

2018 Southern Region Summer Meeting Minutes

8:00 PM CST

Thursday July 26, 2018

Paducah, KY

The meeting started about 30 minutes late due to the set up of the meeting room. There was a large turnout for this meeting. The summer meeting was called to order approx. 8:35 pm. It was asked that due to the size of the group we remain patient and courteous, so we can get through everything on the agenda.

The Ski Nuts were congratulated on another great Regionals. Thanks went out to the Burkhead, Coomes, Bryant, Hawes, Hill and Harris families. A special thanks to the Kentucky Water Ski Federation for their help in making this a great event.

Jeff Clark was appointed Parliamentarian

Roll Call – This was a very large group (approx. 50), so it was broken down by State

Directors – Lyman Hardy, Kirby Whetsel, Bob Archambeau

Treasurer – Jeff Clark

AL – Chris Long, Milton Weathers, Jazmine Gagner (plus 4)

FL – Brian Guyer, Jody Seal, Dennis Longo, Stan Switzer

GA – Elaine Guarino, Ray Crenshaw, James Cawthern (plus 2)

KY – Joe Burkhead, Pat Coomes, Bob Harris (plus 9)

NC – Chris Eller, Keith Lindemulder

SC – Jennifer Wood, Seth Stisher, Daniel Stisher

TN – Greg Webb, Ham Wallace, Tommy Newman (plus 1)

Committee Leads (not previously listed) – Freddie Snell, Rodger Logan, Leon Larson

A quorum was announced

The Summer Meeting Agenda (2019) was approved

The Winter Meeting Minutes (2018) were discussed and approved with no changes

Electronic Ballot review: Council reviewed the S Reg By Law language (approved at the winter meeting) as well as the absentee ballot directions. The language was discussed with no questions in the room. A straw vote was also taken confirming the understanding of the language.

The Nominating Committee had no additional candidates interested and Dennis Longo was nominated from the floor for Alternate Director.

The head of the Tellers Committee noted problems in receiving ballots that did not follow the By Laws or absentee ballot directions. Gerald K verified the ballots and tallied the votes as he understood the By Laws. Gerald contacted the EVP (Bob A) to report the issue and an independent Tellers Committee was set up to investigate the situation. It was agreed by the Committee and the Head Teller that the absentee votes were counted properly.

Ballots were distributed to those members in attendance who did not vote absentee. They were collected and counted by the committee with the results as follows...

Election of Officers:	EVP	Bob Archambeau (NC)	EVP Alt.	Keith Lindemulder (NC)
	AWSA Nat Dir.	Kirby Whetsel (TN)	AWSA Nat Dir. Alt.	Dennis Longo (FL)

An opening for an Alternate National Director opened up, Chris Eller was elected as Alternate to Jim Jaquess

Treasurer's Report – JC Reported net income of \$5249.11 and Total Liability & Equity of \$62965.58. The report was discussed and approved by Council.

EVP Report – BA – We have to start to embrace change. Think of new ways to promote the sport and make our tournaments fun. We have focused way too long on buoy counts and ranking lists. We are losing members and without gaining new members or keeping what we have we have a short lifetime. Let's think about of changing our roles – including those with different ideas. We have just hired a new Executive Director (Nate Beaudreaux). We need to do all we can to support change for the future.

Report of Federation Presidents: AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN: We heard reports from all federations. Only TN submitted a written report which is attached.

Tennessee Waterski Federation President Report - Southern Region Summer Meeting 2018

It's been a busy year. The Tennessee Federation combined its annual State tournament with Georgia and South Carolina at an event at Whitestone Lake Estates in Talking Rock, GA.

Tennessee had a great turnout including 7 junior skiers.

During the tournament, the State meeting was held.

- Awards:
 - Tim Denny Award went to Elaine Guarino
 - Vic Varallo Award went to Ham Wallace
 - Hall of Fame Award went to Aarne Clow
 - Roger Whetsel Scholarship was awarded to John Bull
- State Officers:
 - Joy Kelley will be replaced on State Council by Ham Wallace
 - All other officers remain

Other news includes Ham Wallace being inducted into the USA Waterski Hall of Fame Award of Distinction.

Joy Kelley has continued a record setting year.

Tournaments this Ski Year include multiple by Soggy Bottom in Hillsboro, TN including a record tournament. Collierville, TN hosted multiple tournaments and Lake Pryor hosted their annual tournament in McDonald, TN. Upcoming tournaments include the Sweetwater Record Tournament 9/1-2 and Hillsboro, TN hosting both a mid-week tournament on 8/1 and record tournament 9/15-16.

Committee Reports: All Committee reports were taken from the AWSA BOD reports for the summer meeting. Reports submitted are as follows...

ANNOUNCERS REPORT 2018

WOW! We are almost up to 90 registered announcers, that's FANTASTIC! Please look on the Official List to see that you are on it, if you announce, or if you know someone who is an announcer. Jim Powell won the Tommy Bartlett Award at the 2017 Nationals last year. The entire volunteer staff did an amazing job. We got new young announcers, like Emma Morgan, who did a super job and just loved the opportunity to announce at the Nationals. Todd Leach was a great asset at the Nationals last year and is our new chairperson in the South Central Region. Tommy Newman always brings excitement to the Night Jump and did another great job at San Marcos. One of the most amazing announcing experiences I've ever had was announcing the Malibu Open with April Coble Eller. What a Super Star and a pure delight to work with; she brought such insight on what it's like being a pro, and the mental aspect of competing in each event. We have an Announcer Newsletter that is emailed out by Headquarters. I urge every announcer to email me at the end of the season with the tournaments they announced. You can email me at: hlongo@tampabay.rr.com. It's great to have more young people getting involved and willing to help and want to learn to be good announcers. The Announcers Guidelines and Manual is on line under Official Resources, Forms and Applications. If you have any suggestions or folks you want to get involved, please get in touch with me. I'm looking forward to a great 2018 Nationals. Thanks a million!
Hank Longo

By Laws Jeff Clark:

Council Considered Revisions to Article VII Section 2 Southern Region Bylaws The Council considered making revisions the wording that pertains to the way that Alternate Directors are elected and seated as stated in Article VIII section 2 Procedure for Election of Officers of the AWSA Southern Region Bylaws. This would have allowed any approved changes to be presented to the national Bylaws Committee for review and approval and then presented at this meeting and the AWSA Board of Directors meeting for review and approval. The original proposed language went through 4 revisions and none of them were approved.

JUDGES AND SCORERS COMMITTEE REPORT 2018 Summer Regional Council Meeting

The following is a list of action items that will be presented at the Summer USA-WSWS Board of Directors meeting in Maize, Kansas on August 6, 2018:

The committee was asked to consider changing how officials receive credit at a tournament. The suggested change is that 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 (at the discretion of the Chief Judge/Scorer). The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD APPROVE this change. The committee was asked to consider changing maintenance requirements for judges/scorers to every four (4) years instead of (2) years. The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD APPROVE this change, but also increase the number of tournaments required for renewal to eight (8) every four (4) years. The committee was asked to consider allowing one (1) tournament credit for an Aspiring Assistant Judge/Scorer on their application for attending a judges/scorers clinic. In addition, give similar credit to a video recorder in slalom/trick events (when used). The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD APPROVE this change.

The following is a list of discussion items that will be presented at the Summer USA-WSWS Board of Directors meeting in Maize, Kansas on August 6, 2018:

Consideration to not downgrade ratings for skiers that are Level 8. There is not a current method of automating this, so it would have to be done manually. This only applies to those who already hold an Assistant rating. There was little support for automatically making a Level 8 skier an official unless the individual expressed desire to become an official.

Try a Pass the Clipboard campaign to encourage current officials to mentor aspiring junior Judges/Scorers/TC/etc. to get them involved? If so, ideas on how to implement?

AWSA Rules Committee Summer BOD Report August 6, 2018

Action items discussed by the Rules Committee since the BOD meeting:

Level 10 has been completed, thank you to Mark Crone!!

Rules were adopted for the New Nautique 2019. The committee worked with Towboat, TC and IWWF to find the best solution to the choices that the new boat offered. These are on the USA-WSWS web site under AWSA Rules. A copy of the MicroTuner Matrix is available in the Towboat section.

Jeff Surdej will be sending out a letter to the M&W4/5 to remind them of the change in their division age ranges. Some skiers will be going back to the younger division for another year after skiing for a year in the older division. With ZBS in slalom below maximum speeds and choices for jump speeds we are hopeful this one year transition will go smoothly.

Clarification regarding the mini course wording for "full" buoy was changed to "standard". We will review the wording in November in case there may be a need for other changes.

Regional Recommendations:

- 1) Rules from Eastern Region. Make rulebook more understanding or have the rules written more in Laymen's terms so that it would be easier for the average skier or member to understand. Providing a little bit of info on pages 18 & 19 of the Regional guide could help novice skiers understand more. Our committee can discuss at our annual meeting, but it was explained and agreed that all of the rules are needed to preserve the integrity of the rules.
- 2) Midwest rec-add U10-12 . We could filter our ranking list so that we have a better idea of how many skiers there are and then decide after reviewing those numbers.
- 3) Do we need Class E? TC Committee requested that all committees review and come back with feedback. Some divisions still use different speeds and/or ramp heights for IWWF so there would be nowhere for those skiers to set a National Record. What about skiers who want the out-of-course fall for tricks? If it is run in conjunction with L & R, is there really a need to make it go away? There are no Class E only tournaments. Would it take 10 pages out of rulebook, would it simplify something? Some LOC's are still doing the 3 round Sat 2L,1E, 3 round Sunday 2L,1E. So we need some research on this. If IWWF would get rid of the trick fall rule or allow AWSA to use this rule for all our sanctioned tournaments, this would certainly help us make this move.
- 4) Jeff's 11-point plans-ability based division. Jeff writes: "No answers or recommendations here but I'm still keeping this on our to-do list at some point. At some point I still think we need Mark to program some test divisions, so we can even see what it might look like". We should filter so that skiers may see how they stack up against skiers of their ability.

5) From Jeff again: "Perhaps someone on rules should produce a six-page rule book just for beginners, involving the mini course, etc., nothing technical, just the basics, for tricks and even jump as well. Almost a handout-this is not really for rules so to speak or a to-do, I think it's a good idea, maybe a Floyd project? Once again just keeping this on our RC task list but I'm not suggesting RC do this at this point". Regional Guide had a good write up. See above answer in paragraph one.

6) Don't allow ZBS above div max-southern rec: Will review at Nov. meeting.

7) Allow mini course skiers 2 passes with score-SC rec: Will discuss at Nov. meeting, need feedback from this ski season.

Rule Change requests which can be discussed at November meeting:

1) Request to decrease the number of appointed judges for RC tournaments from 5 to 3. "The AWSA rule committee just needs to change it to 3". Will bring up at our meeting in Nov. The current thought is that it is better with more appointed rather than few so that there are enough judges to run the event.

2) Request that Rule 1.04 have the following sentence added. "The EVP can only require the number and level of officials as defined in the Tournament Classification Requirements and Rule 6." Save for November meeting, not really a rule but a policy for the regions.

3) National Championship Event Classification Chart should be changed to only allow one classification per division and event. Allowing either E or L at the discretion of the skier does not meet the ideal of a level playing field. It also requires that the Event Judges have to clearly know both AWSA and IWWF rules, and the classification of each skier. We have this set up so that the division is Class E, but if skiers want their scores to go on the IWWF ranking list, they can request using the higher standards. Rules will discuss in Nov. if there should be any changes.

4) Question regarding "not being able to outjump a distance from a fast time". Hot times can cause skiers to have a bad jump, and they should be able to better the distance with a good time. Will discuss at Nov. meeting.

5) Unusual situation with video trick: girl tricked 1st pass and fell early. Videographer said they didn't get the video and to reride pass 1. They take the reride and she stands up the pass. She then does some toe tricks for pass two and falls early. When video is reviewed 30 mins to an hour later, her original pass 1 is on video and the reride is not. Pass 2 is there. Her score is much lower than anticipated because she thought she would be scored for the reride pass that she stood up. The complaint is...skier would have done a different Pass 2 if they'd have known the original pass 1 with the fall was actually scored (vs. the stand-up reride pass).- a clarification is needed as it does not seem fair to the skier. One option would be to have the second camera that the TC can put on the boat for a RC tournament. Or discuss with IWWF a rule change.

6) Gate discussion brought up again. A few letters have been forwarded to me from Gordon Rathbun. Is there a new push for this? Is the BOD interested in pursuing this issue yet again? 7) Integrate officials/drivers chart equivalencies with IWWF. 8) Discuss aligning the women (1&2) jumpers with IWWF regarding ramp heights similar to Men/Boys. If there is a minimum distance established to jump at 5.5' ramp, then the women could be allowed to do so. 9) Review the process of sending scores to AWSA and IWWF ranking list when skiers ski twice where required for an overall score as a Level 10 skier.

Thanks to all the committee members for their participation and Jim Grew for all his edits. While I do continue to fill up their inboxes, we have very lively and productive discussions. We will have our annual meeting in November at the King of Darkness tournament again. We managed to keep focused last year even though the action was right outside our window.

Respectfully submitted,
Richelle Muhltnr, AWSA Chair

SQC Skiers Qualification Committee Report Southern Region Meeting Paducah, KY Thursday, July 26, 2018

Dennis Longo

National Skier Requirement Level: The 2019 Skier Qualification Methodology Levels to determine Level cutoffs has remained the same. The goal is to get back to the 2016 levels of qualified skiers

Level 10: Juniors in Level 10 SQC believes juniors should be included in level 10.

Level 10 requirements uses the 97th percentile There has been many complaints that skiers who are not at elite levels are being forced into level 10. These are the recommended changes for 2019 to address these complaints.

OM Slalom: 2018 6@39 off, recommended 2@41 off OM Trick: 2018 6,600 points, recommended 9,535 points

OM Jump: 2018 205 feet, recommended 208 feet OM Overall: 2018 2,956 NOPS, no change recommended

OW Slalom: 2018 6 @ 38 off, recommended 5.5 @ 38 off OW Tricks: 2018 5,700 points, recommended 6,855

points OW Jump and Overall: Not applicable, there are less than 5 skiers based on top 3%MM Slalom: 2018 1 @

41 off, recommended 2 @ 41 off MM Tricks: 2018 4,310 points, no change recommended MM Jump and Overall:

Not applicable, there are less than 5 skiers based on the top 3%

MW Slalom: 2018 1.5 at 38 off, recommended no change

NOPS: The Medians and records for the NOPS calculator have been compiled and reviewed for 2019. They are ready to update after the Nationals. The 1,000 point system that IWWF uses to calculate overall points has been discussed by SQC. This system would be difficult to implement in the US due to our many age divisions. We are waiting for Board direction before working on this project.

Towboat Committee Report August 2018 - From: Will Bush George Lindy

ACTION ITEMS:

Towboat Use: Model Year

The Committee has approved two changes to expand the number of years that boats are available to be used in sanctioned events.

- 1) Expand the number of years for Record Tournaments from 2 years (current and prior year model) – to match class C events – 4 years (current year plus 3 additional years).
- 2) Modify the requirement, that, in all instances where a boat older than the current model year is used, the manufacturer must also have a boat on the approved list for the current year. This change will allow a boat like the Centurion Carbon Pro to be used for a period. The existing policy would have prohibited its use this coming ski year, given that there will not be an approved Centurion on the 2019 approved list.

NEW POLICY: Towboat Use: Model Year

- 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) In addition, Class C & F tournaments may use an “older boat” (2015 or earlier), USA-WS 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.

EXISTING POLICY: Towboat Use: Model Year

- a) AWSA Nationals, AWSA Regionals, and Record Capability (Class E, L, R) tournaments may use a current year 2019 USA-WS Approved boat or a prior year 2018 USA-WS Approved boat.
- b) Class C and F tournaments may use a 2019, 2018, 2017, or 2016 Approved towboat (current and three years prior). Class C & F tournaments may use 2008 to 2015 AWSA Approved Tournament Zero Off equipped boats with the approval of their Regional AWSA Towboat Committee member, or Chair(s) of the AWSA Towboat Committee. See below “Older Boats”.
- c) In all instances where a boat older than the current model year is used, the manufacturer must also have a boat on the approved list for 2019.

Towboat Damage

The Committee was asked to consider raising the amount, that a local organizing club will be responsible for, in the event there is damage to a towboat used in an event. Approval to raise the amount from the current \$500 maximum to a \$750 maximum.

CURRENT POLICY TOWBOAT Damage

A club (local organizing committee) is responsible for any damage to a towboat from the time it is delivered to the event site for use until it is returned to the promotional owner or his agent. In the event a towboat sustains damage at an event, a club (local organizing committee) is responsible for reimbursement to a promotional towboat owner of either his deductible or for repair costs up to a maximum of \$500.00. Cleaning costs are not considered damage. Failure to pay damages, when appropriate, may result in loss of sanction for this and future tournaments.

At tournaments, which the club (local organizing committee) does not select the drivers for their tournament (i.e. Team Trials, Regionals, Nationals), the financial responsibility for reimbursement of insurance deductible or repair costs shall be shared equally among the club (local organizing committee) and the organization responsible for selecting the drivers for the event.

USA WATER SKI BOAT INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS (REVISED JAN 2018)

Note 2: Maximum Reimbursement in the Event of Theft, Loss or Damage during a USA Water Ski sanctioned event

In the event of theft, loss or damage to a boat, motor(s), trailer and any related equipment during a USA Water Ski sanctioned event, the boat owner may submit a request to the USA Water Ski club (or local organizing committee) for reimbursement of up to \$500 for the deductible under the owner's policy, the actual cost of repair or replacement, whichever is less, subject to a total maximum reimbursement of \$500. Amounts in excess of the maximum reimbursement are the responsibility of the boat's owner. [Note: The following are not eligible for reimbursement as damages: Cleaning Costs, Normal Wear and Tear, Gradual Deterioration, Marine Life, Vermin, Insects, Marring and Denting, Osmosis, Blistering, Manufactures Defects, Mold, Ice and Freezing, etc.].

2019 Ski Nautique

The 2019 model year boat successfully passed the tests for Approved Tournament Towboat held May 4, 2018 at Shortline Lake in Elk Grove, CA.

The Microtuner chart has been added to the Towboat & Speed Control section of the AWSA website.

Nautique has informed the Committee its intents to use all 2019 model year boats at the respective Regionals and Nationals. The Committee has approved the exception to the existing policy for use of current year or prior year model boats.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Zero Off – Rev S

Zero Off released Rev S for the 2019 towboat model year with 2019 production boats starting July 1st (obviously Nautique is already in production). The Committee has approved allowing all manufacturers to use Rev S as they begin to release 2019 model towboats. The only difference between Rev R and Rev S is a change to the slalom plus mode. Testing has shown that with new plus mode – speed swing +/- is less than that experienced with the normal slalom mode.

Rev R remains approved for 2018 and older model year boats. Prior year boats with the single puck ECI can also be updated to Rev S. There is no upgrade for boats with the dual Garmin pucks.

Old Business:

The Southern Region Directors were instructed to request AWSA BOS to eliminate Level 10 rules.

It was also suggested that USA – WSWS withdraw from USOC

Both item will be discussed at the AWSA BOD meeting in August

New Business

Tournament Sanction Approval – BH: A detailed document of both AWSA and IWWF rules was passed out and reviewed. The discussion evolved around Southern Region Sanctioning being too strict. Both sides agreed that events have the ability to run as the assigned officials see fit. Sanction approval does not restrict a Chief Official on how to operate the sanctioned event.

Sanctioning an event does mean the responsibility of approving that an event that can be sanctioned (operated properly with the officials provided). It is more strict than other Regions. It has been reviewed by AWSA Leadership / IWWF Leadership / Pan Am and Euro Asian Federations and has their endorsements.

A vote was taken by council and the current process was approved.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded – All Approved