

Southern Region

Summer EVP Report

July 2022

It's been another challenging summer with the economy close to being in a recession (if not already there), while at the same time inflation is as bad as it's been since the 1980's.

The Southern Region's own, Lyman Hardy, has done an excellent job as President of AWSA in leading the sport through this difficult time. He's been on top of all the major issues and has been instrumental in getting them resolved promptly. Thanks a lot, Lyman, for all of the many hours you've spent fulfilling the job of President.

Despite the hardship factors, there have been (so far) 95 tournaments sanctioned in the Southern Region this calendar year, with 60 of those being record capable classification. Entries have been down a little, but certainly not performances by our skiers. Here's a summary of some of our top skiers from the Southern Region.

USA Masters

Women Slalom – Regina Jaquess 1st place ; Allie Nicholson tie for 3rd

Men Slalom – Jon Travers 2nd ; Dane Mechler 4th

Women Trick – Anna Gay 4th

Women Jump – Lauren Morgan 1st

Men Jump – Freddy Krueger 3rd ; Taylor Garcia 4th

Swiss Pro Slalom

Women Slalom – Regina Jaquess 1st ; Allie Nicholson 3rd

LA Night Jam

Women Slalom – Regina Jaquess 1st ; Karen Truelove 2nd

Men Jump – Taylor Garcia 3rd

JR US Open

IG Slalom – Elizabeth Hall 2nd

IG Trick – Elizabeth Hall 3rd

IG Jump – Elizabeth Hall 1st

IB Slalom – Chase Sparks 1st

IB Trick – Erick Macias 1st

IB Jump – Chase Sparks 1st ; Wesley Blair 3rd

JM Trick – Will Blair 2nd

JM Jump – Will Blair 3rd

Congrats to all of these skiers, and the many more who are posting personal bests at a lot of our other tournaments.

Another positive note is that most of the system issues that we had at the beginning of the year have been resolved. Yes, there is still incorrect and missing data in the new membership system, but it is being worked on diligently. Our tournament systems are in good shape now. Dave Allen came up with a solution to the problems we were having with WSTIMS and WaterSkiConnect. Chip Shand has created some fantastic new (and free) software for Trick timing, Jump Measurement, and Slalom Gate Review. Many tournaments in the Southern Region have been using these new programs with great success.

The sentiment on Safe Sport and MAAPP has calmed down significantly. Other than a short amount of time to go through the video training, the whole deal has been mostly painless. Just to point out again, this is not something that USA Water Ski decided to burden our sport with. The requirements came as a result of a federal law, and all organized sports have had to complete the same requirements. Thanks to everyone for just taking the training and hopefully it will help us keep our minor adults safe.

Best wishes to all of our skiers, officials, drivers, and tournament committee for the upcoming Southern Regional Championships. Lymanland is a great ski site, and the time dedicated by the tournament committee and the use of the lake is very much appreciated. I look forward to seeing everyone at the tournament and wish the best for everyone who takes part in the competition.

The Southern Region Council and General Membership meeting will be at the Capstone hotel, Thursday at 7:00pm or one hour after the conclusion of the tournament on that day. All members are welcome to attend

Very best regards to you all. I hope the remainder of your ski season goes well.

Bob Harris

Southern Region EVP