

2017 Southern Region Summer Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 20, 2017 Tuscaloosa, AL

The meeting was called to order approximately 7:10pm

Remarks/Announcements: There was a very large turnout for this meeting. Due to the size of the group and anticipated discussions it was asked that everyone please remain polite and raise your hand if you wish to be heard. There will be many items to be discussed and we would like to make sure everyone could be heard and that we keep the meeting time as efficient as possible.

Lyman & Taylor Hardy along with Sandy Cates and the whole Lymanland team were thanked for their efforts in hosting the 2017 Regionals. This will make four of the last five years that we have been guests in Tuscaloosa for the Regionals and it keeps getting better. We also wanted to thank the Tuscaloosa Tourism and Sports Commission as we could not put on such a major event without their help. We would also like to thank all our officials and volunteers that make this event a success.

Jeff Clark was appointed Parliamentarian

Attendees: Bob Archambeau, Jim Jaquess, Lyman Hardy, Leon Larson, Jazmine Gagner, Chris Logan, Milton Weathers, Brian Guyer, Monica Seal, Gordon West, Dennis Longo, Elaine Guarino, Robert Blair, Ray Crenshaw, Pat Coomes, Eric Kelley, Bob Harris, Chris Eller, Kirby Whetsel, Ham Wallace, Greg Webb, Jennifer Wood. Sara Lemley, Keith Lindemulder, Freddie Snell, Rodger Logan, Jeff Clark, Hank Longo, Dan Lemley, Jeffrey Long, Christi Long, Joe Burkhead, Carl Marquess, Mark Coomes, Bill Martins, J.R. Henley, Anne Henley, Jody Seal, Mike Mosley, Don Kelly, James Hartley Davidson, Cynthia Logan, Dana Garcia, Trey Snell (non-voting), Joy Coomes, Tina Hill, Bobby Hill, Curtis Rabe, Craig Bryans, David Fulp, Walter Fulp, Cathy Fulp, Jeff Blair, Tommy Newman, Lucky Lowe, Scott Snape.

A quorum was confirmed

Election of Officers: Milton Weathers, Ray Crenshaw and Chris Eller were appointed Teller Committee members for this election and all results (email) reported by the Chairman of the Tellers Committee were shared with this group. These 3 were responsible for passing out ballots (in the room) and tallying the results from the votes in the room then combining the absentee votes (as provided) to give a final total.

Several times Balloting began and was held up due to discussion. Critical issues regarding Nominating Committee, Tellers Committee, Absentee Ballot Process, Voting Protocols, Ballot Confidentiality and language in the Policy and Procedures Manual regarding each item were raised. Acknowledging that each of the points are valid issues, the EVP (Bob A) tabled these discussions till the Winter Business Meeting. It was motioned and approved to move on with the elections.

Additional Nominations from the floor:	Bob Harris	EVP
	Keith Lindemulder	Alt. EVP
	Kirby Whetsel	Alt. AWSA National Director

Results are as follows:	EVP	Bob Archambeau
	Alt. EVP	Keith Lindemulder
	AWSA National Director	Jim Jaquess
	Alt. AWSA National Director	Kirby Whetsel
	USA-WS Director	Bob Archambeau
	Alt. USA-WS Director	Lyman Hardy

Approval of Agenda: Additions to the agenda all fell under New Business
Regional Bid (Paducah)
US Open and Beyond
State Tournaments (need to improve turnout)
Jr US Open at Ski Chaste and again in 2018
Drivers Review and boat path review
Level 10 discussion

Agenda was approved by Council

The 2017 Winter Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved by Council

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Clark reported that our net income to date is \$4662.41 and our total Liabilities and Equity (as of July 15th) is \$66,987.41. Report was approved by Council.

Report of Executive Vice President: Bob Archambeau - The Southern Region is a very big responsibility. We host the most tournament and have the most skiers. We need to get more people involved at every level from Directors to Council to Federation officers. We need to improve on communication and the distribution of information. Everyone in our Region should have access to all information so please continue to pass on information. We need to have more people involved to grow our sport. Fresh faces and innovative ideas may bring us more involvement. For our Federations, Council, Directors, EVP and Alternates, we need to have a succession plan so that we can grow (not just have backup for positions to be covered). We should work together unified - not split and most of all we need to generate new ideas to grow our sport.

Federation Presidents Reports:

- AL – Don Kelly: Welcome to the State of Alabama and Tuscaloosa for the 2017 Regionals. This year we got to host the Jr US Open and hopefully will get it again next year. Our state was selected to participate in the Nautique Swerve event and we hosted a number of other sanctioned events this year. Thanks to Lymanland for hosting this years' Regionals.
- FL – Curtis Rabe: Our State hosted a lot of events this year as always. We had 2 Jr Development Clinics this year at Ski Paradise and we want to thank them for allowing us to use their site. The Florida Team won the team challenge at Nationals. Many States had special Bibs and working with the announcers to support each team it seemed to add more excitement to the event. In our Region we had 2-3 skiers who would have not qualified for the Nationals – but qualified as a team member. Bill Martin has taken over our Jr Development lead and Gordon West was elected as President in the upcoming year. Gordon was also elected into our Hall of Fame.
- GA – Elaine Guarino for James Cawthern: Southern Waters hosted this years State Championship. We had 34 skiers participate and it was a very relaxing and enjoyable event. We are looking to add more safety and scorers to our officials' base and we need good Tech Controllers. Besides the Masters and States, we hosted a variety of other tournaments. Princeton Lake has officially reopened (no jump). We still are running into promo boat problems. Thanks to Ray, Jim, Gregg and others for taking care of us when we needed you.
- KY – Joe Burkhead: One our biggest focuses has been on our web site and information content. Thanks to Suzanne Webb for working so hard in making this a success for the state of Kentucky. We also want to welcome you to the 2018 Regionals to be held in Paducah.

- NC – Dave Fulp: We had over 30 Juniors participate in our Jr Development Clinic at Coble's Ski School. A special thanks to April, Chris and their staff for making this such a great event. We hosted a Nautique Swerve weekend with 40 participants and half of them were new skiers! Gerald Kirschner and Garry Pressley were inducted into our Hall of Fame. We also had 60 skiers participate in our State Tournament at Skyview.
- SC – Jennifer Wood: We just got back to electing a full slate of officers and we are updating our By Laws to reflect necessary changes. Our State Championships were held at Jeff Rodgers lake. We are interested in hosting a Co-State Championships with North Carolina and have entered discussion with them on the idea. We also held a successful Jr Development Clinic this year.
- TN – Greg Webb: Tennessee hosted 12 tournaments this year with our States held at Sweetwater, TN at John Carder and Dennis Kelly's lake. We hosted 3 Jr Development clinics. Congratulations to Freddie Snell for leading our Regional Jr Development Team. Congratulations to Allie Nicholson for her outstanding performance in the Ukraine this year. And thanks to the Soggy Bottom Ski Club in Manchester, TN for hosting so many events this year.

Committee Reports:

- Tellers - Alan Long: Details shared with Tellers Committee regarding vote tabulation.
- Awards - Michele Seal – No Report
- Bylaws, SR, AWSA, USA-WS - Jeff Clark: Nothing new to report for this summer. There will be significant updates/changes for next year
- International Activities - Stan Switzer: Full Report in appendix
 - Standings for the 2017 Under 21 World Championships were
 1. Canada
 2. United States
 3. Belarus
 4. Great Brittan
 5. France
- Judges/Scorers Qualifications - Ray Crenshaw
 1. **Virtual Clinic Attendance.** Clinic participants can now receive full credit (maintenance and/or upgrade) for attending a clinic virtually (Thanks you Bob Harris). Technical Standards must be followed, using our GoToMeeting software, and the clinic must be authorized in advance for this method. The concept continues to be piloted successfully, and further advances (larger groups, or other software options) are on the horizon.
 2. **Trick Test Videos.** We have revised and updated the Practical tests for aspiring Regular and Senior trick judges. All trick runs have been replaced, with recent runs, and contain a good mix of today's most common tricks, sequences and technology. The new tests are completely web-based, meaning there's no more worry about DVD's or discs any longer.
 3. **Trick Training Videos.** Hundreds of trick runs, including all the 2013 Nationals trick runs, are on Gene Davis's YouTube channel. Most have the scoring detail sheet at the end of the run. Great training aid for trick judges and scorers... and skiers too! Many thanks to Gene.
 4. **Assistant Judges & Assistant Scorers Forms.** Both have been revamped and modified. Obsolete requirements have been replaced with tasks better reflecting today's competition environment. Forms are attached for board approval.
 5. **Emeritus Requests.** Committee recommends awarding Sr. Scorer Emeritus to Ann Herrington. **This was voted on and passed by Council.**
 - Straw Vote: Region Recommendation for Promotion to Senior Rating - Judges and Scorers must Chief 3 class C tournaments or Assistant Chief 3 E L R to obtain rating – Yes = S Region Council

- Rules - Sara Lemley / Jazmine Gagner: Full Report in appendix
 - There is a delay on Level 10 issue
 - Zero Based scoring is approved
 - Shorten line below max speeds is approved for C E L R
 - Skiing above max speeds is approved for C only
 - Mini Course is not in the rules. Dimensions must be decided by the Tech Control committee.
 - Discussions were favorable for a mini course to be allowed
 - Questionable if should be allowed in the rule book (dimensions) or mandatory
 - Some discussion that dimensions should be set.
 - Ratings vs. rankings for National qualification.
 - Leaning towards setting qualification date as the day after Nationals
 - Straw Vote / Discussions
 - Should we as a Region vote for Level 10 – NO = S Region Council
 - Any rule change (for consideration) must be posted 30 days prior to Regional Meetings – YES = S Reg Council

- Technical - Rodger Logan: Nothing new to report. Full Report in appendix
 - One item to mention. End Course Submission is not a Tech Controlled issue. It requires too much data space is required for it to work correctly.
 - The original letter that went out to drivers had incorrect statements. Revisions went out, but some did not see it. Rules define the boat path. The Drivers Manual gives us requirements for driver maintenance.
 - The TC's are submitting End Course Video's for E L R events
 - Drivers were to be allowed to review their driving on the web
 - The only requirement for Driver Video submission is that Seniors must submit a tape every year per Drivers Manual
 - Regular Driver are not required to submit a video but are encouraged to do so for review (their choice)
 - Further discussion needed
 - Who can view?
 - Requirements at what levels?
 - Put in Driver Manual or P&P
 - Letter should go out to all drivers
 - Good for Education

- Junior Development - Freddie Snell:

As Chairman of the Southern Region Jr Development Team, I want to say I am very proud of our Junior Skiers and the level of competition we are seeing today! These kids are amazing!

I have had this position for a month and I admit I am behind where I would like to be. With that said, we are in the middle of a successful 50/50 raffle, having sold over \$300 in tickets today. We hope to sell at least that much more before the drawing and don't forget the auction items that are available during the banquet.

We have some really cool Team Jackets for the kids that will be given out at the banquet.

We have started a skiers' sponsorship program that has raised at least \$700 (so far) and hopefully will continue to grow. This money will be used to offset the cost of Jackets, etc., and be used for clinics and ski schools for the Juniors.

We have a clinic planned for next week at Swerve Water Sports in Manchester, TN and we are in discussion with Lucky Lowe, Seth Stisher and others to provide clinics around the region t hopefully make it attractive for the Juniors to attend at least one clinic sponsored by the team each year.

I have had lots of help and I want to thank everyone for being supportive and patient as I attempt to make the team better in the development of our Great Junior Skiers. Please don't hesitate to give me ideas, help or let me know what I can do to improve the experience.

- Safety - Leon Larson: No action items, at this time. The safety committee has written up recommendations regarding drone use at events and submitted it for consideration. The document is available for review. There was discussion of this at USAWS HQ with insurance team. Use of drones should not be allowed until an official statement has been given.
- Tournament Seeding - Kirby Whetsel: No action items, at this time.
- Skiers Qualification - Dennis Longo: Most of the topics to be discussed has already been talked about. Other items to note.
 - Ability based skiing is still being discussed.
 - Under Zero based scoring there is a skier who is currently skiing above his division maximum and can win the rankings list
- Boat Drivers - Ham Wallace: Here are some updates/changes that the Drivers group are looking at
 - Greg Badal has set up a DropBox for the West and has been reviewing the driving out there. He is set up differently with his Tech Group than we are.
 - One of the big problems we've encountered is the placement of the end course camera (Height – Centered – level) which can hinder a reasonable evaluation.
 - We may still need a way for the Southern Region to evaluate their drivers especially for Regionals and Nationals. We have a lot a of great drivers and each is better in some events than others.
 - We could have our drivers evaluated by skiers on a scale of 1 – 5.
 - Many drivers would need more visibility (tournaments)
 - The evaluation could help all drivers drive consistent and give comfort to a larger group of skiers.
- Towboat/Speed Control - Greg Webb: The committee will be meeting in a few weeks at Nationals. Currently, there is nothing new to report.
- Announcers - Hank Longo: No Report
- USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Foundation - Jeff Clark: We have completed our name change to reflect our strategic plan and to better fit into all water sports. Our name is USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Foundation.
 - We have manufactures represented on our board which should help increase funding for our operations.
 - Complete plans have been submitted for the Cable Park which will be a source of revenue
 - Three event skiing will be on the main lake and a separate lake (dedicated to 3 event skiing) should start to be dug in the next 30 days (across the parkway) and completion should be 60 days after that.
 - We are working on final plans for the main building
 - It is estimated that by 2019 the plan will start to come together.

Old Business:

Towboats Open/Closed in sanctioned events: In the winter meeting there was a concern voiced that Tournament sanctions were classified as "Open to all Tow Boats" but did not allow all towboats available to be used. A quick poll of the attendees indicated that no one had observed this problem - this season.

New Business

- Straw Votes: Keep Regional Guide Printed – YES = S Reg
- Regional Bid (Paducah) – Paducah approved for 2018 Regionals by Council
- Drivers Review and boat path review – Discussed during Technical Committee Report. A follow-up discussion was recommended for the winter meeting.
- Absentee Ballot Procedure – Tabled for Winter Meeting
- US Open and Beyond – Tabled for Winter Meeting
- State Tournaments (need to improve turnout) – Tabled for Winter Meeting

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn and seconded – Passed by Council

Addendum Reports (as submitted)

International Activities Committee Report Stan Switzer / Jeff Smith – Aug 2017

The AWSA International Activities Committee has continued its active agenda since the January Board meeting.

The 2017 Under 21 World Championship Team was selected, with Bailey Austin, Taylor Garcia, Anna Gay, Abbi Grathwol Taylor Grathwol, and Nicholas Lang as team members. Kurt Grathwol and Dana Garcia volunteered as co-managers/coaches, with Kurt also serving as team physician. The championship tournament is currently underway as this report is submitted, in the Ukraine.

Upcoming international events include:

- The 2017 World Games will be held July 22-29, in Wroclaw, Poland.
- Can Am Championships (Canada vs. the U.S.) which will include six-person U14 and U17 teams, to be held August 26-27 in Jerseyville, IL.
- Open World Championships, which will include a six-person U.S. team, to be held September 5-10 in Paris, France

The IAC, with substantial assistance from Bob Crowley, has begun working with USOC on the 2019 Q&P's for the Pan American Games.

The next meeting of the IAC will be November 4, 2017 in Orlando, FL

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Smith
Chairman

AWSA Rules Committee Report Summer Board of Directors Meeting August 8, 2017

The Rules Committee continues to be busy in the off season.

Level 10:

We have had to postpone the new rule 3.03 regarding Level 10 skiers.

There was too much programming involved. We have an active list of level 10 skiers on the web site and continue to try and keep those skiers out of the age division ranking list. The portion of the rule dealing with overall has always been a challenge and we will be keeping this for Regionals and Nationals. This will be a great test to see who will want to use this option and how it works in those tournaments (where they ski,

impact to LOCs). We are planning on having everything in place after the Nationals so that the ranking list can be updated with all the data.

ZBS:

ZBS was a big obstacle at the beginning of the season with some divisions being very vocal. I have sent the Men 8 an email asking them to give it a try in a Class C tournament. We would like this feedback to see if there really is an advantage. We can only learn from trying these options.

There are skiers who feel that maybe we should even raise the maximum speed to 32mph since it could be easier on their bodies. This would also match the current maximum speed with IWWF which we have tried to keep balanced.

Another division that is out of alignment with IWWF is the young W5 slalom skiers. We change that division at 53 which leaves two years of different maximum speeds that they need to adapt to. ZBS could have helped with that transition period. IWWF has increased +55 jump speeds, not sure who initiated that but saw it with the other rule changes. The committee will be sending out a survey at the end of the season to evaluate these options including aligning with IWWF divisions.

Mini Course:

One of President Jeff Surdej's 11-point plan was the adoption of the mini course. Currently the rules are in place for different formats to be used and scores placed into the ranking list as Class F and no higher than level 5. Should the Rules Committee put more guidelines into the rulebook or develop a section on the USA-WS web site with recommendations on how to score the mini course? There have been many tournaments that have incorporated the mini course either as separate green buoys or offset with the current slalom course. There has been interest in using different formats, now we need the ranking list to filter with different levels including ability base giving skiers ways to see how they compare to other areas and ability across the US. The Committee was polled regarding rules for a mini course. Currently the Rules Committee is not in favor of mandatory mini courses in every Class C tournament, nor letting the scores contribute to the ranking list without more BOD approval and discussion.

TC committee is not in favor of making any tolerances for these buoys.

The committee would like the direction of the BOD before we mandate and place in our rulebook. Do we want this incorporated into our Class C ranking list? Where does the BOD see the mini course information being available and how much should be put into a rule format?

Rating vs Ranking: There has been discussion about changing entry into Nationals. More skiers would like to see a "Rating" that they need to achieve and also make it sooner in the ski year so they can make their plans for travel. We will work with SQC for the wording if this is what the BOD would like to change. Below is possible wording for the SQC to review. The Rules Committee is reviewing now and will support SQCs recommendation.

4.02B Ranking List Qualifications: a skier may qualify for the National Tournament in any event or overall by being ranked Level 8 at the Cutoff Date, which is 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on **the day after the preceding National tournament or January 1st of the same year's National tournament** ~~the Thursday three weeks prior to the Thursday immediately before the start of the National Tournament.~~ The rankings average of the last ranked skier in level 8 at that time will be considered the Level 8 Cut Off Average **or rating** for that event and division (See Ranking List Section of Website for specific details)...

REGIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EAST-Fun format document instead of putting mini course rules in the rule book. ***This should be easy enough to do if we know the direction of the BOD.***

REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION FROM EAST-For Skiers' Qualification Committee - Allow State Championship Tournaments to be completed at multiple sites (typically Slalom & Trick at one site and Jump at a different site where a Jump Ramp is available) with results combined for Overall Scoring to qualify for Regionals and Nationals. (the recommendation went to SQC but would this not be rules?) ***This should be easy enough to do as a rules exception if a tournament wants to attempt this.***

The next election for the pan am TC is 2018 Pan American Championships, rules should be in charge of deciding who will represent USA there. ***This is something that has not been brought up recently and maybe this should go to EC with input from the Rules Committee? I have asked the members if any were interested and haven't gotten any volunteers.***

From TC Committee: Possibly move the jump meter section to another resource or Website? TC Resource would be a good place. Thought: Make a rule book for Administration, Class C tournament. All Record tournament will be per IWWF. Take all the site setup/course/tolerances out. Make a different Book for Site Setup/Course (course, tower location, buoy size, rope tolerance, jump ramp tolerances), this shouldn't change, unless IWWF changes. Do the skiers really need to know this information? Yes the judges should know it. All tolerance should be same for Class C as R for setup. This would be the TC Section/Rule Book. ***Currently I am not up to rewriting the whole rulebook. It has been kept up to date with IWWF and can be used for an L & R event with the same information. Moving some technical stuff that isn't used to the Website or a TC area would be good.***

The committee would like to thank Dave Clark, who retired from his position on the Rules Committee. Luckily he still is on our email list and will stay involved with issues that will come up regarding rules and the ranking list.

With Dave's retirement we have Jeff Surdej as representative from the MidWest (he doesn't have enough to do).

Jeff Pohlig has been replaced by Jazmine Gagner representing the Southern Region.

Respectfully submitted,
Richelle Muhlitner, AWSA Rules Chair

AWSA Tech Control Committee – 2017 Summer Report

This report from the AWSA Tech Control Committee is to update the Board on items the committee has been involved with since the last board meeting. **There's only one (1) action that requires the BOD to evaluate at this time**

2017 NEW

TRICK PROGRAMS:

Splashes (Donal) has developed a TRICK program for Windows 7/10 computers that can be used for PRE RECORDED Trick Video (SD Card). This provides a TIMING Program and a separate JUDGES VIEW Screen. Same as the LIVE version, but does NOT require the expensive capture card. There's two (2) versions, one is free, but takes a little longer to save files. Perfect for all judges to download and test.

The FULL version is only \$99, which is faster and recommended if doing a lot of trick tournaments or tournaments with a lot of trickers.

CHIP SHAND (East TC Chairmen) also developed a TRICK TIMING Program that does the same as the Splashes free version. Chip and Donal worked on some of the issues together. The PROGRAM has been reviewed and approved by IWWF. Chip's version is FREE.

EC VIDEO

SLALOM END COURSE VIDEO: IWWF Rule 14.15 (EC Video): We are NOT submitting the entire EC Video to IWWF/Pan Am as per the rule. At the WINTER MEETING the TC Chairmen (Jerry Jackson) requested that each region establish a protocol where we upload approx. 30 minutes of each driver (Record Tournament ONLY). This should include the short-line skiers (NOT Jr B1/2/G1/2, W7 etc). IWWF/Pan AM and the TC Chairmen, still have NOT agreed with a common protocol that will be used for all IWWF Tournaments.

NEW: 1) AWSA now has a DROP BOX to upload EC Video. Some Regions have their own specific drop box:
2) WSTIMS: Dave Allen created a Slalom DETAIL SUMMARY file that can be exported from WSTIMS that provides the Driver, Skier and rope length with a TIME STAMP. This makes it easier to go back and get the necessary data off the DVR. With this new file, we should be able to change the current IWWF Rule on EC AUDIO. Should NOT be required if scored LIVE and video is TIME STAMPED.

ISSUES Found during 2017 EC Review: Some of the EC Cameras were not setup correctly (not LEVEL, CENTER, HIGH enough). DRIVERS on ONE side the entire time, NO one watching and communicating with the driver? This is the MAIN issue (watching EC video) that all TOURN need to work on. COMMENTS after the tournament is TO LATE.

NEW RECOMMENDATION but has NOT been ACCEPTED by IWWF/Pan AM:

TC will Only UPLOAD to the AWSA EC Drop Box the following:

- a) Driver- ONE 30-minute segment (ONE per YR) Not each tournament. The DRIVER can notify the TC if not submitted or has been submitted. This will satisfy the Driver Requirements where he/she must submit video for maintenance. And each driver can be reviewed.
- b) SKIER: Women who completes a 39off pass (her highest tournament score); Men who complete 41off pass (his highest tournament score). *(Nate/Regina would be over kill)*
- c) RANDOM: AWSA/PANAM/IWWF could and should request EC Video from selected tournament specifying segments/division within 2 weeks of the tournament.
NOTE: The EC Video must be available for ONE year per the current rule.

SURVEY DATA:

Emmanuel Lion's TC and Survey Program (ASCII format)- When used (recommended) the survey is auto submitted with the TC Report and uploaded in WSTIMS. The TC Reports is now being submitted to each Region TC Member.

IF survey is done using a different data base, it is to be saved as PDF/txt and attached to the TC report and uploaded in WSTIMS. The files will be uploaded are ASCII files, and can be re-opened using Lion's Homologation Report (if original used) to obtain the survey data.

2017 TC Committee ACTIONS RESULTS

NATL RECORDS: A request was submitted to the TC Committee to accept NATL RECORDS for HIGHER SPEEDS skied in the division (Example- M3 Natl Record at 34mph and a NEW Record for 36mph). The TC Committee Members VOTED NO. Reason- Records for the division should only be for the established/set speed.

Mini Course: A request was submitted to the TC Committee to specify a distance from CL for a mini course. The TC committee members did not want to add another tolerance to the Slalom course. The mini course is for F tourn. (Wake Board, Disabled (6.4m) and INT league (7.5m) all have a different measurement for turn buoys).

AWSA could recommended approx. 7.5m, or 6.4m (if disable course is installed) without any tolerance. This is something that we don't want the CJ or TC to have to verify.

2017 TC Committee RECOMMENATIONS (REQUIRED BOD Approval)

REVISE AWSA TRICK RECORD APPLICATION: Remove the block were the TC has to measure/record the trick ski length//width. Purpose is two verify that the width is no more than 35% of length. This can be verified by just looking at the trick ski/manufacture model. This was

recommended/approved by the AWSA TC Committee Members and was agreed upon by IWWF for WORLD RECORDS.

ADD Statement "TRICK SKI meets rule 8.03"

REQUIRES AWSA BOD approval.

2017 TC OUTSTAND ISSUES

Buoy Size: I have requested that IWWF evaluate a minimum tolerance for turn buoy. A lot of turn buoys are actually smaller than the minimum (recommended). Video and Pic will be submitted to IWWF for evaluation.

Digital Video Recording: Need to look at the current rule and clarify what is acceptable for camera vs recording. (Resolution/ration, etc).

Slalom Record Checker: Splasheye EC Video is available but is manual process. Where BC Record Checker auto position the boat at the buoy based on speed/rope length, but its Wind XP format. We need a more auto process like BC put for Windows 7/10.

AWSA TC Chairmen
Jerry Jackson

Southern Region TC Member – Rodger Logan
South Center TC Member-Jim Thompson
East TC Member-Chip Shand
West TC Member- Will Bush
MidWest TC Member Peter Dahl
AAC – Jon Travers
AAC – Zack Worden

Junior Development – Southern Region 2017

As Chairman of the Southern Region Jr Development Team, I want to say I am very proud of our Junior Skiers and the level of competition we are seeing today! These kids are amazing!

I have had this position for a month and I admit I am behind where I would like to be. With that said, we are in the middle of a successful 50/50 raffle, having sold over \$300 in tickets today. We hope to sell at least that much more before the drawing and don't forget the auction items that are available during the banquet.

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I have had lots of help and I want to thank everyone for being supportive and patient as I attempt to make the team better in the development of our Great Junior Skiers. Please don't hesitate to give me ideas, help or let me know what I can do to improve the experience.

Respectively
Freddie Snell

SUMMER MEETING BOAT DRIVERS REPORT

JULY 20, 2017

Committee: Ham Wallace- South Chair
Greg Badal- West
Jerry Bautsch- South Central
Troy Zoellner- Mid West
Al Harris- East

The end of 2016, through the first 7 months of 2017 haven't been the status quo like in the past. There were some eye-opening events that have spurred some great changes in the way driver performances have been critiqued.

Greg Badal had set up a DropBox for the western region drivers to upload their end course videos. By doing this, it made the EC videos accessible for review by committee members and especially the drivers themselves.

Technical Committee Chair, Jerry Jackson, set a box up for all TC's and CD's to upload tournament videos. This requirement seems to have made driver performances be cleaner and better than in the past. Drivers can study their boat paths and TC's can review them. While implementing this system, Jerry tweaked end course camera placement. We are getting clearer, cleaner and more viewable videos. Jerry knows what record boat paths are and is a huge help in keeping them right. Thank You Jerry for your accessibility and all your hard work. Your knowledge is immense.

Several years ago (2012), Bob Archambeau and I were working on a system for Level 8, 9 and Open skiers to rate the boat drivers that they skied behind that year. We had developed a 5-point criteria template for skiers to use to evaluate the drivers. The thought behind the system was to let CD's of Regional and National competitions to have knowledge of driver abilities and skier confidence and acceptance of the driver selected to pull their events. Well, I found the original wordings that we developed 4 or 5 years ago. The item was shot down back then, but, I feel that it could be accepted and passed in the near future or at least by 2018. I will present these at the next meeting for comments and review. I personally feel that this would take egos out of the driver equation and provide the best possible pull for the skier. Charlotte Melchers of The Ski Club of the Palm Beaches has an interesting evaluation form for officials. Integrating some of those characteristics will purify some of the problems associated with driver selection.

The driver's committee is a very diverse group with a keen insight and great ideas. Collectively, I think that with Technical committee help, we can eradicate any issues that arise. Melanie Hanson is still the go-to-girl at headquarters for keeping up with all aspects in regards to driver upgrades and downgrades. Will Bush is always available when we have a question, Knowledge and support are a key ingredient in all driving issues. Thank You Melanie and Will.

I am seeing more Level 9 and up skiers fast tracking to driver. This provides the sport with very competent drivers that are capable of pulling the shortest rope lengths and longest jumps. They get enough seat time to be absolutely comfortable with the highest level skiers. Once they start driving tournaments, learn driver etiquette and how to communicate with the tournament officials, they can add a lot to the process. As always, collegiate competition is a great proving ground for drivers. There is a very diverse level of ability all in one place.

All-in-all, there have been very positive processes implemented in the past year. I see better driving and easier viewing in place within our sport. The competence will improve our sport.

There are too many e-mails that are not pertinent to our committee. I think that some need to be filtered before they are just forwarded on to everybody.

I think some are deleted that should be read, but there needs to be a marker in place to alert of the importance.

Thank You,
Ham Wallace

Towboat Committee Report August 2017

To: AWSA Board of Directors
From: Will Bush George Lindy
INFORMATION ONLY – NO ACTION ITEMS

Zero Off Mapping

We have been asked by the IWWF Tournament Council to address Zero Off GPS mapping accuracy and suggest a tolerance that officials can use as a guide for remapping Zero Off in the middle of an event. Specifically, the question is, what is an allowable tolerance for course mapping drift during a slalom and jump event. The Council is considering implementing a re-ride rule, when mapping exceeds a certain distance from the initial map at the start of the event.

Promotional Towboat Program

At the 2016 National Towboat Committee meeting, with all four manufacturers present, there was a lengthy discussion regarding promotional boats availability and incentives for greater presence. The discussion included:

- Provide incentives to individual boat owners.
 - One approach, which several local clubs are trying for 2017, is to have the host site set-aside \$10.00 from each skier entry. This set-aside would be paid to the boat owners that supplied boats for the event. In addition, the host site is encouraged to allow the boat owner to ski in the tournament at no charge.
 - If there are two boats at the event, then each boat owner would split the amount collected. Example: 40 skiers = \$400 / 2 boats = \$200 per boat owner.
- Recognition as part of the Nationals draw for companies that pull a greater percentage of tournaments during prior ski years.
 - 1) A towboat manufacturer asked that we reward those manufacturers that pull a greater percentage of tournaments – be awarded more divisions for the slalom and jump events. In other words, to pull a “weighted draw” for the selection of towboats.
 - 2) A second proposal was suggested, that would reward manufacturers that that pull a greater percentage of tournaments, the first choice, etc. for the existing division groupings at Nationals.
 - The current process for selecting the boats for Nationals is designed to evenly distribute the numbers, ages, and gender of skiers between the 4 current qualified manufacturers.
 - We then rotate manufacturers each year though the 4 groupings such that skiers will have the opportunity to ski with each of the 4 manufacturers over a 4-year period.
- After considerable discussion within the Committee, we arrived at the following conclusions:
 - Skiers want to know ahead of time (currently July 1 preceding Nationals) which boat they will be slalomming and jumping with at Nationals (and Regionals).
 - It is important that we rotate the boats through the skier divisions each year at Nationals so skiers have the greatest opportunity to ski with each brand towboat throughout the rotation period.

- If a towboat manufacturer meets our requirements to participate at Nationals they should have equal opportunity to pull all divisions through the rotation period. We want to promote diverse towboat participation.
- The “weighted draw” proposal met with minimal support due to difficulty of developing a workable distribution formula, book-keeping issues, and removing the incentive for new or smaller manufacturers to participate in AWSA tournaments.
- The method of rewarding a manufacturer pulling the greatest percentage of tournaments and the second place with second choice on down to 4th would basically change nothing over the 4-year rotation period since we agree that a manufacturer could not pick the same group twice over the 4-year rotation. The first year would “reward” the top participating manufacturer but gradually would revert to our current policy, however it would be more complicated to administer & potentially a disincentive for new/smaller manufacturers to participate in AWSA tournaments.
- The Committee will continue with the current method of selecting boats for Nationals
- Towboats – US Nationals
 - All four towboat manufacturers accumulated the required minimum number of credits to pull the five Regional tournaments. 2017 AWSA Nationals Towboat Draw (attached).
- MasterCraft Ballast/ Weight System – Tricks
- To clarify the use of the MasterCraft Ballast/Weight system the following was added to page 2 of the Approved Towboat form (attached):
- The MasterCraft ProStar was tested and approved for use in the Trick event with the use of an additional ballast / weight system as configured by MasterCraft.
- The ProStar is can be used for tricks both: 1) with the ballast / weight system; and 2) without the system.
- IF the boat is used with the ballast/weight system, it must be configured as it was tested and approved. Specifically, the MasterCraft ballast / fat sack must be installed in the bilge; under the floor compartment which is under the middle seat.
- The sack must be completely full when used for tricks (no partial fill). In addition, 75 pound weights as configured by MasterCraft must be installed in each of the rear compartment trays (150 lbs. total). Storage compartment trays are located under the access doors at the stern.
- The ProStar is not approved with any other configuration. In other words, a user cannot simply put a ballast / fat sack or weights on the floor of the boat.