

2013 Southern Region Summer Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 25, 2013
Hotel Capstone – Tuscaloosa, AL

The meeting was called to order 7:00 (CST). Everyone was thanked for coming and we are happy to be here at LymanLand and thank you to the Tuscaloosa Sports and Tourism Council, the Hotel Capstone and Lyman Hardy for being such great hosts for this event.

Parliamentarian – Jeff Clark

Roll Call - AL (Bob Schouten, Caldwell Marks, Milton Weathers) FL (Gordon West, Stan Switzer, Jody Seal, Dennis Longo) GA (Elaine Guarino, Craig Bryans, Craig Nolan) KY (Pat Coomes, John Harris, Bob Harris) NC (Jerry Hargis, Brenda Hargis) SC (Mark Skeen) Dir (Jim Jaquess, Lyman Hardy) EVP (Bob Archambeau) Officers, Committees and Presidents – not yet mentioned (Jeff Clark, Ray Crenshaw, Kirby Whetsel, Tommy Newman, Ham Wallace, Greg Webb) Others (Leon Larson, Ruth Johnson, Donna Switzer, Greg Goldstein, Eric Kelly, Curtis Rabe, JR Henley, Gene Davis, Joe Burkhead, Bobby Hill)

Announcement of Quorum – confirmed by Jeff C

Review and Approval of Agenda – Motion to Approve and Seconded – Approved

Review and Approval of 2013 Mid-Winter Meeting Minutes - 2 items were requested for review.

A. Regional Medals – Wording for Regional medals regarding LOC being charged back for excess medals. This was a correct observation and there is no charge back to LOC. Wording was corrected in P&P and is published on the S Reg web site (Jeff C)

B. Confidential voting - The only proposal on the board that was voted on was membership votes remain confidential (confidence vote) (Bob A). The room was asked for any further discussion – There was no response.

Treasurer's Report – Jeff Clark

\$22,145 - Income this year to date (7 sanctions still yet to be paid)
\$11,336 - Expense (including \$1500 Team Sponsorship (S Reg) \$3700 S Reg medals)
\$14,000 - estimated in end of year expenses in Director / Officials / Jr Dev
\$78,000 - in Money Market account (\$72,200 S Reg plus \$5800 Jr Dev)
\$80,915 – Assets for S Reg (including check book)

Motion to approve report by Leon L and Second by Elaine G – Approved

Report of Executive Vice President – Bob Archambeau

I've had the last 3 days to observe many things here at the Regional's. The Southern Region is the largest, hosting over 200 tournaments including the majority of Record events held in the US. The behavior I've seen is unacceptable and at all ages it becomes embarrassing! Sr division skiers are yelling at officials and rooting for competitors to fall. Parents complaining about rules and cheating - not quietly but on the starting dock. This should be a fun sport. We are all friends. We won't always agree but we can be friends. The in-fighting between parents – individuals – states has to stop. We all need to grow up and act with integrity. Why are so many people walking away from our sport and why is it harder to find officials for our events - because we don't treat each other correctly or respectfully. We have problems with officiating, sanctions that are bogus, drivers not driving correctly and many are turning a blind eye. Integrity - we need to be fair to all. Look at our Juniors, they cheer for each other and teach each other. Maybe we should learn from them. As EVP I won't be a watch dog but I do see and hear things (sometimes even by accident). I don't have to go out and look. We as a group (and this is a good group because you care) need to help us - help ourselves. We need to police ourselves and fix these things before they get out of hand.

Federation Reports – (All reports were accepted as read)

AL - We've had 7 tournaments this year along with 4 Junior Clinics. We also have some new officers this year. We have about 8 more Tournaments to go this year. We would also like to recognize and thank Lyman Hardy for hosting the Regionals this year. A round of applause was given to Lyman.

FL - Everything has been about the same for us and nothing new to report. Florida did get to participate in a record for one of our disabled skiers (blind). There was a lot to set up, learn and prepare for but it was worth it and it was fun.

GA - We have 11 Tournaments this year including Water Ski Atlanta's Pro Event and this was after a slow start to our season this year. We had 2 Junior Development Clinics and 1 Adult Clinic. New skiers are coming out of the Adult Clinic in addition to some INT Skiers. Our State Championship was advertised in the news paper this year we just called them up and they got the word out. Our officers will remain the same.

KY - We held an early Officials clinic in Paducah. We had 2 Junior Clinics (one was a 3 day clinic). We held a Head to Head competition. This was based roughly on a percentage of ranking scores and gave us some surprising and fun results. Some of our top skiers were knocked out in the first round. We held 3 – 3 Event Tournaments. Bob Harris held the first on-line officials clinic which was a success.

NC - Has held 6 Tournaments this year and 2 of them were INT's. This group is growing in our area and it was a good time and everyone had fun. Everyone received medals, t-shirts and skied for \$25. Coble's Ski School hosted a Junior Clinic and 42 kids attended. They also hosted our State Tournament. We had one Officials Clinic. Sarvis Bass was inducted into our Hall of Fame this year. Sarvis started selling ski equipment and accessories via catalog before Overton's and Bart's. We also hosted our first Able / Disabled bodied tournament which was a huge success having 5-6 members of the US disabled team in attendance.

SC - We actually hosted our State Championships this year on our own. We had enough officials to do this for the first time in years. We are beginning to build our group back up and have focused on Collegiate Skiing (Clemson) as one way to grow our numbers. We did hold one Safety Clinic and we are recruiting new officers.

TN - We have 7 class C Tournaments this year and this year held our State Championship on a 2 lake site. One of our Tournaments was a Turn & Burn which was different and a lot of fun. We also held a Ski Tournament for Disabled and Traditional skiers. We held a Record Tournament at John Carder's lake. We had 2 Junior Development Clinics and 1 Regional Junior Clinic this year. Our Officers will remain the same.

Committee Reports

Tellers (As read from Gerald Kirschner) – There were no absentee Ballots sent for this Election. Gerald also stated that this would be his last report as he is stepping down from the Tellers role. Gerald has been a valued assed to the Southern Region and he will be missed. He will be difficult to replace. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Election - No offices were running in opposition. Each office was voted on separately

EVP	Bob Archambeau	Approved
Alternate	Bob Schouten	Approved
National Director	Chris Eller	Approved
Alternate	Leon Larson	Approved
USA-WS Director	Bob Archambeau	Approved

Awards (for Michele Seal) - Nothing to report

Bylaws, SR, AWSA, USA-WS (Jeff Clark) - There have been no changes to any of these.

International Activities (Stan Switzer) - The Under – 21 Worlds have been moved to Orlando due to the cancellation of the event from the original LOC. The Team has not been select yet. There will be no change in the Team Selection Process. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Judges/Scorers Qualifications (Ray Crenshaw) - The On-Line Judges Clinics are up and going. Bob Harris held the first On-Line Judges Clinic using WebX which was live. Everything went well with that clinic and everyone loved it. The On-Line registration for Clinics is also up and running. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Sherm Schraft for Judge and Scorer Emeritus - Sherm has put in for Emeritus Status and per his request wanted to do so after on last Tournament that was held in Michigan. Sherm has been an Official, Director, and Committee Chair and involved in several sports disciplines (3 Event – Show – Disabled) for many years. We have a write up of some of his other accomplishments if there are any questions. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Rules (Bob Schouten) - Only one rule change to consider 14.01 US Records. US Records may only be set by US Citizens. This include Dual (or more) Citizenships as long as that Skier has not represented another country in competition in a 2 year time frame. Any skier must be eligible as of the date the record was set. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

US Record Approved by mistake - Recently a record was approved after verifying the record and checking into team competition for US and Canada. It was later discovered that he legally skied for a third country which was not found out until after the record. A straw vote requesting support to eliminate that record was asked for – Approved

Gordon Rathbun Gates - There has been discussion on changing our current slalom gates (moving the right gate back 14m from its original position – basically eliminating the gates). IWWF wants AWSA to rule on this first. Rules Committee seems to be favoring this idea. Discussions: making records easier – improving scores – less technical equipment and officiating on gates – safety factor of leaving current (right gate) in – better for spectators - for juniors it would be good – it shouldn't impact world records as the window for "best gates" is basically at the same spot – will it actually benefit the sport. Straw vote – S Reg opposed.

Technical (for Jerry Jackson) - After running through a ton of Record requests (slalom was separated from trick and no mention of jump) he has found that the boat paths were horrible! Some of the videos were reviewed by others who agreed with these findings. As a Region we host 80% of the "R" Tournaments so we need to take a stance to fix this which is a Driver – Judge – TC problem. It was noted that even the driving at the 2012 Nationals was poor. There have been various arguments on this subject but it was bad. If records are to be approved everything has to be right. Jerry has requested a committee to be set up to review all "R" tournament videos before any record requests be applied for. Additional discussion, it was found that the Drivers or Judges Committee Chairs are not notified of these problems. It was agreed that we as the Southern Region need to be self policing. After discussion it was agreed that a Review Committee should be set up of Drivers – Judges – TC's to review all Record events. In addition the Review Committee remain anonymous and possibly on a rotating basis due to time constraints. This effort is to improve and correct our current situation. A vote was taken and approved for the EVP to begin to set up this Committee.

Coaches Advisory (for Jim Grew) - Referred to the National Report

Junior Development (for Amy Newman) - The Junior Development Region Clinic was hosted at our site. Due to the weather we had a low turnout. This year we did have a good number of Junior Clinics in each State. All Junior Team members will receive Hoodies this year and all Junior skiers at the Regionals will receive a goodie bag with a special gift. We are preparing for the Auction items for the banquet at this time. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Safety (for Scott Crenshaw) - Nothing has been going on with the Safety Committee

Tournament Seeding (Kirby Whetsel) – Nothing much new to report. Thank you for getting your information in early. With the new technology we have been receiving tournament reports typically on Sunday which is great. Ray C mentioned that he has been receiving notices as the Chief Official for delinquent reports. This was for tournaments that he was not a Chief Official! Jeff C responded that there are 2 issues here. First that tournament sponsors are not updating the last minute official changes to their sanctions which causes real problems. Second in the scoring program there were some changes made so that these issues will not occur in further programs.

Rule 13.01 – State Tournament Notice – There are only 3 true Championships that need to be scored accurately for placement (State – Regional – National). Placement can count for qualifications toward the next tournament. Scoring programs need to be set up and submitted properly for each following event or else competitors get dropped from events. This year, out of 7 State Championships, 5 were submitted wrong. All of these could have had a negative impact on who competed in the Regionals. This revolves around how your tournament is scored (multiple round tournaments and out of state skiers and placement. Make sure your out of state skiers are not included in your placement standings. Each state has a right to use the format they want and can score their placements accordingly. The only way to insure that the proper scores are put into the system by the next scorer is to place a note in the comment section notifying the skier and future scorers.

Skiers Ranking (Tommy Newman) - Nothing new refer to the National Report

Boat Drivers (Ham Wallace) - Refer to the National Report

Towboat/ Speed Control (Greg Webb) - The committee will be meeting at the Nationals and the Tow Boat Tests are scheduled in September. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Announcers (for Hank Longo) - All is good and there the new manual should be on-line soon. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

AWSEF (Jeff Clark) - There is a new Executive Director on Board. This years Elmer Stalling Scholarship went to K C Wilson. Motion to approve and Seconded – Approved

Old Business - No Old Business

New Business – No New Business

Motion to Adjourn and Seconded – Approved