

AWSA WESTERN REGION WINTER COUNCIL MEETING

July 23, 2017

Wet Set Village, Newberry Springs, CA

Meeting Minutes

(Version 1.0)

12:20 pm – 2:10 pm

1. Introductions – The following members were present
 - a. Owen Letcher – EVP; Brad Corbin – Area 1; Greg Badal – Area 2; Fred Nason – Area 3; Brian Holm – Area 4, Tad Scharpf- Area 5; Randy Hocking – Area 6; Steve Ware – Area 7; Sam Lee – Area 9; Richelle Muhlitner – Director; Barry Young – Director; Brad Hartwell – Director; Tom Nathan – Judges & Scorer; Will Bush – Towboat & TC; Amy Scharpf – Records; Frank Harrison – HND, Wet Set Village; Mike Hayes – HND; Elaine Bush – HND; Connie Bergmark – HND, USAWS; Ryan Nason – Announcers; Judy Stanford – Seeding; Debbie Badal - Guest
2. Council approval to allow substitutes (for this meeting for non-attending Councilpersons)
 - a. Fred Nason for Tim Vaio, Area 3
 - b. Brian Holm for Larry Laughlin, Area 4
 - c. Tad Scharpf for Randy Grubbs, Area 5
 - d. Randy Hocking for Christine Gulley, Area 6
 - e. Motion by Barry Young, Second by Brad Corbin - Approved
 - f. Establishment of a quorum (12 of 13 voting members present)
3. Assignment of Parliamentarian – Michael Hayes, HND
4. Review and Approval of Minutes from 1/7/2017 Summer Council Meeting – Motion Barry Young, Second by Brad Corbin, Motion approved
5. EVP Report – Owen Letcher provided a verbal report on activities within the first half of the year. Typical traffic and questions from members and skiers.
6. AWSA Presidents Report – Jeff Surdej – President has a list of efforts that are designed to increase participation and membership numbers within the sport and the align the sport with changes in the market and economy.
 - a. 3-2-1 Kampaign for membership growth and participation
 - b. Printed Regional Guides – West Region will maintain the printed guides, as it is a revenue generator for the Region and provides valuable information to all members.
 - c. Mini Course in all lakes – Some parts of the West have mini courses installed, other lake owners may or may not be interested. Jeff would like to see all lake have a mini course and allow events for skiers to use the mini course for points in a GR format. Jeff is working on a scoring system for the mini-course, Connie noted that Collegiate used the mini course with success.
 - d. The Nationals qualifications cutoff date was July 13th, sent out congratulations email to all those that have qualified – West Region prefers to have a score set on a date prior to the Nationals, which will allow a skier to ski at the Nationals and know if a performance qualifies them for the next years Nationals – Recommendation to National Meeting
 - e. EP Ratings versus cut off date on National Ranking List – See note above
 - f. Team Skiing – The West should have 9 teams – The West will have 4 teams this year, Pacific North West, Mountain West, Nor Cal, So Cal – Teams have been set prior to the tournament.
7. Treasurer’s Report 2017 -Tad Scharpf (report attached & verbal report) Thank you for the effort and work involved with the keeping of West Region finance. Information provided in the report.
8. National Executive: Barry Young /Owen Letcher - No additional items to report.
9. Council Area Reports – Area 1 through Area 9
 - a. Area 1 – San Diego ski club hosted event on Mission Bay, which was a great success

- b. Area 2 – Nothing to report
 - c. Area 3 – One added tournament – September 16 & 17, Ball of Spray at Bell Acqua Lake 3
 - d. Area 4 – Nothing to report
 - e. Area 5 – Nothing to report
 - f. Area 6 – Nothing to report
 - g. Area 7 – Nothing to report
 - h. Area 9 – Nothing to report
10. Regional Committee Reports (committee reports come as a motion for approval – second needed)
- a. Regional Awards – Richelle Muhlitner – Award of Merit to be presented at the meeting on Tuesday. Officials award will be voted and presented on Saturday. In the future Richelle and Larry will work on additional awards based upon position in addition to the single award.
 - b. Regional Drivers – Greg Badal – Drivers to submit a video of the 8 highest passes, Record Tournaments shall submit to drop box site.
 - c. Regional Junior Development—Tim Vaio, Randy Hocking & Brett Klinchuch - Randy provided an update, all clinic went well early this year with 3 best of the west camps. Looking for assistance with the junior banquet.
 - d. Regional Guide—Tyler Vaio/Phil Yastrow – no report
 - e. Regional Nominating - Dave Vogt - Results at of the voting will be reported at the General Membership
 - f. Regional Membership – Barry Young – no report
 - g. Regional Records - Amy Scharpf Revised record report submitted for approval – Second Greg Badal, approved.
 - i. Update to the record form was requested to revise the form to remove the requirement of the boat timing graphs, recommendation by Will Bush to provide line for signature by Chief Scorer. Amendment approved by Amy, Second by Brian Holm, Motion passes.
 - h. Regional Webmaster – Louie Vidmar - Discussion around quality and updates not happening to the West Region website. We will look for replacement for Louie to provide updated content and manager the information on the site.
11. 2017 Western Regional -Tournament Update – Wet Set Village (Frank Harrison) – The 2017 Regionals will be dedicated to Dr Jack Horton. All officials will be provided additional briefing later today on the site and activities associated with the Tournament. West Regional has 290 registered skiers which is the largest regional event in the country. Thank You to Frank and the rest of the West Set Village owners for Hosting the Regionals.
12. Western Regional Tournament Bids
- 2018 Regional Tournament Bids – Laku Landing update – Randy Hocking provided an update that all things are coming together for the Regionals next year. Members are pulling together an will have an update at the winter meeting.
 - 2019 Regional Tournament Bids – - No bids have been received
13. 2017 National Tournament – San Marcos River Ranch, San Marcos, Texas
14. 2018 National Tournament - Mystic Lakes, Wichita, Kansas
15. 2019 National Tournament Bids – No known bids received
16. National Committee Reports
- National Announcers: Ryan Nason (report, obviously not his doctoral thesis) – no report
 - National Awards: Randy Hocking (report) – Awards will be presented later in the year
 - National Boat Drivers: Greg Badal (report) - no additional report
 - National Bylaws: No Current representative (Brad Conger) (no report)

- National Coaches: Terry Goodman (no report)
 - National Grassroots: Matt Brandt (no report)
 - National IAC: Mike Hayes – Teams were selected for Can Am U14 and U17 with Blasé Grubbs and Garrett Reese selected. Taylor Garcia, who Mike still claims is from the West, was selected to the Under 21 Team. The Elite Team will be selected later in the year.
 - National Judges & Scorers: Tom Nathan – no items to report
 - National Junior Development: Jim DeVito/Shannon Reese (report attached)
 - National Nominating – Barry Young - no items to report
 - National Rules: Richelle Muhlitner/Dave Vogt Report is included. Three items for discussion Level 10 was postponed due to programming issues, likely will be deferred as a non-critical implementation. Zero Based Scoring (ZBS) has been an experiment, not sure how many are using the rule, below maximum speed does not seem to be an issue, above maximum speed has been the subject of much discussion. West Ok with continued use below maximum speed. Mini Course installed in all lakes, West is not in favor as a three event lake with all the buoys installed is very congested. Alternate mini course boat path is always available by driving between buoys and boat guides. West prefers keeping it out of the rule book and allowing event organizers to drive events as desired.
 - National Safety: Harley Wallace (report submitted)
 - National Skiers Qualification: Brandy Nagle (report submitted)
 - National Technical: Will Bush (report attached) – Submission of the end course video for the Pan Am Council has been requested for Open and Masters divisions. Original request was for entire L & R tournament rides. Depending upon speed of upload this can take a considerable amount of time.
 - National Tournament Seeding: Judy Stanford (report attached) Issues are typical for submission of scorebooks so far this year.
 - National Towboat: Will Bush (report attached) Promo boats are harder to find, we may need to look at alternate formats or other methods to provide boats to events in the future. The programs were designed to sell boats and individual skiers are just not purchasing tournament boats at a large enough volume any longer, many are purchasing as a group or club.
 - USA WS- Connie Bergmark - This year is a census year where membership of all sport divisions is analyzed and the number of voting members is assigned. At the current membership AWSA will drop from 5 members (one from each region) to 2 voting members, the by-laws committee will be responsible for deciding how those votes are split.
17. Other Sports Divisions – No reports provided
- National Collegiate - Harley Wallace & Jeff Rush (no report)
 - Disabled Skiers – Matt Oberholtz (no report)
 - Wakeboard –
 - Show Ski
 - Hydrofoil
 - Kneeboard
 - Barefoot
18. Old Business
- Online Tournament Sanctioning & Payment for 2017 Status---Council
 - a. Changes for 2018 calendar year – no changes are recommended
 - b. Victoria BC date change from 2018 ski year to 2017 ski year (transfer fees)
 - c. Late Tournament Sanction – Ball of Spray, (Area 3) – Approve under the late sanction system that is in place.

- Recommendations for Regional Guide Advertisers for 2018 and 2019 forward to Gina Odegard. – Comment made on the quality of the printing of the adds, very difficult to read some adds, referred to Tyler Vaio for assistance with the next printing of the Guide.
- Team Skiing Regional and National Tournament (Connie Bergmark, West Commissioner) – All four teams have been submitted, with excellent participation in all groups and some great team leaders this year.

19. New Business

- Treasurers Report 2017 – Tad Scharpf – no update from the meeting
- Committee Assignments for 2017/2018 – please forward recommendations to Owen for appointment.
 - a. Regional Nominating Committee -
 - b. National By Laws –
 - c. National Rules Committee for Dave Vogt
 - d. National Technical – Will Bush was assigned
 - e. National Judges & Scorer – Tom Nathan now Chair
- National Summer BOD meeting attendees (Owen Letcher, Barry Young, Richelle Muhlitner, Brad Hartwell) – Owen Letcher is unable to attend due to work requirement, Elaine Bush was appointed to fill in for him at the meeting.
 - a. Committee Chairs Attending – Richelle Muhlitner (Rules); Tom Nathan (Judges & Scorers); Jim DeVito (Junior Development)
- Date and Place of Western Region Mid Winter Meeting
 - i. (time) January 6th
 - ii. (place) Reno NV

20. Recommendations from the Council to the National Directors to present at the National Mid-Winter Meeting on August 8, 2017

- a. **West Region prefers to have a score set on a date prior to the current year Nationals, which will allow a skier to ski at the current year Nationals and know if a performance qualifies them for the next years Nationals – Recommendation to National Meeting**
- b. Provided by Elaine Bush:For example.....I took the current rule and modified it. If the motion were to pass, the Rules Committee would review the entire rule book for other implications.

B. Ranking List Qualifications: a skier may qualify for the NEXT ski year National Tournament in any event or overall by being ranked Level 8 at the Cutoff Date, which is 12:00 am Eastern Time on the first day of the CURRENT year National Tournament.

The rankings average of the last ranked skier in level 8 at that time will be considered the Level 8 Cut Off Average for that event and division (See Ranking List Section of Website for specific details).

A skier may also qualify for Nationals after the Cut Off Date by increasing his Ranking List Average above the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division between the Cut Off Date and the Nationals; or by attaining a score equal to or greater than the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division at the Regional

Tournament or at any class C or above event between the Cut Off Date and the first day of Nationals.

Example---8/9/2017--first day of 2017 Nats. Cut off qualification for 2018 Nationals would be set at 12:00 am on 8/9/2017

Historical Data from Boys 3 Division:

2007 COA – 92.17

2008 COA – 92.83

2009 COA – 89.54

2010 COA – 90.00

2011 COA – 91.17

2012 COA – 91.67

2013 COA – 89.50

2014 COA – 91.33

2015 COA – 90.17

2016 COA – 86.00

2017 COA – 92.17

21. Adjourn @ 2:10 pm

22. Judges & Scorer Meeting – 2:30 pm

