

Minutes

**American Water Ski Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Best Western North, Regency 1 Conference Room
915 E. 53rd St. North, Wichita, KS 67219
Monday, August 6, 2018 8:30 a.m.**

Meeting called order at 8:30 a.m. by Gordon Hall, Chairman of the Board

Roll Call by Introduction:

Keith Lindemulder – S / AWSA VP
Bob Mayhew - SC
Kelvin Kelm – SC / SQC Chair
Gary Noll - E
Jim Powell – E EVP
Jon Thacher – E for Hutch Haines
Barry Young - W
Richelle Muhlthner – W / Rules Cmte Chair
Brad Corbin – W EVP
Brad Hartwell - W
Kirby Whetsel – S / Seeding Cmte Chair
Bob Archambeau – S EVP
Lyman Hardy - S
Mike O'Connor - MW
Dean Chappell – MW EVP Outgoing
Peter Dahl - MW
Dennis Downes – MW EVP Incoming
Delaina Downes – MW Secretary
Jeff Surdej – MW AWSA Pres
Gordon Hall – SC / Chairman of the Board
Hank Longo – S / Announcers Cmte Chair
Ron Koenig - S
Roy Surdej - MW
Kate Knafla – MW / HND / for Dennis Downes
Van Parker - SC
Jeff Clark – S / HND / Chair USA & AWSA Bylaws Committee
Tom Nathan – W / Judges and Scorers Committee
Doug Robbins – USAWSWS COB / Towboat Committee
Nate Boudreaux - New Executive Director, USAWSWS
Larry Downes – MW /
Chris Eller – S / HND / Alternate Dir
Don Bucher – MW HND
Jim Grew – W / Past Pres USAWSWS / HND
Floyd McCreight – SC / HND
Jerry Bautsch – SC
Ham Wallace – Drivers Cmte
Robert Rhyne - Treasurer
Will Bush – Tow Boat Cmte Chair

3) Announcement of Quorum – A quorum was declared present by the Chair.

4) Opening Administrative Motions –

Motion to allow committee chairs and invited guests to attend the meeting (motion by Jonathan / second by Lyman). Motion carries

Motion to treat all committee recommendations in committee reports as automatic motions with seconds (Jonathan / Lyman) Carries

5) Appointment of Parliamentarian – Jeff Clark appointed to serve as meeting Parliamentarian.

6) Confirmation of Voting Roll - A total of 21 votes are possible, so 11 affirmative votes are needed for a simple majority. Voting members present (with duly elected alternates who are serving shown in parenthesis) are:

AAC – No members present
East – Jim P, Hutch (Jonathan), Doug, Gary
Midwest Region – Dennis (Kate), Mike, Peter, Roy
S – Jim (Chris), Kirby, Bob, Lyman
SC – Van, Jerry, Bob, Julie (Kelvin)
W – Barry, Brad, Richelle, Brad
COB – Gordon

7) Adoption of Agenda. 3 items added

Dennis – Nationals

Welcome! Around 720 entries, had to move some times, 1 event had to split, 1 event had to move lakes. Need to manage traffic in the neighborhood, park in approved parking. Early cutoff, America's Cup and team skiing all played a part in boosting those numbers. America's Cup is the pro event Friday night. Strong support from all 3 boat companies. Would like to keep it going. 30 OM Slalom / 20 OM Jump!! If you know of any sponsors willing to jump in on the event in the future let Dennis know.

Ron Koenig – Team Funding Update

Last year raised \$23,000. 6,000 letters went out for funding. Rally Me campaign – GoFundMe online donation tool, lets people easily donate money. National campaign, autograph session for the kids. Big fundraiser – Ski Weekend with the Elites, \$500. A lot of people don't know the elite skiers well. Interviews are coming out, first Taylor Garcia interviewed Freddy. Thanks to Jim Jaquess, Dana & Steve Garcia, Kerry and Mike Morgan, Jack and Lelani Travers, and the board. Trying to fund 4 teams to get to the Pan-Americans. Last year Malibu only industry leader to donate. Looking for more ideas on how to raise money. Also need the Hall of Fame behind this effort as that is where the money in this sport lies. Eastern region voted to pay for travel for any junior skier that is skiing internationally and meets the criteria they have set.

8) Presentation of Service Awards – Barry Young

Jonathan Thacher – Outgoing director, Eastern region, 53 years in AWSA, HND certificate

Owen Letcher – Outgoing EVP, Western region

Motion for approval of Owen & Jonathan as Honorary National Directors for life (Bob / Jim P). Carries

9) Review and Approval of Jan. 28, 2017 BOD Meeting Minutes

Changes:

Marie Baker was approved for Sr. Scorer Emeritus

Dave Robbins and Leon Larson were approved as Sr. Judge Emeritus

Motion to approve as amended with above changes (/ Dean). Carries

10) Ratification of BOD Electronic Ballots since last Meeting

Motion to approve (Barry / Lyman). Carries

11) Nominating Committee Report - Barry Young

12) Election of Officers for next year

President: Jeff Surdej

VP: Keith Lindemulder

Treasurer: Robert Rhyne

Secretary: Delaina Downes

COB: Gordon Hall

Motion to close nominations - Lyman / Doug. Carries

Motion to approve slate – Bob M / Bob A. Carries

13) AWSA President's Report & AWSA Executive Committee Report

Would like to stress lines of communication from the top down.

Highlights – 321Kampaign, doing well, hard to track but want to keep pushing. Added a photo contest. Pass the Handle, July 22nd, PB stickers, membership – \$19.95 membership, base membership hopefully next year, more discounts. 7,000 members have come and gone in the last 5 years. Having Mark Crone on board is really helping! Team skiing has been huge. Largest Nationals since 2010 and most pulls since 2004! National tournament records; Jill Smith, Mark Crone and Scott Atkinson worked all the scorebooks back to 1991. 2021 Nationals bids due to be voted on in the winter and 2020 Jr US Open. Charlotte wants the same week for next year's Nationals, July 26-27 for Regional's. Working on getting the US Open in the schedule. 100 Ambassadors – Where to Waters Ski. iPad at Cory's to sign up and join and get discounts. Virtual Slalom App has hit the Apple Store. Will set meeting for December for Exec team.

14) Bid for 2019 Jr US Open - Stillwaters - Tony Drake's site – Motion to approve (Bob / Barry) Carries

15) AWSA Treasurer's Report – Robert Rhyne. Motion to Receive report (Lyman / Bob) Carries

16) USA-WS Executive Director's Report –

Nate Boudreaux has been chosen from 58 candidates as our next Executive Director. August 20th is his official first day. Comes to us from American College of Sports Medicine – Director of Corporate Development.

17) Pan Am Confederation IWWF Report

Nominations for Pan-Am Tournament Council representative: Nominees:

Bob Corson

Larry Downes

Nikki Lee

Dana Garcia – removed herself from the ballot

Review of candidate statements, and discussion of each candidate with any candidates present leaving the room.

Motion to approve Bob Corson by acclamation (Doug / Bob A). Carries

Motion to elect Nikki Lee as alternate (Doug / Gary). Carries

Suggestion to ask Bob to do a better job of communicating with the board.

Break – 10:05-10:20 a.m.

Virtual Slalom Skiing demo. The Virtual Slalom Skiing Iphone app was presented by Gordon Hall. The Iphone app has just been released on the App Store and may be downloaded, for free, by anyone with an Iphone.

18) International Activities Committee Report

No action items

Jim Grew – Not able to fill all positions, still looking for a coach for Pan-Am's

19) Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) Report – No report

20) USOC Report – No report

21) Committee Reports

a) Announcers Committee - Hank Longo

Up to 90 announcers now!

Cable park to open in February – Working on pro-shop now which needs to open first. Will Bush working with the tournament lakes, will be a phenomenal facility.

Thank you to the board for all you do!

b) Awards Committee – No report.

Keith would like to put together a committee to look at ad hoc awards to broaden the pool, and create more engagement and recognition.

c) Boat Driver's Committee – Ham Wallace

Working on proposals for the winter meeting (No action requested now):

- Change to 4-year period for quantitative requirements
- Senior Jump and Slalom driver's rating would be automatic Senior Trick
- Another level of Senior driver

d) Bylaws Committee - Jeff Clark

Suggestion to adjust director seating - Directors seating is done on a two-year cycle. At the end of 2019 membership will be reviewed and we will reallocate the voting percentages for the next two-year period. Proposal needs to be put to the board of directors to consider changing the seating chart allocation numbers from 4000 members per director seat, to a number that is more relevant for the present time, and fair and equitable to all Sports Disciplines. NSSA and AWSA are the two main sports disciplines and we need to agree. Jeff asked NSSA members to consider 2500 members per director seat allocation, and suggested they get in touch with our board, and work together to have something that both agree on, prior to the meeting. Asks that our board go to NSSA and decide what we would like to do and get back to Jeff by October 1st so the timing works to get bylaws changes made.

Consideration of action items in report:

1 – Motion to approve amendment of Eastern region's bylaws (Clarification item regarding alternate directors). Carries

2 – Motion to approve amendment of MW region's bylaws (Change to a pool of alternate directors). Carries

3 – Motion to approve amendment of AWSA bylaws – Change to "duly elected". Carries

Will be posted for 60 days, and become effective on October 4, 2018

e) Judges & Scorers Committee

Consideration of action items in report:

1 – Approve Emeritus requests from:

Dave Robbins: Sr. Judge Emeritus (STJ). Carries (previously approved via minutes of last meeting)

Jerry Stansberry: Sr. Judge Emeritus (STJ). Motion carries

2 – Change criteria for officials credit at a tournament. Officials with multiple ratings shall receive credit for working as an official for all ratings held when working as an official during a tournament, even if the official was unable to work each event due to low volume of skiers. Motion amended to include “at the discretion of the Chief Judge.” Motion carries.

3 – Change quantitative requirement for renewal of ratings to 4 years / 8 tournaments. Motion carries

4 – Trick videoing and clinic attendance would count as a tournament credit. Carries

Discussion of Level 8 judging issue and new initiative “Pass the Clipboard”. No action.

f) Junior Development Committee

Jim Devito is stepping down and Tony Drake will be taking over as chair. Would like to see something simple that defines how the teams are created for parents published.

g) Rules Committee - Richelle Muhlitner

Issue with new jumpers qualifying for OM Overall jump on a 5' ramp and our rules say they have to jump on a 5.5' or 6' ramp. Motion to allow OM Overall to jump on a 5' ramp (Richelle / Barry). Carries

Clarification regarding Level 9 and 10 Overall: Jim P. requests clarification to rule 3.03F4 and Level 10 Overall skiers who hold lower ratings in individual events. Are they allowed to enter in age division in those events? Discussion; interpretation of Rules Committee chair is that rule 3.03F4 does not prevent a skier with single event rankings below Level 10 from competing in Overall Elite and also age division for placement in those single events.

Discussion on those W4 skiers who have just moved into W5, and who will now be going back to W4 due to the revision of the age range, to be grandfathered in and allowed to stay in W5. Motion to approve (Bob M/Gordon). Motion fails

h) Safety Committee

Discussion of allowing medical professionals to fast track. No action.

i) Seeding Committee – Kirby Whetsel

a. Dave Clark – stepping down from duties.

b. Mike O'Connor – new MW seeding rep

c. Robert Rhyne – new NCWSA seeding rep

j) Skier's Qualification Committee - Kelvin Kelm
Consideration of action items in report:

1 – Approval of the 2019 Skier Qualification Methodology. Discussion. Carries

Motion to have the board send the recommendation to Rules and Skiers Qualifications that any skier who achieved Level 8 after the cutoff date to go to Nationals (Kirby / Doug). Carries

2 – Juniors in Level 10 . Discussion. Motion to send back to the committee (Doug / Bob A). Carries

3 – Level 10 cutoffs for 2019. Discussion. Motion to send back to the committee and leave at the current methodology (Bob M / Doug). Motion to call the question (Barry, passes). Motion Fails. Motion (Jim P / Barry) to use cutoffs recommended by SQC, as highlighted in the report, except amending OM Overall to use option #2 (3235 NOPS). Jeff S says using these numbers will result in just 3 Level 10 divisions for 2018 (OMS, OWS, and MMS). Discussion; Motion to call the question (passes); Motion carries.

Note: Recommended Level 10 cutoffs from SQC report:

Open Men Slalom - 2@41off

Open Men Trick - 9535 points

Open Men Jump - 208 ft

Open Men Overall – 2956 NOPS points (Board overrides to 3235)

Open Women Slalom – 5.5@38 off

Open Women Trick - 6855 points

Open Women Jump and Overall – N/A

Masters Men Slalom - 2@41off

Masters Men Trick - 4310 points

Masters Men Jump – N/A

Masters Men Overall – N/A

Masters Women Slalom – 1.5@38 off

Masters Women Trick Jump and Overall – N/A

Bob A suggests committee review deleting OM Overall

k) Technical Committee – No report

l) Towboat Committee - Will Bush

Consideration of action items in report:

1 – Towboat use, Model year: Expand the number of years that boats are available to be used in sanctioned events.

a) AWSA Nationals, AWSA Regionals, Record Capability (Class E, L, R) tournaments, Class C and F tournaments may use a 2019 USA-WS Approved boat or a prior year 2018, 2017, or 2016 USA-WS Approved Tournament Towboat. (Current year plus 3 additional years).

b) Class C & F tournaments may use an “older boat” (2015 or earlier), USA-WSWS Approved Tournament Approved boat equipped with Zero Off, with the approval of their Regional AWSA Towboat Committee member, or Chair(s) of the

AWSA Towboat Committee. Primary consideration will be given to the condition of the boat, speed control version, etc.

c) In all instances where an "older boat" (2015 or earlier) is used, the manufacturer must also have a boat on the approved list for the current year. | Motion carries

2 – Towboat damage: Raise the amount that a local organizing club will be responsible for, in the event there is damage to a towboat used in an event. Raise the amount from the current \$500 maximum to a \$750 maximum. Motion carries.

Discussion on ways to be self-supporting clubs when it comes to tournament boats. No action.

Regional Recommendations

a) East

OLR – reconciliation process would be easier if there were time stamps of when the skier registered, on the spreadsheet.

OLR – someone that is Level 10 Overall can be able to register in their age division as well.

b) Midwest

None

c) South

Thank you to Rules for looking into Level 10 – Jeff looked at the numbers and there will only be 3 Level 10 events.

d) South Central

Already came up earlier in the meeting

e) West

None

24) Old Business

None

25) New Business

None

26) Date & Time of Next Meeting

Jan 26, 2019 – Polk City, FL

27) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn (Barry / Lyman). Carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.