

Southern Region Mid-Winter Mtg. Minutes, January 7, 2017

1st time using online/in-person meeting, due to weather in Atlanta

EVP Report: Need members to mentor and bring in new people; think outside the box; new formats are being presented: fun, social media, but please no BS or nastygrams on social media. *Let's have fun this year!!*

2017 Regionals: Ray Crenshaw CJ; Jody CD

State Reports: FYI, Eric Kelly's new site, Patriot Lake, is almost finished and the 1st tournament is planned for July 15th

International Activities report from Stan: Teams will be selected per event and will be selected closer to the event using 3 scores from 3 different sites; no alternates will be chosen. (Jim J. asked but I didn't write down how close to the event the team will be chosen.)

Safety Report from Leon: Safety program for 15-17 year olds being implemented. When they turn 18 they will be eligible to become Safety. **Region approves.**

Skiers Qualifications from Dennis: Proposals being considered are: Zero based scoring to expand beyond juniors; Ability based competition but it mixes all age groups together! **Neither of these were favorable to the Southern Region.** FYI, grassroots scores are in the rankings once a Level 4 score is reached (per Jeff).

Boat Drivers report from Ham: Committee is working on a "rating" level for drivers for level of competency in pulling skiers, i.e., ability to pull Level 8 skier or Level 5 skier, etc. Hope to have more info in the next 2-3 weeks.

Towboat report from Greg Webb: Reminder "closed" tournament is only one towboat pulling a tournament, and these tournaments don't count towards Regionals/Nationals boat draws. Discussion followed about "closed" tournaments but we ask manufacturers for money to support things (such as Jr Development banquet) but don't give them the opportunity to pull tournaments. Discussion also followed about LOC's not sanctioning as closed but not allowing promo boat owners to bring their boat or give them credit. EVP Bob Archambeau asked to be notified asap if this happens to a promo boat owner.

There is a reduction in promo boats being sent to support tournaments. Recommendations to LOC's to compensate the boat owners if manufacturer is not supporting, such as \$10 per skier; may need to split the total \$\$ between different boat owners.

Bob Harris requested if it is possible to have a complete configuration chart for all the ways a boat is approved "as tested". Example given: a MC was tested with a 300 lb weight for tricks but it doesn't show on the list as a tested configuration. I didn't write down response from Greg Webb, probably that there are a lot of configurations and Bob Harris said something like that's the point, we need to know all approved configurations.

Announcers report: Happy New Year to Everyone from Hank !! ☐

Technical report from Rodger Logan:

- (1) Jerry Jackson is working on moving the boat guide width to the same as entry gate width as newer boats are wider
- (2) a non-site TC will need to go to a site 1x per year to certify that the courses, etc. are correct. The rest of the ski year a (home-based) TC can do the tournament on their own.
- (3) Asking that CJ, CD, and TC's report if there are issues with the boat camera, end course video, or other issues, so that it is documented if there is a problem (such as camera failure, etc), and it would be good if these problems were documented in CJ report.
- (4) From Bob Harris: in a Class C tournament, the measuring responsibilities (done by a TC at a record tournament) fall on the CJ. Bob suggests that we require certain minimum measurements be done by the CJ at a class C. No real discussion on this.

New Building/AWSEF: Jeff informed us that the correct acronym is USA-WSEF. The new building will have a cable park and the cable park will hopefully be ready this spring; the new building will probably be done in 2018.

Candidates for summer ballot:

EVP: Bob Archambeau
AWSA National Director: Jim Jaquess; Kirby Whetsel
AWSA Alternate Director: Leon Larson
USAWS Director: (Archambeau as EVP)
Alternate USAWS Director: Lyman

2018 Nationals Bids are: Bell Aqua in CA; WPB in FL; and Mystic Lakes in Kansas. Region voted to support the WPB bid, especially because it is for 2 years (2018, 2019) and also contains more info.

****Directors, please Bring to the IWWF** to remove the wording "or otherwise eligible" from Team Selection Criteria.

Rules Committee: Jeff Pohlig resigned; Jazmine Gagner will now be on.

The goal is to follow IWWF in general for L&R tournaments. See next page for Rules proposals and Southern Region votes.

Rules proposals and Southern Region votes:

1. Age divisions to align with IWWF: **Passed**
2. Skiers with a Level 10 on the Ranking List would be required to ski Open division thru that year's Nationals (Level 10 is new and would be implemented for this, top 97% of scores but age groups are mixed together per Dennis); Juniors would be exempt; Level 10 Overall could ski a combination such as 2 Open and 1 age division but would have to ski 2x for that event, i.e., one in Open for Overall placement and again in age division for placement. **Passes 12 to 10** after much discussion and 2 votes
3. Alternate if #2 above doesn't pass: OA score in regular tournament can be achieved by combining open & age division for NOPS; OA skiers in Regionals and Nationals could ski 2x, in Open & Age Division. **Passes**
4. #4 A, B, C: no vote required. This is language to clarify if the #2 or #3 above get approved.
5. For qualification to Nationals, Elite skiers won't count; new wording: the Top 5 "non-Elite" skiers would qualify for Nationals. **Approved**

6. Adding Team Qualification for Nationals in Rulebook: **NO**: if possible, propose that wording is accepted as a procedure, to post on website or otherwise, but did not pass as a Rule.
7. Delete if #6 passes or is approved: **Approved**
8. We didn't vote because #7 takes care of it
9. Regarding Nationals for Open Division: a non-appointed driver can drive at the discretion of the Chief Driver and approval of the AWSA president. **Passed but** some don't like wording (only for Open division; Ham wants to change from AWSA President to approval of the CJ)
10. No vote needed per Jeff; "housekeeping" issue
11. Goes back to proposal #1, cleanup language
12. Zero based scoring: extend to all divisions **Failed**
13. No boat camera would be required in class C and E if the tower is in center **Passed**
14. Adding clarification, no vote needed
15. Trick judge/driver: no vote needed
16. To align flips with IWWF; now includes derivatives of Front Flips to be outside; no vote needed
17. No vote needed
18. Pan-Am qualification to be met with a Judge with IWWF ranking; no vote needed
19. Jump course diagram, to align with IWWF **Approved**
20. Monitoring end-course video: **Passes**