

AMERICAN WATER SKI ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
USA-WS Headquarters - Polk City, Florida
Saturday, January 24, 2015 8:00 a.m.

1) Opening & Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Gordon Hall, Chair.

2) Introduction & Roll Call. Following persons were present, in person:

Alex Lauretano – AAC	Jeff Clark – HND, Ch, Bylaws cmte
Andrew Adkison – AAC	Jeffrey Smith – HND, Ch, Int'l Activities cmte
Barry Young – Director, W / VP	Jeff Surdej – HND
Bill Wenner – HND	Jerry Jackson – Ch, Technical cmte
Bob Crowley – USA WS Exec. Dir.	Jim Grew-S / USA WS President
Bob Mayhew – AWSA Pres.	Jim Jaquess – Director, S
Bob Schouten – EVP, S	Jody Seal – Consultant, Towboat cmte
Brooks Wilson – AAC	Joe Darwin – Director, SC
Chris Eller – Director, S	Jon Thacher – Director, E
Connie Bergmark – Director, W	Julie Krueger - Director, SC
Darr Leutz – Director, MW	Kate Knafla – EVP, MW
Dave Clark – HND	Keith Lindemulder – Director, SC
Delaina Downes – MW / Secretary	Laura Johnson – Director, W
Dennis Downes – Director, MW	Lyman Hardy – Director, S
Don Bucher – HND	Mark Crone - Consultant, Seeding cmte
Doug Robbins – HND	Owen Letcher – EVP, W
Ellie Horton – AAC	Pat Byrne – Director, E
Floyd McCreight – Ch, Judges & Scorers, HND	Peter Dahl – Director, MW
Frank Harrison – HND	Richelle Matli – Ch, Rules cmte
Freddie Krueger – AAC	Robert Rhyne - Treasurer
Gordon Hall – EVP, SC / Chairman	Tonya Maurer – E / EVP
Hank Longo – Ch, Announcer's cmte	.
Hutch Haines – Director, E	

3) Appointment of Parliamentarian and Agenda Review – Jeff Clark appointed Parliamentarian for the meeting by the Chairman.

4) Announcement of Quorum – A quorum was declared by the Chair. Jim Jaquess asked for a clarification of who were the voting members of the AWSA AAC at the meeting, and if an athlete representative that is affiliated with AWA (Wakeboarding and not a member of AWSA) should be allowed to vote. Parliamentarian Jeff Clark reported that according to USAWS he was eligible to vote. After discussion, there was no objection to the voting roll. The voting ACC members were restated (Alex, Brooks, Ellie, Freddy, and Andrew).

5) Review and Approval of August 10, 2014 AWSA BOD Meeting Minutes – add Connie Bergmark to roll call.

Motion to approve, as amended: Darr/second, Tonya – Passed

Motion to bring action items in the committee reports to the floor as motions with automatic second.

Motion Kate/Laura – Carries

Motion to allow committee chairs to sit in on the entire meeting.

Motion Pat Byrne/Barry Young – Carries

6) Ratification of AWSA BOD Electronic Ballots since last Meeting

Motion to approve: Barry/Auto - Carries

7) IWWF Report – report published in board package. No additions.

8) USA - WS Executive Director's Report – USA WS staff members Taryn Garland & Krista Rogers joined the meeting. Bob Crowley reported that membership revenues did not meet target. Invested in the official's program, looking to invest in the sanctioning program. Financials had a \$25,000 loss. Making adjustments to compensate, anticipate positive growth in the coming year. Insurance held steady other than property. US Open...there were some holes in the event, but staff pulled together and pulled it off admirably. Event was sanctioned by Fluid. Mark Crone – curious to comments on sanction system, concerned with how would work with 3rd party. There are issues with other browsers, operating systems. Can't satisfy all.

ACTION ITEM: – Bob C. to get with 5 EVP's to summarize issues on sanctioning system, and consult with Mark Crone and Jim Meis, etc.

9) USA - WS President's Report – deleted from agenda at Jim Grew's request.

10) AWSA President's Report – Bob Mayhew. USA Water Ski app is complete. Will be able to send notifications to everyone who downloads it. Only cost was for the domain – Krista learned how in a weekend.

Joined by Randy Melcher, ESIX insurance agent – Discussion of why can't those covered by policy, not be able have a copy of the actual policy and its coverage provisions. Randy reported that most organizations as a matter of practice, do not allow this information out. Randy stated that USA Water Ski and their board can provide this policy if they wish. Needs to go to the USA Water Ski Exec Board to decide. Discussion of whether a flow chart or FAQ page would be sufficient. Randy - a fact summary, insurance highlights document has key points that would be of interest to membership. First named on insurance is USA Water Ski Inc. Clubs can be added as an additional named insured for \$50 a year.

ACTION ITEM: – Bob C, Jeff S and Randy will work offline to come up with a recommendation for member access to insurance policy, and report back to USA Water Ski board. It will be given a high priority.

11) AWSA Treasurer's Report & Budget Review – See report. We have \$89K in the bank.

Motion to accept: Darr/Hutch – passes unanimously.

12) AWSA Executive Committee Report – Bob M. Discussion on Elite team members doing clinics in all the regions, starting with the 2015 team, with the Wilson brothers as spokespersons.

a) December 6, 2014 Meeting Summary

ACTION ITEM: Elite skier clinics.

Motion to table – failed.

Motion to end discussion and vote – passed.

Motion to develop Elite program – Motion carried.

b) Nationals Division II Proposal

ACTION ITEM: Division II Proposal – Discussion. Southern recommendation – expand level 8. Freddie – increase fees \$7.50, have a preliminary and final. East in favor if there is reporting that goes along with it. Julie – restructure the levels. Wrap-up – Because Nationals is one of 2 revenue streams for USA Water Ski, try DII, or expand level 8, include level 7

Motion in favor of DII as described in the report 12 for /12 against; chair votes no. Motion fails.

Motion - Keith/Julie: Lower entry requirements for Nationals to include level 7 and above.

Discussion. **Motion withdrawn.**

Motion to Table - Tonya/Jim Jaquess: Carries.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to cap the Elite Team expenses to 60% of AWSA total income for any given year. (Joe Darwin/)

Motion Carries.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to increase the amount in the budgeted Membership Drive Expense category to \$10,000.

Motion Carries Unanimously

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve the proposed 2015 AWSA budget. (Barry/Connie)

Motion carries; 1 opposed

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve the recommendation from task force, Barry Young and Tonya Maurer, of \$10,000 which will result in a 3% bonus for HQ Staff related to their efforts on behalf of AWSA (put in as \$2000, \$3000, \$5000 line items so they are restricted funds.)

**Motion 14/1 opposed. Carries
Lunch Break 11:40 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.**

13) Athletic Advisory Council Report – nothing to report.

14) USOC Report – Andrew Adkison.- See report. Recently attended the USOC meeting in Chicago. Appointment of Ombudsman dominated meeting. Top 10 changes to 2015 code.

15) AWSA Committee Reports

a) Announcers Committee – Hank Longo – need more help at Nationals. If doing National's contact Hank ahead of time so he can help with sound.

b) Awards Committee – See report.

c) By Laws Committee – Jeff Clark

ACTION ITEM: The Bylaws Committee is recommending that we change Article V section 3 to add a new section d) Executive Vice President and give them 2 points for each year of service.

Motion Carries Unanimously

ACTION ITEM: We will need to revise section 6.2 in the Policies and Procedures Manual to change the effective date for the approval of the changes and set the effective date for the change. Discussion.

Motion Carries Unanimously

d) Nominating Committee – Barry Young

Motion for Bob Archambeau to receive HND status by virtue of revised requirements.

Motion Barry/Kate – Carries Unanimously

e) International Activities Committee – Jeff Smith

ACTION ITEM: Approve Jr Team

ACTION ITEM: Approve team trials site selection, and elite team selection qualifications and procedures.

ACTION ITEM: Approve appointees and nominees.

Motion to approve action items: Carries Unanimously

f) Judges & Scorers Committee – Gordon stepping down as chair after 4 years, and turning over Chair to Floyd McCreight, effective this meeting. Progress continues on proactive notification of deficiencies.

g) Rules Committee – Richelle Matli

Pulled from the Consent List for
discussion:

East – Prop 1, 2, 3, 14, 17, 22

Southern - 1, 3, 13, 17, 22, 23

West 22, 24

MW – good

SC – 9, 11, 25

**Motion to approve all Proposals other
than those pulled for discussion (the
“Consent list”): Carries
Unanimously**

Proposal 1: 14/5 Carries

Proposal 2: 6/11 Fails

Proposal 3: Carries Unanimously

Proposal 9: Withdrawn

Proposal 11: Carries Unanimously

Proposal 13: 1/9 Fails

Proposal 14: 17/ Carries

Proposal 17: 12/8 Carries

Proposal 22: Fails unanimously

Proposal 23: 14/0 Carries

Proposal 24: Withdrawn

Proposal 25: Carries Unanimously

h) Technical Committee – Jerry Jackson – See report.

Discussion of issues with jump surfaces, and the interpretation of what is flat and/or the intent of a
+/- 1” deviation.

Motion to create new designation of TC Ambassador as described in the cmte report:

Motion TC Ambassador - Carries Unanimously

Motion to accept as initial TC Ambassadors: Bob Corson, Dave Clark, Ed Brazil, Rodger Dilling.
(Katy/Barry)

Carries Unanimously

i) Junior Development Committee – New Chairman. Jim Devito (W region). No report.

j) Safety Committee – See report.

Looking to revamp manual from start to finish. Look at tournament incident reports to see what
pops up and concussions came to light and has stimulated a concussion awareness program.

k) Seeding Committee – No report

l) Skier's Qualification Committee – Keith – No action items currently. 3:08 p.m.

m) Boat Driver's Committee – See report

ACTION ITEM: – Approve Emeritus ratings for Pat Rogers and Don Bucher

Motion Barry/Julie: Carries Unanimously

n) Towboat Committee – See report – Amend date to be correct

16) Regional Recommendations –

a) East – Tonya

Promo boats and the insurance gap – needs to be clarified (Jon)

b) Midwest – Kate

To HQ: Get membership info to other boat dealer industry similar to what the plan is with the 4 major tournament towboats

To HQ: Magazine focus is on elite skier - We like to see the magazine focus more to the weekend water skiers and amateurs

To AWSA: We like to see a survey go out to skiers that didn't ski nationals finding out why they don't go to Nationals

To Nationals LOC: We would like to see the option of purchasing Regional Tents at 2015 Nationals

c) South – Bob Schouten

4 rounds under one sanction

Don't want to call in slalom times

revise Clinic fees

d) South Central – Julie K

Facebook re-blast/up the communications.

Expand merchandise offerings for sale to members. Bring back old merchandise, magnets, license plate holders, etc.

Send only one Regional Guide per address.

e) West -

Revise the AWSA Officials program quantitative requirements for advancement and renewal for Judge and Scorer to allow a clinic to be used each year to satisfy the requirement for tournament and clinic requirements within the two year bi-annual renewal period (current requirements only allow one tournament to be credited within each two year renewal period).

17) Any Other Business

Julie K – presented a slide for discussion and possible motion re:

2015 DIVISION II NATIONALS PROPOSAL

Add a DII event to Nationals whereas the L8 cut-off is raised slightly and appropriately for each age group (may not be the same, for example, for W1 as M3). This proposal will make DI more elite/prestigious.

Then invite DII from L7 with a slightly increased cut-off appropriate for each age group event.

New cut-offs will be determined by Skier Qualifications Committee and set by February 28, 2015. At that point, the proposal will be sent out for final approval to the board of directors.

L7 skiers in 2015 who were L8 in 2014 ski year may ski up to DI.

Overall skiers must choose either DI or DII.

All changes made will have to work within the current system programming.

Mark Crone – presented his proposal for discussion and possible motion:

NATIONALS D1/D2 Proposal. Like Julie's proposal, except:

- Change proposed name to something other than Division since that terminology already has specific meaning in sport

- Lower Nationals qualification to L7. One qualification standard. Implementation of this change requires only settings changes in League settings

- Raise L8 standard with an attempt to balance L7 and L8.

- Election of D1/D2 to be made at time of registration. Consider adding language in confirmation email and hover over explaining election. May be updated by skier up to the time of export of registration data to WSTIMS.
- An L7 skier may ski D1 or D2, but L8 may only ski D1.
- Limit divisions with D1/D2 to divisions with a minimum of 20 level 8 skiers.
- Set headings in Sanction system to cause OLR to display D1 and D2 if skier has L7 ranking and display only D1 for skier with L8. Slight OLR modification required.
- Data passes from OLR to WSTIMS in standard export. Data passed to WSTIMS is the basis for L7/L8 grouping at in WSTIMS for Nationals.
- Groupings of D1 and D2 and awards to be managed by WSTIMS

Pat – to recap and simplify, levels 9, 8, 7 qualify for Nationals and at some point draw a line probably somewhere in the middle of 8 then if you are above the line, you're D1, below it you're D2. Level 8 skiers could ski up.

Jeff - Original idea from Freddie is to divide level 8 and possibly add some level 7.

Keith – Propose to put together a committee to put together a proposal, concern with 3 event skiers.

Bob - Awards will be different between D1 and D2.

Motion to appoint a taskforce/subcommittee, including Skiers Qualification and others and by Feb 28 come to board with a recommendation with details for D2 Nationals to be voted on electronically.

Barry/Tonya 17/3 Carries

Keith – Need to look for a way to potentially increase revenue and participation, lower base National entry fee and raise 2nd / 3rd events..

Discussion.

18) Adjourn

**Motion Darr/Julie – Unanimously
Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.**