel Norton). Richard Williams was just was placed on the committee as chairman after Nationals and up until that point there had been little done. Since that time we have worked with The Rules

Committee via Richelle to make a rules suggestion which we fully support that competitors have to have scored in a tournament before they get to Nationals.

In the coming year we will be reviewing the current standards for all divisions with the guidance of the board so that we can ensure that we have the correct skiers in their age divisions and events at Nationals.

We will be reviewing divisions where we had skiers qualified to ski at Nationals via the rankings list yet had never posted a real score other than a zero or fall.

Boat Drivers (Ham Wallace).

2011 was even better than 2008, 2009 and 2010 in regards to driving issues. The status quo of the speed control systems has allowed for better boat paths, boat patterns and driver concentration. All drivers are familiar with the ZO system and are very comfortable with it. In my opinion, it makes the skiers more "at ease" with the drivers

As always, Traci Baylon has made my job easy. I really am going to miss her. She has always kept very open communications in regards to driver requests, downgrades and other driving related issues. I am positive that, Melanie McKeen Hanson, will continue to make the competition resources department a member/official friendly branch of AWSA.

The Drivers Committee has worked with Chair, Jerry Bautsch, on revisions to the Drivers Tests, which have been long overdue. I think that these will bring the new tests up to the level that our equipment requires. The tests are great and are the result of hard work primarily by Jerry and Pat Rogers.

The drivers committee is working on a driver award/rating for those Senior Drivers that have maintained their requirements for many years. The requests for Emeritus status has escalated in the past 3 years, but, The requirements are "black and white" in regards to the Regional and National Tournament participation. Many of the drivers are utilized as other needed officials in these tournaments and are not ever given the chance to drive because of their judging, scoring and safety abilities. We will be putting together some time and quantitative requirements for our request to the board.

Tim McKune did an outstanding job as Chief Driver of the 2011 Southern Regional Tournament at Ski Paradise. His appointed drivers were Rusty Coffin, Pat Coomes Jody Seal and Carey Zimlich. Lyman Hardy was the Southern Region's appointed driver at the 2011 National Championships at Water's Edge in Wilmington, Illinois.

I would like to thank all the drivers in the Southern Region for making my job easy. Everyone is so ready to help with clinics and evaluations that it is simply amazing. As usual, there are a few quantitative requirements that are not met due to some cancellations of late season tournaments and a few weather related snafus. We always work with those in order to keep and maintain their driver's ratings. Communications are always open and End Course Videos are arriving frequently.

According to the list from AWSA there are 39 downgrades pending. I have reviewed the information and see many discrepancies. I know some have totally retired from the sport, but there are many lacking 1 or 2 events that, I am sure will surface soon. Some drivers drive in other regions and some are lost in paperwork So far, I don't have any tally on the drivers upgrades and advancements. This information will surface in the next few months.

The phone lines and internet are always open between Bob Archambeau and other driver's committee members. If any one needs me, please call or e-mail me at (615) 943-6099 or hwallaceii@aol.com

I look forward to an amazing 2012 and seeing everyone soon!

Discussion points

- Potential of looking at 2 Event Drivers for Nationals – This was discussed but still 3 Event Driver is the rule. You can pull someone "off the beach" if necessary and approved.

Towboat / Speed Control (Greg Webb).

Towboat Committee Report – Greg Webb (Southern Region representative)

The Towboat Committee met on Monday, August 8th, at the National Water Ski Championships Tournament in Wilmington, Illinois.

The 2012 Towboat tests were conducted on October 18th & 19th, 2011, at Lake Grew. Two (2) new boats were tested – the Malibu Response TXi 5.7 liter and the TXi 6.0 liter. Both passed.

Committee Chairs have sent the Towboat Committee Report to AWSA Board of Directors

Announcers (Bob A / Hank Longo).

Currently we have 38 Official Announcers and we are adding more. Taylor Lindy and a couple other boy skiers helped out at the Midwest Regionals and did a terrific job! We need to get more young people involved, who can be coached by the veterans and develop our future announcers.

Tom Mecham is stepping down from representing the announcers in the Western Region. We will need to find a replacement.

We need to build up our announcer base in the South Central Region and the Eastern Region. If you are from those Regions, please update me on announcers you know are currently active so we can make them official. Thank you!

I have printed the "AWSA Announcer Manual and Guidelines" that will be sent to each official announcer, so they will have a hard copy and scoring sheets to make copies of to use at tournaments.

The quality of announcing has immensely improved, especially at Regionals and Nationals. Having guidelines to coach announcers has made it very easy to get everyone on the same page for announcing the tournament; properly announcing information, enjoyable to listen to and working in harmony with each other.

The Tommy Bartlett Award recipient guidelines are going to be changed so any Nationals' Announcer can be voted for to win the award, including the Chief Announcer.

AWSEF (Rob Blair) – no report available

Old Business

Number of officials for Regionals – P&P 1.1.6 B, 1.1.7 and 1.1.8 – Based on earlier discussions and former Regional Host input it is recommended that we change the number of officials required for Regionals to be no less than...

One Lake

1 Chief Judge
1 Assistant Chief Judge
7 Appointed Judges
5 Assigned Judges
1 Chief Driver
3 Appointed Drivers
1 Chief Scorer
2 Appointed Scorers
1 Chief Safety
1 Assistant Safety
1 Chief Tech Controller
1 Chief Announcer
1 Assigned Announcer

Two Lake

1 Chief Judge
2 Assistant Chief Judges
7 Appointed Judges
5 Assigned Judges
1 Chief Driver
5 Appointed Drivers
1 Chief Scorer
6 Appointed Scorers
1 Chief Safety
1 Assistant Safety
1 Chief Tech Controller
1 Assistant Tech Controller
1 Chief Announcer
1 Assigned Announcer

This was made into a Motion – Seconded – Passed

Driver Qualifications for Regionals – P&P 1.1.6 B, 1.1.7 refer AWSA Rules 6.02 (d) – The Drivers qualifications for Regionals should be specific to read Regular and Senior “three event”. The P&P to reflect the following language...

The EVP will send out the customary request form to all Regular and Senior three event Drivers asking that they indicate their interest in driving the Regionals. 1/12

This was made into a Motion – Seconded – Passed

Skier Qualifications for Regionals – P&P 1.1.3 (paragraph 5) – After review and comments from scoring and seeding committees it was recommended that we eliminate “multiple level qualifications. The P&P to reflect the following language by striking out the second sentence (as seen below)...

Overall three event skiers with a Level 6 Ranking in each event (who skied and scored three events at their respective state tournament) shall be allowed to ski in all three events at the Southern Regionals Championship. ~~Overall skiers qualified in two events may ski their third event with one Ranking Level lower than would otherwise be required.~~ 1/11

This was made into a Motion – Seconded – Passed

Olympic Drive – Cable Wakeboarding (Leon L at Bob A request). We need to consider on an individual basis the possibility and support of cable wake boarding for the 2020 Olympics. This event is on the short list only behind softball at this time. Per Kuno R this event gives us the best demographic to enter into an Olympic event. We understand (and may not like it) that 3 event skiing in the Olympics has met with prior resistance. Much of this came out of a 1999 meeting of the IOC – Agenda 21 that looked into environmental impact of the propulsion we use. The boats we use have put us up against the wall. The vision of Kuno R is to get something into the Olympics to support the next step which may be 3 event cable. Possibly electric boats in the future may help. One event could lead to additional IOC and USOC funding to USAWS that could further our efforts.

Opposing comments were made regarding if the request was fitting for the Southern Region meeting (3 Event). Further that Sherm S has been looking for 3 Event cable skiers for the US Team. At this time we have no-one. There is only one site with the capabilities which is Orlando.

We may not want to support something out of our 3 Event sports but it may be a way or the only way to see if skiing or another discipline in our organization may get a foot in the door to the Olympics - entry some day.

New Business

Rule revision recommendation 6.02 (d) – No further actions needs to be taken

14 day minimum notice for tournament applications – No further actions needs to be taken

Southern Region confidential vote and balloting:

Question – What votes are confidential and what are not? To this date the only confidential votes which go through the Tellers Committee are for the Regional and National Officials, Directors (both National and USAWS) and EVP. All other voting obligations are open to review as they can be called for a hand vote or electronic vote in a public forum. See rule 4. Absentee ballots go directly to the Tellers Committee and are confidential.

Regional Recommendations to AWSA Board

Request the rules committee look into Rule 1.09 regarding number of rounds (per event per tournament) if/when the IWWF changes their number of rounds requirements (up to 4)

Candidates for EVP / AWSA National Director / USAWS Director (and Alternates)

EVP	Bob Archambeau
EVP - Alternate	Jim Jaquess
AWSA National Director	Lyman Hardy
AWSA National Director – Alternate	Leon Larson

Motion to adjourn – Seconded - Passed