

December 28, 2008

To: AWSA Southern Region Council and Membership

From: Southern Region Bylaws Representative, Jeff Clark

Re: 2009 Midwinter Report of the Southern Region Bylaws Representative

AWSA Southern Region Bylaws

I have reviewed the current Southern Region Bylaws, approved January 15, 2005 and do not find the need for any changes at this time.

AWSA Southern Region Policy & Procedures Manual

There are several housekeeping issues and changes' that need to be made in the Southern Region P & P Manual. The following is a synopsis of the changes and **ACTION ITEMS** for you to review and vote on:

PROPOSED P & P Manual REV 11 JAN 10, 2009

ACTION ITEM # 1: Delete USPS copies of Southern Regional bids.

RATIONALE: The EVP has, for several years, been receiving the bids for the Southern Regionals electronically and then distributing them to the Council for a vote. We need to delete the USPS stipulation as noted to reflect what we are actually doing.

ACTION ITEM # 2: Change revision date of the bid form.

RATIONALE: I will be making recommendations to the current form under **Action Item # 12**, which will change the date as noted.

ACTION ITEM # 3: Delete the note in parenthesis regarding the State Championships.

RATIONALE: I will be making recommendations to the current specified date under **Action Item # 9**, which will clarify the date.

1.1.1 Bids for Regional Tournament Sites

JEFF NOTE: REVISE 3 AREAS IN RED AND CLARIFY STATE WEEKEND

Bids for the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament will be voted on by the AWSA Southern Region Council one season prior to the tournament. The EVP must solicit bids for the regional site on April 1st each year. All bids for the tournament shall be submitted in writing (~~27 copies via USPS or~~ **1 copy electronically**) on the official (**2005 version**) bid form (APPENDIX III) with all the

details to the EVP by June 20th, and to be presented to Council within 10 days for voting. The deadline for voting is the Wednesday after the State Championship weekend ~~(third weekend in July)~~. (7/02)

ACTION ITEM # 4: Combine and rewrite sections 5 & 6.

RATIONALE: Sections 5 & 6 needs to be combined to indicate what we are currently doing with a combined meeting and we need to stipulate the day. The current practice is to hold the meeting on Thursday.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

CURRENT WORDING:

5. The hosting club will provide a meeting room of adequate size for the Thursday night AWSA Southern Region Council meeting.
6. The hosting club will provide a meeting room of adequate size for the Friday night AWSA Southern Region General Membership Business Meeting.

REVISE TO READ:

5. The hosting club will provide a meeting room of adequate size for the Thursday night AWSA Southern Region Council and General Membership Business meeting.
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ISSUE: Update and revise section 1.1.3 Entry Qualifications and Skier Seeding

The AWSA Ranking List now has incorporated several optional and automated sections (called filters in computer language) that can be utilized for entry into the Southern Regional tournament. You probably saw this on the Ranking List site last year for the Regionals and Nationals when you checked to see if you were qualified for these tournaments. All of the preset filters are unique to each regions entry requirements and are setup early on in the season. In order for us to take advantage of these options, on behalf of our skiers, the Council needs to review each option and include in this section these requirements. This will give the EVP the direction that they need to choose these each year when requested.

Each option/change will be considered as an **ACTION ITEM**, so that we can consider each on its own merits.

ACTION ITEM # 5: Change the Cut Off Date (COD) for the Regionals.

RATIONALE: The sentiment of the membership at the July 2008 meeting was that the current stipulated date is too late. They requested that the date should be 21 days before the entry deadline.

1.1.3 Entry Qualifications and Skier Seeding

CURRENT WORDING:

Note: Entry requirements will be based on the most current Ranking List prior to the entry deadline for the Southern Regional Tournament. 1/07

CHANGE TO READ:

Entry requirements will be based on the AWSA Ranking List 21 days prior to the entry deadline for the Southern Regional Tournament. 1/09

ACTION ITEM # 6: Change Overall skier entry requirements.

RATIONALE: Now that there is an Overall Ranking for the Overall skiers, we need to use that as the basis for their entry to the Regionals. This will be to the advantage of these competitors.

CURRENT WORDING:

Overall three event skiers with a Level 6 Ranking in each event (who skied and scored three events at their respective state tournament) shall be allowed to ski in all three events at the Southern Regionals Championship. 1/07

CHANGE TO READ:

Overall three event skiers with an Overall Level 6 Ranking and who skied and scored three events at their respective state tournament, shall be allowed to ski in all three events at the Southern Regionals Championship. 1/09

ACTION ITEM # 7: Add new paragraph for meeting or exceeding Cut Off Date (COD) requirement

RATIONALE: Clarifies scores attained after the COD is established, at “last chance” tournaments and how they may qualify to enter the Regionals.

NEW PARAGRAPH:

Skier scores from tournaments, class C and above, between the cutoff date (COD) and the absolute final day for entry (late entry date) to the Southern Regionals, that meets or exceeds the locked in base number required for their events/division, in either the Ranking list by “Rank” or by raw score, shall be qualified to enter the Southern Regional Tournament. 1/09

ACTION ITEM # 8: Delete last part of sentence stipulating the date that the Seeding list is established.

RATIONALE: This gives the Seeding representative the flexibility needed to assist in making up the event running orders for the tournament.

Regionals are to be seeded by the Southern Region National Seeding Committee representative using the AWSA National Ranking List. ~~and using the cutoff date as previously noted at the beginning of this section.~~ 1/09

ISSUE: There is one other option available. A Skier that places in the top five in the Nationals is automatically eligible to enter the following years Nationals. It has been suggested that we can offer this same qualification for the Regionals and stipulate 1st – 5th place as the qualifier. At the regional level, this would be contrary to the recommendations of the Competition Task Force several years ago encouraging participation in tournaments during the ski year. This option would discourage and affect participation in local tournaments. I would not recommend using this option.

ACTION ITEM # 9: The weekend for the state tournaments needs to be clarified in section 1.3.1.

RATIONALE: The Nationals, according to the AWSA Rulebook can be held the second or third weekend in August and we stipulate that the Regionals shall be held two full weeks before the start of the Nationals. We have stated that the State Championships will be the third weekend in July. This causes problems at the state level for the sponsors, competitors and officials and we need to address this. Since the Regionals are based on the Nationals, I would suggest that we change the date for the State Championships to reflect the flexibility in the same way that we determine the date for the Regionals.

1.3.1 Scheduling Tournaments

CURRENT WORDING:

There are three protected weekends during the sanctioning year: The AWSEF Hall of Fame, the **third weekend** in July for the State Championships and the Southern Regional Tournament. There is not to be a sanctioned tournament in the Region/State on these protected weekends, whichever applies. If a State tournament is scheduled on an alternate weekend due to conflicts, this mandate will apply to that weekend.

CHANGE TO READ (TWO SEPARATE PARAGRAPHS):

There are three protected weekends during the sanctioning year: The AWSEF Hall of Fame, the State Championships, and the Southern Regional Tournament. There is not to be a sanctioned tournament in the Region/State on these protected weekends, whichever applies.

The State Tournaments shall be scheduled to conclude two full weekends prior to the start of the Southern Regionals. If a State tournament is scheduled on an alternate weekend (requires approval of the Council) due to conflicts, this mandate will apply to that weekend.

ACTION ITEM # 10: Remove AWSEF Hall of Fame tournament from protected list.

RATIONALE: The AWSEF Hall of Fame tournament has a protected date from the Florida Water Ski Federation (FWSF). They normally host their tournament on Friday and Saturday of that weekend. Because of the cutoff date for the IWSF Ranking list, the FWSF has been allowing other tournaments to be scheduled on that weekend that do not conflict with the AWSEF tournament. I would suggest removing them from the Southern Region list of protected weekends and allowing the FWSF to take care of this protected date.

CHANGE FIRST PARAGRAPH TO READ

There are two protected weekends during the sanctioning year: the State Championships and the Southern Regional Tournament. There is not to be a sanctioned tournament in the Region/State on these protected weekends, whichever applies.

ACTION ITEM # 11: Canceled tournament refunds.

RATIONALE: This is a housekeeping issue. The Council, in July 2005, approved the region retaining \$50 from a sanction refund for a canceled tournament as an administrative fee. This should have been included in the P & P Manual at that time, but was overlooked and needs to be included.

1.3.3 Tournament Fees

ADD NEW THIRD PARAGRAPH IN 1.3.3

The regional sanction fees shall be paid at or before the annual midwinter meeting held in January at the beginning of the new season. If the tournament is cancelled, \$50 of the regional sanction fee will be retained by the region as an administrative fee to pay for the regional guide and other expenses and will not be refunded to the sponsor. 7/05

ACTION ITEM # 12: Distribution of minutes in 2.5 Minutes of Meeting

RATIONALE: Housekeeping issue: The method of distributing the minutes needs to be clarified.

CHANGE TO READ:

Minutes of each Membership and/or Council Meeting shall be mailed **(VIA USPS OR ELECTRONICALLY)** to each Council representative, State Federation President, National Committee members, National Directors and Honorary National Directors within two months following the meeting by the AWSA Southern Region Secretary. These minutes will be pending approval at the following meeting.

ACTION ITEM # 13: Regional Committee appointments in 7.1 Committee Assignments

RATIONALE: Housekeeping clarification: The timeline on when Regional Committees are appointed needs to be clarified.

ADD NEW THIRD PARAGRAPH BEFORE SECTION 7.2

7.0 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

7.1 The EVP must recommend Southern Region members to serve on all AWSA Standing National Committees, except the Executive Committee.

After recommendations have been made by the EVP and confirmed with the individual, a roster must be compiled and mailed to USA-WS Headquarters, National Committee members, Southern Region Council members, and the new President of AWSA - once he/she has been elected. This information should be in the mail no later than two weeks after the Nationals. These assignments are submitted for approval of the President of AWSA. New committee representatives will act as committee observers until after the Winter BOD Meeting and then will take over as committee representatives.

The following Regional Committee assignments are to be made at the same time as those of the National Committees.

7.2 Regional Nominating Committee

ACTION ITEM # 14: Revisions to Southern Regionals Standard Bid Form – page 2.

RATIONALE: The revision date needs to be changed to 1/2009 and the meeting requirements changed, based on the changes we have made today.

Also the previous form (V. 1/2005) asked for the date of the last “R” tournament. The AWSA standard for a record tournament is an “E” tournament for National records and the Regionals are an AWSA tournament for determining Regional champions and as a qualifier for the National tournament. We include the IWSF “L and/or R” classifications so that the skiers can have their scores posted on the IWSF Ranking list if they qualify. We should change this to “E, L, R”

APPENDIX III Standard Bid Form for the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament
Ver. 1/2005 pg 2

AMERICAN WATER SKI ASSOCIATION

Standard Bid Form for the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament Ver. 1/2005 pg 2 of 4

Headquarters Motel: _____
Officials Meeting: _____

(suggested time and place)

Regional Council Meeting : Thursday _____
(suggested location)

Regional Annual Meeting: Friday _____
(suggested location)

Banquet: _____
(menu, extra ticket cost, suggested time and location)

AWSEF Booth Area and availability of volunteers to operate: _____

Number of tournaments held on your site each year: _____

Number of Record tournaments held: _____

Date of most recent **"E, L or R" tournament:** _____

Have you ever held a Regional tournament? Yes _____ No _____

List any significant changes or improvements since your last **"E, L or R"** tournament and/or Regional:

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Clark