

Western Region Summer Council
Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2008 / Orting, Washington

Call to order: 1:25 pm

1. Introductions
2. Assignment of Parliamentarian
 - Mike Hayes
3. Replacements Meetings
 - Merle Vasbinder motioned for acceptance of replacements for this meeting, Randy Hocking for Stacy Holbert, TC Boice for Ken Cannon, Laura Johnson for Gaile Heieck. Merle amended his motion to Brad Jamison for Ken (so that TC would not have two votes), Tad Scharpf seconded. All in favor.
 - Laura Johnson for Gaile Heieck as Director at the Summer BOD meeting. Tad will sit in for Merle until he takes over at the meeting.
4. Review & Approval of Previous Minutes.
 - Randy motioned, Jay Fitzpatrick seconded. No discussion. All in favor.
5. Treasurer's Report: Tad Scharpf
 - As published
 - Items of note: Best of West camps have not been paid for yet.
 - Running close to budget; expenses are fairly predictable.
 - Summer meeting is one of our major expenses; winter meeting came in quite a bit under budget because of low attendance.
 - Discussion of regional guide going online and associated expense to region for continuing to print it on our own. South and South Central regions plan to eliminate their printed guides. The Western region is strongly in favor of continuing to print the guide. Advertising revenue and printing and mailing expenses will be affected by reduction in guides. Several people have volunteered to look into printing ourselves within the region. The West currently prints approximately 3000 guides each year. This includes non-active members and other sports divisions.
 - TC motioned for acceptance and approval of the Treasurer's report, Brad seconded. All in favor.

Regional Committee Reports

6. Executive Vice President: Barry Young
 - Item of note: C tournaments are now acceptable for obtaining a score past the July 17th cut-off date for Nationals. This is a rule exception.

- TC motioned that the West accepts this “rule exception” however we request that the rules be closely adhered to as possible, Brad seconded. Merle added to the motion with TC’s approval that if you’re going to make a rules exception for the Nationals, remove the rule of no rules exceptions for Nationals. Randy Hocking seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.
7. Regional Records: Connie Morris
 - All records were clear cut, no complications. TC seconded Connie’s motion. All in favor.
 8. Regional Guide: Barry Young & Laura Johnson
 - Some discussion took place during the Treasurer’s report. Headquarters is trying to pull back on expenses and would like to cut the printing of the regional guide and move to a strictly online version.
 - We currently receive a \$5000 rebate from HQ, which may be eliminated in the future.
 - Merle suggested that we put together a committee to investigate printing costs for our own guide for the West. Jay Fitzpatrick volunteered to look into costs and do a survey to region skiers as to their preference for the guide and whether or not they would be willing to pay for postage.
 9. Regional Awards: Gaile Heieck
 - Richelle will be compiling ballot for the Koppert award for tournament officials. Slingerland award nominations will also be accepted by Richelle. Anyone can make a recommendation for a nominee for the Slingerland award.
 - Tom & Heather will each receive their perpetual awards from last year.
 10. Webmasters: Laura Johnson & Phil Yastrow
 - Laura would like to be replaced. She’ll put an ad on the website for such. Larry Goodwin has offered to help.
 11. Regional Junior Development: Lisa Wilson
 - Concern about Junior Development numbers. Entries came in slowly and numbers have picked up. Only 100 sweatshirts were ordered for the kids. There are just enough right now.
 - Barry has established a regional committee for junior development in order to facilitate representation from the various areas in the region. Greg Tate, Steve Garcia, Randy Hocking (or his designee) for Colorado are currently on the committee. He would like the committee to meet face to face Tuesday night and finalize the committee members.
 - Charlene has added that our junior program is growing tremendously.
 12. Regional Tournaments
 - 2008 Ski Park: Scott Vanderflute
 - (a) Thank you to the council for accepting us for the regionals. We’re pleased to be hosting it, it is an honor. We’re as ready as can be and so far the weather is cooperating.

(b) We'd like the council to consider how we register people for the regionals. Entries come in late and it's difficult to plan for the number of participants. The amount of work on the registrar for dealing with qualifications and last minute entries is tremendous. Discussion also to move deadline back earlier or change the late fee to a daily rate instead of a flat \$100 charge. Further discussion about assistance for officials that are volunteering to be here to support the tournament.

(i) Action item: Discuss in January the regional bid package for future years regarding entry fees, etc.

(ii) TC has motioned that the cutoff date for qualification for the Regionals be moved up (earlier) four weeks from the current date. Tad seconded. Richelle commented that most people don't start until June 1st. Barry looked at numbers as they progressed through the summer. Some divisions got more difficult, some got easier. Discussion regarding knowing if you've qualified or not – instant gratification. Also possibly pushes more competition and desire to improve. Three in favor; eleven opposed. Motion failed. Brad would like to motion that we use two weeks, Jay seconded. Four in favor, ten opposed. Motion failed.

(c) Appointed Drivers: Dennis Phillips – not present

(d) Appointed Judges: Brian Holm – not present

- 2009 Laku Landing: Randy Hocking

(e) No issues or concerns at this point.

13. Other Sports Divisions, Etc.

- Wakeboard: Andrea is no longer president. Extends her best wishes for everyone here.

14. National Tournament Officials from the West

- Appointed Judges: Barry Young, Mike Hayes
- Assigned Judges: Richelle Matli, TC Boice
- Assignments Judge: Laura Johnson
- Assistant Chief Judges: Sally Mecham
- Appointed Drivers: Dee Johnson, Wayne Canfield
- Appointed Scorers: Judy Stanford, Martha Selsor
- Appointed Announcer: Tom Mecham

National Committee Reports

15. Executive: TC Boice – as reported.

16. Rules: Richelle Matli and Dave Vogt

- Gate rules have been modified; speed control has its issues.
- Mike Hayes requested clarification regarding use of speed control at regionals. Regionals will follow suit with the nationals; there is no choice of speed control by the

skiers. The South Central region allegedly overrode the BOD decision and is allowing Master Craft users to select their speed control.

- Owen had a question with Richelle's item #3. Owen motioned to recommend to the rules committee that if skier supplied equipment falls outside of the tolerances of the rules, the skier is disqualified from that round. TC seconded. The intent is to provide a specific consequence for the infraction. All in favor.
- Brett Yager's Death and Gordon Rathbun's proposals for safety issues. Discussion that his ideas have merit, but question will they make enough of a difference to make the change. Each skier must accept the inherent risk of the sport and has the ability to modify their own handles within the rules, dropping the handle, etc.

17. Judges & Scorers: Carol Boice

- Thank you to Carol and TC both for their efforts and support in the sport. Carol has decided to retire from the sport. Linda Hockenbery has also indicated her desire to step down from the committee.
- Carol is still wrapping up her responsibilities with the committee. She has made a lot of headway with necessary items and will make tremendous progress in the coming months. She has sent along officials statistics by region.

18. Boat Drivers: Pat Rogers

- Jack Horton has been approved as Driver Emeritus by the committee. Brad Stevenson motioned the recommendation, Owen seconded. All in favor.

19. International Activities: Frank Harrison/Barry Young

- Team Trials: Barry, Mike, Laura and Frank were at the Junior Team Trials. Thank you to the West for sending them. We selected the 17-20 and Junior teams. Quite a bit of controversy with a particular skier who had mono and was unable to ski in the team trials. Policy has been stated that a skier must participate in the team trials to be considered for the team. Calculations factored in against the French team show that the team that was selected for the US was a winning team without this particular skier. It will be added to the agenda for November to discuss whether or not to continue the policy of having to ski in the Team Trials. Right before the Team Trials is not the time to make that policy change.
- Thank you to Frank for his years of service to the IAC for nearly 20 years. He is also retiring from this committee. Mike Hayes has been considered for the replacement on the committee. Frank would like to see him attend the meeting in November and asks the council for the \$300 stipend for travel. TC moved, Tad seconded. All in favor.

20. Technical: Phil Yastrow

- As reported. GPS is going well in Colorado.

21. Safety: Larry Goodwin

- As reported. People are holding on to things they need to let go of, but no way to regulate that.

22. Towboat/Speed Control: Will Bush
 - As reported.
23. National Seeding: Laura Johnson
 - As reported.
24. Skiers Qualifications: Jim Kinney
 - As reported.
25. National Ski League: Kay Goodfellow (no activity to report)
26. By-laws: Jim Lang
 - Nothing to report. The By-laws committee is open to discussing any issues raised by the council.
27. Announcers: Tom Mecham
 - The West is pleased that Tom is now representing us on the National Committee.
28. National Junior Development: Charlene Brown
 - Most Improved awards and National Junior Development team will be selected again this year.
 - They need \$100 from the council for competitor awards.
 - National Pizza party and awards will be held on Thursday night. Volunteers are needed for the event.
 - Request for future regional junior banquets that they are held the same day the kids finish skiing.
29. National Nominating: Barry Young
 - Thank you to Randy Hocking for his years of service to the Region and to the sport.
 - Doug Robbins will be the new Chairman of the Board replacing Jeff Smith.
30. Old Business
 - Discussion regarding winter meeting dates/location
 - i. HQ has asked that we hold the meeting a week later than we've been doing it now. Most are in favor of doing so.
31. New Business
 - Sam Lee would like rule revised for Tricks so that you could video the event and then judge it after the fact in class C events. This would make it more efficient and easier on judging. All of the same rules apply as to review speed, etc. Richelle thinks that there is a provision to do so now. Sam interpreted the rules to be real time/live. Dave recommended just doing a rules exception request for the first year and report back as to how well it's working. Richelle and Dave are unable to find it in the rule book.
32. Action Items
 - Replace Laura on the Web Page; an ad will be placed on the web site.

- Discuss in January the regional bid package for future years regarding entry fees, etc. Create a balance for entry fees, assistance for officials. Also, consider splitting the work crews so there is not a week long commitment for the workers.
- Discuss the regional tournament schedule, move the divisions around the week.

33. Recommendations to National Board of Directors

- TC motioned that the West accepts this “rule exception” however we request that the rules be closely adhered to as possible, Brad seconded. Merle added to the motion with TC’s approval that if you’re going to make a rules exception for the Nationals, remove the rule of no rules exceptions for Nationals. Rule 1.01
- The West would like clarification as to the direction that HQ is going with Regional Guide printing.
- Owen had a question with Richelle’s item #3. Owen motioned to recommend to the rules committee that if skier supplied equipment falls outside of the tolerances of the rules, the skier is disqualified from that round. TC seconded. The intent is to provide a specific consequence for the infraction. All in favor.

34. Motion to adjourn at 4:15 pm by Laura, seconded by Owen.