

**2012 USA Water Ski Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
USA Water Ski Headquarters, Polk City, Florida  
January 28, 2012**

(Minutes recorded by Melanie Hanson and edited by Don Bucher, Jim Grew and Bob Crowley)

**\*\*PENDING USA WATER SKI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' APPROVAL\*\***

**Board Members in Attendance:** Don Bucher – Chair/HND, Jim Grew – President, Tom Ghiloni – VP/HND, Sara Chappell – Secretary/Treasurer, Tarah Benzel Mikacich – AAC Rep, Dave Clark – AWSA MW, Gene Davis – AWSA S, Randy Hocking – AWSA W, Gerry Luiting – NSSA, Bob Mayhew – AWSA SC, Joe Ray – AAC Rep, Doug Robbins – AWSA E, Mike Royal – WSDA, Cheryl Ruston – NWSRA (substitute for Gary Heinbuch), Sherm Schraft – NSSA/HND, Brad Scott – USHA, Keith St. Onge – AAC Rep, Kenny Stuart – AKA, Jeff Surdej – NCWSA, Chris Walker – USA-WB

**Absent:** Rhoni Barton-Bischoff – AAC Rep, Dale Stevens – ABC

**Committee Chairs in Attendance:** Jeff Clark – Bylaws/HND, Tom Ghiloni – Ethics/Nominating/Time & Place, Jim Grew – Executive, Leon Larson – Waterways, Sherm Schraft – Awards/International Activities, Jeff Smith – Judicial/Risk Management

**Honorary National Directors in Attendance (in addition to the above):** None

**Headquarters' Staff in Attendance:** Bob Crowley – Executive Director, Scott Atkinson – Communications Director, Melanie Hanson – Membership Programs Director, Brandon Wolf – Competition Director

**Affiliate Organizations in Attendance:** Larry Meddock – WSIA

**Alternate Board Members in Attendance:** Bonnie Ruston – NWSRA

*All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.*

**1. Opening**

**2. Call to Order**

**3. Announcements, Introductions and Roll Call**

Board members introduced themselves and stated their position on the board.

**4. Appointment of Parliamentarian**

Jeff Clark was appointed as Parliamentarian.

- **Motion** to allow committee chairs, Headquarters' staff and alternate board members to join the meeting – **approved**
- **Motion** to allow any action items coming from committee reports to have an automatic second – **approved**

## 5. Announcement of Quorum and Number of Votes

Jeff Clark, Bylaws Committee Chair, stated that there are no changes to director seating but there are changes to voting allocations. NSSA gained two votes while NCWSA and USA-WB lost a vote each.

## 6. Review and Approval of January 2011 Board Minutes

- **Motion** to accept January 2011 Board minutes – **approved**

## 7. Ratification of Mail Board Ballots

- **Motion** to ratify mail board ballots – **approved**

\*\*\* New directors took their seats

## 8. Bylaws Committee Chair Special Report/Policies and Procedures Review – Jeff Clark, Bylaws Committee Chair

- Action Item #1 – Change 3.15 Sport Discipline Membership Numbers in Table #2 as of 12-31-11**
- Action Item #2 – Update Director Seating Chart to Current Date:** The Directors seating numbers will not change.
- Action Item #3 – Update 3.3.4 Director Vote Allocation Table to Reflect the Votes for the Next Two Years:** NSSA gained two votes while NCWSA and USA-WB lost a vote each.

- **Motion** to accept Action Items 1-3 noted above as presented – **approved**

## 9. Review and Approval of Agenda

Don Bucher requested that the Board allow Jeff Smith, Risk Management/Safety Committee Chair, be allowed to present his committee report at 9:30 a.m.

- **Motion** to accept agenda as amended above – **approved**

## **10.Nominating Committee Report – Tom Ghiloni, Chair**

### **a. Election of Officers**

Chairman of the Board – Don Bucher  
President – Jim Grew  
Vice President – Tom Ghiloni  
Secretary/Treasurer – Sara Chappell

Don Bucher requested nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming.

- **Motion** to approve the slate of officers as presented above – **approved**

### **Honorary National Directors (HNDs)**

Tom Ghiloni stated that there are no new eligible candidates for Honorary National Director this year.

### **b. Seating of New Officers – They were seated.**

## **11 & 12. Former and New President's Report – Jim Grew, President**

Jim thanked USA Water Ski for the awards presentation and asked Bob to pass congratulations on to USA Water Ski staff on a job well done. He once again emphasized the importance of communication, teamwork and transparency and indicated that Bob's predecessor and Bob have run the organization with those principles in mind. There is no lack of information. Jim mentioned the various people who served in the Executive Director position over the past five years. He stated that, for the first time, he feels that USA Water Ski is in good hands with Bob Crowley as our ED and the USA Water Ski staff. We have an Executive Director that is committed to the long haul and has the necessary energy, staff and board support, commitment and knowledge to effectively work towards achieving our goals.

## **13.Executive Committee Report – Jim Grew, Chair**

See above.

## **14.Executive Director's Report – Bob Crowley, Executive Director**

Bob referenced the written reports previously distributed, both the Annual Report provided to the Executive Committee in December and the January Board of Director report packet. Bob thanked Jim for his kind words. He has enjoyed meeting many people in the sport and becoming familiar with the sport. He stated that we have had a number of challenges but have a committed and dedicated staff that works well together.

Bob stated that there have been several changes to the membership categories over the last several years. He asked that the BODs keep membership categories the same so that we can understand the impact the recent changes are actually having. The impact of the change from an annual membership to a 12-month membership has taken a few years to reveal the decision's true impact.

The focus for 2012 is on membership development through camps, ski schools and clubs. We will continue to promote the coaches certification program, support the 2020 Olympic initiative, work with the wake surf folks on connecting with USA Water Ski and make efforts to improve our automation and systems. We have presented a positive budget for 2012.

Larry Meddock from WSIA applauded our efforts with Wake Surf and the American Camp Association (ACA). He also suggested that USA Water Ski look into working with the Christian Camp and Conference Association (CCCA). He stated that WSIA is also working with camps and ski schools but they are not competing with USA Water Ski but rather working together with USA Water Ski.

### **15. Treasurer's Report – Sara Chappell, Treasurer**

Sara referred to the written report included in the BOD packet. Don thanked USA Water Ski for the changes made to the budget presentation layout. It is much easier to read and follow.

- **Motion** to approve the 2012 proposed budget as presented – **approved**

### **16. Committee Reports**

*All committee reports were unanimously approved by the BOD as submitted unless otherwise indicated.*

- Awards** – Sherm Schraft, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Sherm echoed Jim Grew's sentiments regarding the Board Reception and Awards Presentation and commended Headquarters on their efforts.
- Bylaws** – Jeff Clark, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
  - **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the USA Water Ski Policies and Procedures as presented – **approved**

Jeff stated that the revised Policies and Procedures will be posted on USA Water Ski's Web site.

- Ethics** – Tom Ghiloni, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- International Activities** – Frank Harrison, Chair (absent) presented by Jim Grew: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Jim stated that Sherm Schraft will be

taking over as Chair and thanked Frank for his many years of dedicated service on this committee and applauded the 2011 Pan Am Games team members on their overwhelming success with six out of a possible eight gold medals.

e. **Judicial** – Jeff Smith, Chair: No report

f. **Risk Management/Safety** – Jeff Smith, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Randy Melcher from our commercial insurance agency, ESIX, joined the meeting via phone. Jeff Smith thanked the Committee for their efforts in formulating the Risk Management proposal. The impetus for the creation of the proposal was a result of losses incurred through the USA-WS participant accident and liability insurance programs and those incurred by private boat owners using Global Marine Insurance.

Jeff stated that the biggest challenge in defensive litigation is showing that those using a product are trained. It is essential to demonstrate that we have a documented program and improve our safety record which will impact our insurance costs.

It is also important to understand that implementing such a program is not just a reaction to the losses but a necessary improvement to one of our key and most visible programs, especially in this day and age. These revisions will serve us well in promoting our sport and our programs while helping to better guarantee our participants' safety and enhance their enjoyment.

The proposed implementation schedule for the program is as follows:

1. **Driver's Rating Requirements** – effective immediately
2. **Driver Screening** – effective as soon as available for new drivers and on an ongoing basis for currently rated drivers based on their existing renewal periods.
3. **Educational Program Updates** – Sport disciplines with existing driver programs should update their programs and educational materials to reflect these new requirements as soon as possible. Sport disciplines that do not currently have a new program should work to have one created as soon as possible. Headquarters staff will work with each sport discipline to implement the required changes.
4. **Safety Checklist** – Jeff will work with Headquarters staff to update the checklist.
5. **Other Planning Items** – Jeff will work with Scott at Headquarters on updating and expanding the annual safety article that appears in *The Water Skier* magazine in the spring.

WSIA's Larry Meddock stated that our programs should meet or exceed the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) entry level standards. Larry is on the USCG's Power Boat Driving Standards review committee and would be happy to work with USA Water Ski to

dovetail with our programs. He added that the USCG emphasizes “hands-on” training as a requirement versus online training alone. A change of behavior can be accomplished with the motivation to reduce insurance costs. Larry stated that risk management will be a cornerstone at the upcoming summit and encouraged Jeff Smith to attend.

- **Motion** to approve the proposal and implementation schedule as presented – **approved**

**TASKS:**

1. The Risk Management Committee will work with Headquarters, the screening agency and our insurance providers to create the screening criteria for presentation to the BOD for final approval.
  2. Jeff Smith and Headquarters will work with Larry Meddock regarding driving standards and educational materials to insure that USA Water Ski’s programs meet or exceed U.S. Coast Guard standards.
  3. HQ and the SD boards will publicize the changes to our driving program and educate our members as to the necessity of these new requirements using e-blasts to members, clubs and drivers, an Executive Director magazine editorial and an article by Jeff Smith.
  4. Jeff Smith will consider the feasibility of publishing previously litigated incidents, to the extent appropriate, to educate our membership on situations that have occurred in the past and how to avoid them in the future. Also emphasis will be placed on how such incidents affect our insurance premiums and how requirements such as those outlined in the risk management proposal work to reduce the number of claims, or at the very least, aide our litigation ability.
  5. Further cultivate relationships at the national and state governmental levels, especially the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA).
- g. Time & Place** – Tom Ghiloni, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- **Motion** for the annual Board of Director’s meeting be held at 8:00 a.m. on the Sunday of the weekend before the Super Bowl at USA Water Ski Headquarters in Polk City, FL indefinitely and the Time and Place Committee be dissolved – **approved**

Jeff Clark suggested that the BOD leave the committee in place and just appoint the committee each year as needed.

- h. **Towboat** – George Lindy, Chair (absent): The written report was included in the BOD packet. Jim reminded the SD presidents that this committee is there to assist them with their towboat programs if and when needed. George has gained a wealth of expertise and experience over the years.
- i. **USOC Centralized Funding/USOC Status** – Frank Harrison, NGB/USOC Representative (absent) and Rhoni Barton-Bischoff, AAC/USOC Representative (absent): The written report was included in the BOD packet. Jim Grew stated that Rhoni will have served as the USOC representative for eight years and will be stepping down this year. Jim thanked both her and Frank for their service.
- j. **Waterways** – Leon Larson, Chair: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Leon thanked IWWF for their support as they have paid for him to attend various key meetings (i.e., WSIA, NMMA, etc.) to keep current on waterways issues and let the attendees know that IWWF is working on these issues. Leon asked that everyone support the Cable Wakeboard initiative to join the Olympics as that would provide a great financial boost to USA Water Ski.
- k. **GrassRoots Advisory Task Force** – Brandi Hunt, Chair (absent) presented by Brandon Wolf, USA Water Ski Director of Competition: The written report was included in the BOD packet.

## 17. Sports Disciplines' and Related Organizations' Reports

- a. **Athlete Advisory Council (AAC)** – Freddy Krueger, Chair (absent) presented by Jim Grew: Jim stated that the biggest problem that Freddy has encountered this year is trying to get the next generation of athletes to step up to replace those that have served for many years. Future AAC meetings will be held via Webinar or Skype. Jim stated that it is important that the athletes have representation on the various boards and become a part of the governance process. Their participation and input to date have proven invaluable and are very much appreciated.
- b. **American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF)** – Paul Chapin, President (absent) presented by Jim Grew: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Jim Grew answered questions regarding the lake and headquarters facilities. He invited everyone to attend the upcoming Hall of Fame activities in April.
- c. **Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA)** – Larry Meddock, Executive Director: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Larry encouraged Leon and others to establish relationships at the state level – NASBLA. These relationships will give you the most “bang” for your buck and allow you to have the most impact on your sport with regard to life jackets, etc. WSIA has a booth at NASBLA and invited USA Water Ski to share its booth.

- d. **American Kneeboard Association (AKA)** – Kenny Stuart, President: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- e. **USA Wakeboard (USA-WB)** – Chris Walker, President: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Chris stated that USA-WB will be working with IWWF and the cable parks to try to get them involved and determine their needs. We will also continue to work to try to provide an insurance product for these parks.

Bob stated that WSIA is also working with the cable parks on risk management, safety and best practices. Larry stated that as long as USA-WS markets itself as a water ski organization vs. a wakeboard organization (i.e., name change), wakeboarders are not going to get on board. Larry stated that USA Water Ski must be prepared to reinvent itself. WSIA has done so and is reaping the benefits. A name change is a huge step in the right direction.

- f. **American Barefoot Club (ABC)** – Dale Stevens (absent): The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- g. **National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA)** – Jeff Surdej, National Chairman: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- h. **National Show Ski Association (NSSA)** – Gerry Luiting, President: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- i. **National Water Ski Racing Association (NWSRA)** – Gary Heinbuch (absent) presented by Cheryl Ruston: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
- j. **Water Skiers with Disabilities Association (WSDA)** – Mike Royal (President): The written report was included in the BOD packet. Mike stated that WSDA has an interest in participating in camp and ski school programs and asked to be consulted. Jim congratulated them on their awards the previous evening.
- k. **U.S. Hydrofoil Association (USHA)** – Brad Scott: The written report was included in the BOD packet. Hydrofoil was recognized by the Canadian and German water ski federation. Date and location for Nationals are July 20-22 in High Point, NC. Jim stated that USA-WS will work with USHA on ways to increase their participation.

Bob Mayhew stated that we did not want to lose these Fly-In memberships, or any potential members for that matter; and USA-WS should definitely revisit the one time \$10 Guest Membership fee to ascertain whether a compromise of some sort is possible. Others at the meeting supported this suggestion.

**TASK:** HQ will review possible implementation of a \$10 one time Guest Membership fee or some version of it and report back to the EC.

- l. American Water Ski Association (AWSA)** – Gene Davis, President: The written report was included in the BOD packet.
  
- m. Pan Am and IWSF Updates** – Jim Grew, IWSF VP: The written reports were included in the BOD packet. Jim again noted that there are more international federations that have changed their name to embrace wakeboard.

## **18. Old Business**

## **19. New Business**

Dave Clark asked that we review how our current membership system represents our sport disciplines. We currently offer members two sport discipline preferences and use the first discipline choice in determining membership participation and sport discipline funding. Dave displayed a graph outlining NCWSA participation versus membership statistics in an effort to show that our current membership system does not accurately reflect sport discipline participation as many members participate in more than one discipline.

Dave proposed that, in addition to our current system of recording a primary and secondary sport discipline choice, we modify our current membership system to allow members to check each sport discipline in which they plan to participate. This system would give us a more accurate reflection of participation. HQ could monitor these statistics and use this historical information to determine if we want to modify our current statistical and voting calculations. Bob stated that this could provide us with a more accurate picture, which could assist us in working with sponsors.

**TASK:** Dave will work with HQ Staff on implementation of this task.

## **ADJOURN**

- **Motion** to adjourn at 12:05 p.m. – **approved.**



**2012 Board of Directors Meeting  
USA Water Ski Headquarters, Polk City, Florida  
8 AM, January 29  
Final Agenda**

1. Opening
2. Call to Order
3. Announcements, Introductions & Roll Call
4. Appointment of Parliamentarian
5. Announcement of Quorum and Number of Votes (#2)
6. Review and Approval of January 2011 Board Minutes (#3)
7. Ratification of Mail Board Ballots
  - Note: New directors may take their seats.
8. Bylaws Committee Chair Special Report - Policies and Procedures Review: (#4)
  - a. Membership numbers for 2011 (3.1.5)
  - b. Director seating allocations for 2012-13 (3.2.5)
  - c. Sport Discipline Vote allocations for 2012-13 (3.3.4)
9. Review and Approval of Agenda (#1)
10. Nominating Committee Report (#5)
  - a. Election of Officers
  - b. Seating of new Chairman, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer
11. Former President's Report - year in review (Verbal Report)
12. New President's Report - looking forward to 2012 (Verbal Report)
13. Executive Committee Report (Previously distributed - verbal updates)
14. Executive Director's Report (Previously distributed - verbal updates)
15. Treasurer's Report (#6)
  - a. 2011 Year End Review
  - b. 2012 Proposed Budget
16. Committee/Task Force Reports:
  - a. Awards (#7)
  - b. Bylaws (#8)
  - c. Ethics (#9)
  - d. International Activities (#10)
  - e. Judicial (no report)
  - f. Risk Management/Safety (#11)
  - g. Time & Place (#12)
  - h. Towboat (#13)
  - i. USOC AAC (#14)
  - j. Waterways (#15)
  - k. GrassRoots Advisory Task Force (#16)

17. Sports Disciplines and Related Organizations Report

- a. Athlete Advisory Council (**Verbal Report**)
- b. AWSEF (**#17**)
- c. Water Sports Industry Association (**#18**)
- d. American Kneeboard Association (**#19**)
- e. USA Wakeboard (**#20**)
- f. American Barefoot Club (**#21**)
- g. National Collegiate Water Ski Association (**#22**)
- h. National Show Ski Association (**#23**)
- i. National Water Ski Race Association (**#24**)
- j. Water Skiers with Disabilities Association (**#25**)
- k. U. S. Hydrofoil Association (**#26**)
- l. American Water Ski Association (**#27**)
- m. Pan Am and IWWF Updates (**#28**)

18. Old Business

19. New Business

Adjourn

11.9.11-JG/DB



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USA Water Ski Headquarters, Polk City, Florida  
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30. USA Water Ski Membership – Final 12/31/2011
31. USA Water Ski Membership by State and Sport Discipline
32. USA Water Ski Sport Discipline Funding – Final 12/31/2011
33. 2011 Sport Discipline Donations – Final 12/31/2011
34. USA Water Ski Event Statistics
35. USA Water Ski Sponsor List

January 5, 2012

To: USA-WS Board of Directors

From: Jeff Clark, Chair USA-WS Bylaws Committee

Re: Agenda Item # 5 - Report of the 2010-11 Voting Allocations

**BASED ON 12/31/2009 MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS, WHICH IS USED IN THE FORMULA TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF VOTES ALLOCATED TO EACH SPORT DISCIPLINE.**

Sport Discipline	Actual	/ Total Members	X 79 =	Vote Calculation	Votes
ABC	622	/ 19550	X 79 =	2.5	2
AKA	196	/ 19550	X 79 =	0.8	1
AWSA	9687	/ 19550	X 79 =	39.1	39
NCWSA	1147	/ 19550	X 79 =	4.6	5
NSSA	5360	/ 19550	X 79 =	21.7	22
NWSRA	561	/ 19550	X 79 =	2.3	2
USA-WB	1566	/ 19550	X 79 =	6.3	6
USHA	306	/ 19550	X 79 =	1.2	1
WSDA	105	/ 19550	X 79 =	0.4	1
Total	19550			79	79

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Clark, Chair

**2011 USA Water Ski Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**USA Water Ski Headquarters, Polk City, Florida**  
**January 29, 2011**

**(Minutes recorded by Melanie Hanson and edited by Don Bucher, Jim Grew and Bob Crowley)**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Rhoni Barton-Bischoff – AAC Rep, Don Bucher – Chair, Sara Chappell – Secretary/Treasurer, Dave Clark – AWSA MW, Gene Davis – AWSA S, Tom Ghiloni – VP/HND, Jim Grew – President, Randy Hocking – AWSA W, Mike King – NWSRA (substitute for Gary Heinbuch), Gerry Luiting – NSSA, Bob Mayhew – AWSA SC, Joe Ray – AAC Rep, Doug Robbins – AWSA E, Mike Royal – WSDA, Sherm Schraft – NSSA/HND, Brad Scott – USHA, Dale Stevens – ABC, Kenny Stuart – AKA, Jeff Surdej – NCWSA, Chris Walker – USA-WB (incoming)

**Absent:** John Haile – AAC Rep, Alex Lauretano – AAC Rep

**Committee Chairs in Attendance:** Jeff Clark – Bylaws/HND, Tom Ghiloni – Ethics/Nominating/Time & Place, Jim Grew – Executive, Leon Larson – Waterways, Sherm Schraft – Awards

**Honorary National Directors in Attendance (in addition to the above):** C.W. Lowe, Roger Hammel

**Headquarters' Staff in Attendance:** Bob Crowley – Executive Director, Melanie Hanson – Membership Programs Director, Brandon Wolf – Competition Director, Scott Atkinson – Communications Director

**Affiliate Organizations in Attendance:** Larry Meddock – WSIA, Carole Lowe - AWSEF

**Alternate Board Members in Attendance:** Jim Chismar – USHA

*All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.*

## **1. Opening**

## **2. Call to Order**

## **3. Announcements, Introductions and Roll Call**

Board members introduced themselves and stated their position on the board. Jim Grew noted that two AAC reps were not in attendance and asked the sport disciplines to let their AAC reps know to contact the AAC Chair if they are unable to attend so that there is adequate time for the Chair to find a replacement.

Members of the Board signed the annual Code of Conduct agreement during the meeting.

#### 4. Appointment of Parliamentarian

Jeff Clark was appointed as Parliamentarian.

- **Motion** to allow committee chairs, Headquarters' staff and alternate board members to join the meeting – **approved**
- **Motion** to allow any action items coming from committee reports to have an automatic second – **approved**

#### 5. Announcement of Quorum and Number of Votes

Jeff Clark, Bylaws Committee Chair, stated that, since we are in the second year of a two-year period, there are no changes to the voting distribution.

#### 6. Review and Approval of January 2010 Board Minutes

- **Motion** to accept January 2010 Board minutes – **approved**

#### 7. Ratification of Mail Board Ballots

- **Motion** to ratify mail board ballots – **approved**  
\*\*\* New directors took their seats

#### 8. Review and Approval of Agenda

- **Motion** to accept agenda – **approved**

#### 9. Nominating Committee Report – Tom Ghiloni, Chair

##### a. Election of Officers

Chairman of the Board – Don Bucher

President – Jim Grew

Vice President – Tom Ghiloni

Secretary/Treasurer – Sara Chappell

Don Bucher requested nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming.

- **Motion** to approve the slate of officers as presented above – **approved**

### **Honorary National Directors (HNDs)**

Tom Ghiloni stated that, since the date of his report, it had come to his attention that two candidates have become eligible for Honorary National Director status, as follows (Don was actually eligible earlier but was overlooked with apologies):

Dan Levine (USA-WB)

Don Bucher (AWSA – MW)

- **Motion** to approve the Honorary National Directors as presented above – **approved**

**b. Seating of New Officers** – They were seated.

### **10 & 11. Former and New President's Report – Jim Grew, President**

Jim thanked Headquarters for their efforts last night at the Board Reception and Awards Presentation and congratulated them on a great choice of venue.

Jim stated that, when Steve Locke came on board, we changed how we operated to be more of a team among the Executive Director, the President, the Executive Committee and HQ staff. He stressed the importance of communication and transparency and added that our new Executive Director strongly agrees with this approach. Regular communications to the Board include the Monthly Communiqué, P&L and Membership YTD financial updates every two months, specific agenda e-blasts and general e-mail updates along with the extensive post USA-WS Executive Committee meeting packets.

Jim requested that we would all benefit from better “two-way communication,” meaning that there should be more timely responses from Board members to assist in formulating policies, procedures and programs. Any requested information should be provided by the deadline or the intended recipient (s) should at least be notified as to when such information would be forthcoming.

Jim noted that the board meeting and December Executive Committee packets were very complete. However, he was disappointed with the response from the sport disciplines with regard to submitting their reports and other expected information on time. Jim stated that he understands that everyone is a volunteer; but, in this day and age of electronic communication, there is really no reason for not communicating. Jim asked that, in the future, sport discipline representatives and committee chairs let us know if they cannot submit their report by the posted deadline and when they expect to submit them. Jim added that, for example, only two of the nine sport disciplines had submitted their committee assignments by the deadline, assignments effective as of this meeting. Jim also requested that communication be improved with regard to board meeting and banquet attendance so that Headquarters can insure there is adequate space and food for everyone.

## 12. Executive Committee Report – Jim Grew, Chair

Refer to written report included in the BOD packet.

**Club Dues Increase:** During discussions, Brad Scott suggested that GrassRoots clubs be allowed to maintain the \$75 club affiliation rate and Gerry Luiting suggested that there be a reduced rate for first-time clubs in an effort to encourage participation. There was no forthcoming motion that received a second.

- **Motion** to approve the club dues increase from \$75 to \$100 for 2012 as presented – **approved** (2 opposed - Brad Scott, USHA and Gerry Luiting, NSSA)

**Membership Dues Increase:** The proposal was clarified to show that the Ambassador membership is still available for purchase for \$500 (without insurance) and that this fee will not increase for 2012.

Rhoni proposed that Foreign Federation Active (insurance only) membership also be increased from \$40 to \$50 for 2012.

- **Motion** to approve the membership fee increase for Foreign Federation Active (WLA) members from \$40 to \$50 for 2012 – **approved**
- **Motion** to approve the membership dues increase for 2012 as presented with the clarification noted above – **approved** (1 opposed - Brad Scott, USHA)

Jim Grew stated that it is important to note that membership income is not always directly related to what a member receives for his membership dues. We have \$75,000 in donations for the grassroots, affinity and basic skills programs. USA Water Ski cannot afford to count on donations to fund its programs into the future. Membership dues are applied toward these developmental programs as an investment in our future and to increase membership which in turn will allow HQ to obtain and offer more benefits for USA-WS members.

There was discussion about the benefits for the current Guest membership category. A proposal for a Guest member to be allowed a one time competition entry will be prepared and presented to the Executive Committee at its April 2011 meeting.

**Building Operational Expenses Cap:** Jim stated that USA Water Ski is respectfully requesting the ability to renegotiate the 20-year contract/lease (expiring in 2019) as outlined in this proposal, or at least some aspects of the contract/lease, with AWSEF.

- **Motion** to approve the renegotiation of the lease and discuss inclusion of a \$60,000 cap on building operational expenses as presented – **approved**

Dave Clark gave a brief summary of the affinity (charter membership) program scheduled to launch in March 2011 for those board members not present at previous meetings over the course of the weekend.

### **13.Executive Director's Report – Bob Crowley, Executive Director**

Refer to written report included in the BOD packet. Bob stated that major emphasis will be placed on membership growth, reestablishing USA Water Ski's position as the authoritative source for information about the sport and moving the organization forward from an image standpoint. In the upcoming year, Headquarters will launch the Affinity Membership Program test and work closely with Brandi Hunt to revitalize the Basic Skills Challenge Series for all sport disciplines. A revised, expanded Level 1 Instructor program will be available online in 2011 as well with Coaches Liability Insurance offered at the very affordable rate of \$30/year. He added that Headquarters' role is to create programs and tools that allow the boards, clubs and sport disciplines to help them but that Headquarters alone cannot implement these programs. The boards and sport disciplines must actively support them and take them to their members.

Bob also noted that sponsorship and fundraising are key to our success and that he and Steve Upp are working with a professional marketing firm in trying to establish interest in USA Water Ski in the non-endemic market.

Bob complimented the entire staff on their dedication and hard work.

Jeff Clark asked about the status of the suggestion to add industry representation to the Board of Directors. He clarified that such action would not require a bylaws change, rather only a board vote, for seating at the next meeting. It was recommended that this topic be addressed under "New Business."

### **14.Treasurer's Report – Sara Chappell, Treasurer**

Refer to written report included in the BOD packet.

- **Motion** to approve the 2011 proposed budget as presented – **approved**

### **16.Committee Reports**

*All committee reports were unanimously approved by the BOD as submitted unless otherwise indicated.*

- a. **Awards** – Sherm Schraft, Chair: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Sherm echoed Jim Grew's sentiments regarding the Board Reception and Awards Presentation and commended Headquarters on their efforts.

b. **Bylaws** – Jeff Clark, Chair: Review written report included in the BOD packet.

- **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the USA Water Ski Bylaws as presented – **approved**
- **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the USA Water Ski Policies and Procedures as presented – **approved**

Jeff stated that the Bylaws will be posted on USA Water Ski's Web site with proposed changes noted. These changes will become effective on April 1, 2011 unless a referendum is called per Article XI – Amendments of the USA-WS Bylaws. The revised Policies and Procedures will be posted on USA Water Ski's Web site.

Rhoni thanked Jeff for his efforts on this important but difficult and never-ending task.

c. **Ethics** – Tom Ghiloni, Chair: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Code of Conduct was signed by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting.

d. **International Activities** – Frank Harrison, Chair (absent) presented by Jim Grew: Review written report included in the BOD packet.

- **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the Skier's Code of Conduct as presented – **approved**
- **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the 2011 Pan American Games Athlete Selection Procedures for USA Wakeboard as presented – **approved**

It was noted in the USA Wakeboard meetings that there would be a change of selected venue and designated qualifying event that will serve as the qualifying event for the Pan American Games. This will not require approval by the Board of Directors since the process, other than the venue, will not change.

- **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the 2011 Pan American Games Athlete Selection Procedures for the American Water Ski Association as presented – **approved**

Rhoni requested that further wording changes be made to the U.S. Team Agreement proposal. She will work with Jim Grew to make the revisions and present the proposal to the Board for approval at a later time.

- **Motion** to postpone Item 4 of the International Activities Committee report until revised language can be crafted and presented later in this meeting.– **approved**

- e. **Judicial** – Jeff Smith, Chair (absent): Review written report included in the BOD packet. Bob Mayhew questioned where the funds would come from to defend us in the case of an Article IX lawsuit and whether our current liability policy would cover these fees in this instance.

**TASK: Headquarters will look into whether our existing insurance policies cover an Article IX challenge and associated arbitration costs and, if not, whether it would be advisable to purchase appropriate insurance for this purpose.**

- f. **Risk Management/Safety** – Jeff Smith, Chair (absent) presented by Leon Larson: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Brad Scott noted that USA Water Ski has again submitted a grant request to the U.S. Coast Guard for funds to create an online safety certification program. USA-WS also applied for this grant last year and was encouraged to apply again. Brandon Wolf, Competition Director, thanked Brad Scott for his hard work in preparing the grant request.
- g. **Time & Place** – Tom Ghiloni, Chair: Review written report included in the BOD packet.
- **Motion** to approve Jan. 27, 2013 as the date for the 2013 USA-WS BOD Meeting, to be held at USA-WS Headquarters in Polk City, FL – **approved**
- h. **Towboat** – George Lindy, Chair (absent): Review written report included in the BOD packet.

Sherm Schraft stated that it was discussed in AWSA's board meeting yesterday that both private and promotional boat owners with individual boat insurance coverage may not be covered during tournaments and other events. Many policies have exclusions for tournament use. Global Marine Insurance has created specific policies without those exclusions that cover boat use in sanctioned tournaments and events. Boat owners should verify that their coverage applies for these types of events. Many other insurance carriers exclude coverage for commercial use or for use during a tournament in the fine print.

**TASK: Headquarters will communicate to its sports disciplines and membership about this insurance issue. Headquarters and the various sport discipline boards need to increase awareness of this potential situation so that boat owners and tournament organizers are not caught by surprise should the unexpected arise.**

Gerry Luiting stated that the board packet contains a list of "USA Water Ski approved tournament towboats" but only lists those approved for AWSA, WSDA and NCWSA among perhaps other sport disciplines. He questioned whether this presents an issue for boats used in NSSA tournaments that are not listed.

**TASK: Headquarters will work with ESIX and the Risk Management Committee to determine how this listing should be presented on paper so that those boats not listed (e.g., NSSA's) are still considered approved towboats.**

Gerry also requested that Headquarters share any potential changes to towboat documentation policies with NSSA and the other sport disciplines before implementation as such changes can have a huge impact on NSSA. Each show ski team can bring as many as 12 boats to a tournament, many of which may not be on the USA Water Ski approved list. The list presented in the Board packet should be revised to apply to the appropriate sport disciplines.

It was emphasized that all event organizers be sure to obtain certificates of insurance for all boats being used in a tournament.

- i. **USOC Centralized Funding/USOC Status** – Frank Harrison, NGB/USOC Representative (absent) and Rhoni Barton-Bischoff, AAC/USOC Representative: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Rhoni added that USADA is making efforts to be more athlete-friendly with those in the testing pools.
- j. **Waterways** – Leon Larson, Chair: Review written report included in the BOD packet. There are about 20 issues regarding waterway rights and privileges currently occurring in states around the country.

Leon Larson also requested that Brandon Wolf attend the NMMA meeting in Washington DC in April. Leon typically attends but is unable to attend this year.

## **16. Sports Disciplines' and Related Organizations' Reports**

- a. **Athlete Advisory Council (AAC)** – Freddy Krueger, Chair (absent) presented by Rhoni Barton-Bischoff: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Rhoni stated that, although not included in the AAC report, there are several housekeeping changes consistent with those proposed and approved for USA Water Ski's Policies and Procedures that need to be made to the AAC Policies and Procedures as well to make all documents consistent.
  - **Motion** to approve housekeeping changes to the AAC Policies and Procedures consistent with those proposed for USA-WS's Policies and Procedures (i.e., deleting the words "Olympic and Paralympics" and replacing "Pan Am" with "Pan American") without a formal written proposal – **approved** (1 opposed – Dale Stevens, ABC)

Rhoni requested that all sport disciplines encourage athlete participation on the AAC. There has been a small group of athletes who have, for the most part, single handedly shouldered the responsibility of athlete representation on boards and committees for

many years. Jim Grew added that both barefoot and wakeboard have now added representatives (Keith St. Onge and Tarah Mikacich, respectively) to the AAC.

- b. **American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF)** – Carole Lowe, Executive Director: Review written report included in the BOD packet.
- c. **Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA)** – Larry Meddock, Executive Director: Review written report included in the BOD packet.

Don Bucher thanked Larry for his attendance at the meeting and conveyed how much USA Water Ski appreciates his valuable input. Larry thanked USA Water Ski for again sponsoring WSIA's 2011 Summit in the Snow to be held Feb. 28 through March 2, 2011 in Park City, Utah. He stated that attendance for the summit is on pace and that WSIA is approximately four participants away from meeting budget. He added that non-endemic sponsors are not exactly breaking down USA Water Ski's door and that, as a result, USA Water Ski must largely rely on industry sponsorship. Larry noted that attendance at the Summit is a great opportunity to solicit industry sponsorship and encouraged board members to attend.

Other items discussed:

- **Visibility and Membership Development:** Visibility of towed water sports and consequently USA-WS are diminishing with the construction of private sites. Board members agreed and cited towed water sports opportunities open to the public that have never heard of USA Water Ski. It was suggested that, when such an instance occurs, board members make an attempt to educate these entities on who we are and what we do and to also encourage them to become affiliated with WakeScout. Leads can also be passed on to USA Water Ski for subsequent contact and follow-up.

A suggestion was also made to contact towboat manufacturers for a list of summer camps for which they provide towboats in an effort to educate these camps about USA Water Ski and joining our organization. Melanie Hanson, Membership Director, stated that revitalized programs will be created in 2011 for launch in 2012 which will incorporate the Level 1 Instructor certification, Instructor/Coach Liability Insurance and the Basic Skills Challenge Series. USA Water Ski will be affiliating with ACA (American Camping Association) to gain access to the mailing lists of summer camps offering towed water sports programs to allow for direct marketing of our programs in 2012.

WSIA is very actively working with the Coast Guard on mandatory life jacket issues. WSIA and Bonnier have collectively have applied for a \$1M grant to address boater safety.

Another suggestion to increase visibility was to distribute USA Water Ski information with all new towboats and towed water sports equipment.

Larry Meddock and Joe Ray also stressed the importance and potential impact of using social media such as Facebook and Twitter to increase USA Water Ski's visibility.

Other than the last one, these suggestions are not new. It is primarily a question of funding. As our new programs take effect building our membership, we will be able to put one or more of these suggestions into place over the next few years. HQ is already using Facebook and Twitter to a degree, but more involvement is needed; and, since the cost is limited, perhaps this undertaking is immediately viable.

**TASK: HQ will study these suggestions and implement these and others as funding and staff time allow.**

- **Waterways Issues:** The increase of waterways issues involving wakeboarding and shore erosion was discussed and echoed by Leon Larson, Waterways Committee Chair. Larry added the only solution to shore erosion is to increase the boat's distance from shore.
- **Boat U.S.:** Larry stated that most towed water sports enthusiasts are affiliated with Boat U.S. and that soliciting a Boat U.S. mailing list singling out towed water sports would be an excellent lead for USA Water Ski's new Affinity Program.

**TASK: HQ will solicit Boat U.S. for such a mailing list as we further develop the Affinity program.**

- d. **American Kneeboard Association (AKA)** – Kenny Stuart, President: Review written report sent out separately. Leon Larson congratulated AKA on for hosting the sole sustainable tournament in USA-WS (carbon neutral).
- d. **USA Wakeboard (USA-WB)** – Chris Walker, President: Review written report included in the BOD packet.

The Collegiate Wakeboard Championships will once again be conducted in San Diego as part of the Alt Games with Shannon Starling (WWA) partnering in offering support to the event.

There was considerable discussion about the future of USA-WB, but the challenges enumerated have remained unchanged over the years. It was suggested that USA-WS and USA-WB not only continue to promote its GrassRoots program but also try to involve some of the pros in this program and others as well, development from the bottom up but also from the top down.

Board members that are also water ski site owners were asked whether they have made an effort to embrace wakeboarders at their sites. Bob Mayhew responded that many of the current water ski sites were not constructed with wakeboarders in mind and, as a result, cannot adequately host wakeboard events. However, new sites are being constructed to accommodate both water skiers and wakeboarders which is a step in the right direction.

- f. **American Barefoot Club (ABC)** – Dale Stevens: Review written report sent out separately.
- g. **National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA)** – Jeff Surdej, National Chairman: Jim Grew stated that he forwarded NCWSA's written report on to the Board via e-mail yesterday.
- h. **National Show Ski Association (NSSA)** – Gerry Luiting, President: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Gerry stated that NSSA is getting closer to achieving their goal of international show ski competition and that the first event could potentially take place as soon as 2012. China is very active and has now become truly competitive and Australia will be hosting their first national event this year comprised of four teams. He added that NSSA would welcome assistance from other sport disciplines in developing international rules for show skiing.

Gerry stated that NSSA is placing emphasis on developing its south central and western regions which have been virtually nonexistent. Gerry strongly encouraged board members to attend the Wisconsin Water Ski Convention & Expo (WWSC&E) to be held February 25-27, 2011 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. WWSC&E represents all sport disciplines and attendance is expected to be approximately 1,800.

- i. **National Water Ski Racing Association (NWSRA)** – Gary Heinbuch, President (absent) presented by Mike King: Mike apologized for not submitting a report but stated that a report will be forthcoming for HQ to distribute. He stated that the economy has significantly impacted NWSRA; and, as a result, they have reduced the size of their board and are working to improve communication and marketing between the competitive and social sides of the sport. There is only a small group of hard core racers, and they will be providing more attention to the social aspects of the sport. NWSRA is also working toward hosting the 2013 Worlds in the U.S.
- j. **Water Skiers with Disabilities Association (WSDA)** – Mike Royal: Review written report included in the BOD packet. The 2011 World Championships will be held in West Chester, Ohio August 25-28, but WSDA is still looking for a site to conduct the Nationals.
- j. **U.S. Hydrofoil Association (USHA)** – Brad Scott: Review written report included in the BOD packet. Brad welcomed USHA's new president, Jim Chismar, and introduced him to the board. Brad complimented Brandon Wolf and Brandi Hunt on their efforts on the GrassRoots Series but stated that they alone cannot promote and grow the program. It

will take the efforts of all the sport disciplines and their constituents to make the GrassRoots Series successful.

Brad noted that USHA's grassroots membership has dropped significantly due to the fact that many people participate in only one event per year and are not willing to pay the required \$35 for just one event. The elimination of the use of Guest memberships at GrassRoots events has negatively impacted participation. In addition, Brad has received feedback from event organizers that sanctioning and registration are too much of a hassle and involve too much expense. As a result, some clubs are not planning to sanction their events in 2011. USHA's "Fly-in" events are sanctioned as "GrassRoots Fun Events" rather than as tournaments anyway.

The sport disciplines echoed Brad's sentiments on the elimination of Guest memberships at GrassRoots events and assigned the following tasks to HQ:

**TASK: Headquarters will look into better defining a "GrassRoots Fun Event" and the feasibility of offering Guest memberships at these events only or possibly sanctioning them as exhibitions. This task will include better definitions for all the various offerings available to members before participation in an actual, sanctioned tournament, i.e., ski show exhibition, fun event, clinic, Grassroots event, etc. and the types of memberships required to participate in any of these "pre-standard" tournament offerings.**

**TASK: Headquarters will investigate the feasibility of reinstating or reincorporating the Guest membership for GrassRoots events (on a one use basis) and present a proposal to the USA-WS Executive Committee for consideration at its April 2011 meeting. The proposal should adequately address areas of concern which originally prompted the elimination of Guest memberships at GrassRoots events and also provide adequate tracking mechanisms to monitor Guest members and whether they upgrade to other membership types.**

**TASK: In the future, the GrassRoots Advisory Task Force/Committee will be added to the USA-WS board meeting agenda under "Committee Reports."**

- i. American Water Ski Association (AWSA)** – Gene Davis, President: Review written included in the BOD packet.
- m. Pan Am and IWSF Updates** – Jim Grew, IWSF VP: Review written reports included in the BOD packet.

## **18. Old Business**

Revise Item #4 (U.S. Team Agreement) of the International Activities report as noted below with change highlighted in yellow:

“The Team Member recognizes that the foremost goal of the team is a team victory and that he may be asked not to exceed, for example, a preliminary round score in the finals as long as such a performance does not prejudice his chance of winning a gold medal that he would otherwise win.”

- **Motion** to approved the proposed changes to the U.S. Team Agreement as amended above – **approved**

The U.S. Team Agreement will be revised as noted above distributed with the board meeting minutes.

## **19.New Business**

There was a request by a manufacturer to add a seat on the USA-WS Board for an individual manufacturer. Larry Meddock stated that he would not suggest allowing a single manufacturer to sit on the USA-WS for obvious reasons. WSIA representation as a single non-voting member was adequate.

Melanie Hanson, Membership Director, stated that changes have been made to USA Water Ski’s Practice and Exhibition sanctioning procedures and that sanctioning may now be accomplished online through club’s Members-Only section of the Web site. For 2011 and beyond, club practices and exhibitions will not be considered sanctioned and eligible for insurance coverage unless practice and exhibition dates are on file with USA Water Ski prior to participation. For more information go to:

<http://www.usawaterski.org/default.asp?Display=1123>. It was recommended that additional communications be provided to our membership.

## **ADJOURN**

- **Motion** to adjourn at 12:11 p.m. – **approved.**

Attachments:

1. Revised EC Report
2. Revised U.S. Team Agreement
3. AAC Policies and Procedures (with changes noted)

January 5, 2012

To: USA-WS Board of Directors

From: Jeff Clark, Chair USA-WS Bylaws Committee

Re: Agenda Item # 8 A, B, C – Special Report of the Bylaws Committee

**ACTION ITEM # 1 – CHANGE 3.15 SPORT DISCIPLINE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS IN TABLE # 2 AS OF 12-31-11.**

**Rationale:** Changes required for the 2012-13 Director and vote allocation calculations.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS 12/31/2011**

<u>Sport Discipline</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Percent SD Total</u>	<u>No Pref Allocation</u>	<u>Adjusted Total</u>
ABC	570	3.25	5	575
AKA	151	0.86	1	152
AWSA	8741	49.91	77	8818
NCWSA	893	5.10	8	901
NSSA	5442	31.07	48	5490
NWSRA	445	2.54	4	449
USA-WB	1072	6.12	9	1081
USHA	109	0.62	1	110
WSDA	92	.53	1	93
Total SD	17515	100.00	155	17670
No preference	155			
Total	17670			

**ACTION ITEM # 2 – UPDATED DIRECTOR SEATING CHART TO CURRENT DATE**

**Rationale:** We have updated the Director seating chart for 2012-13 to reflect the effective date. The Directors seating numbers will not change.

**12/31/2011 MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND CURRENT SPORTS DISCIPLINE DIRECTOR ALLOCATIONS FOR 2012-2013**

	Membership	Directors	Effective date
ABC	570	1	1/12
AKA	151	1	1/12
AWSA	8741	5	1/12
NCWSA	893	1	1/12
NSSA	5442	2	1/12
NWSRA	445	1	1/12
USA-WB	1072	1	1/12
USHA	109	1	1/12

WSDA	92	1	1/12
AAC*	NA	4	1/12

**ACTION ITEM # 3 – UPDATED 3.3.4 DIRECTOR VOTE ALLOCATION TABLE TO REFLECT THE VOTES FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.**

**Rationale:** We have updated the vote allocation table based on the 12/31/11 membership numbers and changed the date in 3.3.4 (G) and the title of the table.

3.3.4 (G) Sport Discipline votes, calculated below, shall be effective at the January 2012 Annual Board meeting for a period of two (2) years.

**BASED ON 12/31/2011 MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS, WHICH IS USED IN THE FORMULA TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF VOTES ALLOCATED TO EACH SPORT DISCIPLINE.**

Sport Discipline	Actual	/ Total Members	X 79 =	Vote Calculation	Votes
ABC	570	/ 17515	X 79 =	2.6	2
AKA	151	/ 17515	X 79 =	0.7	1
AWSA	8741	/ 17515	X 79 =	39.4	39
NCWSA	893	/ 17515	X 79 =	4.0	4
NSSA	5442	/ 17515	X 79 =	24.5	24
NWSRA	445	/ 17515	X 79 =	2.0	2
USA-WB	1072	/ 17515	X 79 =	4.8	5
USHA	109	/ 17515	X 79 =	0.5	1
WSDA	92	/ 17515	X 79 =	0.4	1
Total	17515			79	79

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Clark, Chair

USA Water Ski Nominating Committee Report  
to the Board of Directors meeting Jan. 29, 2012.

The Committee presents the following candidates:

Chairman of the Board: Don Bucher

President: Jim Grew

Vice President: Tom Ghiloni

Secretary/Treasurer: Sara Chappell

There are no new eligible candidates for Honorary National Director this year.

Respectively, Submitted, Tom Ghiloni, Chairman

**2012 USA Water Ski Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 29, 2012**  
**Treasurer Report**  
**Sara Chappell**

**2011 Income Statement**

1. In summary our organization has gross revenue of \$1.5 million dollars. Approximately \$894K comes from Membership, about \$327K from Marketing/Partnerships, about \$167K from Publications and the rest from Sport Development, Towboat Test, Entry Fees, etc.
2. 2011 was a very similar year to 2010. The staff (with guidance from Jim and Bob) did an excellent job of watching costs and again taking into consideration the tough economic times that still persisted throughout the year. However, our membership again declined as did sponsorship income from year to year and vs. budget. We again had a balanced budget however we incurred a net deficit of \$88.8K offset by \$23k in restricted funds, leading to an adjusted net deficit of \$65.8K.
3. The differences by account to budget consist of:
  - a. Positives
    - i. Publications were positive by \$3K
    - ii. Sports Development was positive by \$9K
    - iii. Towboats were positive by \$5K
    - iv. Total Team Related Funds were positive by \$4K
  - b. Negatives
    - i. Membership was negative by \$34K
    - i. Marketing was negative by \$39K
    - ii. Competition was negative by \$4K
    - iii. National Tournaments were negative by \$4K
    - iv. Special Income was negative by \$11K
    - v. Office and Administrative expenses were negative by \$1K total
    - vi. Governance Expenses were negative by \$1K
4. As I stated, most of the loss for the year can be directly attributed to two line items, active membership and sponsorship income. Outside of these two areas, you can tell that most budget items were relatively close to what was projected at the beginning of last year. Membership is a very difficult number to estimate, and additional consideration was taken into account for the 2012 budget. The Affinity program was expected to help membership in the current year, however the first mailing of this program did not come close to producing the response that was originally hoped for.

Sponsorship income fell short primarily due to a \$12,500 write off from an unrealized 2009 sponsorship and due to the non-endemic sponsorships not reaching the anticipated \$22,500 net income.

**2012 Budget**

1. Again, the current leadership believed in a balanced budget for the upcoming year, however, a few factors lead to a bottom line for the budget of \$21.7K net income. Details behind this number will be discussed in this section.
  - a. The entire staff has had input and accountability for this budget just like last year's.
  - b. Income and expenses are basically being held flat throughout the organization in spending and earnings between the different categories.
    - i. Membership income is budgeted to be up by \$17K. This is using a reduced membership number but taking into consideration a dues increase and also a Club members' dues increase. You will notice that there is an increase in expense from insurance due to a premium increase that is a result of the losses sustained the past two years.

However, this increase was controlled significantly due to Bob and the staff working through a process of shopping around and leveraging what they found to get a reduced rate without having to change providers. However, this increase is also offset somewhat by the decrease in expense related to fulfillment materials due to online renewals increasing. In addition, the Affinity program income/expense was mostly removed due to this program being reevaluated from lack of response last year.

- ii. Marketing income is budgeted to be up \$48K from the actual 2011 figures but at the same level as the 2011 budget. This is based on conversations that have already been held with current sponsors and non-endemic sponsorship that is expected.
- iii. Publication income is expected to be relatively stable due to similar regional guide production and similar sponsorship ads.
- iv. Sports Development income is expected to be up slightly, \$9K, due to an expected increase in income from the Basic Skills program and the Grass Roots Program. There are private donation funds to support these areas.
- v. Competition and Towboat income are expected to be relatively stable from 2011.
- vi. National Tournaments are expected to be up slightly, \$4K, due to a slight reduction in award expense from changing vendors and then a slight increase in income from HQ's handling the registration again of the AWSA Nationals.
- vii. All Team funds, Special Income and Governance are expected to be stable from 2011.
- viii. Office Expenses are expected to be stable from 2011 as well, as Bob and the staff feel they have cut/reduced everything possible from this area already in previous years.
- ix. Administrative expenses are expected to decrease by \$32K due to a reduction of one staff member, which in turn reduces the labor allocation by \$26K, thus resulting in a net reduction of \$6K.

2. Net Income/Loss difference in 2012 budget compared to 2011 actual as follows:

Membership	\$45,790
Marketing	\$53,436
Publication	\$8,415
Sports Development	(\$4,013)
Competition	\$2,717
Towboat	(\$5,417)
Nationals	\$7,869
Teams In Kind	(\$3,170)
Special Income	(\$881)
Office Expense	\$711
Admin Expense	\$5,950
Governance	(\$854)
Total	\$110,554

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3000</b>	<b>Membership Income</b>						
3012	Active Membership	868,132.00	835,867.42	802,289.15	840,000.00	Difficult to project	817,570.00
3020	Supporting Members	28,109.25	17,538.50	14,559.18	13,700.00		13,825.00
3030	Charter Members/Affinity	0.00	0.00	9,546.25	22,400.00		0.00
3034	Club Members	47,100.00	47,250.00	43,825.00	47,000.00		55,300.00
3035	Club Add'l Ins. Certificates	24,400.00	21,900.00	19,850.00	24,000.00		18,750.00
3036	Ski Schools & Camps	1,364.00	1,030.00	400.00	1,300.00		1,750.00
3038	Non Sanctioned Clubs Ins.	1,250.01	2,325.00	3,486.29	2,800.00		4,300.00
3039	Prior Year Members	1,055.00	0.00	325.00	0.00		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Membership Income</b>	<b>971,410.26</b>	<b>925,910.92</b>	<b>894,280.87</b>	<b>951,200.00</b>		<b>911,495.00</b>
<b>5000</b>	<b>Membership Expense</b>						
5010	Insurance - Membership	306,649.87	289,768.37	294,545.18	294,362.00	Final Policy Rec'd	315,928.00
5014	Materials - Club Renewal	78.42	143.95	44.93	128.00		50.00
5016	Materials - Club Fulfillment	88.54	0.00	0.00	50.00		50.00
5020	Member Fulfillment Materials	26,123.87	22,390.16	21,208.54	21,779.00		9,025.00
5022	Member Develop/Solicit (Affinity)	7,796.99	0.00	37,386.10	55,130.00		2,400.00
5030	Member Renewal Materials	14,328.49	7,755.85	7,472.39	7,625.00		7,000.00
5031	Member Renewal Postage	0.00	8,679.17	4,097.18	6,000.00		5,950.00
5032	Member Fulfillment Postage	11,761.14	8,658.30	6,190.56	7,000.00		5,200.00
5034	Travel (Membership)	845.55	57.25	1,702.16	1,651.00		2,150.00
5040	Ski School & Camps Expense	13.50	21.92	145.24	56.00		3,800.00
5048	Overhead Allocation	56,014.00	67,486.00	52,644.00	53,169.00		51,633.00
5049	Labor Allocation	126,041.45	113,966.00	123,772.00	124,682.00		117,446.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Membership Expense</b>	<b>549,741.82</b>	<b>518,926.97</b>	<b>549,208.28</b>	<b>571,632.00</b>		<b>520,632.00</b>
	<b>Net Membership</b>	<b>421,668.44</b>	<b>406,983.95</b>	<b>345,072.59</b>	<b>379,568.00</b>		<b>390,863.00</b>

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3100</b>	<b>Marketing/Partnership Income</b>						
3110	Sponsorship Income	317,645.00	325,365.00	300,575.00	350,500.00		350,500.00
3112	Licensing income	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00		18,000.00
3116	Royalties Income	9,197.75	8,407.22	7,942.64	6,000.00		6,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Marketing/Partnership Income</b>	<b>344,842.75</b>	<b>351,772.22</b>	<b>326,517.64</b>	<b>374,500.00</b>		<b>374,500.00</b>
<b>5100</b>	<b>Marketing/Partnership Exp.</b>						
5110	Solicitation Costs	0.00	0.00	10,708.22	18,000.00		9,000.00
5114	Marketing Fulfillment Costs	1,656.12	0.00	471.51	1,000.00		1,000.00
5116	Travel (Marketing/Partnership)	1,570.05	3,611.89	2,031.98	2,500.00		3,030.00
5118	Overhead Allocation	38,186.00	46,005.00	35,888.00	36,246.00		35,198.00
5119	Labor Allocation	85,924.00	77,691.00	84,375.00	84,996.00		80,063.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Marketing/Partnership Exp.</b>	<b>127,336.17</b>	<b>127,307.89</b>	<b>133,474.71</b>	<b>142,742.00</b>		<b>128,291.00</b>
	<b>Net Marketing/Partnership</b>	<b>217,506.58</b>	<b>224,464.33</b>	<b>193,042.93</b>	<b>231,758.00</b>		<b>246,209.00</b>
	<b>Sponsor Distribution</b>						
	From PCSM to AWSEF (2043)	0.00	-1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.00		0.00
	Distr. To - 3156 Magazine Ads	-109,980.00	-98,480.00	-96,870.00	-100,000.00		-100,000.00
	Distr. To - 3158 Regional Guide Ads	-34,470.00	-34,480.00	-35,000.00	-35,000.00		-35,000.00
	Distr. To - 3280 Grassroots	0.00	-13,000.00	-13,000.00	-13,000.00		-13,000.00
	Distr. To - 3525 Nationals Exhibits	-11,200.00	-10,750.00	-12,900.00	-11,000.00		-11,000.00
	Distr. To - 4022 Teams	-1,500.00	-1,500.00	-1,500.00	-1,500.00		-1,500.00
	Distr. To - 7014 & 8070 (Tvl & BOD)	0.00	-1,779.76	0.00	0.00		0.00
	<b>Total Distribution</b>	<b>-157,150.00</b>	<b>-161,489.76</b>	<b>-160,770.00</b>	<b>-160,500.00</b>		<b>-160,500.00</b>

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3150</b>	<b>Publication Income</b>						
3152	Ads/Dockside	1,370.00	1,400.00	1,220.00	1,500.00		1,300.00
3154	Ads/Magazine Direct Sales	7,672.00	5,362.00	5,482.00	5,000.00		5,000.00
3156	Ads/Magazine Sponsorship	109,980.00	98,480.00	96,870.00	100,000.00	Sponsor Distribution	100,000.00
3158	Ads/Regional Guide Sponsorship	34,470.00	34,480.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	Sponsor Distribution	35,000.00
3160	Ads/Regional Guide Direct Sales	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3162	Magazine & Guide Sales	507.50	431.00	250.00	350.00		300.00
3164	Regional Guide Production	31,073.06	23,440.28	28,121.37	24,877.00	Equals 5160 + 5162	28,280.00
3166	Web Site & Misc. Productions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Publication Income</b>	<b>186,572.56</b>	<b>163,593.28</b>	<b>166,943.37</b>	<b>166,727.00</b>		<b>169,880.00</b>
<b>5150</b>	<b>Publication Expense</b>						
5152	Magazine Postage	24,851.53	27,611.27	25,093.39	28,810.00		26,630.00
5154	Magazine Production	103,809.21	87,536.17	89,226.25	89,820.00		87,260.00
5155	Multimedia Liability Insurance	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5156	Publications/Booklets Expense	77.06	0.00	48.98	300.00		100.00
5158	Regional Guide-Regions Distribution	22,038.27	20,785.06	23,546.15	22,500.00		25,000.00
5160	Regional Guide Production	26,534.04	19,123.48	23,378.54	20,407.00		21,685.00
5162	Regional Guide Postage	4,635.50	4,340.11	4,742.83	4,470.00		6,595.00
5164	Travel (Communications)	2,632.36	5,046.38	5,602.14	5,660.00		6,600.00
5166	Website Development	588.00	777.24	334.46	1,000.00		500.00
5168	Overhead Allocation	60,113.00	72,425.00	56,498.00	57,060.00		55,412.00
5169	Labor Allocation	135,267.00	122,306.00	132,831.00	133,807.00		126,041.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Publication Expense</b>	<b>380,545.97</b>	<b>362,450.71</b>	<b>361,301.74</b>	<b>363,834.00</b>		<b>355,823.00</b>
	<b>Net Publication</b>	<b>-193,973.41</b>	<b>-198,857.43</b>	<b>-194,358.37</b>	<b>-197,107.00</b>		<b>-185,943.00</b>

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3260</b>	<b>Sport Development Income</b>						
3262	Clinic Fees	15,885.00	21,433.40	11,049.00	10,000.00	Renewals in Even Years	15,000.00
3272	Waterways Income	3,898.26	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3276	Instructor Certification & Development	5,300.00	3,092.05	8,601.50	3,705.00		9,565.00
3277	Coaches General Liability	0.00	0.00	2,470.00	0.00		2,250.00
3278	Basic Skills Programs	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	5,000.00		5,000.00
3280	Grassroots Programs	15,995.00	13,015.00	13,342.00	22,000.00	\$13k Sponsor Distribution	13,950.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Sport Development Income</b>	<b>41,078.26</b>	<b>37,540.45</b>	<b>36,662.50</b>	<b>40,705.00</b>		<b>45,765.00</b>
<b>5260</b>	<b>Sport Development Expense</b>						
5262	Officials Clinics	6,026.17	7,598.69	287.70	100.00		200.00
5268	Sport Discipline Grants	93,546.00	89,939.00	74,978.00	74,919.00	Actual	79,138.00
5272	Waterways Expense	650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5276	Instructor Certification Expense	377.48	177.79	4,953.61	2,194.00		7,500.00
5277	Coaches General Liability	0.00	0.00	2,556.86	0.00	Final Policy Rec'd	2,536.00
5278	Basic Skills Program	0.00	0.00	1,121.80	5,000.00		5,000.00
5280	Grassroots Programs	14,227.33	5,788.99	7,975.48	21,570.00		13,940.00
5282	Promotion/Mkting (Sport Development)	10,191.70	8,716.64	9,499.96	10,000.00		10,000.00
5284	Travel (Sport Development)	1,166.39	1,131.18	1,091.25	1,330.00		1,825.00
5288	Overhead Allocation	34,787.00	41,912.00	32,695.00	33,021.00		32,067.00
5289	Labor Allocation	78,279.00	70,779.00	76,871.00	77,434.00		72,940.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Sport Development Expense</b>	<b>239,251.07</b>	<b>226,043.29</b>	<b>212,030.66</b>	<b>225,568.00</b>		<b>225,146.00</b>
	<b>Net Sport Development</b>	<b>-198,172.81</b>	<b>-188,502.84</b>	<b>-175,368.16</b>	<b>-184,863.00</b>		<b>-179,381.00</b>
<b>3300</b>	<b>Competition Admin. Support</b>						
3310	Event Sanctioning Income	93,554.50	93,556.50	89,225.00	94,000.00		90,000.00
3320	Rule Books & Manuals (+ 3266)	183.00	139.95	270.95	220.00		260.00
3330	OLR Fees & Misc. Comp. Income	865.00	1,213.14	1,085.00	1,110.00		1,110.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Competition Support Income</b>	<b>94,602.50</b>	<b>94,909.59</b>	<b>90,580.95</b>	<b>95,330.00</b>		<b>91,370.00</b>
<b>5300</b>	<b>Competition Admin. Expense</b>						
5314	Rule Books Costs (5266-5310-5316)	73.04	53.20	285.98	210.00		220.00
5318	Event Sanctioning Expense	388.39	80.47	65.79	200.00		100.00
5320	Misc. Competition Expense	893.44	1,552.78	696.06	500.00		600.00
5348	Overhead Allocation	13,757.00	16,576.00	12,930.00	13,059.00		12,682.00
5349	Labor Allocation	30,957.00	27,992.00	30,398.00	30,624.00		28,846.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Competition Support Expense</b>	<b>46,068.87</b>	<b>46,254.45</b>	<b>44,375.83</b>	<b>44,593.00</b>		<b>42,448.00</b>
	<b>Net Competition</b>	<b>48,533.63</b>	<b>48,655.14</b>	<b>46,205.12</b>	<b>50,737.00</b>		<b>48,922.00</b>



		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3500</b>	<b>National Tournaments Income</b>						
3510	Banquet Income	0.00	240.00	0.00	240.00		0.00
3515	Entry Fee	98,175.00	29,751.75	22,420.25	28,990.00		118,097.00
3516	USAWS Admin. & Late Fees	7,550.00	2,080.00	1,660.00	2,050.00		7,000.00
3520	Exhibit Direct Sales	1,300.00	1,500.00	1,550.00	1,500.00		1,500.00
3525	Exhibit Sponsorships	11,200.00	10,750.00	12,900.00	11,000.00	Sponsor Distribution	11,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Nat'l Tournaments Income</b>	<b>118,225.00</b>	<b>44,321.75</b>	<b>38,530.25</b>	<b>43,780.00</b>		<b>137,597.00</b>
<b>5500</b>	<b>National Tournament Expense</b>						
5510	Awards Expense	7,068.20	6,461.77	8,715.45	6,798.00		7,100.00
5512	Banquet Expense	812.00	814.00	602.00	800.00		560.00
5515	AWSA Admin Fee	7,310.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		14,700.00
5516	LOC Share of Entry Fees	66,662.50	3,130.00	0.00	2,400.00		75,700.00
5518	LOC Share of Exhibits	3,222.30	2,748.90	3,281.68	3,000.00		3,300.00
5526	Exhibits Expenses	4,860.92	5,477.00	6,171.85	5,500.00		5,500.00
5528	Miscellaneous Expense	188.50	0.00	415.37	0.00		400.00
5532	Officials Lunches	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00
5534	Officials Rooms	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,800.00	2,000.00		2,000.00
5536	Officials Shirts	2,893.00	3,770.30	3,903.76	4,000.00		4,450.00
5540	Refund Entry Fees	3,200.00	560.00	0.00	360.00		3,600.00
5542	Site Set-Up	620.10	0.00	372.62	600.00		400.00
5548	TV Production Expense	2,168.85	1,701.19	1,168.06	2,000.00		1,950.00
5552	VIP Reception Expense	0.00	499.98	574.22	500.00		500.00
5558	Overhead Allocation	14,836.00	17,996.00	14,039.00	14,178.00		13,769.00
5559	Labor Allocation	33,612.00	30,391.00	33,006.00	33,249.00		31,319.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>National Tournament Expense</b>	<b>149,754.37</b>	<b>75,850.14</b>	<b>74,350.01</b>	<b>75,685.00</b>		<b>165,548.00</b>
	<b>Net Natl Tournaments</b>	<b>-31,529.37</b>	<b>-31,528.39</b>	<b>-35,819.76</b>	<b>-31,905.00</b>		<b>-27,951.00</b>

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>4000</b>	<b>Donations &amp; Teams Income</b>						
4010	Donations General	285.28	750.00	171.00	0.00		0.00
4018	Teams Merchandise Income	39,809.14	26,997.00	28,458.59	25,000.00		25,000.00
4022	Teams - Corporate Sponsors	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	Sponsor Distribution	1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Donations &amp; Teams Funds</b>	<b>41,594.42</b>	<b>29,247.00</b>	<b>30,129.59</b>	<b>26,500.00</b>		<b>26,500.00</b>
<b>6000</b>	<b>Teams Fund Expense</b>						
6018	Teams Merchandise Expense	20,529.27	12,031.79	12,916.72	13,500.00		13,500.00
6028	Overhead Allocation	6,599.00	7,950.00	6,202.00	6,263.00		6,082.00
6029	LaborAllocation	14,847.00	13,425.00	14,580.00	14,687.00		13,834.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Teams Fund Expense</b>	<b>41,975.27</b>	<b>33,406.79</b>	<b>33,698.72</b>	<b>34,450.00</b>		<b>33,416.00</b>
	<b>Net Team Funds</b>	<b>-380.85</b>	<b>-4,159.79</b>	<b>-3,569.13</b>	<b>-7,950.00</b>		<b>-6,916.00</b>
<b>4100</b>	<b>Junior U.S. Open Income</b>						
4110	Jr U S Open Entry Fees	6,605.00	7,585.00	6,345.00	7,120.00		6,380.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Junior US Open Income</b>	<b>6,605.00</b>	<b>7,585.00</b>	<b>6,345.00</b>	<b>7,120.00</b>		<b>6,380.00</b>
<b>6100</b>	<b>Junior U S Open Expense</b>						
6110	Jr U S Open Expenses	6,245.16	7,108.60	5,965.00	6,723.00		6,023.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Junior U S Open Expense</b>	<b>6,245.16</b>	<b>7,108.60</b>	<b>5,965.00</b>	<b>6,723.00</b>		<b>6,023.00</b>
	<b>Net Jr U S Open Income</b>	<b>359.84</b>	<b>476.40</b>	<b>380.00</b>	<b>397.00</b>		<b>357.00</b>
<b>4200</b>	<b>Team Trials Income</b>						
4210	Team Trials Entry Fees	8,320.00	4,010.00	0.00	0.00		4,200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Team Trials Income</b>	<b>8,320.00</b>	<b>4,010.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>4,200.00</b>
<b>6200</b>	<b>Team Trials Expense</b>						
6210	Trials Awards	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6226	LOC Share Entry Fee (Housing, etc)	7,900.00	3,800.00	0.00	0.00		4,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Team Trials Expense</b>	<b>7,900.00</b>	<b>3,800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>4,000.00</b>
	<b>Net Team Trials</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>210.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>200.00</b>
<b>6600</b>	<b>World Championships</b>						
6612	World - Entry Fees		0.00				

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>3200</b>	<b>Special Income</b>						
3210	Investment Earnings	9,435.18	13,805.13	6,073.37	18,000.00	Looking at 2% earnings	6,000.00
3217	Rental Income AWSEF	31,000.00	31,000.00	31,000.00	31,000.00		31,000.00
3218	Misc. Special Income	991.23	344.03	1,307.45	500.00		500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Special Income</b>	<b>41,426.41</b>	<b>45,149.16</b>	<b>38,380.82</b>	<b>49,500.00</b>		<b>37,500.00</b>
	<b>Net Special Income</b>	<b>41,426.41</b>	<b>45,149.16</b>	<b>38,380.82</b>	<b>49,500.00</b>		<b>37,500.00</b>
<b>7000</b>	<b>Office Expense</b>						
7010	Bad Debt Expense	6,975.14	3,485.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
7012	Bank Charges	1,192.48	1,308.22	956.54	1,200.00		950.00
7018	Computer Supplies & Service	26,416.66	28,075.37	42,107.22	28,900.00		36,000.00
7020	Credit Card Merchant Fee	27,651.96	27,794.77	25,228.39	26,000.00		27,000.00
7022	Depreciation Expense	22,842.00	21,207.33	9,703.36	15,292.00		9,500.00
7024	Dues & Subscriptions	4,300.00	3,870.00	3,670.00	3,835.00		3,770.00
7032	Insurance - General	24,550.71	29,033.53	26,244.22	29,089.00	Policy Received	27,501.00
7036	Legal & Accounting	9,825.00	13,517.50	15,097.00	13,245.00		11,070.00
7038	Office Supplies	3,379.02	3,502.16	2,584.69	3,260.00		3,000.00
7042	Misc. Office Expense	3,383.09	51,412.82	2,154.66	2,700.00		2,150.00
7044	Printing - In House	22,750.28	22,748.53	17,884.04	15,772.00		15,675.00
7048	Postage - General	2,923.88	4,059.31	2,256.78	5,000.00		2,400.00
7052	Postage Equipment	25,667.40	25,667.40	25,667.40	25,668.00		25,668.00
7054	Promotion (USA WS)	42.90	1,560.00	1,720.28	1,500.00		4,000.00
7055	Rent In Kind AWSEF	31,000.00	31,000.00	31,000.00	31,000.00		31,000.00
7056	Repair & Maintenance Building	3,917.80	9,240.31	3,946.48	10,000.00		5,000.00
7058	Repair & Maintenance Equipment	7,676.77	8,408.69	7,679.39	6,800.00		6,800.00
7062	Shipping Expense	634.40	746.10	857.79	800.00		800.00
7064	Taxes & License	6,197.91	6,365.05	5,832.62	6,591.00		6,286.00
7066	Telephone Expense	18,337.78	14,697.61	12,091.81	12,436.00		12,088.00
7068	Utilities	27,557.36	27,152.54	27,199.54	27,424.00		28,380.00
7098	Less Overhead Allocation	-228,728.00	-275,694.00	-215,065.00	-217,207.00		-210,932.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Net Office Expenses</b>	<b>48,494.54</b>	<b>59,158.24</b>	<b>48,817.21</b>	<b>49,305.00</b>		<b>48,106.00</b>

		Year End 2009	Year End 2010	Year End 2011	Annual Budget Year 2011	Notes	Proposed Budget 2012
<b>8000</b>	<b>Administrative Expenses</b>						
8012	Education & Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
8014	Insurance - Work. Comp.	2,480.71	3,900.25	2,198.65	1,979.00	Received Policy	2,116.00
8016	Insurance - Group Health	33,902.73	37,399.63	43,851.02	43,504.00		40,784.00
8028	Payroll Taxes (FICA & Medicare)	37,067.08	32,875.43	35,130.43	36,038.00		32,814.00
8030	Payroll Tax - Unemployment	3,384.19	3,486.46	3,485.70	3,402.00		3,672.00
8050	Salaries - Gross	495,391.06	437,860.46	474,508.46	477,727.00		446,282.00
8064	Contract Work & Temp Help	43,651.74	42,984.02	41,984.02	41,984.00		41,984.00
8070	Travel & Accomodations	971.43	2,125.48	5,692.62	6,605.00		5,930.00
8080	Retirement Plan 401k Matching	14,941.40	10,141.10	13,563.22	13,734.00		15,036.00
8099	Less Labor Allocation	-514,909.45	-465,576.00	-505,636.00	-509,354.00		-479,790.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Admin. Expenses</b>	<b>116,880.89</b>	<b>105,196.83</b>	<b>114,778.12</b>	<b>115,619.00</b>		<b>108,828.00</b>
<b>8200</b>	<b>Governance</b>						
8210	AAC Travel	268.12	281.68	259.37	1,000.00		1,000.00
8220	Board of Directors Meetings	3,293.75	3,249.55	3,754.98	4,600.00		4,000.00
8230	Committee Meetings	255.51	174.35	431.46	300.00		300.00
8240	Presidents Budget	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Governance Expense</b>	<b>3,817.38</b>	<b>3,705.58</b>	<b>4,445.81</b>	<b>5,900.00</b>		<b>5,300.00</b>
	<b>Total Income (All Accounts)</b>	<b>1,732,027.16</b>	<b>1,586,549.61</b>	<b>1,510,600.99</b>	<b>1,636,862.00</b>		<b>1,685,687.00</b>
	<b>Total Expenses (All Accounts)</b>	<b>1,733,224.70</b>	<b>1,588,711.23</b>	<b>1,599,419.14</b>	<b>1,657,139.00</b>		<b>1,663,951.00</b>
	<b>Net Income - Loss</b>	<b>-1,197.54</b>	<b>-2,161.62</b>	<b>-88,818.15</b>	<b>-20,277.00</b>	Net Income - Loss	<b>21,736.00</b>
	Restricted Funds			<b>23,000.00</b>	<b>23,000.00</b>		
	Adjusted Net Income - Loss			<b>-65,818.15</b>	<b>2,723.00</b>		

## 2012 USA Water Ski Awards Committee Report

### ABC

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Broderick Meskers
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Elaine Heller

### AKA

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Jared Bohlen
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	A'lisa Piper
2011 Junior Male Athlete of the Year	Joey Deutsch
2011 Junior Female Athlete of the Year	Lauren Roberson
Ron Veno-Andy Remy Founders Award	Daniel Kelsey

### AWSA

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Scot Ellis
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Regina Jaquess
2011 Slalom Skier of the Year	Nate Smith
2011 Tricks Skier of the Year	Erika Lang
2011 Jump Skier of the Year	Zack Worden
2011 Overall Skier of the Year	Regina Jaquess
2011 Rising Superstar of the Year	Taylor Garcia
2011 Volunteer of the Year	Jeff Clark
2011 Team of the Year	Under 21 Water Ski Team

### NCWSA

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Zack Worden
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Lauren Morgan
2011 Male Outstanding Leadership Award	Nick Quaglia
2011 Female Outstanding Leadership Award	Maddy Baldwin
2011 Team of the Year	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

### NSSA

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Bob Panter
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Jacklyn Kumlien
2011 Officials Lifetime Achievement Award	Steve Hahner
2011 Team of the Year	Rock Aqua Jays Water Ski Club Inc.
2011 Official of the Year	Andy Snow
2011 Honorary National Director	Mark Jackson
2011 Volunteer of the Year	Terry Pasterski

### **NWSRA**

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Jordan King
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Erin Saunders

### **USAWB**

2011 Male Rider of the Year	Andrew Adkison
2011 Female Rider of the Year	Raimi Merritt
2011 Volunteer of the Year	John Zdeblick
2011 That's Incredible	Noah Flegel
2011 Innovator Award	Cobe Mikacich
2011 Coach of the Year	Tarah Mikacich
2011 Team of the Year	U.S. Wakeboard Team

### **USA Water Ski**

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Freddy Krueger
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	Jessica Radmilovic
2011 National Coach of the Year	Matthew Oberholtz
2011 Award of Merit	Brenda Baldwin
2011 That's Incredible Award	Noah Flegel
2011 Volunteer of the Year	Bonnie Ruston
2011 Team of the Year	U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team

### **USHA**

2011 Male Athlete of the Year	Geno Yauchler
2011 Female Athlete of the Year	MJ Pohl
2011 Junior Athlete of the Year	Dominic Schumacher
2011 Ambassador of the Year	Dave Petersen
2011 Junior Rising Star Award	Austin Pope
2011 Club of the Year	Southeast Hydrofoil Club
2011 Most Improved Female	Leah Stilwell
2011 Most Improved Male	Tyler Narans
2011 Best Supporting Member	Jen Petersen
2011 That's Incredible Award	Ben Ferney

### **WSDA**

Male Skier of the Year	Joe Ray
Female Skier of the Year	Jessica Radmilovic

January 5, 2012

To: USA-WS Board of Directors

From: Jeff Clark, Chair USA-WS Bylaws Committee

Re: Agenda Item # 16 b. 2012 Annual Report of the USA-WS Bylaws Committee

I would like to thank the members of the 2011 committee for their hard work and thoughtful consideration of the material presented. The members this past year and continuing on this year are Brian Heeney, ABC, George Rohner, AKA, Jeff Surdej, NCWSA, Bruce McCalmon, NSSA, Ted Hofman, NWSRA, Chris Walker, USA-WB, Jim Chismar, USHA, Jim Grew WSDA, Brenda Baldwin, AAC, Bill Bowness, AAC and myself, representing AWSA.

We have the following action item for the board to review and consider for approval that have been reviewed and approved by the USA-WS Bylaws Committee and will be included in Revision 13 Jan 2012 on the cover of the manual:

**ACTION ITEM # 1 – UPDATED USA-WS P & P MANUAL SECTION 2.3 TO REFLECT NEW MEMBERSHIP FEES AND PAYMENT INCENTIVES.**

**Rationale:** This was approved by the 2011 board to go into effect on January 1, 2012 and is the formal approval of the presentation of the information to be placed in Rev 13 January 2012 of the USA-WS Policies and Procedures Manual.

**2.3 A. Membership types and annual anniversary membership fees: effective 2012 memberships**

Ambassador (Life Supporting - single payment)	\$ 500
(Ambassador Active Insurance payable yearly)	\$ 35
Active (25 and Older) AA	\$ 80
Under 25 Active U25	\$ 50
Supporting SS	\$ 35
Family Active (up to 5) (HOH)	\$145
Foreign Federation Active (insurance only) WLA	\$ 50
GrassRoots Active (restricted) GRA	\$ 35
Guest	\$ 7
Calendar year memberships:	
Clubs	\$100

**B. “Opt-in” Paperless Online Renewal and Registration Incentive:** Provide a \$5.00 discount to members who opt in to go paperless at time of online new membership registration or renewal. This discount is only for those who join/renew and opt in to receive membership fulfillment packets online (membership card, welcomes, discount coupons, etc.) and not through paper renewals. *This option is available for all membership types except Guest and Foreign Federation (insurance only).*

- **Individual Active** – \$80 less \$5 = \$75

- **Under 25 Active** – \$50 less \$5 = \$45
- **Family Active** – \$145/family less \$5 = \$140
- **GrassRoots** – \$35 less \$5 = \$30
- **Supporting** – \$35 less \$5 = \$30

**C. Automatic Membership Renewal (Recurring Billing):** Provide an option at sign-up which allows USA Water Ski to automatically bill the member's credit card in the last month of membership and send an e-mail reminder one month before membership expiration. The online renewal discount ("B" above) would apply to this membership **each year** if the initial request meets the criteria above. ***This option is available for all membership types except Family Active, Guest, and Foreign Federation (insurance only).*** It would be opt-in only.

**D. Multi-Year Memberships:** Provide an option for multi-year membership renewals at a discounted cost as noted below. The online renewal discount would apply **one time** per multi-year membership if the initial request meets the criteria of "B" above. ***This option is only available for Individual Active memberships.*** These memberships are non-refundable.

- Two Years = \$150, Regularly \$160 – Save 6% (\$10)
- Three Years = \$216, Regularly \$240, – Save 10% (\$24)
- Five Years = \$350, Regularly \$400 – Save 12.5% (\$50)

The Bylaws Committee does not have any issues on our agenda for 2012. We remain open to the membership and the board for suggested issues to consider.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Clark, Chair

USA Water Ski Ethics Committee Report  
for the Board of Directors Jan. 29, 2012 meeting.

Ethics Committee reminder: all Directors of USA Water Ski and the Sports Disciplines and members of the Athletes Advisory Council are required to sign the Code of Ethics biennially. The Code is available from Sandy Hardee at HQ. Electronic signatures are acceptable.

The Ethics Committee does not have any actions items for the BOD.

Respectively Submitted, Tom Ghiloni, Chairman

**To: USA-Water Ski Board  
From: Frank Harrison  
USA-WS IAC Report  
January 12, 2012**

The 2011 USA Pan American Team, made up of 5 very talented Individuals Regina Jaquess, Jon Travers, Russell Gay, Freddy Krueger and Andrew Adkison along with Mike Meek coach and myself as Team Leader, competed in Guadalajara, Mexico in the 2011 Pan American Games last October. The Games are the world's second largest sporting event with over 6000 athletes.

To share with you our trip, we all arrived in Houston on Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, for orientation and clothing at the Hilton hotel fully staffed with a big team from the USOC to support all the athletes. We arrived with the men's water polo team, women's basketball team (coached by Mandy Nightingales former coach who is a great follower of water skiing) and the USA boxing team. The interaction with the other sports was amazing, and they were just as interested in water skiing and wake boarding competition as we were in their sports. This starts a relationship that continues throughout the Games, whether it is at meals in the international village or just in passing by. Each was rooting for the other to win gold.

When the team arrived at the village, we were on the same floor as gymnastics, squash and men's volleyball, more athletes to meet and share our sport with, as well as theirs with us. Olympic athletics like Shawn Johnson, talking to water-skiers, Wow!

The first night in the village the medical staff worked on Freddy, Regina and Russell, and this was just the beginning. We had an assigned trainer all week traveling with the team to the lake from the Dodger Baseball Organization. He took great care of all, especially Regina and Freddy.

And as you all heard, The Gold standard was the norm! The US Water Ski and Wake Board team won six of nine gold medals along with a bronze

I would like to again thank you for allowing me to be the Team Leader at the 2011 Pan American Games, a great way to retire on such a high! The thrill is not the tournament, it's being in the Olympic atmosphere, living in the village and experiencing what it would be like for water skiing and wake board to be Olympic sports. We know that the USOC has the staff and resources to make it an experience one will never forget!

I would also like to thank you for allowing me to serve as your IAC Chair for many years, not always with a lot to do, with the exception of an annual report to you the board. As this is my last report, I thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this great sport.

Thank You.

**USA WATER SKI**  
**RISK MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

December 24, 2011

1. Drivers Rating Requirements. In addition to meeting all other applicable requirements, e.g., USA Water Ski membership, drivers shall meet the following requirements:

A. All boat drivers (towboats, pick up boats and other watercraft) in USA Water Ski "covered practices" and sanctioned events shall comply with, and meet all requirements, for boater's training and/or licensing under state law applicable in the driver's state of residence;

B. Additionally, all towboat drivers (drivers towing event participants) at USA Water Ski "covered practices" and sanctioned events shall:

- i. hold a current USA Water Ski trained driver's rating or Sport Division driver's rating (a "Rated Driver"); or,
- ii. be accompanied (in the boat) and under the direct supervision of a Rated Driver as a part of a driver's training or instructional program.

C. NWSRA: Since NWSRA does not currently have a driver's rating program, towboat drivers for sanctioned NWSRA practices and tournaments shall:

- i. have a current motor vehicle driver's license;
- ii. meet the requirements of sub-section 1.A., above; and,
- iii. meet all other requirements established by NWSRA.

*Rationale and Comments: this proposal serves both a training and screening function. It generally requires that drivers towing event participants will have completed at least the basic level USA-WS training programs to generally introduce them to safe boating concepts and requirements and have passed any examination or certification needed to complete those training programs. The only exceptions to this requirement, as noted in I.B.ii., is if a driver-trainee is operating the towboat as a part of a driver's training or instructional program in the presence of (in the towboat) and under the direct supervision of a Rated Driver; and as noted in I.C, for sanctioned NWSRA events. NWSRA is requested to review their current driver's program following the adoption of this proposal, to determine if further training programs should be implemented. It also requires that other non-towboat event drivers participating in the event (e.g., pick up boat drivers) meet all training or licensing requirements under applicable state law. This proposal is more stringent than the current requirements, which, for instance, allow the use of non-rated drivers to tow participants in "covered practice" or grass roots events if a Rated Driver is present on site during the event.*

2. Driver Screening. In addition to meeting all other applicable requirements:

A. Rated Drivers shall:

- i. have a current and valid motor vehicle operator's license at all times while they hold a USA-WS driver's rating (or, in the case of a Rated Driver who does not currently hold a motor vehicle operator's license, demonstrate that the reason that he/she does not currently hold this license is not due to the fact that

his/her motor vehicle operator's license privileges have been suspended or revoked); and,

ii. undergo a motor vehicle (motor vehicle operator's license) records review following the adoption of this requirement, and thereafter in connection with any new driver's rating application and at least every two (2) years thereafter in order to maintain their driver's rating (except in the case of NWSRA event drivers who do not hold an ongoing USA-WS driver's rating, in which case the NWSRA event driver shall provide proof of a current motor vehicle operator's license prior to driving the event) and every two years thereafter; and,

iii. meet minimum "safe driving" standards established by USA Water Ski at all times while they hold a USA-WS's driver's rating.

B. Any USA-WS Driver's Rating shall be immediately and automatically deemed revoked upon the failure to meet these requirements;

C. Rated Drivers shall immediately report to USA Water Ski any suspension or loss of their motor vehicle operator's license.

*Rationale and Comments: this proposal serves a screening function. It is anticipated that USA Water Ski will require all driver candidates and Rated Drivers to periodically undergo a motor vehicle operator's license records check to confirm that the applicant or Rated Driver has a current, valid motor vehicle operator's license and the driver's records do not disclose a history of unsafe driving (e.g., recent or repeated drunk driving offenses, license suspensions due to multiple traffic offense convictions, etc.). Special provisions have been included to accommodate Rated Drivers who have never held a state motor vehicle operator's license, and for NWSRA event drivers who do not hold an ongoing USA-WS's drivers rating. USA-WS's insurance partners (Global Marine and ESIX) have agreed to provide screening criteria used by other NGB's to assist in the development of USA-WS' screening criteria. It is anticipated that the screening will be undertaken by a third-party agency, which will independently determine (subject to appropriate rights of review as to the accuracy of the underlying information) whether a particular candidate passes or fails the applicable criteria. Global Marine will determine if our towboat insurance carrier will pay the cost of this third-party screening. If not, it is anticipated that the screening cost (approximately \$15) will be paid by the sport division (as a part of its budget) or applicant (either new or renewal applicant), as determined by USA-WS (as to USA-WS trained drivers) or sport division (as to sport division-specific driver's ratings). All applicants and Rated Drivers will also be required to self-report any suspension or loss of their motor vehicle operator's license in addition to the third-party screening process. Any failure to comply with this self-reporting obligation will be a violation of USA-WS's requirements, and will subject the violator to appropriate USA-WS or Sport Division disciplinary proceedings and sanctions.*

3. Educational Program Updates. USA-WS and its Sport Divisions shall review and update all USA-WS driver's training and instructional programs to include the following:

- A. State boating law requirements, e.g., PFD and fire extinguisher requirements;
- B. Basic boating safety and "rules of the water" training;se
- C. Safety checklists, and operating requirements and recommendations from towboat manufacturers;

D. Event planning and safety considerations applicable to the event, specifically including the avoidance of hazards to event participants and bystanders.

*Rationale and Comment: this proposal is intended to require the review and update of current driver's training and instructional programs to ensure that basic safety issues are addressed in those programs, ranging from the operation of the boat to safety-related event planning. The event planning training should include both on-water activities (making sure boats and skiers maintain a safe distance from each other and other hazards, etc.) and off-water activities (spectator safety, etc.)*

4. Safety Checklist. USAWS shall update its current pre- and post-event safety checklist to include a requirement that the chief safety official review driver-related safety planning and issues with the driver having supervisory responsibility for the event, e.g., the Chief Driver in AWSA sanctioned events.

*Rational and Comment: this proposal is focused on ensuring that the driver-in-charge of a particular event is included in appropriate safety planning measures considered and/or implemented in an event.*

5. Other Planning Items. The Risk Management Committee and USA-WS staff will continue their work on the following:

A. Update insurance "fact sheet" and communications. *We should provide more succinct communications about the requirements and benefits of USA-WS's insurance programs.*

B. Promotion of Global Marine towboat insurance program. *We should look for opportunities to increase participation of towboat owners in Global Marine's towboat insurance program, both to increase the premium base (important at several levels, including measuring the loss ratio and cost of our insurance program) and to promote the coordination of insurance coverage between USA-WS's towboat and liability insurance programs.*

C. Sharing of safety training program information. *NSSA has, for instance, recently completed a new video covering basic driving safety issues, which may be of benefit to other sport divisions. Likewise, sport division feedback regarding safety director training may be helpful in providing both general and sport division-specific safety training.*

D. Assistance in Claims Investigation. *Our insurance partners will offer assistance to our insurers from USA-WS sport division representative in investigating claims. Although the insurers will remain responsible for investigating those claims, USA-WS sport division representatives may be able to provide assistance in understanding sport division practices and procedures that may be relevant to a particular claim*

E. Period Claims Review. *The Risk Management Committee will periodically review claims submitted in connection with USA-WS events both to monitor the types of claims experienced and to determine whether program changes should be implemented. The Risk Management Committee should also periodically review and report to USA-WS and its Sport Divisions the results and analysis of these claims investigations, to assist in further analysis and improvement of USA-WS' safety and accident prevention programs.*

USA Water Ski Time and Place Committee Report  
for the Board of Director's Meeting Jan. 29, 2012

The 2013 USA Water Ski Board of Director's meeting will be at 8:00 AM on Jan. 27, 2013 in Polk City FL.

The Time and Place Committee recommends that the annual Board of Director's meeting be held at 8:00 AM on the Sun. before the Super Bowl in Polk City, Fl. indefinitely and the Time and Place Committee be dissolved.

If in the future, the Board of Directors should wish to change the time and place, the committee can be reinstated.

Respectively submitted,  
Tom Ghiloni, Chairman

# USA-WS Annual Towboat Committee

January, 2012

**Introduction** (by Jim Grew): If any Sports Disciplines have issues re towboats that need to be addressed or with which this committee can assist them, they should please contact George Lindy via email. This report obviously pertains mostly to AWSA (NCWSA & WSDA); but the committee is ready and available to assist all Sports Disciplines. All references in this report are to the AWSA towboat program which also involves NCWSA and WSDA tournaments.

- **Approved 2012 Towboat Models**

The Towboat tests were held October 18 and 19, 2011 at USA Water Ski Headquarters. Two new Malibu model boats were tested – the Malibu Response TXi 5.7 liter and TXi 6.0 liter. Attached is the approved list of boats for 2012.

- **Towboat Use**

There continues to be a shortage of promotional towboats in some areas of the country. This past year, we made a number of exceptions for use of older model year boats to accommodate needs. The policy for the coming ski year is updated as follows:

- AWSA Nationals, AWSA Regionals, and Record Capability (Class E,L,R) tournaments may use a current year (2012) or previous year (2011) AWSA Approved Towboats
- Class C or lower tournaments may use a 2012, 2011, 2010, or 2009 AWSA Approved Towboat (3 years prior)
- All eligible year Approved Towboats participating in AWSA sanctioned tournaments will receive credit toward Regional and National Tournament participation

Policy Exceptions for Approved Use:

- Exceptions for approved use of other boats not on the “approved list” may be made by the Chair(s) of the Towboat Committee.
- Older Boats – If there are not sufficient numbers of approved boats available in an area for use, the LOC may apply to their Regional Towboat Committee member (or Chair(s) of the AWSA Towboat Committee) for approval to use an OLDER model year towboat. Consideration will be given to the condition of the boat, speed control system and version of speed control software in the boat.

- **Unchanged New Model Year Used before Towboat Tests**

Promotional boat owners often have an opportunity to sell a boat in early to mid- season and take delivery of an unchanged new model year boat. However, under existing Towboat Policy, an unchanged next model year boat cannot be used until after the Regionals. The Committee has modified the policy to provide for earlier use such that a new model year boat which is unchanged may be used prior to the Towboat Tests provided an exception is requested of the Towboat Committee and subsequently granted.

- **Speed Control**

#### ZERO OFF

- Zero Off is in the process of making technical changes to correct identified issues and some interface tweaks. Currently there is no tentative release date for version R.
- Rumors continue regarding a new “D” setting in slalom. While there has been some minor R&D, there are no current plans from ZO for release. From the Committee’s perspective, a “beta” version would need to be distributed on a limited basis for evaluation before any formal testing and approval.
- Expect to see different displays in the coming years as the towboat manufacturers are beginning to use dash units that support both Zero Off speed control and other functionality. This may mean that from manufacturer to manufacturer, there may be slight differences in the user interface.

#### PERFECT PASS

- Perfect Pass has finished testing and is in production with the ZO simulator. The Z BOX can be installed on 2009 boats or older. In slalom, settings include A,B,C & 1,2,3. Upgrade to existing StarGazer systems is available starting at \$439. The new system uses GPS timing and eliminates the need for magnets. During September, informal testing was done in California that included a wide range of skiers using a 2008 MasterCraft (w/both ZO & PP), 2002 American Skier, 2001 Ski Nautique, and a 2008 Malibu Lxi. Skiers felt the system duplicated the pull of ZO.

During our National’s meeting with the towboat manufacturers, there was a lengthy discussion regarding speed control software updates. Concerns were raised regarding new software installed by manufacturers without adequate field testing, and subsequent “glitches” later discovered in tournament situations.

The towboat companies asked if a deadline around March 1 could be established for software version upgrades so that they can better plan new model year production changes. No final resolution was made. Establishment of any target date will need to be coordinated with the speed control manufacturer(s).

- **Power & Acceleration**

At our National's committee meeting, two issues were raised regarding power and acceleration:

- The Eastern Region raised the concern that during the Eastern Regional Championships, a number of the boats had difficulty in slalom reaching 36 mph at the pre-gates due to the altitude and an extremely short site. The committee modified the policy the Towboat Policy as follows:
  - “For any tournament held at an elevation of 2000 feet or greater, or at a site with a short setup (less than 2000 feet), the tournament sponsor may request an exception to the “AS TESTED” policy, by submitting a formal request to the Chair of the AWSA Towboat Committee. The Chair may grant a change in "pitch" only (i.e. A change from a 14x18 to a 14x16 or from a 14x16 to a 14x14, etc.). The propeller must be the same manufacturer, same material, and same number of blades.”
- One manufacturer asked the committee – “Are the current test parameters for power and acceleration relevant?” The manufacturer noted that it is difficult to prop their boat to meet the P&A test of zero to 36 mph in 230 feet, and at the same time be able to meet the demanding P&A test for jump.

The Committee will continue to evaluate its testing criteria.

**USOC USA Water Ski and AWSA Board Report**  
**Submitted by: Rhoni Bischoff**  
**December 20, 2011**

On April 1-3, 2011 I traveled to New York for the first of three USOC-AAC board meetings in 2011. However, before I get into the issues that I believe relate to our organization, I want to remind everyone what the mission and goals of the USOC-AAC actually are. Essentially, the USOC-AAC's primary goal is to communicate the interests and protect the rights of athletes, in cooperative support of the USOC achieving its mission. I wanted to touch on this because I want you all to realize that most of what occurs at these meetings is not sport specific at all. We primarily work in committees and on task forces that are geared to accomplishing specific goals for athletes' rights in general. These rights focus on everything from drug testing issues, to elections for athlete support for Olympic and Pan Am Games, to Paralympics rights, etc. While all of these issues are certainly important, I sometimes find it frustrating that I am putting time and effort into something that I am not certain is always directly benefitting our sport. I know many of you have expressed this same concern throughout my last 7 years in this position. However, as you read the below information that does somewhat apply to waterskiing, I'd like you to keep in mind that we simply have to use the Olympic affiliation when it's beneficial for our sport. And, yes, there are plenty of benefits that we still receive that make this relationship worth while. Because of this, I believe it is important that we continue to attend these meetings and keep an athlete in this position.

Interestingly enough, one of the main reports given in New York in April was by Alan Ashley, the Chief of Sports Performance at the USOC. Back in the spring, the USOC board was discussing extensively "Pan Am Games only" sports funding as well as Paralympics funding. As you all know, the Ted Stevens Act includes both "Pan Am Games only" sports as well as Paralympics games sport. The board was wrestling with the fact that they pay big dollars to send the 8 non-Olympic sports in the USOC family to the Pan Am Games, yet doing so works directly against their mission (which by the way is to increase Olympic and Paralympics medal count.) An additional problem for us is that the paralympians have had a huge push against the USOC because they are actually included in the mission statement, yet not funded or recognized the same as the Olympic sports. They also want to be called "Olympians" if they compete in the Paralympic Games and this is a huge issue for funding as well. This Paralympics issue has been a long time coming, but it is taking more funding dollars from the pool which doesn't necessarily help waterskiing or the other "Pan Am Games only" sports. In April, Alan said that a final decision about funding would be made by September 19, 2011.

On September 23-24, 2011 in Colorado Springs, Colorado at the second USOC-AAC meeting, Alan Ashley announced the decision of the USOC board. And, as I expected, there will be no funding for the Pan Am Games only sports. Believe it or not, the USOC is actually changing the current structure of Sport Performance. Funding dollars are going to be given to those sports and athletes who can best bring the USOC medals. Trust me, if we think it is bad that we aren't getting funding dollars (when we've already been without them), you all should see how it went over with Olympic athletes who will be losing resource allocation because their projected chances for a medal are less than another athlete in a different sport.

For your information, the resource allocation process is now an integrated disbursement of NGB grants, direct athlete support, OTC (Olympic Training Center) use, professional services and Games support. The sports are now put into categories of Foundation Sports and Opportunity and Development Sports. For some sports, these categories of Foundation, Opportunity and Development are applied on a discipline by discipline basis. Alan emphasized that the focus of the Sport Performance division is on performance at the Olympic and Paralympics Games in order to maximize the USOC's total organizational strength.

At the September meeting, Ashley encouraged the AAC members to be in communication with their respective Sport Performance Team Leaders to provide input on their NGBs' operations, to find out how their NGBs are categorized, and to generally maintain contact on sport performance issues. He addressed that the same principles are being applied to Olympic and Paralympics sports and also that team sports are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged versus individual sports in the resource allocation process. The funding to each sport is customized with a focus on what resources will be necessary for that sport to win medals. It will be imperative for Brandon and me to work with our team leaders at the USOC to keep what little funding we have.

The only other issue you might find interesting is the Paralympics movement. In an effort to promote equality for Paralympics athletes, the AAC passed a new format for Paralympics athlete representation onto the AAC – 2 winter reps and 6 summer reps.

Elections were conducted in July and August to fill four positions (Cycling, Swimming, and two for "other sports"), considering the four current representatives and alternates (Track, Team sports, and two winter representatives). This push for the Paralympics athletes is occurring throughout the entire USOC family and more elections will continue to take place for various seats and positions. The push for funding dollars as well as the rights for paralympians to coin themselves "Olympians" continues also. The Olympic family is very split on this issue and no matter what your personal opinion on the paralympians may be the fact remains that this up rise simply takes more away from the non-Olympic sports.

Should you have any further questions about the USOC-AAC, please feel free to ask. You may email me at [Rhoni@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Rhoni@cfl.rr.com).

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rhoni Bischoff

**USA Water Ski Board of Directors  
Waterways Education Committee Chairman  
Report to the Board, Winter 2012  
From: Leon J. Larson**

The Waterways Education Committee continues to be active. On page 2 is a listing of the issues that have been addressed throughout the year.

I also continue to be active as Chair of the IWWF Environment Committee. Currently I have updated the IWWF Environment Manual, the IWWF Safety Manual and the USAWS Waterways Manual. These documents are available on the IWWF and the USAWS web sites. The IWWF appointment is paramount to the continued access to waterways issues and developments worldwide.

I also continued my involvement on the Underwriters Laboratories Personal Floatation Device (PFD) Standards Panel. PFD classifications are in the process of being revised. Any suggestions on design criteria for water ski PFD's are appreciated and will be brought before the panel. We are continuing to work with the Coast Guard (CG) and the manufacturers to obtain a special use designation for our lightweight neoprene vests that have become so popular but are not Coast Guard approved

In February I attended the WSIA Summit in Utah representing the IWWF and USAWaterSki. Report on page 3.

The annual meeting of the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) was held in May 2011 in Washington DC. Funding for my attendance came from IWWF. We were able to effectively lobby congressmen and women on the cause of waterways access in states where issues are most active. The Ethanol in fuels issue persists as the EPA is considering raising the minimum ethanol content in fuels to 20%. NMMA is currently lobbying against such a move. Report on page 4.

In May 2011 I participated in, and represented, the IWWF and USAWS at the 9th Olympic Conference on Sport and Environment held in Doha Qatar. A report on this activity is on page 5 of this report.

The WEC Manual and the Gronland case file are available electronically and continue to help in several of the cases listed in the attached supplement on page 2. I continue to keep the committee members active by passing local issues on to them for action and keeping them informed of National issues. They have responded well. Most of the listed issues were resolved favorably. The Committee will continue to upgrade the Waterways Education Manual as new information becomes available. I am currently working with Guy Haggard on a rewrite of the Florida PFD rule to clarify the interpretation. Once done I will forward this to other state NASBLA representatives to use as a template for other states.

My attendance at several of these conferences were sponsored by IWWF, hence their reference on the reports.

Respectfully submitted,

**Leon J. Larson**

**WATERWAYS EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
2011 Activity**

**WATERWAYS EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**AFFILIATIONS:**

Water Ski Industry Association  
 International Water Ski and Wakeboard Fed. Environmental Committee  
 National Marine Mfg. Assoc. Waterways Access Task Force  
 Standing Watch of Florida  
 National Association of Boating Law Administrators NASBLA  
 Global Sports Alliance  
 Olympic Committee on Sport and the Environment

**WATERWAYS EDUCATION COMMITTEE      ACTIVITIES and ISSUES**

<b>DATE 2011</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES and ISSUES</b>
14-Jan	Idaho	Observer Rule
3-Feb	Wis.	No Wake Zone
14-Feb	Or	Waterways Access
21-Feb	Maine	Slalom course regs small ponds
22-Feb	Utah	WSIA Summit
5-Mar	NY	Course permit
14-Mar	Fl.	PFD issue
22-Aug	Wash DC	American Boating Congress
13-Apr	Ill	Course permit
1-May	Qatar	Olympic Conference Sport and Environment
14-Jun	Minn	Erosion Study
12-Jul	NZ	Cable Park Env Impact
17-Jul	Dubna	Attend IWWF EB meeting Env. Comm
17-Jul	Mi	Course permit
26-Jul	Md	Erosion Study
5-Aug	Ar	No Wake Zone
22-Aug	Fl.	UF Safty request
29-Aug	NC	Course grandfathering
2-Sep	NJ	Noise Study
26-Sep	Ca	Fish stock regs

**Report: WSIA (Water Sports Industry Association) SUMMIT PARK CITY UTAH FEB. 2011**

The work of IWWF and USAWS was recognized by the WSIA Board of Directors and again by Larry Meddock Exec. Dir. during the regular session.

Among some of the contacts made was Mr. Peter Rietz of the Reitz Law Firm. Peter's law firm has extensive experience in water sports litigation, working exclusively for the defendants. He has agreed to be the legal representative for WSIA. I shared with him much of what we do both for safety and waterways access. His addition to WSIA will be an ultimate benefit to IWWF and USAWS, in collaboration, as it pertains to safety and waterways access issues.

WSIA has instituted a web site based alert system called WSAAN Water Sports Alert Network. This is available currently on the WSIA Face Book page. This system will provide a forum on current waterways issues in the USA and Internationally, and provide access to issues assistance.

I also spoke with Peter Methven currently with Latitude 52 Ltd. Peter was the European representative from correct Craft and retiring recently. He is based in London and can be an excellent resource. I have his contact information.

I spent a significant amount of time with Bob Crowley from USAWS and solidified our close relationship with him as it relates to safety and waterways issues.

Extensive time was spent networking with other industry representatives

Respectfully submitted,

**Leon J. Larson**



**International Water Ski & Wakeboard Federation**

**Environment Committee**

**From the Desk of: Leon J. Larson** Environment Committee Chairman

**REPORT**

IWWF Executive Board

Re: Report on the American Boating Congress

I represented the IWWF at the meeting of the National Marine Manufacturers Assoc. (NMMA) American Boating Congress in Washington DC USA on May 5-6, 2011.

Several important issues were discussed, and once again the issue of Ethanol in marine applications was at the forefront of issues. As most of you already know ethanol in the marine environment constitutes a potential safety hazard. US EPA is considering an increase in the allowable percentage of ethanol in US fuels to 15%. See attached brief.

More information on this is also available in the IWWF Environment Manual.

Another issue of importance is the Mandatory life jacket wear proposed by BSAC and the USCG. The recommendation from BSAC is that mandatory wear in small open craft 18 feet and less be adopted along with PWC operation. NMMA is lobbying to change the ruling to 12 years and younger and PWC operation with no restrictions on type or length of boat. Rear Admiral Kevin Cook spoke to this issue and was made aware of the industry's concern with the scare tactics being used in their current ad campaign. See attached Brief.

Since the health of US Marine Manufacturing Industries is so closely tied to the success of our sport and since many of the products we use are manufactured by US companies, attendance at this meeting on an annual basis is seen as most beneficial to our continued success as a sport. Our support of the NMMA allows marine and water sport industry executives know that we are interested in their success, and support their efforts to sustain a healthy industry. I have attached some of the briefs from the conference to this report that may be of interest to all. Note the brief on the health of the US boating industry. You might note the upswing in the last year. That would be some encouraging news if the trend continues.

Respectfully submitted, Leon J. Larson **Leon J. Larson** **12 May, 2011**



## **International Water Ski & Wakeboard Federation**

### **Environment Committee**

**From the Desk of: Leon J. Larson Environment** Committee Chairman

#### **REPORT**

#### **9th WORLD CONFERENCE ON SPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Doha Qatar 29 April-2 May 2011**

This Conference was presented by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to continue the educational process for environmental and sustainable practices at sporting events, and to further encourage such practices. IWWF President Kuno Ritchard was also in attendance and held meetings with other high level delegates.

Representatives from Vancouver 2010, London 2012, and Sochi 2014, Rio 2016, Munic 2018 along with representatives from the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, the 2010 Youth Olympics in Singapore and several current and future world event organizers attended will be. An overview of the steps taken and steps to be being taken in future events that will assure environmentally sustainable games will be presented as much as possible. Successes and failures were discussed along with lessons learned in these processes.

During the conference the IWWF Environment Brochure was made available and subsequently recognized by Ms. Ingrid Beutler Deputy Head of Office from the UNEP Office on Sport and the International Sport Accord. IWWF was recognized for their ongoing efforts in promoting environmental awareness among its members and event organizers. This brochure is currently being upgraded to reflect the name change.

Additionally while at the conference I spoke to several of the delegates about Correct Craft and the current development of their electric powered Ski Nautique. Most were impressed by this development. To that extent it was suggested by Ms. Beutler that Correct Craft be nominated for the prestigious IOC Sport and Environment Award presented at each World conference, the next to be held in 2013

I am currently gathering information on the processes for calculating carbon emissions from sporting events so as to provide a tool kit in our Environment Manual on to how to go about such calculations. The comment and question often arises: I know how to mitigate my carbon footprint but how do I calculate my impact? I am working to provide that information in the form of a tool kit inserted into the appendices of the manual. To that goal I will add the following link to the Environment Manual provided by Sport Accord. You will find the Sport and Sustainability Event Tool Kit AISTS available at the website, SSET.org

Respectfully submitted **Leon J. Larson** 12 May, 2011

## GrassRoots Series Report To USA-WS BOD – January 2012

2011 marked the second full year since the inception of the GR Series. A total of 729 GrassRoots members have joined in 2011 to date, 333 of which were never before members of USA-WS. This brings the total to 930 new members generated by the GR Series since its launch in 2009. While the number of GR members grew in 2011, the number of sanctioned GR events declined from 209 in 2010 to 162 in 2011. We're pleased with the fact the GR Series continues to produce new members, but we also believe the more GR events that are sanctioned, the more opportunities there are to generate new members.

For this reason, in 2012 we'll be contacting current and expired clubs directly by telephone. We believe this direct contact with clubs will allow us to build relationships, educate them on the GR Series, and hopefully infiltrate existing events while generating some new events as well. This will also give clubs an opportunity to provide us with feedback on the GR Series so that we can continue to make improvements to the program.

In 2012 we will also be making a concentrated effort to ramp up the GR Series presence on Facebook. We believe Facebook, when used properly, can be a powerful tool in marketing your brand, and connecting it with your customers. Ultimately, we'd like our GR Series Facebook Page to become a portal for recreational skiers to connect with USA-WS, and our affiliated clubs who use the GR Series.

Finally, we urge the members of the USA-WS BOD to endorse this program, and champion it to your constituents at the local level and within the sport discipline you represent. As a member of the BOD you have influence within your sport discipline. In order for this program to be successful it is imperative that we have the support of the leaders of this organization. With your support, we have a much greater chance for garnering support at the local level as well.

## American Water Ski Educational Foundation 2011 update

The American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF) has had a very busy and productive year. Thanks to our faithful members and sponsors the foundation is doing well. The 2011 Hall of Fame awards banquet was held in April at the Lakeland Civic Center. As in past years it was well attended.

Five scholarships were awarded in 2011, the first in the amount of \$3000, the others for \$1500.

1. The Barbara Bolding/Jim Grew scholarship to Caroline Hensley, Hixson, Tennessee
2. The Correct Craft scholarship to Maddy Baldwin, Shakopee, Minnesota
3. 3. The MasterCraft scholarship to Emily Van Treese of Sidney, Ohio
4. The Tim Olson memorial scholarship to Brandon Furey, Clearwater, Minnesota
5. The Jennifer Odom/David Kammerer memorial scholarship to Jonathan Paulovich, Hewitt, NJ

The deadline for the 2012 scholarship applications is March 1<sup>st</sup> and applications can be found on the AWSEF website.

The website [www.waterskihalloffame.com](http://www.waterskihalloffame.com) has been redone and is very informative. It provides a much needed way for members and other interested people to see what the foundation is all about and information about our various scholarships and programs. We have a Facebook page as well.

Lake Grew is being leased to Fluid Ski and Sports, owned by Scot Ellis and Kyle Eade. Besides using the world class lake for their ski school they've hosted many tournaments and clinics. The new women's world jump record of 188 feet was set at a tournament this past season. The 2012 US junior and 17 to 20 water ski team trials will be held at Lake Grew in June.

Fundraisers include a legacy program whereby individuals, families, clubs, or anyone else can be honored permanently on the web site with words and a photo.

A new brick 'walk of fame' program is being started. Bricks in various sizes are available for purchase.

A raffle is under way now and will be held during the next two years. This year's drawing will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> for the \$5000.00 grand prize as well as other cash prizes. Tickets are still available.

This past November a "Ski With The Legends" day was held at Lake Grew. More than 20 skiers showed up in early November for a day of skiing, coaching, and socializing with the likes of legends Lucky Lowe, Kris LaPoint and his wife Jennifer Leachman LaPoint, Ricky McCormick, Cory Pickos, Les Todd, Jack Travers, and Deena Mapple. Another event is planned for 2012.

The 2012 Hall of Fame banquet in April will be honoring inductees Sherri Slone and Wade Cox and Award of Distinction honorees Bob Maher, Larry Meddock, Lance Renfrow, Don Thomson, and Mike Tolzman.

Also planned during the Hall of Fame weekend are a golf tournament and a ski tournament.

**Submitted by: Paul Chapin, AWSEF President**

## **2011 WSIA Status report for USAWS Board of Directors meeting 1-29-2012**

**2011 Coast Guard Grant**.....By far the most significant accomplishment of the WSIA for 2011 was the successful grant award from the USCG for \$637,341.00. This grant was the second largest grant given by the CG in 2011 and one of the largest grants ever. The grant was given to the WSF, the educational arm of the WSIA, for the development of a National Outreach program designed to change behavior of recreational boaters. The WSF selected the Bonnier Corp to be its contractor for this project. Bonnier is the largest marine publisher in the US and located right here in Central Florida.

We launched the Outreach Program to target Boating Under the Influence (BUI), Navigation Rules and Life Jacket wear rates. Our first effort was a print ad that hit in the winter issues of eight magazines called "Bottoms Up". This ad spoke to the dangers of BUI. The next release was a unique web site that featured boating tutorials on the "Bad, Better, Best" of water & boating situations that underscored Navigation Rules. This web site is also driving boaters to retail outlets to participate in contest and giveaways. This will become one of our key tracking devices so we can monitor whether or not we are impacting boaters. The web site will also feature a "kid's Corner" as well as a host of recreational boating tips written by known editors on related topics.

The WSF will be applying for its second grant by January 27<sup>th</sup> of this year and our hope is to have a three year run with this program with a total of approximately \$2.2 million dollars.

**The Water Sports Alert Network (WSAN)**..... launched its on line tutorial program with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in October of 2011. We started this campaign with videos on wakeboarding and wakesurfing. They were debuted at NASBLA's National Convention in Milwaukee last August. This program was very well received by Law Enforcement (LE) and National Safety Organizations. LE can access these videos for no charge by going on the NASBLA web site and using a password. The videos were never intended for public viewing, which is why they will only be seen through NASBLA or by direct request of a LE agency. To date, we have sent out several copies to LE groups around the United States.

**2011 Summit in the Snow**.....The 2011 installment of the Summit in the Snow was our best effort to date. With over 100 attendees we filled the facilities of Park City, Utah. We had the CEO and founder of Skull Candy, the VP of Sanuk shoes, the Executive Director of the National Association of Ski Area Operators, and NBA All Star Bill Walton to close out our speaker roster. Bill Walton was by far the most dynamic speaker of them all. He was a complete surprise and had the very critical crowd hanging on every word.

2012 will see the CEO of Intrawest, the largest mountain owner in the US. The Executive Director of the Snow Sports Industries of America Association, the VP of Van's, the largest action sports company in America, and presenters on crisis communications and risk management. We are gathering in Crested Butte, Colorado for 2012 and all of USAWS board members are invited and welcome.

**Warnings**.... one of the many values of membership to the WSIA is access to our warning labels. The WSIA launched a complete overhaul of our warning labels for 2011. We not only utilized the finest attorneys we could find for this project, we hired a Human Factors PhD to review them.

Through this process, we were able to increase the perceived value of the labels and in fact charge for their usage. This has become a significant fund raising vehicle for the WSIA.

**Cable Parks**.....I believe I have reported in prior meetings that we now represent the Parasail Industry. We have since been contacted by the Cable Park Industry asking for leadership. We have already developed a safety video for both parasail and cable parks. Also included in their membership are access to safety waivers and best practices.

**Parasailing**.....the WSIA was asked last year if we would help facilitate a meeting with Parasail Operators to create a National Safety Standard for the Parasail Industry. We accepted that challenge and by the time you read this we will have hosted the first ever such gathering for this industry at the Winter Surf Expo show at the Orange County Convention Center. The meeting will be run by ASTM International, with presenters from the USCG, The FAA, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and representative from the insurance industry.

**Survey of Sales**.....the WSIA completed its 2011 Survey of Sales in Dec. of 2011. This survey is a compilation of sales by all towed water sports manufacturers. The purpose of this survey has nothing to do with who has what market or market share. As the WSIA interfaces with different government agencies, the survey has become a very useful tool to share and report the amount of commerce we represent. The Survey of sales is no charge to WSIA members, while non members are charged a fee.

**Water Sports Retailer**.....the WSIA will reintroduce the WSR in 2012. Water sports dealers and manufacturers have requested that we bring this feature benefit back to them. This new project will be distributed electronically to all water sports dealers in the US. The WSR will feature timely articles on risk management, best practices, demo waivers and on site signage, as well as other dealer and industry topics.

Last but not least is a comment on the growth and financial stability of the WSIA. We are very pleased to report that membership, revenue and profits are up for 2011. Does not get any better than that!

# American Kneeboard Association Year End Report 2011



## The Year In Review

Report prepared by John Dicus, Chairman of the Board - January, 2012

## **EVENTS**

In 2011, 23 (up from 20 in 2010) events were held in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Minnesota, Texas, Illinois and Wisconsin. The events included Class Q, Class T events, a three day competitive instructional clinic, club practices, officials, drivers, and social events. There were two Class T (Record) tournaments which resulted in three National Kneeboard records set (three approved).

Our 27<sup>th</sup> Nautique National Kneeboard Championships were once again held at Callaway Gardens, Georgia in September over Labor Day, with 24 competitors. It included a new format for our freestyle event, with an elimination round on Saturday and finals on Sunday.

## **RECORDS SET**

During the 2011 competition season one National Kneeboard Slalom record was set at the Florida State tournament and two National Kneeboard Slalom records were set at our 26<sup>th</sup> Nautique National Kneeboard Championships on the waters of Robin Lake behind a Ski Nautique 200.

Men's V Division – Kneeboard Slalom:

**Mike Licht, Naples, FL - 30.25 buoys (.25 buoy at 22' off)**

Surpassing previous record of 30 buoys held by Bob McDonner (2003)

Junior Girls Division – Kneeboard Slalom:

**Lauren Roberson, Talking Rock, GA - 40.5 buoys (4.5 buoys at 28' off)**

Surpassing previous record of 38 buoys held by Lauren Roberson (2010)

Men's V Division – Kneeboard Slalom:

**John Dicus, Alpharetta, GA - 33.5 buoys (3.5 buoys at 22' off)**

Surpassing previous record of 30.25 buoys held by Mike Licht (2011)

## **OFFICIALS & DRIVERS TRAINING**

Clinics in 2011 have resulted in a replenishment of much needed AKA officials. Full clinics were given the day before Nationals with members receiving new assistant driver, assistant judge and assistant scorers rating's with existing officials renewing or reinstating their ratings. The Officials and Drivers Training Manuals were updated for 2011, put on disk and helped tremendously with the clinics.

## **SPECIALTY AWARDS**

The 2011 Mr. Pete Salassi Sportsmanship Award was presented at the AKA annual awards banquet to

**Dan Kelsey of Saint Paul, MN.** The membership of the American Kneeboard Association selects the recipient of this award. Dan is supportive of all competitors and offers assistance in all areas whenever possible.

The Mr. Pete Salassi Scholarship Award was presented to **Patrick Dicus of Alpharetta, GA.** Patrick submitted an essay to the Board of Directors stating his involvement in competitive kneeboarding and his aspirations for the future. The Board of Directors selects the recipient of this award from essays submitted, four other essays were submitted in 2011. Annually the AKA gives a scholarship to students 17 & under in amounts of no less than \$500.

The 2011 Ron Veno / Andy Remy Founder's Award was won by **Dan Kelsey of Saint Paul, MN.** This award is presented annually to an American Kneeboard Association Board member, past or present and is chosen by the Board of Directors. The award honors a member for his/her life-long contributions to and achievements within the association.

#### **ATHLETES OF THE YEAR**

The American Kneeboard Association Board of Directors selected **A'lisa Piper, Lake Placid, FI,** and **Jared Bolhen, Lake Placid, FL** as its female and male athletes of the Year. In 2008 the selection process changed from subjective voting to an earned title. The criteria for winning this award is based on an overall points system in all four kneeboard disciplines (slalom, trick, flipout and freestyle).

The American Kneeboard Association Board of Directors also selected **Lauren Roberson, Talking Rock, GA** and **Joey Deutsch of Alpharetta, GA** as its junior female and junior male athletes of the Year. This is a new category of awards for the AKA in 2011 and recognizes our junior athletes for their achievements in the kneeboard slalom and trick events based on an overall points system.

#### **NATIONAL KNEEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS and INTERNATIONAL RIDER CUP**

Our 27<sup>th</sup> Nautique National Kneeboard Championships were again held on Robin Lake at Callaway Gardens, Georgia, on Labor Day weekend September 3 – 4<sup>th</sup>. Correct Craft was our title sponsor. Competitor attendance was down slightly (24) from 2010 (29) however it was as expected at Callaway Gardens - a great event – and for the first time we pulled the Kneeboard slalom event with a 2011 Ski Nautique 200 with two National kneeboard slalom records set.

The AKA Board of Directors hosted the event this year as we did not have a club bid. The annual competitors/officials meeting was highlighted with a timed slalom course run for all AKA aspiring and rated drivers. Should be a piece of cake with Zero-Off, however all contestants had to hand drive it with

all the instruments covered. One driver completed the pass with a record capable time in the 2011 Sport Nautique 200 – **Chuck Purdy** took the Drivers Cup home to FL.

## **2012 OUTLOOK**

We will once again host our Nationals at Callaway Gardens during Labor Day. One week later, the 6<sup>th</sup> International Riders Cup competition is to be held in Leeds, England with TEAM USA to defend the Riders Cup from competing teams from TEAM UK, TEAM AUSTRALIA and, for the first time in international competition, TEAM FRANCE.

Due to the poor economy it's hard to predict the outcome of 2012. In 2010 our membership increased - this year AKA memberships declined significantly. Kneeboarders and their families remain committed to AKA and are hopeful for continued growth.

USA Wakeboard BOD Report  
January 2012

2011 economic conditions continue to erode membership at -12% as we see very little non-collegiate club level wakeboard events that were so popular 5 years ago. This can be attributed mostly to the health of local boat dealers. Wakeboard promo boat programs do not exist like 3 event boat programs but are boat dealer and pro shop driven. 2011 ski and wakeboard boat sales posted another loss over 2010's sales. We do not expect any positive change in non-collegiate wakeboard events until the health of the boat industry begins to level off and improve. However, based on the SGMA participation survey, wakeboarding continues to grow at a slow level pace over the last 3 years. What is not interpreted within the data is the growth in cable.

2011 Board-Up Miami was not held due to losing the venue. 2012 Board-Up is scheduled to be held as the Pan American Championship at a new venue on Mills Pond on March 22-24.

The 2011 USA Wakeboard Nationals for Wakeboard, Cable and Wakesurf were held in Oklahoma City, hosted by WakeZone Cable Park and Epic Boats. Participation at Cable was stronger than the previous year as a Pro Cash purse was offered. The results were also the same for Wakeboard. Participation in Wakesurf remained flat with no cash prize.

Wakesurf has given strong indications of their desire to organize separately as a unique sport division with USA Water Ski. USA Wakeboard has worked very hard to support Wakesurf. The Wakesurf Nationals are set for July in Florida and is listed as part of the Centurion Wakesurf series leading up to World Wake Surfing Championships.

World Champion Adam Fields has expressed the intention to host the 2012 USA Wakeboard Nationals in September as part of a new series with Epic Boats and Adam Fields Wakeboard Schools. We have scheduled a conference call during the BOD meeting to confirm.

Janifer Ellis again led a tremendous effort for the Team USA group bringing home Gold from both the IWWF World Championships and the Pan American Games in 2011. This year's challenge is to get a winning team to the CWWC Cable World Championship in the Philippines. With the IOC shortlisting cable wakeboard for possible inclusion in the 2020 Olympics, we are beginning to see some recognition from cable park venues and riders. Since the announcement, we have tried to leverage the possibilities with our other properties.

USA Wakeboard BOD has awarded the following:

2011 Male Rider of the Year	Andrew Adkison
2011 Female Rider of the Year	Raimi Merritt
2011 Volunteer of the Year	John Zdeblick
2011 That's Incredible	Noah Flegel
2011 Innovator Award	Cobe Mikacich
2011 Coach of the Year	Cobe Mikacich

## 2011 Team of the Year- IWWF Wakeboard World Team

Andrew Adkison  
Noah Flegel  
Nick Jones  
Paulie Koch  
Tori Koch  
Raimi Merritt  
Daniel Powers  
Matt Vermillion  
Janifer Ellis, Team Captain  
Roger Ellis, Team Manager

Collegiate Wakeboard continues to grow. The 2011 Collegiate Wakeboard Championships held at the Alt Games hosted 13 full teams vs. 9 teams the previous year. Results for the 2011 Alt Games were:

1	University of Tennessee	570
2	Chico State University	540
3	University of Florida	365
4	University of Wisconsin - Lacrosse	320
5	University of Wisconsin Madison	294
6	Virginia Tech University	280
7	Central Washington University	278
8	Oklahoma State University	259
9	Florida Gulf Coast University	221
10	Sacramento State University	195
11	Illinois State University	169
12	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	149
13	University of Illinois	94

Already Collegiate has completed all 5 regional events with a total of 24 teams participating. The top 16 teams have been invited to the 2012 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 8 teams to fill the ranks leaving a strong chance for a full Championship.

Because so very few wakeboard clubs exist, USA Wakeboard continues to add incentives for Grassroots' coordinators by matching the T-shirt credit at the Grassroots shop in addition to paying the sanction fee. This was very instrumental in getting all 5 collegiate regionals complete but much more is needed to build collegiate teams. Collegiate teams for wakeboard and cable are undoubtedly the best direction for membership growth.

We have successfully negotiated with the CBS Sports Alt Games producer to leverage our 6 years of success with the Collegiate Wakeboard Nationals to bring a new show to the CBS Sports Spectacular. We are adding a USA Cable Nationals hosted by WakeZone Cable Park in Oklahoma City. The stage is set to shoot Collegiate Wakeboard on Thursday 5/31 through Saturday 6/2 and encore with Cable Wakeboard on Sunday 6/3. WakeZone has committed to a \$12,000 pro cable cash purse. We will use the results from Nationals along with the WWA Cable Pro Tour results to select the 6 Pro Am Cable Team members to represent the USA at the CWWC Cable World Championship in November.

**ABC REPORT**  
**USA Water Ski Board of Directors**  
**January, 2012**  
**Submitted by: Joe Malenfant, ABC President**

**General Information**

In 2011, twenty-four USAWS sanctioned events were held that involved barefoot water-skiing competition or practice. Many of these events also included “grassroots” activities.

No serious injuries occurred during any of these 24 events.

**The 2011 U.S. Barefoot Nationals were held in Waco, TX, at the “Barefoot Ski Ranch”**

Waco was the site of the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Nationals in 1978 and the Barefoot Ski Ranch is one of the best barefoot ski sites in the world. The BSR along with co owners Stuart Parsons and Aaron York put on a world class event. There were 106 skiers in this year’s National competition. Many National and World Records were set at this event. The amenities were amazing and are still being built. The LOC also put on a \$25,000.00 cash awards “Jump Jam” held under the lights, which drew nice local crowds of spectators. The BSR is a special place and the LOC is planning bigger and better things for the 2012 U.S Nationals.

**2012 Barefoot Worlds will be held at the BSR in Waco, TX September, 2012**

The “Barefoot Ski Ranch” will play host to the worlds, when the 2012 World Barefoot Championships come to Waco, TX in September of 2012.

Stuart and Jennifer Parson of Parson Roofing are the major sponsors of this tournament. I can assure you all that this will be the new benchmark by which to measure a world class event. They will have the entire community behind them in staging this prestigious event. It is sure to be the largest Barefoot World Championships ever held.

The U.S.’s Dale Stevens has been named as the Chief Judge for the 2012 World Barefoot Championships. This is Dale’s second nomination to this honored position.

**2011 Awards**

2011 was a momentous year for the ABC, as it was successful in having Ron Scarpa inducted into the Hall of Fame. We also had several other nominations for HOF, AOD awards.

Elaine Heller set a new World Jump Record of 21.3 meters at the U.S. Nationals. She is one of only two women to jump with the “inverted” style of jumping.

Elaine was nominated for the Woman’s Sports Foundation, “Sports Woman of the Year” award.

Elaine was also awarded the 2011 World Barefoot Council Athlete of the Year.

Elaine also was awarded the ABC Athlete of the Year.

Kailey Koehler was awarded ABC’s Jennifer Rene Odom Spirit award.

Stuart Parsons was awarded ABC’s Banana George Blair, Barefooter of the year award.

Lee Stone was awarded ABC’s Stew McDonald Lifetime Achievement award.

Respectfully Submitted, Joe Malenfant, ABC President

**USA Water Ski  
Winter Meeting  
NCWSA Board Report  
Jan 2012**

**The NCWSA enjoyed another great year in 2011. Below are some of the highlights and key points.**

**Membership:** Our overall numbers continue to be strong especially with the constant turnover we face with graduating skiers. We are seeing growth in each region with new teams competing.

**Worlds:** Team USA took the gold at the recent University Worlds held in Chile. USA is undefeated in international collegiate competition

**Nationals 2011:** A spectacular nationals was held at Bennett's Ski school with live webcasting. One video of a crash went viral on youtube with 150,000 hits and was seen on ESPN, Big ten network, Comcast sport, tosh.o, and much more.

**Awards:**

Female Athlete of the Year: Lauren Morgan

Male Athlete of the Year: Zach Worden

Team of the Year: Wisconsin Lacrosse

Female Most Outstanding Leader: Madalyn Baldwin

Male Most Outstanding Leader: -Nick Quaglia

**Nationals 2012:** This event will be back at Bennett's with a possible pro night jump attached to it.

**All-stars 2012:** Our premier spring event will be hosted by Western Washington University.

**National Show Ski Association**  
**President's Report to the USA-WS Board of Directors**  
January 2012



**Year in review – 2011**

It seems that teams are beginning to make a slow comeback from the flooding that ravaged parts of the country the past few years. The economy has not been helpful, but teams are finding their way through the situation. We had some nice growth in some areas this year, specifically the Division 2 National Tournament. Traveling show requests, both domestic and foreign, remained stable this year which helps increase exposure to the sport. We suspect that if the weather cooperates, 2012 should be a great year!

**Officials/Drivers/Safety Coordinators Development**

The Officials Training program continues to be updated and expanded each year. A committee of athletes and Officials works together, develops and presents the curriculum. There was a focus on relative difficulty again this past year and this appears to be an ongoing project. The intent is to provide education to help obtain a desired result of improving the consistency of scores in a very subjective sport and increasing the competitor's satisfaction with the scoring system and final outcomes. Mandatory driver testing clinics are continuing for all show teams and there were a number of clinics held. There were also a few Safety Coordinator's clinics held to train club personnel to meet sanctioning requirements and also for boat drivers who must take the course prior to taking the NSSA boat driver test. The pertinent portion of the Safety clinic information has now been included into the NSSA Driver's Program DVD. The Driver's Committee had worked diligently to tweak the program and then had to rework it again in response to concerns of the insurance carriers and USAWS Risk Management Committee. The work is still in progress.

**Competition**

There were a similar number of NSSA individual and team tournaments held again in 2011. They included 5 Regional and 2 National tournaments. The Wisconsin Regional Tournament continues to be the largest with 25 teams, 1600 participants, over 3,000 rides, and a crowd of thousands! Teams have continued to compete in China and multi-national international competition continues to become closer to reality. The Division 2 National Tournament, held in Tomahawk, WI, was filled for the first time ever with 14 teams. The Division 1 Nationals was also a full tournament and was again shown on Web-Cast TV with positive feedback! Some alternate format tournaments were approved and held, and with some tweaking, should be successful again in 2012!

## **World Ski Show Tournament**

The first ever World Ski Show Tournament will be held September 14-16, 2012 in Janesville, WI, USA. The Team USA Show Directors have been selected and they have selected the 35 member team to represent the USA. This has been an exciting development in our sports division as it has been in the making for many years. Many thanks go to Sherm Schraft and Kuno Ritschard for all of their hard to make this happen.

Additionally, the Chinese Water Ski Association provided the groundwork for this tournament beginning in 1999; they had started inviting teams to China to compete in the Sino-American show ski games. In 2011, China took the competition to a higher level and held the China-USA-Australia Show Challenge which was the precursor to the World Tournament. The Rock Aqua Jays, representing the USA, won the overall title of the 2 stop tournament.

Currently, there are 3 countries signed up for the tournament already: Canada, Belgium, and the USA. China, Australia, and Germany have expressed an interest and are working on the details to come. The event is to be held every two years. Team USA will be practicing in Florida in the beginning of April.

## **Awards**

We have added to our standard awards (team and male & female MVPs) presented at the USA-WS Awards Banquet this year. This is an opportunity to highlight and reward the work and efforts done by the Officials, volunteers, and others. The NSSA awards are:

*Team of the Year:* Rock Aqua Jays Water Ski Club (D1 National Champions)

*Male skier of the year:* Bob Panter: Fremont Webfooters (National Tournament MVP)

*Female Skier of the Year:* Jacklyn Kumlien: Rock Aqua Jays (National Tourney MVP)

*Official of the Year:* Andy Snow

*Volunteer of the Year:* Terry Pasterski

*Lifetime Achievement Award:* Steve Hahner

*Honorary National Director:* Mark Jackson

## **Management**

We have a strong diverse board of directors that includes 12 Regional Directors representing 7 regions and 3 Elite Skier Directors representing the athletes. Gerry Luiting is in the second year of the 2-year term as President and Roger Olson was re-elected as Vice President.

## **Growth**

Ski show clubs across the country held many learn to ski programs with hundreds of participants. Many of these clinics are partnering with other entities such as local Park/Recreation Departments, to host these clinics. Advertising and promotion of these clinics led to enhanced community awareness of these teams and many members are recruited from these clinics. We are working to assemble a team development task force to work to further grow NSSA regions with an emphasis on the underdeveloped regions and teams.

Two regions (West and South Central) are experiencing a minimal amount of activity, so we will need to begin working more on assisting those areas.

Other events have also been held to increase membership, interest in the sport, and camaraderie. These events combine teaching, fun and sometimes a little friendly competition. Ski-fest, Skimotion, Think Tanks, mixer shows, and the Wisconsin Water Ski Convention & Expo are all great examples of innovative thinking to increase interest in water skiing!

### **Wisconsin Water Ski Convention & Expo**

While this is not an NSSA event, it is the talk of the sport in the winter months and is a great opportunity to get together with athletes from all of the sports disciplines. This is the world's largest multi-sport water ski convention and expo, with hands-on clinics taught by some of the biggest names of a variety of sports divisions! The Wisconsin Water Ski Convention & Expo is slated for February 24-26, 2012 at the Chula Vista

### **Future**

We are excited about the upcoming year, and teams in the climate friendly regions have already begun their shows, while those in the inclement regions have began indoor practices!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gerry Luiting  
President  
National Show Ski Association



## **USA WATER SKI WINTER BOARD MEETING REPORT** **January 2012**

### ***Recapping 2011.....***

2011 was a tough year for ski racing. Membership and participation were down in all aspects of the sport. Much of the load of the sport was carried by the members of the 2011 US World Team by being the core group of racers supporting most events. The season started in March with the traditional Parker International Marathons and concluded with the restructured US Open on Mission Bay in San Diego. However, even with participation down, some positive signs and encouragement came out of the US Open. Grass Roots events were very successful in Northern California. Only minor injuries were reported at NWSRA events in 2011.

### **ELITE AND F2 TEAMS WIN SILVER AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2011 US World Water Ski Racing Elite and Formula 2 Teams both won overall team silver medals at the World Championships held this past September in Australia. The Elite Team, reduced in numbers due to injuries and withdrawals, still managed to finish second despite only having 3 out of a possible 4 point scoring skiers. The US Junior Team, skiing with only 2 out of possible 4 skiers, finished in 4th.

### **INDIVIDUALLY, US WORLD TEAM SKIERS WIN GOLD, SILVER AND 3 BRONZE**

Katelin Wendt became the first US Women's World Champion since Debbie Nordblad in 1991. This was Katelin's 2<sup>nd</sup> World Title after winning the Junior crown in 2003. Erin Saunders came out of Elite level retirement to earn the overall silver medal for the women. Troy Hooker won overall bronze for the elite men with Andy Anderson taking overall bronze in the F2 men. Trevor Wendt duplicated his 2009 performance with a bronze in the Junior Boys.

### **DEBBIE NORDBLAD INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME**

The NWSRA was proud to have Debbie Nordblad inducted into the Hall of Fame this past April. Debbie becomes the second female racer to be inducted. She joins the likes of other racers Marsha Fitzgerald, Mike Avila and Chuck Stearns. A well deserved honor.

### **BONNIE RUSTON NAMED USAWS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**

The NWSRA is extremely pleased to have Bonnie Ruston recognized as the USAWS Volunteer of the Year, the first person from ski racing to receive this honor. Bonnie is an instrumental part of the core of ski racing. She has been an officer and volunteer for more than 20 years. She is the chief time keeper and score keeper at all NWSRA events. She assists with registration duties in addition to being the awards chairman for all NWSRA events as well. Bonnie is also an officer on the NWSRA Executive Board. She is one of the first ones on the beach each race day and many times the last one to leave. The days are non stop with timing, score keeping, registration changes and updates, assisting with coordinating personnel and handing out awards at the end of the day.

### **ATHLETES OF THE YEAR**

Jordan King and Erin Saunders were named NWSRA Male and Female Athletes of the year for 2011. Jordan was selected to this award for demonstrating the true spirit of sportsmanship. A novice skier throughout much of his career, he was summoned to compete for the US World Team in Australia. Due to injuries and personal reason, several members of the selected US World Team withdrew leaving the team extremely shorthanded. Jordan, planning on making the trip anyway to support his younger brother Cameron, agreed to put his ski on and represent the team. This all came barely 3 weeks after he was injured during a high speed fall. Jordan gave it his best shot against the best in the world racking up important US Team points, skiing in races nearly twice as long as anything he had previously raced. Erin Saunders was named female athlete of the year for her year long dedication and high level performance. Her accomplishment for the year include winning two races overall at the World Championships, the US Women's Open National Title and the women's overall at the prestigious Catalina Ski Race.

### **US OPEN REDUCED TO 2 DAYS**

The 2011 US Open was reformatted from the traditional 3 day event to a 2 day event. This was done in an attempt to reduce expenses for both the organizers and competitors. The event was a great success with a few new traditions started including presenting commemorative checked flags to each class winner and presenting awards immediately after each class has finished. A lot of positive feedback was received from those in attendance regarding the changes. Plans are already in place for the 2012 event to run the same format and structure.

### **Looking Ahead....**

#### **2012 BOARD**

The new NWSRA elected board was elected in November. Mike Avila (President), Troy Hooker (VP / Race Chairman), Amy Threlfall (Secretary), Sean Gettmann (Treasurer) and Bonnie Ruston (Sgt. @ Arms). At Large Board Members include: Gary Heinbuch, Mike King, John Doherty and Jim Lancon.

#### **NEW RACE FORMAT**

A new and revised format of races is being introduced for 2012. The new format will showcase a greater variety of classes and race formats. Skiers of all levels are encouraged to try it out. The new format will have short sprint type races on Saturday's and longer marathon type events on Sunday's. The Saturday races will have many different classes including entry level and double up events.

#### **2013 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The NWSRA is exploring the possibility of hosting the 2013 World Water Ski Racing Championships. Dusty Schulz is leading the efforts with a preliminary location of Lake Havasu, AZ and Parker, AZ. The City of Lake Havasu is very interested in hosting the event. Dusty has been in contact with not only the city but surrounding business and hotels as well. A preliminary proposal has been submitted to the IWWF Racing Council.

**Water Skiers with Disabilities Association**  
**Annual Report**  
**January 29, 2012**

**1. 2011 major projects, events and issues**

- WSDA's team, female athlete and coach were selected as award winners for three USA-WS awards. This is an amazing achievement for our small SD and a first!
  - The U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team earned USA Water Ski's 2011 Team of the Year honors and won the overall gold medal at the 10th Disabled Water Ski World Championships, presented by the Barbara Bolding/Jim Grew Foundation, Aug. 25-28, at Voice of America Park in West Chester, Ohio.
  - Matthew Oberholtz (Oroville, Calif.), the coach of the 2011 U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team, was selected USA Water Ski's National Coach of the Year.
  - Jessica Radmilovic (Pine Grove, Calif.), who competes in WSDA's female MP-2 division, was selected as USA Water Ski's 2011 female Athlete of the Year.
- U.S. disabled water ski athletes Joe Ray (Wilsonville, Ala.) and Jessica Radmilovic (Pine Grove, Calif.) were selected The Pan Am Confederation Disabled Athletes of the Year. Ray and Radmilovic were selected WSDA's Skiers of the Year.
- Disabled program representatives indicated funding and number of clinics remained stable and participation in the clinics was up.
- A Disabled Water Ski National Championships was not held in 2011. This represents the second time an event was not held in the 24-year history of the event.

**2. Action items requiring a vote**

- None

**3. 2012 main projects, events or issues**

- The 22nd Disabled Water Ski National Championships will be held August 23-25 at Shortline Lake in Elk Grove, California. The national event will be used to select the two-time defending world champion disabled team which will be seeking an unprecedented third consecutive world team title in Italy in 2013. The Competitive and Recreational Disabled Skiers (CARDS) organization will be the local organizing committee. For the second time, a clinic prior to the tournament for intermediate to advanced disabled athletes will be held.
- WSDA is seeking bids for the 2013 Disabled Water Ski National Championships. For more information, send an e-mail to [m.royal@att.net](mailto:m.royal@att.net).



2011 Year End  
Report to the USA  
Water Ski Board of  
Directors

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## **2011 Events**

### **Flyins**

For the first time since 1999, there were no sanctioned flyins. Each flyin has decided that the cost and hassle of sanctioning is not worth it. The primary reason flyins have decided not to sanction is the \$35 cost to participants for joining USA Water Ski as Grassroots members. Our request to have a \$10 guest membership option was rejected. Given that we used to have as many as 8 sanctioned flyins per year, we have seen and expect to continue to see a significant loss of members.

### **Competitions**

We held our **USHA Nationals** at Mills Pond in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The Southeast Hydrofoil Club did an outstanding job, but attendance was lower than desired because we had to move the location from Jacksonville to Ft. Lauderdale. We had about 25 riders, with a heavy concentration at the top levels. Thanks to Dave and Jen Petersen and Brad Schmidt and Shannon Lee for doing the bulk of the work. Geno Yauchler won the Pro Division as he has at every USHA Nationals.

The Southeast Hydrofoil Club held one grassroots tournaments in Jacksonville, FL. The October event was held on Victory Lake. These tournaments were started in 2008 and remain popular.

We made fewer rule changes in 2011 than in the past, as our scoring and judging matures. The process is far smoother now, and we continue to make small refinements versus major changes.

We held our sixth national video hydrofoil tournament, open to all levels of competitors. The value in this format is that anyone can compete, and no one has to travel or make all the arrangements for the usual style of tournament. Competitors submitted a 120 second video run which was judged on air, technical, and style.

### **Media**

FoilForum.com continues its popularity with these latest statistics: Total Number of Users: 1,045; Total Number of Posts: 50,320; Most Users Online at Once: 209 (up from 177 in 2010). We thank Bryan Schumacher for his continuous work on foilforum.com to maintain and to upgrade the site.

## **2011 Updates**

### **Membership**

Membership dropped significantly in 2011, with a 23% decrease in active membership from 140 members to 108. The majority of that membership loss came from a 41% drop in the Grassroots membership category due to no flyins sanctioning.

### **Awards**

Thanks to all USHA members for their nominations and voting for the awards.

Male Athlete of the Year: Geno Yauchler

Female Athlete of the Year: Mj Pohl

Junior Athlete of the Year: Dominic Schumacher

Ambassador of the Year: Dave Petersen

Team of the Year: Southeast Hydrofoil Club (Jacksonville, FL)

Most Improved Male: Tyler Narans

Most Improved Female: Leah Stilwell

Best Supporting Member of the Year: Jen Petersen

That's Incredible Award: Ben Ferney (60 frames)

### **Elections**

We added Shannon Pope to the 2012 to 2013 term of the USHA board of directors. We thank Brad Schmidt for his service over the last two years.

### **Industry News**

One of the two major manufacturers of hydrofoils, Air Chair, claimed new ownership and is selling a new high-end design. A new hydrofoil was also introduced by Samson, the tower manufacturer.

## **Officer Elections**

The Board voted in these officers:

President: Jim Chismar

Vice President: Dave Petersen

Secretary: Alison Goin

Treasurer: Brad Scott

## **2012 Plans**

### **Flyins**

There will likely be no sanctioned flyins in 2012, though there will be many unsanctioned flyins.

### **Competitions**

We are working on a plan to hold our Nationals near Charlotte, NC.

We will hold our annual Video Competition with registration by the end of August and submissions due in October 2012.

We expect to repeat the spring and fall Grassroots tournaments in Jacksonville, Florida, though plans may change as one of the organizers moved.

**USA WATER SKI  
AMERICAN WATER SKI ASSOCIATION  
Annual Report**

January 15, 2012

**AWSA concerns with USA-WS**

- 1.** The AWSA EC voiced concerns about sanctioning with Traci Baylon leaving in December. Bob Crowley stated that they have already cross trained several employees.
- 2.** The AWSA EC wanted to be able to pay sanction fees (USA-WS and Regionals) with credit cards on line. Bob Crowley informed the EC that the program had already been created, was in the testing phase and should be available soon.
- 3. AWSA EC** will support the Executive Director's concerns about the importance of our Certified Coaches Program, the required background checks and the availability of liability insurance to coaches, especially after the recent "issues" in swimming, football and basketball with coaches.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**AWSA Budget 2012**

The budget for 2012 included sending the Jr. Team to Mulwala Waterski Park in Australia for the Junior World Championships in the spring of 2013, the 30 member Pan-Am Team to Destin, FL for the Pan American Championships in September and the 35+ Team to the 35+ World Championship (possibly in October in Mexico). The IAC had requested \$20,000 for the Jr. Team, \$12,000 for the Pan-Am Team and \$2,100 for the 35+ Team. AWSA budgeted \$8,000 in Jr. Development fundraising and an estimated \$8,000 in Jr. Development expenses. This should leave AWSA with an additional \$14,000 in reserve at year's end.

**NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL EVENTS**

**Junior US Open:**

**2011:** Another successful JR US Open was held at Mystic Lakes in Wichita, KS.

**2012:** The 2012 JR US Open has been awarded to Paul Melnuk to be held at Lake of Dreams in Jerseyville, IL on June 2 & 3.

**Open 2011:** Until sponsors can be found, the US Open will not be held.

**Can- Am Championships:** Paul Melnuk and Waterski and Wakeboard Canada asked to make this an annual event at no cost to AWSA. The IAC recommended approval. The EC agreed and the event would happen in September.

## **US Water Ski National Championships:**

**2011:** Once again the Surdej family organized an excellent Nationals.

**2012:** The Ski Club of the Palm Beaches will host the 2012 US Nationals at Okeeheelee Park in West Palm Beach, FL. The entry fees for the 2012 US National Water Ski Championships will be the same as last year's.

Chief Officials as of Jan 01, 2012:

Chief Judge - Dan VanDyk

Asst. Chief Judges - Laura Johnson, Keith Lindemulder & Sara Lemley

Qualifications Judge – John Harris

Chief Driver – Pat Rodgers

Chief Scorer – Richard Williams

Asst. Chief Scorer – David Allen

Trick Scoring Supervisor – Jim Grew

Chief Technical Controller – Jake Souther

Chief Announcer – Tommy Newman

**2013:** The Ski Club of the Palm Beaches has the first option for the 2013 Nationals.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

**AWSA Fund Raising:** The Executive Committee had a long discussion about fund raising and came to no definite decisions but planned to work on it this spring and host an event at the 2012 Nationals.

**Tournament Late Fees:** It was discussed that late fees were not being charged to tournament hosts uniformly. USA-WS HQ would be asked to evaluate late fees and ensure that they are in fact uniformly enforced.

**Pan American Region  
Of the  
International Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation**

Report to the USAWS and AWSA

As one of the three Confederations within the International Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation, the Pan Am Region has been successful in promoting Waterskiing and Wakeboarding through our continuing programs for education and sanctioning of competitions throughout the Region. Several seminars for coaching and organization have taken place within the Region in Latin American countries.

More and more officials are becoming certified through the Regional program. Ten years ago there were only a handful of officials in the Latino countries. Today, we qualify more than twice as many officials from there as we do Canada and the United States.

In 2011, this has also been the case. While there have been some judges passing the Pan Am Test from the United States, there have been two from Canada. From South America, there have been approximately 12 passing the tests.

We are branching out to programs for officials other than just judges. Homologators will have a written test in 2012. However, if a person has gone through the program of the USA or Canada, then, they are considered homologators of the Region. Most of the countries within Pan Am do not have officials programs. Therefore, that is the reason for establishing the Homologators program. Scoring will be the next put in place.

The Pan Am Games were held in Mexico during the month of October. These Games were very successful and we look forward to being in the next Pan Ams. This work has already started. One essential is to make sure that as many countries as possible participate. We always appreciate the participation of the US, but we also have to have all the other countries or it will not be possible for us to be in the Games.

We were pleased to have officials from all over the Region, but the once again, the US supplied the Chief Judge. Officials appointed to all Regional tournaments and World tournaments is getting very competitive because of so many Latino officials now wanting positions. I believe it will keep going down that road in the future as well.

The next Pan Am Championships will be held in the United States at Shortline Lakes in Destin. Plans for this competition are under way and scheduled for September of 2012. There should be around 150 competitors from Under 13 to Open. Each Federation in Pan Am is allowed to submit one judge and from there it will be an election to see who the other judges/officials will be. All of that information will be released probably in late February.

Officers of the Pan Am Region:

Peter Person, President, CAN

Gustavo Monroy, Secretary General, COL

Jeffry Armstrong, Pan Am TC, USA

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffry Armstrong

Pan Am Tournament Council Chair

**USA WATER SKI**  
**January 28 & 29, 2012**  
**INTERNATIONAL WATERSKI & WAKEBOARD FEDERATION REPORT**

**Olympic Quest:** In 2011, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that cable wakeboard had been shortlisted as one of eight sports to be considered for inclusion in the 2020 Olympic Games. One sport would be accepted, a current Olympic sport would then be removed. Because, among the eight sports, ours is particularly dynamic, relatively new to the sport scene and youth oriented, the IWWF deems its chances for inclusion to be good. Consequently, it has formed a task force and developed an action plan to meet the requirements set out by the IOC. It will be a labor intensive and expensive endeavor; but, if the IWWF is successful, a lot of doors will open.

**2011 World Cup:** After eight years, thirty-three stops and 3 million dollars in prize money, one of IWWF's main goals continues to be to promote water skiing and wakeboard, and consequently all sports disciplines, through the exposure and visibility gained by a successful World Cup tour. A title sponsor, the necessary component that will ensure long term success, still eludes the IWWF; and the search goes on. The IWWF has also been working to improve and increase its contractual agreements with various media entities with the goal of improving our exposure worldwide, including the U.S. (print, television, Internet, etc.). The on-going "challenging", to put it mildly, economic conditions worldwide have made these efforts difficult, but 2012 and beyond will hopefully prove more welcoming.

**Name and Structure Changes:** In 2009, The IWWF changed its name to the International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation as well as its confederation configuration with all Middle East countries, except Israel, moving to the now entitled Asia, Australasia & Oceania Confederation (AAO) to better market itself and align with the Olympic structure as to the various multi-sport games. Europe and Africa (E&A) also changed its name to reflect the move of these Middle East countries. As to the IWWF name change, a growing number of national federations is following suit with those having done so since the fall of 2010 in bold: Argentina , Australia, Austria, Canada, **Denmark**, France, Germany, India, **Italy**, Ireland, Korea, Lebanon, **Luxembourg**, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Serbia, Singapore, Sweden, United Kingdom.

**Multi-sport Games:** In 2009, water ski and wakeboard were accepted as demonstration sports in the Mediterranean Games, the most important IOC-recognized multi-sport Games in the Europe & Africa confederation. In 2010, both sports were accepted as "official" sports in the program of the 2013 Games in Volos/Greece, a notable achievement. Additionally, for the first time, water ski and wakeboard were on the program of the Asian Beach Games held under the authority of the Olympic Council of Asia in December, 2010 in Muscat/Oman, thus more exposure, more visibility.

**Official Towboat:** Also in 2009, after many years with Correct Craft and with many thanks for all their support, IWWF signed a six year contract with MasterCraft covering the World Championships for tournament, disabled, wakeboard and the Waterski & Wakeboard World Cup series.

**2012 Major World Events**

January 11-15: FISU World University Water Ski Championships, Santiago, Chile

June 16-22: 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Beach Games (wakeboard, tricks), Haiyang City, China

August 3-5: World Cableski Championships, Asten, Austria

August 27-September 2: World Barefoot Water Ski Championships, Waco, Texas, USA

September 14-16: 1st World Show Ski Tournament, Janesville, Wisconsin, USA

October: World Tournament 35+ World Water Ski Championships, Chapala, MEX

November 8-11: World Cable Wakeboard Championships, Manila, Philippines

February/March, **2013**: World Tournament Junior Water Ski Championships, Mulwala, AUS

**2012 IWSF World Cup**

March 16-18: Water Ski & Wakeboard World Cup, Mandurah, Australia

\*Two or three Cable Wakeboard events will be added with possible venues in Istanbul/TUR, Abu Dhabi/UAE, Kaohsiung/TPE and Tokyo/JPN.

\*Also, Waterski & World Cup stops are under discussion for Bogota/COL, Palembang/INA, Linyi/CHN and a city in POL.

**12/17/2011 -jg**

## **USA WATER SKI OVERVIEW 2011**

USA Water Ski is the national governing body (NGB) for all towed water sports in the United States. This designation is awarded to USA Water Ski by both the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the International Waterski and Wakeboard Federation (IWWF). USA Water Ski is comprised of nine sport disciplines, consisting of the traditional three-event water skiing (slalom, tricks and jumping), show ski, wakeboarding, barefooting, kneeboarding, hydrofoiling, water ski racing, disabled water skiing and collegiate water skiing.

As the NGB for these sport disciplines, USA Water Ski is responsible for fielding teams for international events such as the Pan American Games and the World and Pan American Championships in all disciplines that conduct such tournaments as well as any other internationally recognized events. All NGBs have certain requirements and responsibilities to be awarded such status. Those include abiding by all International Olympic Committee (IOC), IWWF and USOC policies, procedures, regulations and compliance requirements. Top-ranked athletes through USA Water Ski programs are required, for example, to submit to drug testing by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) in order to maintain their eligibility to compete and represent the United States.

USA Water Ski is a membership based organization historically serving those participants who actively compete at some level in the sport. While it is estimated that more than 8 million people participate in water ski and wakeboard activities, the total membership of USA Water Ski as of December 31, 2011 was 16,874 active members. This demonstrates an increase (5.34%) in active member registrations. In addition, there are 796 supporting members among all sport disciplines, making the yearend total 17,670 members.

Efforts in 2011 to alter the recent declining membership trends included increased emphasis on program development and membership acquisition (Affinity, Basic Skills, GrassRoots, affiliation with the American Camping Association, etc.). These programs are designed to provide benefits for participants to affiliate with USA Water Ski.

USA Water Ski sanctioned 847 events in 2011 consisting of 671 tournaments, which includes the GrassRoots Series tournaments, and 176 clinics. This demonstrates a 8 percent decrease from 2010. USA Water Ski's national headquarters is based in Polk City, Fla., and employed nine staff members in 2011. Plans are for there to be eight fulltime staff members for 2012. The American Water Ski Educational Foundation owns the building and operates the Water Ski Hall of Fame and Museum.

### **USA Water Ski Sport Disciplines**

**American Barefoot Club (ABC):** ABC has a total of 520 Active Members and conducted 25 sanctioned tournaments, 6 GrassRoots tournaments and 2 skier clinics in 2011.

Thirty-six athletes won national titles at the 34th annual Parson's Roofing Barefoot Water Ski National Championships, Aug. 10-13, at the Barefoot Ski Ranch in Waco, Texas. More than 100 barefoot athletes in respective age divisions – ranging from 9 and under to 80 and older – as well as Open Men, Open Women, Open Pro Men and Men's International competed for titles in wake slalom, tricks and jumping during the four-day event. Athletes competing in two or more events were eligible for the prestigious overall titles.

U.S. athlete Elaine Heller set a new women's world barefoot jumping record of 70 feet at the 2011 Nationals.

**American Kneeboard Association (AKA):** The AKA has a total of 146 Active Members and conducted 14 sanctioned tournaments in 2011.

Sixteen athletes won national kneeboard titles in respective divisions and events at the 27th Kneeboard National Championships, Sept. 3-4, at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Ga.

**American Water Ski Association (AWSA):** The AWSA has a total of 8200 Active Members and is USA Water Ski's largest sport discipline. AWSA conducted 546 sanctioned tournaments, 128 GrassRoots tournaments and 83 skier clinics in 2011.

U.S. athlete Regina Jaquess was honored in New York City as an AAU Sullivan Award finalist. Jaquess also set new women's world records in slalom and overall in 2011.

Eight U.S. water ski athletes won titles in respective events at the 11th annual Junior U.S. Open Water Ski Championships, July 9-10, at Mystic Lakes in Maize, Kan.

The U.S. Elite Water Ski Team earned the bronze medal and three U.S. water ski athletes earned individual medals in respective events at the 32nd Water Ski World Championships, July 18-24, on the Volga River in Dubna, Russia. Belarus tallied 7,811.59 points to win the gold medal for the first time, while France scored 7,662.90 points to earn the silver medal. The United States earned the bronze medal with 7,592.67 points.

For the second consecutive year, the Surdej family and its army of orange-clad volunteers hosted the GOODE Water Ski National Championships on the friendly confines of Waters Edge Estates in Wilmington, Ill., proving once again that the world's largest three-event water ski tournament could be held – successfully – on a two-lake site. More than 660 athletes competed for titles in slalom, tricks, jumping and overall in respective age divisions and two open divisions during the seven-day event.

The U.S. Under 21 Water Ski Team won the gold medal and five U.S. athletes combined to earn six individual medals at the 5th Under 21 Water Ski World Championships, Sept. 1-4, in Meuzac, France.

The U.S. Under 17 and Under 13 Water Ski Teams each won titles at the 4th Can Am Challenge, Sept. 17-18, at the Lake of Dreams in Jerseyville, Ill. The two-day, world-record capability biennial event featured team competition between Canada and the United States. A six-member Under 17 Team and a six-member Under 13 Team represented each country.

Four AWSA U.S. Water Ski Team athletes (Regina Jaquess, Freddy Krueger, Jon Travers and Russell Gay) and one USA Wakeboard athlete (Andrew Adkison) combined to win seven medals in respective events at the XVI Pan American Games, Oct. 20-23, at Boca Laguna in Chapala, Mexico. The U.S. Team finished with six gold medals and one bronze medal during the four-day competition.

Freddy Krueger was selected USA Water Ski's Male Athlete of the Year. Freddy won the gold medal in men's jumping at the XVI Pan American Games, Oct. 20-23, in Chapala, Mexico. He also won his fourth career men's world jumping title and won titles at the Masters, LA Night Jam, Militia Sac-Town Gold Rush, Global Invitational, GOODE Water Ski National Championships, London Night Jump and Katy Ski Jam.

**National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA):** The NCWSA has a total of 887 Active Members and conducted 41 sanctioned tournaments and 2 GrassRoots tournaments in 2011.

The University of Louisiana-Monroe water ski team won the Division 1 national title at the 33rd Collegiate Water Ski National Championships, Oct. 13-15, at Tri-Lakes in Zachary, La. The Warhawks tallied 11,865.0 points in winning their first national title since 2009 and 23rd title in the history of the event. The University of

Louisiana-Lafayette finished second, scoring 10,905.0 points. U.S. athletes Lauren Morgan (women's jumping) and Zack Worden (men's jumping) each set new NCWSA national records. Texas State won the Division 2 title.

**National Show Ski Association (NSSA):** The NSSA is the second largest sport discipline and has a total of 5397 Active Members. In 2011, NSSA conducted 10 sanctioned tournaments and 73 skier clinics.

Eight members of the Rock Aqua Jays (Janesville, Wis.) along with eight other show skiers from various U.S. teams participated last July in the China-USA-Australia Show Ski challenge in China. The Rock Aqua Jays will host the inaugural IWWF World Show Ski Tournament next September.

The Rock Aqua Jays Water Ski Show Team won the national team title at the 37th Indmar Marine Engines Division 1 Show Ski National Championships, Aug. 12-14, on the Rock River at Traxler Park in Janesville, Wis. It was the Rock Aqua Jays' 16th national team title. The Rock Aqua Jays tallied 2,021.16 points in sweeping the traditional box scores for Dock & Equipment Crew, Pick-Up Boat Driving, Towboat Driving and Sound Crew. It was the Rock Aqua Jays' first national team title since 2005. For the fourth consecutive year, the Division 1 Show Ski National Championships was broadcast via live Webcast.

The Hartwick Huskys (Delhi, Iowa) won the team title at the 11th Indmar Marine Engines Division 2 Show Ski National Championships, Aug. 5-7, on the Wisconsin River in Tomahawk, Wis. Hosted by the Kwahamot Water Ski Team (Tomahawk, Wis.), the tournament featured 14 teams competing for the Division 2 show ski national title.

**National Water Ski Racing Association (NWSRA):** The NWSRA has a total of 432 Active Members and conducted 12 sanctioned tournaments and 2 GrassRoots tournaments in 2011.

Two of three U.S. water ski racing teams and five U.S. athletes earned medals at the 17th Water Ski Racing World Championships, Sept. 6-18, in Queensland, Australia. The U.S. Elite Water Ski Racing Team, the U.S. Formula 2 Water Ski Racing Team and the U.S. Junior Water Ski Racing Team participated in the four-race biennial event that included four rounds of competition. The U.S. Elite Water Ski Racing Team earned the silver medal, tallying 9,758.96 points. Australia won the gold medal with 14,997.51 points and Great Britain earned the bronze medal with 4,428.08 points. The U.S. Elite Water Ski Racing Team consisted of Troy Hooker (Torrance, Calif.), Erin Saunders (Huntington Beach, Calif.) and Katelin Wendt (Huntington Beach, Calif.). Wendt won the Women's Open gold medal, becoming the first U.S. water ski racing athlete to win the Women's Open gold medal since Debbie Nordblad in 1991. Saunders earned the Women's Open silver medal. Hooker earned the Men's Open bronze medal.

The U.S. Formula 2 Water Ski Racing Team earned the silver medal, tallying 14,704.18 points. Australia won the gold medal with 15,869.94 points and Great Britain earned the bronze medal with 10,502.91 points. The U.S. Formula 2 Water Ski Racing Team consisted of Andy Anderson (Corona, Calif.), Lori Dunsmore (Boulder City, Nev.), Cameron King (Manhattan Beach, Calif.), Jordan King (Manhattan Beach, Calif.), Cheryl Ruston (La Palma, Calif.) and Dawn Wallace (Belvedere Tiburon, Calif.). Anderson earned the Formula 2 Men's bronze medal.

Fifteen of the United States' top water ski racing athletes won titles at the seventh annual U.S. Open Water Ski Racing National Championships, Oct. 15-16, on Mission Bay in San Diego, Calif.

U.S. athlete Katelin Wendt was selected as the IWWF's Female Water Ski Racing Athlete of the Year.

**USA Wakeboard (USA-WB):** The USA-WB has a total of 1053 Active Members and conducted 17 sanctioned tournaments, 16 GrassRoots tournaments in 2011.

The 2011 USA Wakeboard Nationals, Cable Wakeboard Nationals and Wakesurf Nationals were held June 23-26 in Oklahoma City, Okla.

The U.S. Wakeboard Team won the gold medal and seven U.S. team members earned individual medals at the 9th IWWF Wakeboard World Championships, July 13-17, in Milan, Italy. The event included athletes and teams from 36 countries, marking the largest IWWF Wakeboard Worlds to date. Australia, the defending champion, earned the silver medal, while Italy earned the bronze medal.

U.S. athlete Andrew Adkison won the gold medal at the wakeboard event at the XVI Pan American Games, Oct. 20-23, in Chapala, Mexico.

U.S. athlete Raimi Merritt was selected as the IWWF's Female Wakeboard Athlete of the Year.

U.S. athlete Noah Flegel was selected the 2011 SportsKid of the Year by *Sports Illustrated Kids*.

**United States Hydrofoil Association (USHA):** The USHA has a total of 108 Active Members and conducted 3 sanctioned tournaments, 3 GrassRoots tournaments and 2 skier clinics in 2011.

Eleven athletes won national titles at the 5th annual USHA Hydrofoil Nationals, July 14-17, at Mills Pond Park in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Nearly 30 of the nation's top hydrofoil athletes competed during the four-day event, which was conducted by the United States Hydrofoil Association and hosted by the Southeast Hydrofoil Club.

**Water Skiers with Disabilities Association (WSDA):** The WSDA has a total of 88 Active Members and conducted 3 sanctioned tournaments, 1 GrassRoots tournament and 16 skier clinics in 2011.

The U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team won the world team gold medal and five U.S. team members won individual medals at the 10th Disabled Water Ski World Championships, presented by the Barbara Bolding/Jim Grew Foundation, Aug. 25-28, at Voice of America Park in West Chester, Ohio. Ten athletes represented the 2011 U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team at the biennial event. A total of 38 athletes from 13 countries participated in the championships. The United States tallied 12,129.90 points in winning the gold medal for the sixth time.

The U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team was selected USA Water Ski's 2011 Team of the Year.

Jessica Radmilovic, who won five medals and set a new women's MP2 world slalom record at the 2011 Disabled Water Ski World Championships, was selected USA Water Ski's 2011 Female Athlete of the Year.

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AS OF 12/31/2011 BY SPORT DISCIPLINE AND TYPE**

Sport Discipline	TOTAL MEMBERS	Individual Active *	Family Active HOH (FA0)	Family Active Dep's (FA1-9)	Under 25 Active (U25)	GR Active (GRA)	Amb/Life Active	TOTAL ACTIVE	Individual Supp.	Family Supp. HOH (FS0)	Family Supp. Dep's (FS1-9)	Amb/Life Supp.	TOTAL SUPP.	TOTAL ACTIVE & SUPP. MEMBERS
ABC	570	204	83	125	73	29	6	520	39	0	0	11	50	570
AKA	151	12	15	84	30	5	0	146	5	0	0	0	5	151
AWS	8741	2724	1334	2685	1015	268	174	8200	242	0	0	299	541	8741
NCW	893	89	15	22	748	12	1	887	4	0	0	2	6	893
NP	155	19	6	11	4	2	1	43	99	0	0	13	112	155
NSS	5442	864	911	2266	1191	155	10	5397	36	0	0	9	45	5442
NWR	445	169	46	72	90	54	1	432	12	0	0	1	13	445
USH	109	21	18	30	3	34	2	108	1	0	0	0	1	109
USW	1072	129	65	233	460	163	3	1053	17	0	0	2	19	1072
WSD	92	41	11	21	6	7	2	88	3	0	0	1	4	92
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>17670</b>	<b>4272</b>	<b>2504</b>	<b>5549</b>	<b>3620</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>16874</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>17670</b>

\* Includes Foreign Active (WAA) and Foreign Insurance Only (WLA)

	2011	2010	Difference
Camps	7	14	-7
Clubs	583	633	-50
Ski Schools	3	5	-2

**DIFFERENCES IN CURRENT MEMBERSHIP YTD - 2011 TO 2010**

Sport Discipline	TOTAL MEMBERS	Individual Active *	Family Active HOH (FA0)	Family Active Dep's (FA1-9)	Under 25 Active (U25)	GR Active (GRA)	Amb/Life Active	TOTAL ACTIVE	Individual Supp.	Family Supp. HOH (FS0)	Family Supp. Dep's (FS1-9)	Amb/Life Supp.	TOTAL SUPP.	TOTAL ACTIVE & SUPP. MEMBERS	Total Memb. % +/-	Active Memb. % +/-
ABC	-5	8	-5	26	5	-8	1	27	11	-9	-33	-1	-32	-5	-0.87%	5.48%
AKA	-44	-21	-5	20	-10	1	0	-15	1	-1	-29	0	-29	-44	-22.56%	-9.32%
AWS	-362	106	-220	603	-70	96	-1	514	25	-66	-832	-3	-876	-362	-3.98%	6.69%
NCW	-32	30	4	13	-70	-5	0	-28	1	-2	-3	0	-4	-32	-3.46%	-3.06%
NP	57	-4	-1	-1	-3	-2	1	-10	77	-3	-7	0	67	57	58.16%	-18.87%
NSS	141	103	-72	324	-23	57	2	391	2	-16	-236	0	-250	141	2.66%	7.81%
NWR	-20	-8	-18	14	22	11	0	21	2	-5	-38	0	-41	-20	-4.30%	5.11%
USH	-54	-2	-11	6	-1	-24	0	-32	-3	-2	-17	0	-22	-54	-33.13%	-22.86%
USW	-121	5	-8	79	-114	17	1	-20	-3	-6	-90	-2	-101	-121	-10.14%	-1.86%
WSD	2	-2	-1	6	0	5	0	8	0	0	-6	0	-6	2	2.22%	10.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>-438</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>-337</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>-264</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>-110</b>	<b>-1291</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-1294</b>	<b>-438</b>	<b>-2.42%</b>	<b>5.34%</b>

**NOTE:**

Family Supporting HOH (FS0) and Family Supporting Dependents (FS1-9) will decrease as the year progresses and families renew under the \$135 family active membership

# USA Water Ski

## 2011 Membership by State and Sport Sport Discipline

*(Grouped by total members per state)*

State/Country	ABC	AKA	AWS	NCW	NP	NSS	NWR	USH	USW	WSD	Grand Total
WI	89	19	285	104	13	2067	17	4	136	3	2737
CA	39	7	1279	190	10	21	213	5	170	17	1951
FL	50	22	738	16	16	339	3	19	93	12	1308
IL	28	4	303	64	9	610	8	1	49	5	1081
MN	69	16	302	28	4	543	12	7	91	6	1078
TX	44	3	680	63	11	96	16	13	66	6	998
MI	33	5	362	72	5	252	18	1	33	7	788
OH	25	8	335	56	5	162	9	4	30	2	636
IN	17	5	329	53	4	51	8		46	3	516
IA	1	1	84	35	2	313	3		14		453
WA	15	1	314	16	4	4	8		10	2	374
CO	8	1	282	2	3	26	13	8	15		358
MO	11	1	99	34	2	172	1		24	1	345
NC			238	16	4	17	7	20	23	3	328
VA	1	4	190	7	1	74	8	2	13		300
GA	9	14	206	24	2	10	1	6	15	7	294
MA	6	4	137	3	4	114	9		15	1	293
NY	7	3	173		4	94	3		4	1	289
CT	10	4	152	5	2	71	6		10		260
OR		1	202	3	1	31	10		10	1	259
KS	21	5	119	23	2	34	1		5		210
AL	5	2	145	10	4	29	1		1	2	199
NJ	5	3	92	2	1	82	6	1	6		198
PA	24		147	4	5	3	3		5	1	192
LA	1	5	112	19	2	1	2	3	34		179
TN	8	4	134	7	6	7	1		9	2	178
Foreign	1		148	1	4	3	6	1	2	1	167
OK			69		4		2	1	66		142
UT	3	3	117	2	3	1	3		4	1	137
SC	2	1	77	12	4	36			2		134
SD	3		7	1		119		2	1		133
Canada	7		112		3	2	1	2	2		129
KY			106	2	2	2	2		4		118
AZ	1		66	8		9	13	3	8	1	109
HI		1	55		1	2	1	2	34		96
ID	3		69			2	10		5		89
NE	2		73	3		1	1		1		81
AR		1	57	1	2	9	2		6		78
NV	1		61	3			6		5		76
MD	2		59	1	2	1	4		1	2	72
MS	2	2	50					3		1	58
ME		1	21	1	1	28	1		4		57
NH	1		45		1	2	1			4	54
MT	9		27		1		3				40
DE			24	1							25
VT	1		16		1	1	2				21
AK			11								11
RI	3		6								9
NM			7					1			8
WY			8								8
ND	2		3			1					6
DC	1		3	1							5
WV			4								4
PR			1								1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>8741</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>5442</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>17670</b>

**USA Water Ski**  
**2011 Membership by State and Sport Discipline**  
**(Grouped Alphabetically by State)**

State/Country	ABC	AKA	AWS	NCW	NP	NSS	NWR	USH	USW	WSD	Grand Total
AK			11								11
AL	5	2	145	10	4	29	1		1	2	199
AR		1	57	1	2	9	2		6		78
AZ	1		66	8		9	13	3	8	1	109
CA	39	7	1279	190	10	21	213	5	170	17	1951
Canada	7		112		3	2	1	2	2		129
CO	8	1	282	2	3	26	13	8	15		358
CT	10	4	152	5	2	71	6		10		260
DC	1		3	1							5
DE			24	1							25
FL	50	22	738	16	16	339	3	19	93	12	1308
Foreign	1		148	1	4	3	6	1	2	1	167
GA	9	14	206	24	2	10	1	6	15	7	294
HI		1	55		1	2	1	2	34		96
IA	1	1	84	35	2	313	3		14		453
ID	3		69			2	10		5		89
IL	28	4	303	64	9	610	8	1	49	5	1081
IN	17	5	329	53	4	51	8		46	3	516
KS	21	5	119	23	2	34	1		5		210
KY			106	2	2	2	2		4		118
LA	1	5	112	19	2	1	2	3	34		179
MA	6	4	137	3	4	114	9		15	1	293
MD	2		59	1	2	1	4		1	2	72
ME		1	21	1	1	28	1		4		57
MI	33	5	362	72	5	252	18	1	33	7	788
MN	69	16	302	28	4	543	12	7	91	6	1078
MO	11	1	99	34	2	172	1		24	1	345
MS	2	2	50					3		1	58
MT	9		27		1		3				40
NC			238	16	4	17	7	20	23	3	328
ND	2		3			1					6
NE	2		73	3		1	1		1		81
NH	1		45		1	2	1			4	54
NJ	5	3	92	2	1	82	6	1	6		198
NM			7					1			8
NV	1		61	3			6		5		76
NY	7	3	173		4	94	3		4	1	289
OH	25	8	335	56	5	162	9	4	30	2	636
OK			69		4		2	1	66		142
OR		1	202	3	1	31	10		10	1	259
PA	24		147	4	5	3	3		5	1	192
PR			1								1
RI	3		6								9
SC	2	1	77	12	4	36			2		134
SD	3		7	1		119		2	1		133
TN	8	4	134	7	6	7	1		9	2	178
TX	44	3	680	63	11	96	16	13	66	6	998
UT	3	3	117	2	3	1	3		4	1	137
VA	1	4	190	7	1	74	8	2	13		300
VT	1		16		1	1	2				21
WA	15	1	314	16	4	4	8		10	2	374
WI	89	19	285	104	13	2067	17	4	136	3	2737
WV			4								4
WY			8								8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>8741</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>5442</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>17670</b>



## 2012 SPORT DISCIPLINE DONATIONS THROUGH 12/31/2011

Description	Qty	Total Donations
Donation - 3-Event (AWSA) 35+ Team Fund	12	\$295.00
Donation - 3-Event (AWSA) Elite Team Fund	7	\$590.00
Donation - 3-Event (AWSA) Under 13 Team Fund	12	\$285.00
Donation - 3-Event (AWSA) Under 17 Team Fund	15	\$325.00
Donation - 3-Event (AWSA) Under 21 Team Fund	6	\$335.00
	<b>52</b>	<b>\$1,830.00</b>
Donation - Barefoot (ABC) Team Fund	21	\$550.00
Donation - Collegiate (NCWSA) Team Fund	4	\$50.00
Donation - Disabled (WSDA) Team Fund	19	\$400.00
Donation - Hydrofoil (USHA) Event Development Fund	3	\$90.00
Donation - Kneeboard (AKA) Team Fund	3	\$70.00
Donation - Show Ski (NSSA) Team Fund	10	\$135.00
Donation - USA-WS Sport Develop/GrassRoots Fund	15	\$335.00
Donation - Wakeboard (USA-WB) Team Fund	6	\$52.00
Donation -Ski Race (NWSRA) Team Fund	3	\$90.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>\$3,602.00</b>

## 2011 USA Water Ski Event Statistics

USA Water Ski Events 2011		Regional Breakdown				
Sport Discipline	East	SCR	South	MW	West	Total
AWSA	62	68	143	112	161	<b>546</b>
NCWSA	10	8	0	13	10	<b>41</b>
ABC	1	4	7	10	3	<b>25</b>
USA WB	1	9	0	4	3	<b>17</b>
AKA	0	2	7	5	0	<b>14</b>
NWSRA	0	0	0	0	12	<b>12</b>
NSSA	1	2	1	6	0	<b>10</b>
WSDA	0	0	0	2	1	<b>3</b>
Hydrofoil	0	1	2	0	0	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Competitions</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>671</b>
<b>GrassRoots Event Breakdown</b>						<b>Total</b>
GrassRoots Stand alone	1	8	8	14	29	<b>60</b>
GrassRoots with higher class event	14	20	19	32	17	<b>102</b>
<b>Total GrassRoots Competitions</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Water Ski Clinics</b>						<b>Total</b>
Basic Skills	6	0	7	27	2	<b>42</b>
Jr Development	13	9	35	61	16	<b>134</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>USA-WS Totals</b>						
Region	East	SCR	South	MW	West	Total
<b>Competitions</b>	75	94	160	152	190	<b>671</b>
<b>Clinics</b>	19	9	42	88	18	<b>176</b>
<b>USA WS Total Events</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>847</b>





## 2011 Sport Discipline Event Statistics

WSDA Highest Event Class	Regional Breakdown					
	West	MWR	SCR	South	East	Total
GR	0	1	0	0	0	1
Class C	1	0	0	0	0	1
Class R	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total Competitions</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
WSDA GrassRoots Breakdown						
GR Standalone	0	1	0	0	0	1
GR w/ class C and above	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GR Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Water Ski Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	2	0	0	1	3
Jr Development	1	5	0	7	0	13
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

Hydrofoil Highest Event Class	Regional Breakdown					
	West	MWR	SCR	South	East	Total
Hydrofoil event	0	0	1	2	0	3
<b>Total Competitions</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
Hydrofoil Grassroots Breakdown						
<b>Grassroots Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jr Development	0	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

AWSA Highest Event Class	Regional Breakdown					
	West	MWR	SCR	South	East	Total
GR	24	4	1	5	1	35
Class N	0	2	0	0	0	2
Class I	0	0	0	0	0	0
Class C	118	83	38	70	58	367
Class E	1	1	2	1	0	5
Class L	4	8	9	5	2	28
Class R	12	10	15	62	1	100
Cash Prize	2	4	3	0	0	9
<b>Total Competitions</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>546</b>
AWSA Grassroots Event Breakdown						
GR Stand Alone	24	4	1	5	1	35
GR w/class N and above	17	29	17	17	13	93
<b>GR Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>128</b>
Water Ski Clinics						
Learn to Ski	2	16	0	6	2	26
Jr Development	15	17	9	8	8	57
<b>Clinic Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>83</b>

AWSA Grassroots Event Breakdown	Regional Breakdown					
	West	MWR	SCR	South	East	Total
GR Stand Alone	24	4	1	5	1	35
GR w/class N and above	17	29	17	17	13	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>128</b>

ABC GrassRoots Event Breakdown						Total
GR Stand Alone	0	4	0	1	0	5
GR w/class C and above	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

USA WB GrassRoots Event Breakdown						Total
GR Stand Alone	3	4	6	0	0	13
GR with class W	0	0	3	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>

AKA GrassRoots Event Breakdown						Total
GR Stand Alone	0	0	0	0	0	0
GR w/ class Q and above	0	1	0	2	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

Hydrofoil GrassRoots Breakdown						Total
<b>Grassroots Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

NCWSA GrassRoots Event Breakdown						Total
GR Stand Alone	0	0	0	0	0	0
GR w/ class C and above	0	1	0	0	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

NSSA GrassRoots Breakdown						Total
GR Standalone	0	1	0	0	0	1
GR w/ higher class	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GR Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

NWSRA GrassRoots Breakdown						Total
GR Standalone	2	0	0	0	0	2
GR w/ higher class	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GR Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

WSDA GrassRoots Breakdown						Total
GR Standalone	0	1	0	0	0	1
GR w/ class C and above	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GR Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Total GrassRoots Event Breakdown						Total
GR Stand alone	29	14	8	8	1	60
GR with higher class event	17	32	20	19	14	102
<b>Total GrassRoots Competitions</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>162</b>

GrassRoots All SD's	
Year	# of events
2002	149
2003	136
2004	138
2005	163
2006	126
2007	122
2008	119
2009	120
2010	99
2011	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>1232</b>

AWSA Clinics	Regional Breakdown					
	West	MWR	SCR	South	East	Total
Basic Skills	2	16	0	6	2	<b>26</b>
Jr Development	15	17	9	8	8	<b>57</b>
<b>Clinic Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>83</b>

NCWSA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Clinic Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

ABC Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

USA Wakeboard Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

AKA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

NSSA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	9	0	1	3	<b>13</b>
Jr Development	0	35	0	20	5	<b>60</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>73</b>

NWSRA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

WSDA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	2	0	0	1	<b>3</b>
Jr Development	1	5	0	7	0	<b>13</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

USHA Clinics						
Basic Skills	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Jr Development	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

Water Ski Clinics						Total
Basic Skills	2	27	0	7	6	<b>42</b>
Jr Development	16	61	9	35	13	<b>134</b>
<b>Clinic Event Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>176</b>

Clinics All SD's	
Year	# of Clinics
2004	170
2005	250
2006	198
2007	269
2008	273
2009	231
2010	176
2011	176
<b>Total</b>	<b>1323</b>

# USA-WS 10 Year Statistics

## Competitions, All Classes

AWSA		ABC		USA Wakeboard	
Year	# of events	Year	# of events	Year	# of events
2004	543	2004	45	2004	52
2005	540	2005	56	2005	43
2006	570	2006	40	2006	25
2007	563	2007	33	2007	43
2008	563	2008	43	2008	57
2009	595	2009	33	2009	25
2010	588	2010	36	2010	22
2011	546	2011	25	2011	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>3962</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>

  

NWSRA		WSDA		NSSA	
Year	# of events	Year	# of events	Year	# of events
2002	16	2002	2	2002	13
2003	14	2003	3	2003	14
2004	15	2004	3	2004	9
2005	12	2005	2	2005	13
2006	14	2006	2	2006	13
2007	12	2007	2	2007	14
2008	12	2008	2	2008	10
2009	11	2009	5	2009	13
2010	9	2010	3	2010	11
2011	12	2011	3	2011	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

  

USHA		NCWSA		AKA	
Year	# of events	Year	# of events	Year	# of events
2004	12	2004	48	2004	15
2005	12	2005	46	2005	20
2006	9	2006	42	2006	19
2007	9	2007	39	2007	20
2008	10	2008	38	2008	16
2009	8	2009	45	2009	17
2010	7	2010	43	2010	17
2011	3	2011	41	2011	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

## USA-WS Total Events

Year	Competitions	Clinics	Total Events
2004	744	170	<b>914</b>
2005	742	250	<b>992</b>
2006	734	198	<b>932</b>
2007	735	269	<b>1004</b>
2008	751	273	<b>1024</b>
2009	752	232	<b>984</b>
2010	736	188	<b>924</b>
2011	671	176	<b>847</b>

## USA Water Ski 2012 Sponsors

Aluminum Boat Cradles

Adrenaline Water Sports

Bart's Watersports Catalog

Centurion Boats

Connelly Water Skis

Correct Craft/Ski Nautique Boats

D3 Skis

Discount Inboard Marine

EZ Ski Trainer

EZ Dock

Fluid Ski & Sport

Global Marine Insurance

Goode Water Skis

H2Osmosis Water Sports

H.O. Skis

Hobie Sunglasses/EyeKing

Indmar Marine Engines

Innovative Marine/Touchless Covers

Insta-slalom

Malibu Boats

MasterCraft Boats

Masterline

O'Brien Water Skis

OJ Props/Johnson Propeller

Option One Reality

Overton's Watersports Catalog

Perfect Pass

Performance Ski and Surf

Polk County/Central Florida Sports  
Marketing

Radar Skis/Square One

Reflex Skis

Salefish Properties

WakeScout

**USA WATER SKI**  
**RISK MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

December 24, 2011

1. Drivers Rating Requirements. In addition to meeting all other applicable requirements, e.g., USA Water Ski membership, drivers shall meet the following requirements:

A. All boat drivers (towboats, pick up boats and other watercraft) in USA Water Ski "covered practices" and sanctioned events shall comply with, and meet all requirements, for boater's training and/or licensing under state law applicable in the driver's state of residence;

B. Additionally, all towboat drivers (drivers towing event participants) at USA Water Ski "covered practices" and sanctioned events shall:

- i. hold a current USA Water Ski trained driver's rating or Sport Division driver's rating (a "Rated Driver"); or,
- ii. be accompanied (in the boat) and under the direct supervision of a Rated Driver as a part of a driver's training or instructional program.

C. NWSRA: Since NWSRA does not currently have a driver's rating program, towboat drivers for sanctioned NWSRA practices and tournaments shall:

- i. have a current motor vehicle driver's license;
- ii. meet the requirements of sub-section 1.A., above; and,
- iii. meet all other requirements established by NWSRA.

*Rationale and Comments: this proposal serves both a training and screening function. It generally requires that drivers towing event participants will have completed at least the basic level USA-WS training programs to generally introduce them to safe boating concepts and requirements and have passed any examination or certification needed to complete those training programs. The only exceptions to this requirement, as noted in I.B.ii., is if a driver-trainee is operating the towboat as a part of a driver's training or instructional program in the presence of (in the towboat) and under the direct supervision of a Rated Driver; and as noted in I.C, for sanctioned NWSRA events. NWSRA is requested to review their current driver's program following the adoption of this proposal, to determine if further training programs should be implemented. It also requires that other non-towboat event drivers participating in the event (e.g., pick up boat drivers) meet all training or licensing requirements under applicable state law. This proposal is more stringent than the current requirements, which, for instance, allow the use of non-rated drivers to tow participants in "covered practice" or grass roots events if a Rated Driver is present on site during the event.*

2. Driver Screening. In addition to meeting all other applicable requirements:

A. Rated Drivers shall:

- i. have a current and valid motor vehicle operator's license at all times while they hold a USA-WS driver's rating (or, in the case of a Rated Driver who does not currently hold a motor vehicle operator's license, demonstrate that the reason that he/she does not currently hold this license is not due to the fact that

his/her motor vehicle operator's license privileges have been suspended or revoked); and,

ii. undergo a motor vehicle (motor vehicle operator's license) records review following the adoption of this requirement, and thereafter in connection with any new driver's rating application and at least every two (2) years thereafter in order to maintain their driver's rating (except in the case of NWSRA event drivers who do not hold an ongoing USA-WS driver's rating, in which case the NWSRA event driver shall provide proof of a current motor vehicle operator's license prior to driving the event) and every two years thereafter; and,

iii. meet minimum "safe driving" standards established by USA Water Ski at all times while they hold a USA-WS's driver's rating.

B. Any USA-WS Driver's Rating shall be immediately and automatically deemed revoked upon the failure to meet these requirements;

C. Rated Drivers shall immediately report to USA Water Ski any suspension or loss of their motor vehicle operator's license.

*Rationale and Comments: this proposal serves a screening function. It is anticipated that USA Water Ski will require all driver candidates and Rated Drivers to periodically undergo a motor vehicle operator's license records check to confirm that the applicant or Rated Driver has a current, valid motor vehicle operator's license and the driver's records do not disclose a history of unsafe driving (e.g., recent or repeated drunk driving offenses, license suspensions due to multiple traffic offense convictions, etc.). Special provisions have been included to accommodate Rated Drivers who have never held a state motor vehicle operator's license, and for NWSRA event drivers who do not hold an ongoing USA-WS's drivers rating. USA-WS's insurance partners (Global Marine and ESIX) have agreed to provide screening criteria used by other NGB's to assist in the development of USA-WS' screening criteria. It is anticipated that the screening will be undertaken by a third-party agency, which will independently determine (subject to appropriate rights of review as to the accuracy of the underlying information) whether a particular candidate passes or fails the applicable criteria. Global Marine will determine if our towboat insurance carrier will pay the cost of this third-party screening. If not, it is anticipated that the screening cost (approximately \$15) will be paid by the sport division (as a part of its budget) or applicant (either new or renewal applicant), as determined by USA-WS (as to USA-WS trained drivers) or sport division (as to sport division-specific driver's ratings). All applicants and Rated Drivers will also be required to self-report any suspension or loss of their motor vehicle operator's license in addition to the third-party screening process. Any failure to comply with this self-reporting obligation will be a violation of USA-WS's requirements, and will subject the violator to appropriate USA-WS or Sport Division disciplinary proceedings and sanctions.*

3. Educational Program Updates. USA-WS and its Sport Divisions shall review and update all USA-WS driver's training and instructional programs to include the following:

- A. State boating law requirements, e.g., PFD and fire extinguisher requirements;
- B. Basic boating safety and "rules of the water" training;se
- C. Safety checklists, and operating requirements and recommendations from towboat manufacturers;

D. Event planning and safety considerations applicable to the event, specifically including the avoidance of hazards to event participants and bystanders.

*Rationale and Comment: this proposal is intended to require the review and update of current driver's training and instructional programs to ensure that basic safety issues are addressed in those programs, ranging from the operation of the boat to safety-related event planning. The event planning training should include both on-water activities (making sure boats and skiers maintain a safe distance from each other and other hazards, etc.) and off-water activities (spectator safety, etc.)*

4. Safety Checklist. USAWS shall update its current pre- and post-event safety checklist to include a requirement that the chief safety official review driver-related safety planning and issues with the driver having supervisory responsibility for the event, e.g., the Chief Driver in AWSA sanctioned events.

*Rational and Comment: this proposal is focused on ensuring that the driver-in-charge of a particular event is included in appropriate safety planning measures considered and/or implemented in an event.*

5. Other Planning Items. The Risk Management Committee and USA-WS staff will continue their work on the following:

A. Update insurance "fact sheet" and communications. *We should provide more succinct communications about the requirements and benefits of USA-WS's insurance programs.*

B. Promotion of Global Marine towboat insurance program. *We should look for opportunities to increase participation of towboat owners in Global Marine's towboat insurance program, both to increase the premium base (important at several levels, including measuring the loss ratio and cost of our insurance program) and to promote the coordination of insurance coverage between USA-WS's towboat and liability insurance programs.*

C. Sharing of safety training program information. *NSSA has, for instance, recently completed a new video covering basic driving safety issues, which may be of benefit to other sport divisions. Likewise, sport division feedback regarding safety director training may be helpful in providing both general and sport division-specific safety training.*

D. Assistance in Claims Investigation. *Our insurance partners will offer assistance to our insurers from USA-WS sport division representative in investigating claims. Although the insurers will remain responsible for investigating those claims, USA-WS sport division representatives may be able to provide assistance in understanding sport division practices and procedures that may be relevant to a particular claim*

E. Period Claims Review. *The Risk Management Committee will periodically review claims submitted in connection with USA-WS events both to monitor the types of claims experienced and to determine whether program changes should be implemented. The Risk Management Committee should also periodically review and report to USA-WS and its Sport Divisions the results and analysis of these claims investigations, to assist in further analysis and improvement of USA-WS' safety and accident prevention programs.*