

# 2013 Southern Region Mid-Winter Meeting

9:00 AM Saturday, January 12, 2013 Atlanta, Georgia

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am

Jeff Clark was appointed Parliamentarian

Roll call: EVP – Bob Archambeau  
Directors – Lyman Hardy, Chris Eller, Jim Jaquess  
Council – AL – Milton Weathers, Bob Schouten, Jay Estes  
FL – Leon Larson, Jody Seal, Stan Switzer, Dennis Longo  
GA – Elaine Guarino, Craig Bryans, Ray Crenshaw  
KY – Tim McKune, Pat Coomes, Bob Harris  
NC – Jerry Hargis, Brenda Hargis, Gerald Kirschner  
SC – Jeanette van Akelijen, Rob van Akelijen  
TN – Julie Yancey, Steve Raybourne, Ham Wallace  
Presidents (not yet mentioned) – Craig Nolan, John Harris  
Committee leads and others (not yet mentioned) – Jeff Clark, Kirby Whetsel, Greg Webb,  
Jeff Pohlig, Jerry Jackson, Joe Burkhead

Jeff C – A quorum was announced

Review and Approval of Agenda – (Elaine Guarino) moved to accept agenda – (Lyman Hardy) seconded.  
Motion passed

Review and Approval of 2012 Summer Meeting Minutes (EG) moved to accept 2012 Minutes – (Lyman Hardy) seconded. Motion passed

**Treasurer's Report – Jeff Clark** Our 2012 P & L shows income of \$30,579 and expenses of \$23,602, for a net income of \$6968 for the year. Jr Development raised \$5870 and spent \$4355. Sanction fees brought in \$20,700 and Regional Guide \$1650. I anticipate that our 2013 income will stay stable at +/- \$31,000 for the year. I anticipate that our expenses for Committees, Directors, Junior Clinics and stipends to National Officials will remain about the same. I do expect the following increased expenses in 2013: The state federations are scheduling more Officials Clinics for 2013 and I anticipate this will increase our expenditures in this category by +/- \$2000. We will be ordering another two year supply of Regional Medals for the 2013-14 Southern Regionals at a cost of approximately \$4000. This will give us a net income of +/- \$1000 for 2013. In the Checking account we have \$1632 and Money Market account \$68,474 (of which \$6800 is restricted to Jr Development) for a total of \$70,106.

Discussions over an Audit of our accounts, which has never been done before at the recommendation of Tim Denny. Estimated cost to do a complete audit is around \$2500-3000. It was suggested we do an audit internally with a CPA. We originally advised to use someone "Outside" the Southern Region but with knowledge of our sport.

A motion was made to conduct an audit of our accounts (Tim McKune) and Seconded (Bob Harris). After discussion a vote was taken and the motion did not pass.

(Leon Larson) motioned to approve Treasurers Report – (Elaine Guarino) seconded – Motion passed

### **EVP Report – Bob A -**

All of us want to make this sport grow and that's because we care. In our summer meeting we discussed new ideas of how to bring more activity into our sport. At Nationals we heard discussions and ideas on bringing new people on board (We also heard one person want to grow the sport but not his club!). Our sport is shrinking. We need to begin to do different things to get people interested – Let's have more fun.

Our Team Tournament in NC (a fundraiser for Jr Development) had everybody challenging each other. Kids against adults and college students against us all - and we had a blast. All of us should look at these different formats and build upon them. We discussed the buckeye buoy tour a very popular format that has a handicapping system where a pro can ski against a novice and either could win in the finals. Read more about it at [http://skiowsa.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=728&Itemid=67](http://skiowsa.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=728&Itemid=67) . Let's begin to include everyone not exclude some. The Pros has a blast at SPLASH in Orlando and they did all the work. Speaking with a few of them they were truly excited over the event. In the end – if we want to grow our sport let's begin by putting more fun into it.

On a last note the Southern Region and North Carolina lost an innovator with the passing of Dana Reed. May we have a moment of silence to remember him. Thanks – BA

### **Report of Federation Presidents:**

A motion was made to accept all Federation and Committee reports as read with an automatic second. This was seconded and passed by the council.

**AL – Bob Schouten** Alabama Council – Jay Estes, Milton Weathers, Bob Schouten  
National Director – Lyman Hardy  
Officers President – Bob Schouten  
Secretary – Debbie Miller  
Treasurer – Shauna Crenshaw  
Jr. Development – Debbie Miller

Alabama is on 2-year terms and will have elections at the 2013 State Tournament

### 2012 Highlights – On the Rise

- Alabama had 12 tournaments in 2012, up from 10 in 2011. Two of the twelve tournaments were record tournaments.
- We had 344 entrants in 2012 as compared to 271 in 2011. That is a 26.9% increase. This equals 29 entrants per tournament.
- We had 2 Junior Development Clinics. Jon Travers on Lake Martin coached one.
- We had a total officials clinic at Faith Lake- Drivers, Judges, Scorers and Safety.
- Had our annual slalom clinic on Lake Martin (public). This was upgraded to a 2-day event and had 32 participants.

### Looking ahead to 2013 – a lot of excitement

- We have 19 Tournaments scheduled for the Calendar year of 2013 with 3 being Record Capability.
- The Alabama State Tournament will be held at Ski Chaste in Axis, AL
- Alabama has a Junior Clinic penciled in at Divorce Lake early Spring
- Russell Marine is sponsoring the first \$500 of entry fees to new skiers at our State Tournament.
- The REGIONALS are in our State at Lymanland – one lake site. **We Rock**

**FL – Leon Larson** New Officers for the 2013 season are as follows: Gordon West Pres. - Mark Griffin - V.Pres -Jeff Clark Treasurer - Diana Griffin Secretary. FI Council: Jody Seal, Dennis Longo, Stan Switzer and Gordon West

Officials Clinics – Judges and Safety held in Polk City by Florida Southern College Junior Clinics- Greater Miami Ski Club and Sunset Lakes hosted Junior development clinics.

We were hosts to 81 tournaments in 2012, which included the Big Dawg Finals and the AWSA Nationals in West Palm Beach. Pan-Am Championships in Santa Rosa Beach at Pickos

The Florida State Championships hosted by Ski Paradise in Mulberry produced 15 new state records.

In 2013 we have the following on our schedule at this time:

- Four officials clinics to be hosted by the Greater Miami Ski club, Ski Club of the Palm Beaches and Florida Southern College in the spring.
- We have 62 tournaments on the schedule at this time, which includes the Big Dawg Finals and AWSA Nationals in West Palm Beach and a new host for the Florida State Championships at Stillwater Lakes in Palm Bay.

The AWSEF Hall of Fame tournament and induction ceremonies will be held in Polk City on April 20-21. The inductees this year will be Jim Grew, Kristi Overton-Johnson and Cory Pickos.

**GA – Elaine Guarino** Waterskiing in Georgia was successful in 2012. There were many sanctioned tournaments held this summer in Georgia. We look forward to even more tournaments next year. We welcomed some new families and anticipate more new blood in the spring.

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

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

As should be every year, Junior and Adult Development has been our primary focus. We held three clinics this year: 3 Junior Development, 1 combined clinic at Waterski Atlanta that covered Safety, Drivers, Judges and Scorers. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in the success of the clinics.

The State tournament was held at Whitestone Ski Club and we had a good turnout along with some good performances.

We have some exciting events planned for the upcoming ski year. We have tentative plans in the works for Junior Development. At this time no Adult Development clinics are needed or planned. We are planning to work with LOCs chamber of commerce and local newspapers to encourage spectators with the added benefit of some “press” for the skiers. Ultimately, our goal is recruitment of new ski families.

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

**KY – John Harris** 2012 was another big year for KY skiers. In addition to several tournaments over multiple sites, the Southern Region Tournament was hosted by the KY Lake Ski Nuts in Paducah, KY. In addition to all the hard work put in by the Ski Nuts, club members from around the state all pitched in the help put on a successful tournament. This year we sent 14 skiers to the Nationals and 2 skiers to the Big Dawg Finals in West Palm Beach. Numerous state records were set.

Our JR Development program was an awesome success this year. We held a 3 day KY advanced JR clinic in Paducah in June. 17 juniors attended. We were privileged to have Brenda Baldwin as head instructor who did a fantastic job working all day in the boat with our young skiers. We also had a 1 day State JR development clinic in Paducah in July.

2013 will be a busy year for KY skiers. We will start with an Officials clinic to be held in Paducah May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Clinics will be offered for Judges, Drivers, Scorers, and Safety Directors. We will again have 2 JR Development clinics. The KY Advanced JR clinic will be held in Paducah June 12-14, and the KY State JR clinic July 12 in Walton, KY. We will be hosting several tournaments over 3 different sites. We also have plans to host water skiing in the Bluegrass State Games again this year.

**NC – Chris Eller** The NCWSA hosted one Junior Development clinic at Lake Magnolia with 25 Skiers and 10 Volunteers. Tommy Harrington was selected for induction to the NCWSA Hall of Fame this year. Dana Reed was recognized by AWSA as Volunteer of the Year this year (he will really be missed). The NC State Championships were held at Beaver Lake and were a huge success. They also hosted a Night Jump event that had several hundred people in attendance and will be hosting the Collegiate All Stars in 2013. Our

Team Tournament raised about \$1000 for Junior Development. In total NC hosted 15 class C tournaments and 5 Record events and we currently estimate the same number next year. We plan on hosting multiple clinics next year for officials. Our state officers were re-elected for another term.

**SC – Jeanette van Akelijen** SC had a successful tournament season. Seth Stisher held a Jr. Development Clinic. In May we held a “free ski day” at Lake Flumi to entice those skiers who have left the sport to return. Many SC members brought covered dishes and fun was had by all. We plan to offer the same again in 2013 season. Trophy Lakes again held numerous C/E/L tournaments. Our SC State tournament was held at Lake Flumi. Trophy Lakes hosted the Gary Pressley Memorial tournament and many family members and friends enjoyed discussing various memories of times spent with Gary and fun skiing occurred also.

New officers have not yet been elected for 2013 due to schedule conflicts. We are currently in the nomination phase and voting will occur in the near future.

Our 2013 SC State Tournament will be held on the same weekend as other states because we have had two senior judges move to SC. This will allow SC to be self-sufficient and not require assistance from our neighbor states. We want to thank our neighbor states for their past assistance!

Tentative 2013 Tournament Schedule:

March 23	Collegiate	Trophy Lake
May 25-26	Memorial Day Slalom	Trophy Lake
July 6-7	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Slalom	Trophy Lake
July 13-14	SC State Championship	Jeff Rodgers Lake
Aug 31-Sep 1	Labor Day Slalom	Trophy Lake
Oct 12-13	Gary Pressley Memorial	Trophy Lake

Jeanette van Akelijen has tested the Windows Scoring Program with Windows 8 and has experienced no issues to date. As a note – the system will not operate on a tablet because of the OS set up.

**TN – Ham Wallace** 2012 started out with a little “State Wide” Skiing. There were charity Events in Knoxville and Memphis. There was a little social skiing in Manchester and on Old Hickory Lake. It is always a good omen to start out a new year with your ski buddies.

The groundhog gave us the go-ahead for an early ski season and so it was. The lakes chattered early with skiers statewide. This gave way to a great season. There were 12 tournaments in Tennessee and 4 clinics. 3 Junior development clinics and a driver, scorer and judges clinic in Collierville.

The 2012 Tennessee State Tournament was hosted by Skiers Anonymous in Sweetwater at John Carder’s and Dennis Kelley’s “Headwind Hollow”. A great time was had by all and the conditions were incredible. Thank You John and Lee Carder, Dennis and Joy Kelley, Johnny and Jennie Seiler, and Bruce Ellison. The State Meeting was held and officer elections were pretty much status quo with a switch at the President position. The Awards for 2012 were given and the Hall of Fame Awards went to Joy Kelley, Johnny Seiler and Mike Messer. The Tim Denny Official’s Award was presented to Heather Stallings and the Vic Varallo Award was given to Dennis Kelley. The 2013 Tennessee State Championships will be at Lake Pointe in Rossville, Tennessee.

Tennessee Junior Skiers had an amazing year. The Master’s had Brie Carter (1<sup>st</sup> Girls Slalom), Zane Nicholson (2<sup>nd</sup> Boy’s Slalom and Scholarship Winner), Kara McIntyre and Allie Nicholson. Zane and Brie went on to win the 2012 Southern Regionals and the 2012 Goode Nationals. Zane was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Malibu Open while Brie took 1<sup>st</sup>. Allie Nicholson, Channah Carter, Charlsey Newman, Garrett Stallings, Julia Stallings, Andrew DeVall, Logan Pierce, Trey Snell, Holland Pierce, John Bull, Carlin Haffly, Caroline Duggan and Caitlan Duggan rounded out our 2012 Junior Team. Congratulations Tennessee Juniors and our Junior Development Leaders. Thanks as always to Miss Linda Giddens for your coaching and support.

Caroline Hensley was on the Gold Medal Elite Team as well as the Pan Am Team. She scored a new PB and State Record with 2@39 ½ off. She won Women's Slalom at the Collegiate Nationals in Division 1. Haley Runion has graduated from the University of Alabama and is working full time but that did not keep her from winning W1 Jump at the Southern Regionals.

The 2012 Southern Regionals was held in Paducah, Kentucky at Joe Burkhead's Twin Oaks Lake. The Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts did an outstanding job hosting the tournament. Tennessean's helping were Kirby Whetsel-Chief Judge, Ham Wallace-Chief Driver, Greg Webb- appointed Driver, Heather Stallings- Appointed Scorer, Ric Stallings- Appointed Judge, Tommy Newman- Announcer, Bill Stratton and Julie Yancey- Appointed Judges.

Kirby Whetsel was the Assignments Judge at the 2012 Goode Nationals and Tommy Newman was the Chief Announcer.

The Regionals had 23 Tennessee skiers bringing home 32 top 5 placements. The Nationals saw 18 Tennessee skiers cop 13 medals. Thanks to The Ski Club of the Palm Beaches for a great 2012 Nationals. We look forward to attending the 2013 nationals at Okeetee Park!

Thanks for a great year for skiing in Tennessee and I am looking for an even better 2013!

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Tellers - Gerald Kirschner**

We have a very successful vote on officials for Regional's and Nationals. The current process to vote is easier to tabulate and has improved voting by Council. The Officials for Regional's and Nationals are...

#### **2013 Southern Regional Officials**

##### **Chief Judge**

Ray Crenshaw

##### **Appointed Judges**

Ric Stallings

Milton Weathers

Curtis Rabe

Jerry Hargis

Carey Zimlich

Mack Sparks

Stan Switzer

Ruth Johnston

Jazmine Mosley

Bobby Hill - ALT

##### **Chief Scorer**

Jeff Clark

##### **Appointed Scorers**

Heather Stallings

Anne Henley

Linda Sparks - ALT

##### **Chief Driver**

Gordon West

##### **Appointed Drivers**

Jody Seal

Greg Webb

Ham Wallace

Roger Skalko - ALT

##### **Chief Safety**

JR Henley

##### **Appointed Safety**

Leon Larson

##### **Chief Technical Controller**

Gene Davis

#### **2013 National Officials**

##### **Appointed Judges**

Ruth Johnston

Jazmine Mosley

Bob Schouten

Jerry Hargis

Donna Switzer

Curtis Rabe - ALT

##### **2013 National Appointed Scorers**

Jeff Clark

Leon Larson

##### **2013 National Appointed Drivers**

Lyman Hardy

Jody Seal

Bob Archambeau - ALT

Report Approved by council

*Note: Congratulations to Ray on his appointment as Chief Judge.*

*Lyman Hardy: We appreciate the chance to host this years' Regionals and we are ready to go! It is a Record site having hosted multiple Record events over the past years here. The Tuscaloosa Sports Commission is backing us and has paved the way for a great event. The hotel is under renovation and will be ready for us including a new restaurant. The hotel is only 15-18 minutes away from the site. All activities are on site or at the Hotel Capstone. Basically everything is under one roof! Due to course changes there will be no practice available.*

### **Awards - Michele Seal**

The report is in the packet as follows...

#### **Male Athlete of the Year**

Nate Smith

#### **Female Athlete of the Year**

Regina Jaquess

#### **Slalom Skier of the Year**

Regina Jaquess

#### **Trick Skier of the Year**

Erika Lang

#### **Jump Skier of the Year**

Freddy Krueger

#### **Overall Skier of the Year**

Regina Jaquess

#### **Rising Super Star**

Brooke Baldwin

#### **Volunteer of the Year**

Dana Reed

#### **Team of the Year**

Pan Am Teams (all)

#### **U13 Team**

Brooke Baldwin  
Ryan Canepa  
Anna Gay  
Quinn Haines

#### **Junior Team**

Taylor Garcia  
Sam Greenwood  
Nicholas Lang  
Kara MacIntyre

#### **U21 Team**

Kevin Malak  
Lauren Morgan  
Elizabeth Montavon  
Dylan Schaffer

#### **Elite team**

Caroline Hensley  
Regina Jaquess  
Freddy Krueger  
Erika Lang  
Adam Pickos  
Jon Travers

#### **35+ Pan Am**

Marc Shaw  
Brenda Baldwin  
Lori Krueger  
Brandy Nagle

#### **45+ Pan Am**

Tony Knight  
Mary Koenig  
Leza Harrison  
Connie Bergmark

#### **Staff**

Brad Harman - physician  
Lori Krueger & Jeff Surdej - coaches  
Bob Schouten - ass't manager  
Jim Grew - captain/manager

Report Approved by Council

#### **Bylaws, SR, AWSA, USA-WS - Jeff Clark**

There are not any proposed changes on the table at this time to the AWSA Southern Region, AWSA or USA Water Ski Bylaws for 2013.

#### **AWSA Southern Region Policy & Procedures Manual**

There is one housekeeping issue that needs to be made in the Southern Region P & P Manual to delete part of a sentence in 1.1.1 Mandatory Requirements section 6 that is not applicable to this particular section.

6. The Southern Region will provide a Council approved standard medal for the first five (5) places for all divisions. The Regionals History document should be used to indicate the numbers of medals that should be ordered for each division/event. Any medals (standard medal only) not awarded are to be returned to the EVP for use next year. **and the cost of these medals will be reimbursed to the club.** Any shortfall in the number ordered versus the number needed, shall be ordered after the tournament, and shipped to the recipient. The cost of the extra medals and the shipping shall be billed back to the club. **1/13**

Report Approved by Council

### **International Activities - Stan Switzer**

We had our meeting in November. We will be going back to Team Trial format. This year they will be held at Jack Travers in October. Please refer to the full packet in the BOD Report (Ask if you need a copy – Bob Archambeau) We had some great events this year and thanks to the Souther Region for sponsoring the T-Shirts for the skiers. It was really a big hit for all of them. They will be adding a 65 and over group to the Worlds (32 mph) and details are still being worked out.

Discussion over Executive Committee decision not to fund all teams. Due to the extensive travel and costs for all teams to travel this year the committee looked at what they could do to sponsor teams. A thought to give a little money to all teams meant that no team had solid funding. The decision was made to take all monies budgeted less \$2000 and fund the Elite Team (as that is the US Standard and the original team funded). The \$2000 would go back to AWSA for infrastructure improvements that are desperately needed. Again the need for serious fundraising is needed. (Ham Wallace) – can we donate things in kind as a tax deduction?

We need to step up as a Region to get money (earned money) to build up a fund to support our teams. We also need our Team Representatives (Athletes) there to help raise the funds needed.

A motion was made that the Southern Region donate \$2000 divided up for Southern Region Skiers selected to the Under 21 Team and \$1500 divided up for Southern Region Skiers selected for the World Games Team (both for 2013). The motion was seconded and Approved by Council.

Report Approved by Council

### **Judges/Scorers Qualifications - Ray Crenshaw**

**A. Online Judges Clinic:** With the work done by Floyd McCreight and others, we have significantly increased the amount, scope and quality of the online judges clinic. It now provides a reasonable substitute for an in-person clinic. The committee has approved the attached proposal, which would allow use of the online judges clinic for maintenance.

#### **Action item for board: Consider approval of the Online Judges Clinic Proposal, attached**

**B. Expansion of Online Program:** We are getting a feel for the power that online training resources have to offer, when harnessed properly. With the help of contract professionals, we hope to greatly expand the online training materials. The objective is to create a comprehensive online resource library for judges and scorers training materials, including training videos, tests, and clinic as well as administrative materials. It would be located in an easy-to-find and navigate place on the website. Conceivably it could be expanded for use by athletes as well as officials.

**C. National Senior Judges and Scorers Clinic:** The Committee voted to recommend taking a year off on the National Senior clinic, and focus its efforts on ways to regenerate interest in the clinic. Current technology for a video-based webinar or videoconference clinic was not found to be economically viable at this point in time. To reintroduce the clinic will require new materials and good reasons to attend it. We are exploring the idea of requiring maintenance requirements for clinic instructors and test administrators. Requiring periodic attendance at a NSJ clinic may be part of that program.

**Action item for board: Allow hiatus in the National Senior Judges Clinic for 2013**



1. ~~The end gate case is different because of the spacing and thus~~ If the skier can cross the gate line before the end gate buoy he will be awarded the full buoy.

a. This specifically means that the skier is permitted to have slack going through the exit gates. If the skier skis away then he may continue.

b. If the skier does not ski away, the turn ends and the skier scores 6 provided they crossed the line of the boat buoys before the end gate with or without a slack line.

**Tech Report** – RE 14.04.B Videos. The Southern Region supports the requirement to have both Boat and Course videos for the event (OM OW MM = Elite) **Yes**

**Tech Report** – RE 8.04.D Handles. Since the IWWF has eliminated the rule on diameters of handles, the Southern Region recommends that we do the same. **Yes**

**Tow Boat Report** – RE New Equipment purchase. Test equipment like the VBox has become the standard. Cost is \$1500/\$2000 on the low end to \$15K for the Marine version which will connect to the CANBUS on the engine and provide us and the towboat manufacturers with data regarding not only power/acceleration, but also 3 axis information regarding pitch, roll and yaw; and performance at rpm, throttles position, etc. Currently, the request is with the Executive Committee pending the availability of funds.

**The Southern Region recommends that we look into the tow boat request to see if this is really necessary. How many people are qualified to operate such equipment and what shape is our current equipment in. We are not in favor of supporting this expense. Possibly we could use these funds better suited for membership. Already been done by USA-WS Executive Committee, this can also be a revenue generator. Easier to use than current equipment.**

**Fundraising** – RE: The Executive Committee decision on funding Teams. Concern was brought up regarding amounts and to which teams the money should go. They are still looking for a fundraising chair. Elite athletes could lend “status” to support cause. **The Southern Region would like to know if they (or individuals) can donate “Things in Kind” towards the teams for support. Airline FLY miles or Hotel points were a couple of things. Could they do this on an individual basis to an individual? Could they still get a tax credit and is it legal to donate through USA-WS and then specify who it went to?**

**Is there a way for our membership to donate "things in kind" and have it filter down to teams or individuals? Congress is currently looking into this at the request of IOC.**

Report Approved by Council

#### **Technical - Jerry Jackson**

##### **2012 National Records (Total 40):**

Approved: 20 Slalom (2 World), 5 Co-National Slalom Records, 7 Tricks, 4 Jump; Note: some these are dual records (example MM/M3)

Rejected: 4 Tricks.

DVR: Everyone is now using DVRs. When using recorders, ensure that the capture rate is set at 30fps and at HIGH quality. There has been several records submitted that the video was unacceptable because of the capture quality was set too Low. Always check the playback before the tournament starts.

#### **SLALOM –**

REQUEST: Make it a REQUIREMENT for ALL ELITE SLALOM NATIONAL RECORDS, that BOAT VIDEO is REQUIRED. Required for WORLD (OM/OW); we should make it a requirement for MM (We had it for Jeff Rodgers). (yes /no).

EC Video: Need to ensure that a JUDGE is watching EC Video at all times. We have video were the boat path was straight until the last or next to last pass, then the driver gave the boat to the skier. May have been in tolerance, but is not acceptable.

Boat Camera: Pylon mounts; Need to ensure that the camera is aligned in C/L. Had several video were we had a wide view on one side, but could not see the turn buoy on the other. Tower Judge is required to review at all times. Recommend using a HAND HELD camera when in OPEN Class R.

ZERO-OFF- Mapping, not sure that it makes a real different, but we need to make sure that the Start Beep is at the gates. It was pointed out that some video at the boat beeping after the Gates on one end and before the gates on the other. Need to make sure that the boat judges are listening, same for when it not engaged thru the course.

TRICK VIDEO- Need to ensure that we are getting the camera up high enough to view over the wake. Too many issues were we cannot see the trick because of the rooster-tail; camera operator was setting too low.

#### TECHNICAL CONTROLLERS (TC) CLINICS/TEST:

Need to establish an ONLINE CLINIC for TC Maintenance; in 2012 information was submitted to AWSA for Website, but we did not get it downloaded; Need to continue working on a system for future. In-addition we need a test for new TC Application to ensure they know how to evaluate survey data, setup Video Jump, complete TC Report and Record Application. Maybe tie it in with the Judges/Scorers Online Clinic using QuizEgg (SEE JUDGE/SCORE REPORT IN BOD Package). If anyone has any recommendation please forward to me.

TC Application needs to be changed from 3 Tournaments to 5 at a minimum to become a TC.

RULE CHANGS: All Tech Controller Rule Changes were added to the Rule Committee Report, below are the TC Rule Requests. In addition, I copied part of the IWWF Minutes (See next three pages):

Request was submitted for TC to check jump switch: TC Committee Voted NO.

Request was submitted to establish National Overall Record: Vote NO

#### RULE COMMITTEE REPORT (listed - TC responsibilities)

##### **PROPOSAL: 17**

**8.04D:** From TC Committee

**AWSA 8.04D** 1st sentence, delete "and it is recommended that it shall float."

**Rationale:** IWWF does not have this requirement. Most handles do not float.

##### **PROPOSAL: 18**

**8.09B:** From TC Committee

**AWSA 8.09B** Non-spherical types: Rectangular may have a cross-sectional area of 75 - 450 square cm (12 - 70 square inches); *cylindrical buoys may have =a diameter of 9.78 – 23cm(3.8 - 9 inches) (recommend 6 – 8 inches); all shall appear vertical and shall be 15 - 30 cm (6 - 12") exposed above the water.*

**Rationale:** Most judges are not going to know the diameter of a cylindrical buoy, based on square inches.

##### **PROPOSAL: 21**

Widen the Return to Baseline (RTB) tolerance to include the 41m segment on the fast end.

**Rationale:** AWSA needed to make a clarification to widen the new tolerance for RTB. When skiers were at a higher letter, the speed control was unable to slow enough. An upgrade in ZeroOff has fixed this along with a limit to the letters a skier may select in RTB. The Towboat committee is working with this.

IWWF has already widened the tolerance for the 41m segment. TC Chair Jerry Jackson will incorporate into new timing chart

##### **PROPOSAL: 24**

**10.16.A.4:** addition, these buoys shall be provided with an elastic device or equivalent (non-compressed buoy).....

**Rationale:** This was first put in to cover the Goode Bubble Buoy, but it is not required. Current wording was acceptable without adding "non-compressed".

##### **PROPOSAL: 25 (REVISED 12/29/12)**

**10.16B2b.** For Class E tournaments personal handles shall be measured by the dock starter ***under the supervision of the Technical Controller*** immediately ~~before~~ ***after*** the skier skis. ***Should the handle be out of tolerance, the skier's score in that round will be recorded as zero.*** (See Rule 13.02.F for head to head competition)

**Rationale:** Measuring handles immediately after the skier is finished is the more accurate way to measure since that is how the handle was when the skier skied.

## **PROPOSAL: 28**

### **A) 11.20 Video**

The Tricks event shall be recorded at all Record Capability ***Class E, L and R*** tournaments (and other tournaments whenever possible) by a video camera from a suitable shore judging position (Class E), or from the boat (Class E, L & R). It is recommended that the camera be hand held/mounted higher than the top of windshield to provide a clear view of the ski. If more than one video camera is used, the Chief Judge shall declare one as official prior to the start of the event. (See Rules 11.08.A, 11.08.B and 11.08.F)

***This video recording shall be used for primary judging.***

The video recording may ***also*** be shown as an aid to the event judges under the following circumstances:

**B) 15.06C.** All trick passes must be ***video recorded*** videotaped from the boat or from a shore judging position as designated by the Chief Judge and shall be from the same location during the entire event. If review ***a*** is required, each judge will review the ***recording*** tape individually and independently ***at*** in normal speed only. (see Rules 11.20 and 15.06.A)

**Rationale:** The application of our rules was not clear when video was to be used from the boat even though that has become the norm. Since this is what is being done at RC tournaments, we should have it in the rule book so there is no longer confusion.

## **IWWF MEETING MINUTES (few items of interest):**

### **HOMOLOGATION GUIDELINES**

It is the duty of each skier to report to the Chief Judge during the competition if he believes the rules are not being followed or adhered to. The issue will be addressed at the tournament.

***If a competition is at the same site on subsequent weekends, the homologator may decide not to carry out another full homologation, but make sufficient checks to satisfy himself that nothing has changed. The Homologator must be present during the competition.***

Change Rule 10.04 e to

***The tournament supplied*** handle shall be made of 2.50 to 2.80 cm. outside diameter material with no sharp edges or projections, with unpainted wood or other non-slip surface or coating.

#### **• 4. End Course Video for Jump**

Jeffry had introduced this item after having talked to Freddy Krueger who believed the monitoring should continue. Ageliki was completely in agreement. The TC therefore decided to amend Rule 13.08a – as follows:-

***For 2011, a centre line video of the jump course will be required for World, Confederation and Elite events tournaments. Tapes will be submitted to and monitored by the Confederation Council.***

Jeffry suggested we bring some end course videos to our 2013 TC meeting in Chile.

Monitoring will have been available from 2011 through to 2013 – which will help us understand the need to continue or not.

#### **• 5. Choice of Boats**

This item had been introduced by Bob. Pro skiers were taking their own boats to competitions and letting them be used for the tournament. Some of the Pro skiers had contracts with their boat sponsor which prohibited them skiing behind another boat in non-cash prize events. It was understood this practice was happening at between 10 – 20 tournaments per year. Some TC members had been unaware of this practice until this summer.

The spirit of the sport in the rules states all athletes should use the same tournament supplied equipment. This is not something the TC wishes to see happen and certainly it is not happening outside of the PanAm Confederation.

After discussion it was agreed that a different boat could be used in each round of the competition, but not different boats within one round.

Rule 10.01 I already stated this rule, which must now be enforced.

**NOTE – Bob I do not know why we allow a choice of trick boat?**

I believe that choice of tricks goes back to a time when we had both inboards and outboards as active tournament boats and it seemed unreasonable to require skiers to practice behind multiple boats.

#### **15.12: Timing the Trick Pass**

**A video trick timing system shall be used.** The timer(s) shall determine the beginning of the trick pass as defined in Rules 15.06, 15.07.

**The homologator can accept a new timing system if he can prove it is working correctly according to the rules.**

This led on to discussion concerning the specifications for a trick timing system. In some current cases it is possible to be able to change the start whilst looking at the end frame. The TC unanimously agreed the start frame must be set the end frame is seen. This needs to be enforced in the rule book.

#### **Change Rule 15.12**

The end of the 20 second pass shall be determined by the video measurement. A start/stop judge shall operate or supervise the operation of the video trick timer. (This may also be the end trick review judge) Depending on the system being used he may or may not work with the timer to signal the start and stop.

**The start of the pass must be set before the end of the pass can be seen**

Report Approved by Council

### **Coaches Advisory - Jim Grew**

#### **USA-WS Coaching Certification - Level 1 Instructors Course**

The current materials were updated two and a half years ago with the addition of two new components (abuse and molestation awareness & prevention training/education and background screening). These changes were made to be consistent with those being implemented in many sports, both Olympic and recreational. If there were a significant issue, USA Water Ski would be found liable without implementing best practices, now increasingly the norm in sport activities. The expanded course was made available online in 2011, and aspiring Level 1 instructors were required to take it in its entirety. Starting in 2012, **all** instructors and coaches certified in 2010 or earlier were required to go through the two new components online. Recertification is now necessary every two years for **all** certified instructors and coaches. USA-WS also offered (but did **not** mandate) personal liability insurance to all instructors and coaches certified under the new, expanded program which is proving quite popular (see numbers below). The Instructor/Coach Certification Program for new and renewing instructors and coaches is available for purchase through the “Members-Only” section of USA Water Ski’s Web site. The system verifies that the member meets any minimum requirements before redirecting him or her to USA Water Ski’s online training Web site (Digital Chalk) where the course/update is purchased and administered. The course/update includes two offline assignments as written above – the Criminal Background Screening and the We-R-Safe Abuse and Molestation Prevention and Awareness Training and Testing. There was, as expected, a decline in the number of active certified coaches as a result of these requirements. Previously, once coaches were awarded their rating, they did not have to do anything to maintain the active status of that rating except remain an USA-WS Active member. Please review the statistics in the post USA-WS December Exec. Co. packet sent to the BODs before Christmas re current numbers of coaches and instructors. As of December 1, 72 individuals were carrying the optional insurance because they had either completed a new course or renewed their 2011 insurance for 2012 which is up over the 39 who had insurance in 2011, i.e., an increase of 33. The breakdown is as follows: 41 new instructors, 23 upgrade/renewals and 8 insurance (already upgraded) renewals from 2011.

#### **Team Staff Background Screening**

Florida passed a law which took effect on July 1, 2010 requiring the staff of all teams based in Florida to undergo a background check. Since our governing body is based in Florida, our legal counsel indicated that all our national teams are considered Florida-based; hence all coaches and managers traveling with teams

are affected by this mandate. USA-WS HQ has been administering this program successfully for all SDs for two and a half years without a single issue thus far

Report Approved by Council

### **Junior Development - Amy Newman / Elaine Guarino**

Junior Development and our juniors had a successful season in 2012. After a great regionals, our All Star Team went on to win at Nationals. We also had 29 top 5 placements at Nationals. Our weak area was B2 with no placements.

Junior Development also did great financially. We added \$1500 to our account after expenses. We have great donors and support at our regional banquet, and we could not continue without them. I have a list of our donors on the AWSA South website if you would like to see it.

We will be having a clinic for the 24 member junior team in May at Lake Pryor, details to follow. At this time, all our teams have been chosen, and will be announced.

Amy Newman is your new Junior Development Coordinator. I am working with her this year through the transition, and Melissa Nicholson will be helping her, too. They already have some great new ideas. I have enjoyed doing Regional Junior Development, and will be continuing the work with Kerry Morgan as we take over National Junior Development.

Report Approved by Council

### **Safety - Scott Crenshaw**

The AWSA Safety Committee has nothing to report on at this time. I would again like to thank the Committee members for their time.

Report Approved by Council

### **Tournament Seeding - Kirby Whetsel**

The only issue I would like to bring up is to our tournament scorers and hosts to continue to communicate to the skiers the importance of checking their scores before they leave the sight. I saw several instances from our 2012 National Championships where skiers did not check scores until they were posted on the web page and found incorrect scores. I have also had several events have to resubmit scorebooks due to scoring errors. There is a specific time limit to what corrections can be made and how much time is allowed to make those changes. Rule 7.06

Timely submission of the tournament scores by our Chief Scorers is key to making our ranking system work. I am starting to see more and more scorers submitting tournament reports on Sunday evening. This tells me they are getting more comfortable with our Windows based scoring system.

For Officials - Review your work record

Report Approved by Council

### **Skiers Ranking - Tommy Newman**

There will be a new chair to this committee – until then there is no report available

Report Approved by Council

### **Boat Drivers - Ham Wallace**

2012 was an exceptional year for Southern Region boat drivers. There were no issues in regards to speed control education and driver ability to operate the Zero off system. The boat paths seem to get better each year. I think that the systems are giving the drivers fewer things to think about, therefore, more concentration on the mechanics of boat driving.

Melanie Hanson continues to be the “go-to-girl” at headquarters. She is up-to-speed on all issues pertaining to driver requests, upgrades, down grades and pending committee issues and requests. She helps with all competition issues and is friendly and always helpful.

Pat Rogers (W) and Will Bush (W) have been very instrumental in some impending proposals plus driver test modernization. Jerry Bautsch, National Boat Driver Committee Chair has done a remarkable job keeping all communications open between each region’s driver committee chair. There must have been a million e-mails in 2012!

There are some changes hopefully coming soon in regards to driving qualifications for upper level tournaments that are designed to give skiers the very best pull available. There are still some emeritus requests being discussed and considered.

Don’t forget the MVR Background check for those of you that were awarded driver’s ratings after April 1, 2012. These will be needed for all sanctioned and club sanctioned events for this season. Those longer tenured drivers have until Dec. 31, 2013 to get yours to headquarters. These are available through the members/officials area of the USA Waterski website.

The 2012 Southern Regionals seemed to go off without a hitch. There were a few conflicts that were worked through and I don’t think that any one driver was overworked. It is easy when you have the “A” Team of drivers to choose from. I’d like to thank, Greg Webb, Lyman Hardy, Gordon West, Bobby Hill and also Tim McKune, Pat Coomes and Brian Sparks for their hard work and commitment to driving excellence. You made my job easy.

I don’t have the down grade list just yet from headquarters but I think that there will be substantially fewer than in the past few years. There are always a few late tournament cancellations that cause a few quantitative driving shortages, not to mention, a few that went undocumented on the tournament master score sheets. This is an easy fix with proper documentation. I will work to help all drivers get there due credits. If any driving is done in another region, it does not pop up on the radar and it is a great help to get written documentation from those events.

Our EVP, Bob Archambeau, always has an open e-mail line and is easy to contact by telephone. Bob is on all Driver Committee e-mail lists, so, he is knowledgeable about all issues. This is a big help on driver issues and assistance needed.

If anyone needs me, my phone number is (615) 943-6099 and my e-mail is [Hwallaceii@aol.com](mailto:Hwallaceii@aol.com)

5 Point Sr. Driver’s Evaluation Form  
(to be filled out by Level 8 and up skiers only)  
(1-5, 1 being the least competent, 5 being the best qualified)

Criteria

- Polite and safe etiquette around the dock and starting area:
- Knowledge of settings and setting change consequences:
- Ability to drive where you feel like you can achieve your skiing potential:
- Confident with driver ability:
- Complete comfort with this person at the wheel of the tow boat:

1.      2.      3.      4.      5.

The purpose of this type of grading system is 2-fold. This genuinely gives the driver feedback from skiers that should and do know where the boat should be and how it should feel.

It is very rare (except in practice situations) where drivers actually hear from a variety of high level skiers to improve their performance. Constructive criticism like this would improve any drivers skills - if they took the information to heart. This will be difficult to get skiers on-line to register and we would need to work with

AWSA on the set up and codes for skiers to get into this system. We would need to use both practice and tournaments but it would have to be weighted in such a way that one skier could not rate their practice driver every time they pull them. Also it should be weighted more towards Tournaments as that is where you would get a variety of skiers and a better "population" for ratings. It would need to be monitored to insure accuracy from a Tournament /Participation standpoint and confidentiality would have to be maintained for the skiers. Individual drivers should be the only ones to access their records but must submit them in order to be considered to drive Regionals or Nationals.

Using this method to select drivers for Regionals and Nationals would be a factual representation of their abilities in the drivers seat. It is anticipated that Drivers considering putting their names in for consideration for driving will have to drive more tournaments and in more or different locations in order to be rated by the level 8-9 Skiers.

Using this method we would be providing the best of the best drivers for Regionals and Nationals. This idea was discussed with no action taken.

Report Approved by Council

### **Towboat/ Speed Control - Greg Webb**

The Towboat Committee met August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at the National Water Ski Championships Tournament in West Palm Beach, Florida. The Committee Chairs have sent the Towboat Committee Report to AWSA Board of Directors. 2013 Towboat tests were conducted October 21-23, 2012, at USA Water Ski Headquarters. ZERO OFF Version R was tested and released for use. See the 2012-2013 Towboat Policy Manual and refer to the website for list of Approved Boats and additional information.

A discussion on how to request the use of boats over 3 years old was held and can be found in towboat policy.

There has been a request for as much as \$15,000 to be allocated to towboat testing. The question is are the people that test our boats qualified to use this equipment and to gather proper information from this equipment.

*Note: This was directed to the BOD mtg. See the bottom of the rules report for this explanation and information as a result of the BOD report.*

Report Approved by Council

### **Announcers – Bob Archambeau for Hank Longo**

We continue to recruit new announcers, which is a good thing. The bad thing is having enough announcers with experience to Chief a National Championship or announcers with experience that will dedicate the time and expense to Chief Nationals. So it is really time for reinforcing, training and educating our announcing staff for the future. We need more representation from all the Regions at a higher level of announcing experience; we need more representation for general announcing at the Nationals from the Eastern Region and South Central Region. With this being said we need the help and support from all of our Regional EVP's to recommend qualified announcers and to help recruit announcers. It's time to fortify our committee for the future with young leaders to carry on for the years to come and realize it will take some time to accomplish this foundation. I will explain more at the meeting.

Report Approved by Council

### **AWSEF - Jeff Clark**

The American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF) has had a very busy, productive year. Thanks to our faithful members and sponsors, the foundation is doing well. The 2013 Hall of Fame awards banquet will be held in April at the Lakeland Civic Center. Honorees are: Jim Grew, Kristi Overton-Johnson and Cory Pickos. The Award of Distinction new members are: Bob Alkema, Tony Baggiano, Mary Gail Holcombe, Gordon Rathbun and Jack Wilson. The social at the Hall is April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Induction ceremonies at the

Lakeland Center April 20th. The annual Hall of Fame fund raising tournament will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and the AWSEF membership and board meeting April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Six scholarships were awarded in 2012, the first in the amount of \$3000, the others for \$1500.

1. The Barbara Bolding/Jim Grew scholarship to Caroline Hensley, (Hixson TN)
2. The Correct Craft scholarship to Jennifer King, (Dousman, WI)
3. The MasterCraft scholarship to Travis Cappel (Dallas, TX)
4. The Tim Olson memorial scholarship to Hayley Sarow, (Evansville, WI)
5. The Jennifer Odom/David Kammerer memorial scholarship to Kyle Bichich, (Issaquah, WA)
6. The Jean Downes Memorial scholarship to Emily Van Treese. (Sidney, OH)

Fundraisers this past year included the legacy program for individuals, families, clubs, or anyone. These entities will be honored permanently on the web site with a photo and brief essay.

A new brick 'walk of fame' program was started. Bricks in various sizes are available for purchase. Detailed info can be found on the water ski halloffame.com web site.

The raffle was held again starting last year with the drawing taking place January 25 for the grand prize of \$5000.00 and other cash prizes. You can purchase a ticket until 7:00 PM on that day. The drawing will be at the Hall. Be sure and attend.

In October, the 2<sup>nd</sup> "Ski With The Legends" day was held at Lake Grew. Skiers from various states came for a day of skiing, coaching and socializing with the likes of legends Lucky Lowe, Kris LaPoint, Jennifer Leachman - LaPoint, Les Todd, Carl Roberge, Wade Cox and Chris Parrish. The event is planned for the fall of 2013. Thanks to "Griff" Griffin with his wife Gloria for chairing this event. You can become involved as well as participate by contacting the staff of the AWSEF.

We've made a lot of progress over the last few years thanks to dedicated volunteers and the members who have supported the programs of the AWSEF. If you are not a member, consider joining and help us continue to preserve the Hall and the history of the disciplines of our sport.

In over 3 decades, I have watched and been involved in some of the many changes that have transpired in our water ski sports, the USA-WS and the AWSEF.

Report Approved by Council

#### Old Business

Deadline for Tournament sanctions and advertising is January 16 2013

Junior Bios are due January 16, 2013

OLR Registration for Regional's

Discussion over use of older tow boats and Perfect Pass vs. Zero Off. Southern Region has been blessed with current boats at Tournaments. There is a difference between and exception and preference. Boats are approved for 4 years. Exceptions can be requested beyond that

#### New Business

Bob Harris asked (and was given) the floor to consolidate these into 4 topics.

Rules Revision – 14.07 – BH

Clear inconsistency in rules regarding tight line in Slalom vs. Trick and Jump AWSA Rule 10.12 – IWWF Rule 14.07. We should take this back to rules committee. Placement in slalom is so specific to buoy count. There should be no penalty for slack line if you can hang on to the line. If I can hang on to the line I should not be penalized a ½ buoy (or more).

A motion was made to review this rule for consistency and seconded. Wording was requested to present to the BOD. This was seconded and Approved to Present to BOD. *See Rules report for outcome from Board.*

Rules Revision – 9, 10, 11 (complete) – BH Rules committee should consider our rules not what Bob Corson or IWWF thinks. We spend too much time on rules revisions considering what they think. No Motion requested - just consider this thought.

These topics were all placed into one category by Bob Harris

P & P Revision – 1.1.1 Clause 6 & 7

USA-WS is governed by the Bylaws and P & P and it falls to AWSA and their Bylaws and P & P and then to the Federations. There was a situation where information was given out to a federation on what was thought to be a secret ballot because the federation had requested that information and in their policies said that they were to vote as a block. The question raised is what votes are secret votes / confidential and what are not. Shouldn't any vote going to the tellers committee be Private? The Regional and National Officials vote goes that way and no one knows how anyone voted.

(Bob Archambeau) questioned that if all votes were confidential, then EVP's and Directors would not be held responsible to the council and the Council would not be responsible to the Federations they represent. It was noted that some Federations per their policies direct their councilmen to vote as a block - some do not. How can a federation be sure that this is happening? We had this discussion last year and agreed that Membership votes were private and that Votes for Officials were also private or confidential, nothing else.

The main question in point was what votes are confidential and what aren't

Support for this question and the same concern was voiced by Jim Jaquess. When he was EVP the only information he received from votes from council going to the tellers committee was the final results - not who voted. Votes by membership have always been confidential as well as council votes regarding officials. Maybe we should say that anything going to the Tellers committee should be private.

There was question on the floor of what was actually being proposed. It appears a mistake was made at one time and we can't always control that (Jerry Hargis). What is a confidential secret ballot or what topics should be secret? Federations could turn in their votes to the teller as a block or the Teller/EVP could release that information if requested to the specific Federation in question.

The members on the floor disagreed and argued that both the Membership Vote and Officials had been compromised in the past (examples given and accepted by Jim Jaquess). He was aware of one instance of each that had been compromised and that was a serious mistake. The wrong directions were given to the teller and this information was given out. This one situation was wrong and the same mistake has not been made since then. The wrong directions were given to the teller and this information was given out

A motion was made (Bob Harris) that any votes going to the Tellers Committee should be kept confidential. This was seconded (Tim McKune).

Jeff Clark was asked to respond as he is the chair of the USA-WS and AWSA Bylaw committee. Information is run by articles of incorporation of the 501 c 3, and Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised. RRO is what we are discussing now. As an individual member you have the right to vote on anything brought forward by the President or Chair of the meeting to the members and the Chair does choose how that vote will be conducted. Elections are secret ballots (unless by acclamation). If you are elected to be an officer, director or councilmen, you are representing the constituency of the entire region not just your state. The only ballot we have not divulged is the voting numbers on is the Regional/National Officials. Originally it was a closed council meeting. When the meeting was changed to an open meeting (to include members outside council) that ballot became confidential on a vote by the board because we wanted to present a unified front – we are submitting the best officials and it was about individuals and no one should be torn apart negatively. When the chair calls for a vote, RRO states that those votes are to be recorded in the minutes. Everything in this meeting is a roll call vote (voice or hand). E-Mail ballots are roll call votes and are public knowledge. Tellers committee verifies the vote to protect the integrity of the organization. Any meeting or ballot must be reported.

(Bob Archambeau) This all came out of the Vote for Regional site. The votes were requested to be sent to the Teller. The information was sent to me (Bob Archambeau) and the results were published. Months



EVP Alt.	Bob Schouten
AWSA Nat Dir	Chris Eller
AWSA Nat Dir Alt	Leon Larson
USAWS Dir	Bob Archambeau
USAWS Dir Alt	Jim Jaquess

Motion to Adjourn (Lyman Hardy) was made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:55.