

Western Regional Council Meeting

Summer 2007

Meeting called to order at 12:45pm.

Connie Morris welcomes everyone to the Imperial Valley. Introductions to follow.

Mike Hayes standing in for TC Boice. John Goodman to act as Parliamentarian.

Previous meeting minutes Barry motioned to approve as published. Tad seconded. Motion carried. Need to approve Colorado representative stand in: Dave Vogt is replacing Stacey Holbert. Tad motioned, Owen seconded.

Tad Scharpf – Treasurer

A little more money spent on travel this past year. New flags were purchased for Regionals. Money will come out of contingency fund. Connie will check on cost of flags. We're close to budget. Jeff Gaastra is doing a great job at soliciting advertising for the regional guide. We've raised over \$7000 with advertising – this does not include the \$5000 national advertising rebate. CD is coming up to maturity. We need to decide what to do with it. Suggestion to recognize Jeff's efforts, possibly a letter of recognition.

Larry Goodwin seconded to approve the treasurer's report. All in favor.

Boat Draw – Wayne Canfield

Representatives from Master Craft, Correct Craft and Malibu were all present for regional tournament boat draw. We tried to group the draw so everyone had a major event – numbers all fairly even.

Group A – Master Craft; Group B -- Correct Craft; Group C – Malibu

Regional Tournament 2007 – Imperial Lakes

Connie: everything is pretty much ready. If there are any questions, see Connie Morris or Paul Donatt. Chief Judge Brad Hartwell addressed question regarding use of ropes. Nationals is the only tournament that has an obligation to a specific rope manufacturer.

Regional Tournament 2008 – Ski Park

Scott Vanderflute unable to attend, he is now the groundskeeper and is very busy. John Goodman giving report. Entry is now blacktopped. More camping space available now. Working on the jump ramp this fall. Possibility of moving ramp from Warman's lake to ski park. Hoping for good crowd next year. Owen raised question about pulling out to different sides of the boat at each end of the lake. John will try it and report back at the winter meeting.

Entry Qualification for 2008 Tournament – Barry Young

Proposal to mirror the Nationals ranking qualification procedure at the Western Regional tournament in 2008. Motion to close the list on the Wednesday three weeks prior to the start of the regional tournament. It's recommended that a team of three consisting of the tournament registrar, seeding representative and the EVP coordinate this effort. Discussion followed regarding cut-off date and procedure for closing list. Discussion regarding weighting of tournament for last chance qualifier option.

Discussion to determine tournament classification for three week period following the COD. Motion revised to: Change requirement to one class C tournament. Also to change cutoff date to specific date such as last Wednesday in June. Issue also raised about placement in Regionals and/or Nationals to secure a spot in next year's Regionals. Merle Vasbinder seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.

John Goodman asked if next year's Regionals E classification events are going to remain at E or drop to C. He feels we should maintain the officials requirement at a minimum of E level. Mike Hayes would like to see our premier tournament stay at as high a level as we can make it. Barry Young motioned to keep it the same as it is. Dave Vogt seconded. All in favor; motion carries.

Regional Split - Merle Vasbinder

ByLaws required that we have a second vote regarding the regional tournament split. Voter turnout was disappointing. Merle discussed that it passed it one opinion poll but then failed to meet the required 2/3 majority vote for the split of the meeting. It seems as if the Northwest Area skiers didn't want to pursue it.

Regional Site Committee – Owen Lechter

Report on reasons why there are not more sites submitting bids for Regional tournament. Owen has motioned that council members submit names of three event sites in their respective areas. Deadline to submit list to Owen is September 15th, 2007. Rumor that Broadside Harbor may submit a bid for 2009. Wet Set and Warman Lake have expressed an interest in future Regionals. Koreis and Tate Lakes are also interested. We hope to come back to Imperial Lakes as well. Ski West is a possibility. Bell Acqua (lakes one and three) has a new site permit that limits the number of people on site to 300.

Suggestions included compensation to the Regional site from the region. Allow lakes that are not adjacent to one another to participate. Greater support in bidding process. Compensation to certain officials for time and efforts. Two lake sites should be mandatory, 6 days is too long. Split duties of some appointed officials to ease workload.

Seconded by Barry Young. All in favor. Motion carried.

Regional Bid for 2009 – Broadside Harbor, Idaho - Barry Young

Two lake site outside of Boise, Idaho owned by Don Parsons and Debbie Parsons. Adjacent lake available for practice owned by Don Hume. See proposal package. Lakes are approximately 18 feet deep.

Randy Hocking stated that Laku is considering a bid for 2009. John Goodman asked if Broadside Harbor would consider 2010. Barry isn't certain if they would but thinks it is a possibility.

Mike Hayes asked if Broadside was expecting a decision today. Sooner would be better because there's a deadline to keep the planning process moving. Council discussion as to whether or not Laku's bid is still active from the dual regional situation. Considered still active. Straw vote – Randy Hocking, Dave Vogt and Barry Young stepped out. Discussion prior to vote. Laku was awarded the 2009 bid. Broadside encouraged to submit for 2010.

Regional Committee Reports

Records Report – Connie Morris

Three additional records came in. She'll send out an updated report. Connie prefers that applications are NOT sent via certified mail. There seems to be a delay in receipt of those envelopes. Motion by Connie to approve. Larry Goodwin seconded. All in favor, motion carries.

TC takes over meeting.

EVP Report – TC Boice

Thank you to everyone for going above and beyond what is asked of them. There is a lot on everyone's plate.

Current issues for the year: few instances of duplicate officials. Council people need to police their area to make sure that officials assignments are properly covered for sanctions.

AWSA and the Western Region sanctioning works with LOC's to sanction tournaments. LOC is responsible for site usage. USAWS and region are not going to get involved with mediation between LOC and site.

Thank you for flexibility in cancellation and re-sanctioning of tournaments (Pat Farrell Memorial replaced by Matranga Classic).

Rules issues that should be addressed:

-Open class skiers are getting nothing out of skiing in C class tournament. We need to change that so we encourage them to participate in local C tournaments.

-EVP now has to sign off on medical waiver for Regionals participation. Needs to change to be EVP or chief judge in EVP's absence.

-Regional Guide organizer is needed. Leora Matranga is retiring from her post of managing the regional guide coordination. This will need to be decided on fairly quickly.

Regional Awards – Gaile Heieck

Have an award for Johnnie & Leora Matranga for their outstanding contributions to the sport through the years. Other awards are here and ready.

Web – Laura Johnson

People are utilizing the web. Please encourage local stories and photos so we can keep it interesting. She will bring a web traffic report to the winter meeting.

Junior Development – Lisa Wilson

Info passed out on her junior development camp. Kids are really benefitting from the camps. They're exceeding their personal bests and setting new records. They are also doing a G1/B1 camp for kids that are just learning to ski.

Donations are requested for fund-raising.

Financial Task Force – Mike Hayes

It's in progress! Going to work with Tad during the week to discuss CD's that are maturing next month. More progress to report at the winter meeting.

USA Wakeboard – Andrea Plough

Thank you for including wakeboard into the water ski meeting. Wakeboarding is the third biggest sport in the organization. Collegiate is really getting off the ground. KCBS/CSTV is hosting nationals and includes attractive sponsorship packages. NWL grassroots really getting going. Putting on officials clinics, novice clinics. Wakeboard nationals being held in Syracuse, New York. Water testing was not good, only ten people registered. Had to cancel event. NWL nationals is now merged with USA Wakeboard nationals. Unfortunately it's at the same time as the three event nationals. First time we had a rider at the PanAm games who took fourth place. Being recognized by the USOC and the IOC. WWA – World Wakeboard Association is a full fledged corporation that pays officials and riders. This is a direct competition to USA Wakeboard. WWA receives funding from WSIA and World Pub. USA Wakeboard has also received a grant from WSIA.

If anyone knows of a site for CSTV/KCBS to use for the Volleyball/Wakeboard event.

AWSEF

Need replacement for Bob Cosby on USA Educational Foundation.

Nominations – Dave Vogt

Voting is closed for Council, Director, and EVP. Announcement will be made on Thursday at the General Membership meeting. Be prepared for new candidate lists at the winter meeting.

National Committee Reports

Executive – Mike Hayes

Rules – Richelle Matli & Dave Vogt

New buoy rule discussion. Rule states that you have to have a tight line before you get back to the buoy line in order to get the full buoy.

Clarifications on tricks. SS credit, reverse n/c; reverse credit ok. You can get credit for repeating a reverse.

Suggestion to rules committee to consider changing divisions on your birthday.

Judges & Scorers – Carol Boice/Linda Hockenbery

Business as usual. Many proposals made to the committee in an effort to promote more officials. Still looking for balance for quality vs quantity of officials. Senior clinic held this past February in Sacramento that was well attended. Striving for more consistency in clinics.

Question whether an appointed judge should receive credit for events not actually worked.

Carol is taking over Chair of National Judges and Scorers committee. If Linda decides to continue on as the western regional representative, Carol will be a non-voting chair.

WSTIMS has been updated to handle officials a little differently so it should evolve into a more efficient system. Continue using paper back up for now.

Boat Drivers – Pat Rogers

Nothing to report. TC addressed question about publishing boat times on the web. The west is a model of how we should be. We didn't get there by publicly humiliating people. We are going to continue working to support our drivers and improve their skills.

IAC – Barry Young/Frank Harrison

As reported. Barry commented that it seems that the other areas are not used to seeing Western officials at international events. Frank has said that it's difficult to get people to travel. The western region reimburses officials and committee members \$300 for travel expenses to national and international sites.

Technical – Phil Yastrow

Safety – Larry Goodwin

As reported. No national safety issues. Thank you for safety clinics that have been put on in the western region.

Towboat/Speed Control – Will Bush

Zero off discussed in report

Seeding – Laura Johnson

Thanks to everyone for submitting results so quickly. Please contact Laura or Carol if you have trouble submitting results.

Ratings – Jim Kinney

Laura noted that there is discussion about merging seeding and ratings committees because seeding is an appointed committee, not a standing one.

NSL – Kay Goodfellow

Information on grassroots events. They're more relaxed, they have awards. Kay stated that they have five regional level skiers that were introduced via NSL. You set a standard of your own personal best and ski against that. Grassroots link is missing from USAWS. It's on the western regional web page. New coordinator in Colorado who is excited to get the program going there.

HQ hosts a pro/am tournament at the end of the year. This year it follows the US Open. Great trophies and goodie bags.

INT is direct competitor to NSL. They are a corporation that has franchises. They are more expensive to enter because they pay their officials, etc.

By Laws - Jim Lang

Announcers – Brad Hartwell

Tough job to fill. Tom Mecham is here with John Horton announcing. Tom is Chief Announcer at Nationals. Hank Longo has worked for years, and finally has received recognition of announcers as officials. It's a critical piece for a tournament that can really add to the excitement.

National Coaching – John Goodman/Terry Goodman

Not much going on with coaching. More focus on athletes committee.

Junior Development – Charlene Brown

Nominating – TC Boice

Same basic people running. President Jim Grew & Jim Jacquess; VP Bucher and Lyman Hardy.

Awards – Randy Hocking

No activity to report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Brad Stevenson – new four lake ski project being developed in the Buckeye/Phoenix area. They've just become a club, two lakes are complete. Developers have done well selling out first two lakes. They do have an interest in doing larger scale events. Interested in putting on a class C tournament Sunday, October 21 in conjunction with Santan tournament nearby on Saturday. Club was sanctioned after Jan 1st. Like to support this area. Crystal or Lakeside would be the sponsoring club. We're making an exception to the sanctioning process. Brad is motioning that we allow a C class tournament on October 21st. Slalom only. Dave Vogt seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Last year we increased the fees for the Western Region sanctioning. Should we increase, decrease or remain the same? Financial committee will discuss.

Recommendations to Board

Ken Cannon motion to Adjourn. Barry seconded.