

2018 Southern Region Mid-Winter Meeting Minutes

9:00 AM Central

Saturday, January 6, 2018

Birmingham, AL

(file D-01 and B-01)

Opening – General housekeeping discussion.

- Welcome to Birmingham Alabama. It is a big change in venues and so far, I hope everyone likes what they have seen. A special thanks to Lyman and Jaz for directing us here.
- This is the first time in SR council history that we have representatives from every Collegiate National Championship Team representing

Call to Order: Remarks/Announcements: Meeting was called to order at 9:06am

Appointment of Parliamentarian - Jeff Clark was appointed Parliamentarian

Introduction - Roll Call - Bob Archambeau, Jim Jaquess, Lyman Hardy, Kirby Whetsel, Jazmine Gagner, Chris Logan, Milton Weathers, Gordon West, Dennis Longo, Dana Garcia, Elaine Guarino, Pat Coomes, Eric Kelley, Bob Harris, Keith Lindemulder, Jeff Gilbert, Greg Webb, Julie Yancey, Jerry Moore, Jennifer Wood, Ryan MacRae, Jeff Clark, Joe Burkhead, Rodger Logan, Jerry Jackson, Ham Wallace, Stan Switzer, Cynthia Logan, Carey Zimlich, Mike Mosley

Announcement of Quorum - A quorum was confirmed

Review and Approval of Agenda – Add the 2019 Region Bid discussion and vote
Add Risk Management Report after Safety
Agenda was approved by Council

Review and Approval of 2017 Summer Meeting Minutes - Reviewed and approved by Council

Treasurer's Report – Total income for 2017 was \$24,646.85 and total expense was \$29,352.88 for a total net income of -\$4706.03. Checking for Jr Development was \$942.32 and other \$4430.45. Our Money Market funds for Juniors is \$7500.00 and other \$44,861.70. This puts our total assets at \$57,716.47.

The Southern Region was audited this year and reviewed by the USA-WS accounting firm. USOC and AWSA/USA-WS Treasurer and reported back that all information was being maintained properly and in proper order

There was discussion allowing EVP's to spend up to \$500 at their discretion. Carey Zimlich, Jim Jaquess and Bob Archambeau all spoke to this practice as necessary on occasion. This is allowed in S Reg Bylaws **Article VII, Section 2**. There was no further discussion.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCILMEN Section 2

The Regional Council shall approve by majority vote all contracts entered into by the organization, any expenditure in excess of five hundred (\$500.00), other than expenditures occurring in the normal course of business, and such other matters as may be referred to them by the Executive Vice President.

There was a motion to approve (Treasurers Report), a second and motion passed by council.

Report of Executive Vice President – Bob Archambeau

All in all, it has been a pretty darn good year. Skiing numbers were up a bit especially at Nationals. We continue to have a large number of events throughout our ski season. Lyman out did himself again at Lymanland hosting 4 Regionals in 5 years. We are looking forward to visiting Paducah for the Regionals this year. The Ski Nuts have put more water in the lakes (after taking out tons of fish). Hope you saw the pictures! And we have a bid in for the 2019 Regionals

We are still experiencing problems with the number of officials in the pipeline. Scorers and Safety are still a concern along with Technical Controllers. We have been talking about this a lot and we are not getting any traction. We could use some ideas to get more people involved. We also have been discussing the shortages of promo boats available for events. Over the last couple of years, we have had events cancelled because of no boats. Some events are using private boats, but I will caution you... The insurance and coverages must be the same as if it was a promo boat. Not having the proper insurance coverage can be a cause of sanction issues. This is not a "turn your head" issue it is a requirement and chief officials will be called out when we hear of problems. I have heard that Nautique will be reducing the number of promos this year. It will be up to the clubs this year to make sure they have reserved boats to pull their events. Please remember that just because want to have an event doesn't mean that boats automatically must show up.

Communication and technology have also become so advanced that we have lost some of our ability to exchange information. That commercial with the young kid on their tablet and the Mom asking, "what are you doing on your computer – the kid replies what's a computer?". That stuff is real. I am asking for ideas and leads to do a better job for our voting and communications. Let's think outside the box.

Just like the shortages we see in officials and boats we are experiencing some of the same on our council. We need to be thinking of succession. I have full intent of putting my name in as EVP one more year and after that I would hope to see some fresh faces step forward. The roles as council, directors, committee leads, and EVP seem to scare more people away. To better understand the EVP role (If anyone is interested), I will mentor you and show you throughout this year what I do so you can gain a comfort in this job. I will encourage everyone in this room to do the same for their roles and find the next great committee lead, director or councilperson.

I hope that you enjoy the new venue and location. Welcome to Birmingham and a special thanks to Lyman and Jazmine in guiding my direction here.

Let's have some fun and on to the meeting

Report of Federation Presidents:

AL – Jazmine Gagner (Don Kelley)

The Alabama Federation met in November and discussed the schedule for next year and the possibility of several clinics. We are unsure of the Jr Clinic but do plan to proceed with one either the weekend of our Judges Clinic or a later weekend.

Here is a summary of our tournament and event schedule for 2018

Either 4/21 or 4/28	Clinic for drivers, safety, judges, and scorers
Weekend of 5/26	Master's Tournament at Callaway Gardens
Weekend of 6/2	Tournament at Axis, AL Ski Chaste
Weekend of 6/9	Tournament in Tuscaloosa @ Lymanland
Weekend of 6/16	Possible Jr Clinic - site unknown
Weekend of 6/23	Jr US Open at Axis, AL Ski Chaste
Weekend of 7/7	Tournament in Tuscaloosa @ Lymanland
Weekend of 7/14	State Championships in B'ham @ Buck Lake
Weekend of 7/28	Southern Regionals @ Paducah, KY
Weekend of 8/11	National Championships @ Maize, Kansas
Weekend of 8/25	Tournament at Axis, AL Ski Chaste
Weekend of 9/8	Disabled Nationals @ Paducah, KY
Saturday 10/27	Fall Meeting of Alabama Federation

I will be in touch with final dates for clinics soon.
Don Kelly

FL – Gordon West

Another great year of skiing was accomplished throughout the many ski sites of the Sunshine State. Although the ski year starts in late August each year, our elections are held each July during the weekend of our State Championships. This year for the most part our officers & Council remain the same with the exception of President & Jr Development coordinator. Gordon West replaced Curtis Rabe, who was stepping down after a 2-year run as President. Thanks for a great Job Curtis. Bill Martins replaced Brian Walsh as Jr. Development coordinator, thanks to Brian.

Florida had our typically large number of tournaments again this year. Our State Championships were held at Pickos Ski School in Santa Rosa. Thanks to Cory, Rose & Team Seal for a great event. HOF Inductions were held at the Banquet. This year's inductees were: Mark Bozicevic, Ed Hickey, Harry & Artis Price and Gordon West. Congratulations to all. Site of the 2018 State Championships are still being considered at this time.

For the past 2 years Team Florida has won first place in the Team Competition at Regionals & Nationals – Thanks to Dennis Longo for putting our Teams together and arranging for hats & bibs.

This year we held a Jr. Development clinic along with the official's / driver's clinics hosted by Sunset Lakes - Thanks to their entire crew. Good turnout for all clinics.

This season also saw the World Record Jump be eclipsed by 4 feet (254 ft.) at Stillwater Lakes / Palm Bay. Congratulations to Stillwater resident Ryan Dodd.

The King of Darkness returned to the Isles of Hancock in November and was bigger & better than before. It has again been scheduled for 2018. Thank you to the Garcia's & all involved in the event.

We look forward to a great 2018 here in Florida and wish all the best to the Kentucky Ski Nuts in hosting this years Southern Regional Championships. Hope all Southern Region Skiers have a great year

All the Best,
Gordon West – Pres. FWSF

GA – Elaine Guarino (James Cawthern)

James Cawthern, President VP-Chris Hall – Sec/Treasurer-Craig Bryans

Council: Ray Crenshaw, Elaine Guarino and Rob Blair

Total Tournaments held in Georgia for 2017 included:

1 – Master's R Tournament

7 - Slalom C Tournaments

1 - 3 Event Class C, L

1 – State Tournament C, GR

The 2017 Georgia State Water Ski Championship Tournament was held at Southern Waters in Forsyth, Georgia. There were 31 entries. 11 Jr Skiers, 8 of whom were multi event skiers. There were 20 adult skiers, 8 of whom were multi event skiers. Attendance this year was down from previous years.

The 2018 Georgia State Water Ski Championship will be held at Whitestone Lakes Estates. This will also be a multistate event with Tennessee and South Carolina competing alongside for titles from their states as well. The LOC and GWSF believe the venue will have no problem handling this event with 2 lakes and previous years of tournament experience. The Club plans to use Splasheye and video tricks. Mastercraft, Correct Craft and Malibu will be represented.

22 Georgia Skiers attended the Southern Regionals (9 Jr and 22 Adult). 12 Georgia Skiers attended the National Championship, 5 – 1st place finishers, 14 podium appearances and 2 Overall Champions for 2017.

2017 Clinic Offerings:

- 1) *GWSF sponsored:* Jr. Skiers were encouraged to attend a weekend clinic in Tennessee.
- 2) *Club offerings:* Jodi Fisher Ski Skool was onsite at West End Slalom in Atlanta for 2 days. Open to all and many people attended.

Future Clinics:

- 1) *GWSF Sponsored events:* A USAWS safety clinic is being offered this coming March 2018.
- 2) A Drivers clinic may be organized depending on requirement needs. (An online version for those maintaining a current Drivers Rating requested.)

Information:

- Team Skiing has been a benefit to get new skiers some experience. The state finished 4th at Regionals.
- It appears that the Promotional Boat status is the same as previous years with one Mastercraft and one Correct Craft available in the State. Clubs are reporting it is hard to find Judges and Tech Controllers for 3 event tournaments.
- A fall 3 event tournament cancelled due to very few entries. The Tournament costs would not be covered.
- 3 State Records were broken since the last report:
 - a) Robert Blair – M5 Tricks 2920 (at southern regionals)
 - b) James Bryans - B2 Slalom 2@38

KY – Joe Burkhead

The 2017 ski season in Kentucky was busy and eventful, but only a warm-up for what will be coming in 2018. Six tournaments were hosted in the state, including two RC's; two skier's clinics were held; and a new site hosted its first tournament.

- The six tournaments were held at three different sites – Twin Oaks Lakes (Ski Nuts), Stillwater, and Patriot Lake. One additional scheduled tournament at Cruises Creek was cancelled due to flooding.
- Patriot Lake, developed by Eric Kelley at an already-existing body of water near Bowling Green, is our newest tournament ski site in the state. Beautiful location, and excellent water! The Patriot Lake site cranked out some outstanding performances in this first tournament, which was sanctioned and run as a 3-event Class "L."
- Two water ski clinics for juniors were held. A one-day clinic was held ahead of the state tournament at Stillwater. The 12th Annual "Kentucky 3-Day Advanced Juniors Clinic" was again held at Twin Oaks Lakes in Paducah, with Zane Nicholson as the featured instructor. Fifteen skiers attended this second and larger instructional session.

Federation officers elected for 2018 are:

President – **Joe Burkhead**
Vice President – **Joy Coomes**
Secretary – **Cathy Burkhead**
Treasurer – **Leon Leonard**
Jr Development Coordinator – **Bob Harris**

Council Representatives:
Bob Harris (3-yr term)
Pat Coomes (2-yr term)
Eric Kelley (1-yr term)

Significant other notes:

- Ten sanctioned tournaments are on schedule for the state in 2018, hosted by four different sites. This will be a record number of tournaments in Kentucky. Six of these are planned as record capability tournaments, also a record for a single season in Kentucky.
- The Southern Region Championships will return to Kentucky this season, with the Ski Nuts hosting the two-lake, three-day event July 26th thru 28th at Twin Oaks Lakes.
- The Disabled Nationals will be hosted in Kentucky for the first time ever. This event, the second ever National championships of any discipline in Kentucky (2005 Collegiate Nationals was the first), will be hosted by the Ski Nuts September 5th thru 8th at Twin Oaks Lakes.

- “Carp Wars” at Twin Oaks Lakes (Ski Nuts) in Paducah was completely successful, with 100% elimination of the massive numbers of Asian carp which had invaded the lakes. Unfortunately, we were not able to save as many game fish as we’d have liked (especially larger bass), but we have a good restock of bass, crappie, brim, and catfish restarted.
- The Ski Nuts (Bob Harris) hosted five virtual judges and scorers clinics in 2017. There were 163 total attendees representing all five Regions, and 37 states.
- Our Federation has picked up several younger skiers over the past three years, including three recent college grads (plus a newborn 😊).
- Kentucky is very actively supporting water skiing and is POSITIVE ON THE SPORT!!

Submitted by:
 Joe Burkhead
 President, Kentucky Water Ski Federation

NC – Keith Lindemulder (Johnny Thomas)

2017 was an up and down year for NC. We had a tough start to the year with the loss of Jerry Hargis. He was a lot of things to all of us. It most definitely left a void in our sport that was not replaceable.

After our rough start we were able to put together a great year in NC. We had 12 tournaments, with some of the highlights being:

Lake Magnolia put on the first annual Jerry Hargis Memorial tournament with an awesome turnout. They also raised \$2500 that was donate to our jr fund in Jerry’s name

Night Jump at Beaver Lake, this tournament is something everyone should look at attending
 Big Dawg Stop at Little Mountain
 Queens Cup at Little Mountain
 State Championships at SkyView. This was an awesome event with inflatable’s and other attractions for the kids. Even had an ice cream truck for everyone.

We gave scholarship money to Josh Kubit and Martin Smolka.

Gary Pressley and Gerald Kirschner were elected into the NC Water-Ski Hall of Fame.

We introduced the Jerry Hargis Memorial Award, in which Tammy Hargis-Thomas was the first recipient.

We had a judge’s clinic early in the year at the Blair’s house, where Jerry Jackson came in set up computers and went over a multitude of items including video jump. There was a lot learned at this clinic.

We had our annual jr clinic at Coble Ski School early in the spring that consisted of over 40 kids.

We had kids ranging from having never skid to kids running into 28 off. A great time was had by all.

On the INT side we had 3 different slalom tournaments and 8 wakeboard tournaments. Just as a note this was the last year for INT in NC. The promoter is stepping down for personal reasons, so we are hoping to do some things to entice those 30 skiers to come over to the AWSA grass roots side.

At our mid-winter meeting we talked about different formats to hopefully bring new people into the sport. We had some great conversations that challenged everyone in the room to think about what we are doing as an association and make sure we are going down the right path.

As always Tommy Harrington does a fantastic job with our NC website, Facebook and Instagram pages. We had over 10,000 hits on our website and are social media views were up as well. He is always doing great things to keep people up to speed on what is going on.

We have already put together some exciting things that will be happening in 2018. With SkyView back on the map with 3 event tournaments, we are also bringing back Lake Magnolia as a 3-event site. They have 3 young 3 event skiers that came to NC last year, joined Lake Magnolia, and are eager to hold 2 different 3 event tournaments this year. Sounds like another great year.

Johnny Thomas - President
Jeff Blair - Vice President
John Young - Secretary/Treasure
Chris Eller - Council
Robbie Parks - Council

SC – Jennifer Wood

South Carolina had three regular tournaments in 2017 and hosted the Malibu Open at Trophy Lakes at the end of the season. The Clemson Water Ski team also held two 3-event collegiate tournaments in the state in 2017. During these tournaments, a number of collegiate skiers worked on their official's ratings. We hope that assisting these skiers in obtaining their ratings will encourage them to stay involved in the sport after graduation.

The Federation hosted a junior clinic on Lake Hartwell, which proved to be a huge success in encouraging new members to join our sport. We hope to continue this junior clinic on the public lake in 2018 to continue to boost growth and participation in our State.

The SC State tournament was hosted by the Federation and held at the Rogers Lake in Greenwood, SC. A meeting was held with the Federation to elect new officials and discuss possible hosts for the 2018 SC State Tournament. In an effort to increase interest, excitement and participation in the state tournament, the members expressed interest in a dual or multi-state tournament. We have reached out to several of our neighboring states and are hopeful we will have a combined State tournament in 2018.

SC Federation President –
Jennifer Wood

TN – Greg Webb

2017 was a very good year for water skiing in the State of Tennessee! The Volunteer State pushed for living "Life on the Water".

Eleven (11) tournaments were held at several sites throughout the state.

Three (3) Junior Development clinics were held in Tennessee. Swerve Watersports held several events this year including an intercollegiate tournament and several clinics and several other tournaments.

Allie Nicholson won slalom at the Under 21 Worlds in Ukraine and set a new record of 4 @ 11.25m (4 @ 38 off). Allie also skied the Jr US Open and the Elite Worlds in France. Congratulations Allie! Brie Carter placed 3rd in women slalom at the Intercollegiate Nationals in Zachary, LA. Congratulations Brie! Charlseay Newman skied at the Junior US Open. Congratulations Charlseay!

Joy Kelley received the USA Water Ski Hall of Fame Award of Distinction honor in April, 2017. Ham Wallace will receive the USA Water Ski Hall of Fame Award of Distinction in April, 2018. Congratulations to both of you on a tremendous honor. Thank you both for what you have done and continue to do for our great sport.

The 2017 Tennessee State Water Ski Championships were held at Headwind Hollow in Sweetwater – thanks to Drs. John and Lee Carder and the Kelley's. Tommy Newman received the Vic Varallo award. Kirby Whetsel received the Tim Denny award. Dr. John Carder was inducted into the Tennessee Water Ski Hall of Fame. John Bull received the Roger Whetsel Scholarship Fund.

Tennessee had several skiers compete in the Southern Regional Championships at Lymanland. As always, Lyman and Taylor and others hosted a fantastic Regional Championships tournament. Team Tennessee placed second and qualified to ski in the Team Competition at the Nationals in San Marcos, TX. Team Tennessee consisted of 15 skiers and placed 8th in the team competition at the Nationals. Joy Kelley did a fantastic job as Team Captain. Way to go Team Tennessee skiers!

The Newman family held Ski Party 23 and the Frosty Ball at 'The Pond' this year. Thanks Newman's!

Team Tennessee is looking forward to a great 2018 ski season. Thank you.

President – Greg Webb
Secretary/Treasurer – Kathy Webb

Committee Reports: *We have provided a list of Southern Region Recommendations at the end of this report that were presented to the AWSA BOD*

Tellers - Gerald Kirschner (Julie Yancey, Jennifer Wood, Monica Seal)
Announcement for the 2018 Southern Regionals and Nationals are as follows...

2018	Regional Officials	National Officials
Chief Judge K Whetsel	Tech Controller R Logan	National App Judge K Whetsel - ACJ K Lindemulder - ACJ B Harris B Schouten Jeff Clark - Alt.
Appointed Judges L Larson J Jaquess B Harris B Wenner B Hill S Seal J Gagner B Schouten M Weathers R Crenshaw K Lindemulder J Burkhead C Marquess R Stalling L Harrison - Alt.	Chief Scorer C Logan Appointed Scorer J Clark C Bryans A Henley J Brooks J Hunter - Alt.	National Scorers C Logan J Clark - Alt.
Chief Safety J Cawthern	Chief Driver L Hardy	National Driver C Eller - Chief Driver G Webb G West - Alt.
Appointed Safety A Long	Appointed Driver H Wallace J Seal C Eller G Webb G West - Alt.	National Safety L Larson

Nominating Committee - Bob Archambeau

We have been using the whole Council for the Nominating Committee and it has worked well. To better follow our P&P and Bylaws we will be making this a smaller group and placing all Federation Presidents or the individual they assign on this committee. A note will go out after this meeting to all presidents requesting their participation.

International Activities – Bob Archambeau & Stan Switzer

A meeting of the AWSA International Activities Committee was held on November 4, 2016 in Auburndale, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Jeff Smith, at 8 AM.

Present: Lisa Steiner, Stan Switzer, Jeffry Armstrong (by telephone), Mike Hayes (by telephone), Kerri Lee, Brandy Nagle, Larry Downes, Jeff Smith, Hutch Haines, Ralph Hall, and Jim Grew.

Absent: Scot Ellis, Jimmy Siemers, Brenda Baldwin, Jerry Bautsch, and Lori Krueger.

The first item before the committee was the approval of the minutes from the November 2016 meeting. The minutes were approved.

The next item on the agenda was a review of general committee issues. This included a discussion of committee succession planning and the need for active AAC participation on the committee. Jeff Smith will contact the AAC chair about the need for increased athlete participation in this committee.

The committee then discussed general issues arising out of the 2017 international competition season, including:

- 1) How can we generally increase athlete interest in being on our international teams? It was agreed that each of the Q&P sub-committees will review the “notices of interest” received 2-3 weeks before the submission deadline, and an effort will be made to contact athletes who may be qualified for the team (starting with a review of the top 15 skiers on the relevant ranking lists vis-à-vis the notices received and the potential for any missing skiers to be on the team) but who haven’t submitted a notice of interest.
- 2) How can we increase athlete interest in the World Games? Athlete participation in the 2017 World Games was discussed, specifically the challenges in getting athletes interested in participating in this event and fulfilling their commitment once they have confirmed their selection. It was suggested that we request IWWF to consider giving “elite points” for this tournament, as a way of making it more appealing to our high-end athletes. The chair also agreed to inquire as to whether the World Games might be considered as a “Master’s Qualifying Event” for the Masters Tournament. Funding (transportation is self-funded by the athletes, but “on the ground” expenses are covered) remains a problem, and we need to look at options to provide athlete funding for this event. Kerri will look into the availability of sport grants that might be available.

A general discussion was then held as to our team selection Q&Ps. It was agreed that we should seek to publish the Q&Ps earlier (we have typically done so after the January board meeting). It was agreed that we would ask the AWSA board to consider approving the Q&Ps by e-mail ballot, once they are finalized, so they could be posted sooner.

Team funding for 2018 was then discussed. Jim Grew indicated that we should have more information available after the December Executive Committee meeting. It was also noted that AWSA has made an effort to raise funds for our team, with some success. It was agreed that we should ask that those “extra” funds be added to the AWSA team funding budget, so that there would be an increase in the funds available.

It was next noted that the USOC has already started the process of reviewing NGB procedures for the 2019 Pan Am Games. Bob Crowley has started the process. It is anticipated that all of the 2019 Pan Am Games Q&Ps will be due before the IAC’s next annual meeting (November 2018), so the committee will

work through those issues via email. Jeffry and Jeff will work with Bob Crowley on updating these documents as necessary.

A brief discussion was then held as to the current Team Agreement, Team Staff Manual and Code of Conduct. No updates were felt to be necessary at this time. The chair noted that all team staff will now have to go through SafeSport training, in addition to completing criminal background screening.

Mike Hayes and Ralph Hall then introduced the 2018 National Junior Team, and the proposed 2019 National Junior Team Q&Ps (see attached). After a discussion, both were approved. The proposed 2018 National Junior Team is:

Brooke Baldwin
Taylor Grathwohl
Kennedy Hansen
Kristen Baldwin
Garrett Stallings

Brett Stackpole
Zachary Butterfield
Blake Keller
William Roberts
Ryan Gay

Jonathan Leutz
Garrett Reese
Sean Hunter

Last year's team was offered several potential benefits (ski school and equipment discounts), but no team members used these benefits. Hutch will review this with the sponsors to get any feedback as to whether to try this again. The question was also raised as to whether it makes sense for the IAC to pick this team, separately from the Junior Development Committee. Hutch will follow up with Jim Devito to see if we should be transferring the selection of this team (and team activities) to the Junior Development Committee, in an effort to coordinate the activities of this team with other junior activities, and to make sure that membership on this team is adequately recognized and meaningful.

The Q&Ps for the 2018 Pan American Challenge were then discussed. It was noted that the youngest team was still a U13 team, but that there are ongoing discussions as to whether this should be changed to a U14 team. The Q&P will be updated if the age division changes. It was also noted that the junior team has been increased to 6 members, and that a 55+ division has now been added. These Q&Ps were edited and worked on following the meeting and have been approved (see attached).

The Q&Ps for the Junior World Championships and 35+ World Championships were also worked on following the meeting and have been approved (see attached).

The committee then discussed the 2018 international official's selection process. The names of all persons expressing interest in working at the 2018 U.S. Junior Open were forwarded to Jeff Surdej, AWSA President (the IAC neither selects nor makes representations as to the officials for this event; the IAC merely collects the names of those interested and forwards them to AWSA's President).

The committee began by reviewing the IAC Officials Selection Process. Concerns were noted that the "Category A" stepping stone was becoming increasingly hard to achieve because we are not holding team trials events at this time, and the Can Am Challenge is now an every two year event. After a discussion, it was agreed that work as Chief Judge, Chief Scorer or Chief Driver at a Regional Championship would be considered a "Category A" qualifying event. The IAC Officials Selection Process was modified to reflect that change.

Officials nominations (Judge, Scorer, Driver) were then considered. The nominees are reflected in the attached schedule. It should be noted that certain team staff positions remain open, specifically Jr. Worlds (no coach), 35+ Worlds (no manager), and Pan Am Championships (no coach).

Action items are:

1. Approval of the 2018 National Junior Team
2. Approval of the 2019 National Junior Team Qualifications & Procedures
3. Approval of the 2018 Junior World Team Qualifications and Procedures
4. Approval of the 2018 35+ World Team Qualifications and Procedures

5. Approval of the 2018 Pan American Championships Qualifications and Procedures
6. Approval of the revised IAC Officials Selection Process
7. Approval of the 2018 Officials and Team Staff Member selections/nominations

The Southern Region returned the action items to the IAC for them to reconsider the following...

- ***Why are alternate selections allowed for some teams and not for others?***
- ***Consistency of procedures and voting is different for some teams.***
- ***Concern that the Athletes Representation is sorely lacking at the IAC Meetings and what can be done to improve their interest?***

Announcers – Bob Archambeau (Hank Longo)

2018 was a great year. We are starting to get a lot of young people wanting to announce. The 2017 Nationals was a perfect example, Emma Morgan joined our staff and did a fabulous job, along with other young club members that helped out and did a great job.

The way everyone worked together at the Nationals was the way it was designed to work. We had three announcers, three events, three radios and all announcing on the same sound system, a very difficult task; everyone was very coachable and followed the system of how to announce each event without stepping on each other and letting the most important pass to take prominence, and they all did a fabulous job!

We have a newsletter finally and another one will go out this winter/spring. I'm at the mercy of Headquarters Staff, when Mel isn't slammed and has a little time to send it out. Announcers are responding to replying with the events they are announcing which is very helpful to see who is volunteering to help and in what states and regions.

Our membership in the Announcers Association is growing, which is a wonderful thing, I have heard great reports from officials of the great job announcers in their tournaments are doing, keep up the good work!

And don't forget the Announcers Manual and Guidelines is available under AWSA 3 Event Site, under Officials Resources.

Thanks to all of you for volunteering to announce!
Hank

Awards – Bob Archambeau (Michele Seal)

2017 AWSA Award Winners

Athlete of the Year: **Regina Jaquess**
 Slalom Skier of the Year: **Regina Jaquess**
 Trick Skier of the Year: **Adam Pickos**
 Jump Skier of the Year: **Freddy Krueger**
 Overall Skier of the Year: **Regina Jaquess**
 Jr. Athlete of the Year: **Sean Hunter**
 Team of the Year: **Elite Team**
 Volunteer of the Year: Dave Allen

2017 USA-WS Award Winners

Male Athlete of the Year: **Freddy Krueger**
 Female Athlete of the Year: **Regina Jaquess**
 Jr. Athlete of the Year: Rex Helm
 Coach of the Year: Landen Ehlers
 Volunteer of the Year: Lauren St. Onge
 Team of the Year: **Elite Water Ski Team**
 Club of the Year: San Marcos River Ranch
 Award of Merit: Dusty Schulz

Boat Drivers - Ham Wallace
Committee

Ham Wallace- South- Chair
Greg Badal – West

Jerry Bautsch- South Central
Al Harris- East

Troy Zoellner- Midwest

The second half of 2017 did not have any eye-opening events like the previous period. But, the changes resulting from some earlier events have increased driver awareness and I think the driving performance has gotten better.

Western Region chair, Greg Badal, initiated a drop box for driver EC Video. This, resulted in Technical

Committee Chair, Jerry Jackson and his committee, setting up a National drop box for all CD's and TC's to upload EC video. In the process, camera placement and angle has made the EC's way easier to watch.

I really think that this has made a huge difference in driver performance. Getting proper critique and also being able to see yourself in a clear aligned boat path really benefits all.

The drivers committee is a great group to collaborate with on any issue. Each one brings their own perspective to the table. Will Bush is always a great help and has decades of experience to help shed light on any issue that needs it.

We had an issue arise in regards to non AWSA drivers. Different countries have different criteria for levels of drivers. I have been in touch with several out of country divers trying to align the ability of other drivers that may be wishing to drive in the U.S. I have been in touch with Ricardo Botas from Spain, Ian Campbell, G.B. And Gary Weidman, AUS. They are a great group of guys. Gary said that Will Bush helped AUS set up their qualitative and quantitative requirements for AUS. They are very close to the U.S with 4 levels of driving. Ian said that G.B has it's own set of standards closely mirroring U.S. Ricardo, said the European countries are a bit different and they are trying to fix it now. A driver's Committee that does not exist is going to be created. For now they have 2 levels of drivers National and International. National is just that. They can drive National and ranking tournaments. They are 3 event drivers, not, 1 and 2 event drivers. Each country has their own procedures of getting a National designation. You must be a National driver for at least 1 year and drive at least 2 three event tournaments with homologation comps before taking the International Driver exam. They don't have chief drivers and the drivers are appointed by the TC, not the organizer that appoints the drivers. We have plenty of out-of-country drivers capable of driving our tournaments. They all MUST have a MVR first.

Floyd worked hard on getting the CE module in place for drivers to be BJ for tricks. I don't think it is being utilized as intended. We will do a better job on this.

Proposals for the Board Meeting:

1. Allow any Senior or Regular 3 Event Driver that maintains their quantitative and qualitative requirements for Slalom and Jumping but may have a shortage for tricks, to automatically retain their trick rating at the level attained. **(Passed – S Reg)**
2. There are able and competent Senior and Regular drivers in numerous locations having a very difficult time acquiring enough seat time to maintain their rating. Even requesting to drive, and being on site, they don't get utilized as a driver. They usually get used for judging and other assignments. I see both sides of this situation. A skier spending a large amount of money to travel, enter and participate in a R, E L tournament at a premier site, expects to have the drivers listed on the sanction pulling them. That is why they came. However, if the drivers on site pull practice with an EC video, they should get credit for driving. This is only at R,E,L tournaments. The skiers practicing will learn to have confidence in the alternate driver. We work hard to encourage drivers and they work hard and aspire to excel. They are simply not getting enough seat time. (This is not for those looking for an easy ride). **(Passed – S Reg)**
3. There have been some requests to post a link to the EC videos so skiers and drivers may view them. After some discussion on the matter, we feel it is a good idea. BUT, the link to view these EC's would be hidden from plain view in the Official's Resources under TC Resources. It would not be on the front page for everyone to poke around with. According to Jerry Jackson, Jeff likes it but, Will feels like it shouldn't be out front and center. **(Passed – S Reg)**

I look forward to a great 2018!

Always,
Ham Wallace

Bylaws, SR, AWSA, USA-WS - Jeff Clark

USA-WS will be presented with a proposal to change the name of the NGB at their meeting the day following the AWSA board meeting. If the proposal is approved, then the AWSA Bylaws Committee is prepared to change the NGB name and acronyms in both the AWSA Bylaws and in the Policies and Procedures Manual. At this time that this is the only possible work that we have in front of us going forward and is basically a housekeeping issue for us.

ACTION ITEM # 1: If there are not any other issues or changes that are required, we ask that the board approve the committee making the changes and not have to return to the board for a vote of approval.

A motion was made, seconded and approved by Council.

At this time, it appears that the AWSA will not have enough members to meet the required 50% of your inaugural membership in order to maintain your 5 director seats on the USA-WS Board of Directors. With the current membership numbers, the AWSA will have two USA-WS Directors and two Alternate Directors seats available. Article VIII in the AWSA Bylaws has all of the procedures to elect those directors. Details below

I will be attending the meeting for the report and also to assist in the transition to the new Director seating for the USA-WS Board of Directors.

We remain open to the membership and the Board of Directors for issues to consider.

Jeff Clark

MTF – Membership Task Force overview – Jeff Clark

A group was put together to look at putting together a new business plan for USA-WS. Our current plan is not working and has been failing for some time. Since 1997 we have lost over 50% of our membership. We have been talking about this, but no one at any level seems to care as our numbers continue to slide. We have lost support of industry and we must understand that three event water skiing is not the “Big Guy” anymore.

What was decided was that we need to reinvent ourselves. Manufacturers have stated that if we (as an organization) support the whole water ski community – all water sports, then industry would again support us.

The first thing is to rename our organization. The recommended change is USA Water Ski and Wake Sports (USA – WSWs). The concept is to include everybody. This change is in process and is going through the motions to gain approval.

Next is the restructuring of our membership and dues. This will start at a simple base cost and will add licenses for the different level of involvement. Numbers have been floating around but there has been no set or final structure to approve. The actual costs should be similar or close in the long run from what we have seen. No determination can be made until we see the final numbers. This should allow people to join our organization at a lower cost and allow them to see if they want to get more involved.

Overall, this will be a good thing for our organization and should not have any impact on our divisions. We know we will not sustain ourselves for very long, following our current direction.

Change in Director seating at USA-WS BOD – Jeff Clark

Due to our loss of membership and per the Bylaws there will be a change in Director seating at the USA-WS Board meeting. AWSA will now go from 5 seats (one each Region) down to 2. At the upcoming meeting the AWSA-BOD will vote and elect two Directors from the five current Regional USA-WS Directors and two Alternates. Those two Directors will represent AWSA at the USA-WS BOD meeting. The Alternates will be in attendance and have voice and no vote. Going forward there will be a vote by the AWSA BOD to elect two Directors (and Alternates) to represent AWSA from the five Regional USA-WS Directors. Each Region will still be responsible to elect a USA-WS Director for the two-year term.

Voting power is still base on the membership numbers and is broken down as follows... 100 total votes / 79 votes go to the Sports Disciplines / 20 to the Athlete Representatives / 1 to the Chairman (to vote in the case of a tie / for a total of 100 votes. Currently AWSA represents 36 votes and each Director is responsible for half of those votes (18 each). If an alternate steps in for one of the positions they would assume the responsibility of the 18 votes.

Judges & Scorers – Bob Archambeau (Ray Crenshaw)

ACTION ITEMS:

Emeritus requests have been received from:

Leon Larson – Senior Scorer, Southern Region **(Passed – S Reg)**

Ann Harrington - Senior Scorer, Southern Region **(Passed – S Reg)**

Marie Baker – Senior Scorer, Eastern Region

Pending their approval from the respective regional councils, they are presented for final approval by the AWSA Board of Directors

The committee was asked to consider changing how officials receive credit at a tournament. The suggested change was to allow scorers to give EVERYONE that has an official's rating and is at a tournament automatic credit. The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD **APPROVE** this change.**(No – S Reg)**

The committee was asked to consider eliminating maintenance requirements for judges/scorers. Instead of the maintenance requirements, have the official attend a clinic (in person, virtual, CE/on-line) every 4 years which is already in place and have the official either take a test or complete continuing education to maintain their rating. While the J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD **APPROVE** this change, there was concern expressed about the skills that may be lost by those who don't keep practiced with trick calling. We recommend that testing or C.E. include trick calling deemed reasonable for a Regular/Senior official.**(No – S Reg)**

The committee was asked to consider modifying a requirement for an official to upgrade to Senior. The current requirement of being a Chief Judge/Scorer at three tournaments would be expanded to also allow for one to instead serve as an Assistant Chief Judge/Scorer at ELR events. The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD **APPROVE** this change.**(Passed – S Reg)**

The committee was asked to assess the future of Senior Officials Clinics and, if they continue, how to guarantee costs/financial responsibility. The committee was divided on this issue and has no recommendation at this time.

The committee is requesting to have access/availability to individual official's email addresses. Upon request from the Regional Representative, have HQ make available individual official's email, address and phone number. Especially important in biennial years when trying to contact those facing downgrades. The J&S committee supports this idea and recommends the BOD **APPROVE** this request.**(Passed – S Reg)**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Officials Statistical Data reports were requested but not yet available by the deadline for this report. I expect to have that information available at the January 27, 2018 meeting.

Regular and Senior Judge's exams were last updated March 2017. Regular and Senior Scorer's exams were last updated January 2017. Senior Slalom Practical exam has more recent video and was made available on YouTube last year. Regular Slalom Practical exam remains as older video but is now also available on YouTube. Both Regular and Senior Practical Trick exams are updated video runs and also available on YouTube.

The Judges and Scorers Policy Manual, Officials Quantitative Requirements, and Officials Program Description were all updated March/April 2017, including all Fast Track options for both Judges and Scorers.

Floyd McCreight has updated CE modules for 2017 rules. The following table represents 2017 C.E. and clinic participation. An updated report will be available at the January 27, 2018 meeting.

Judges			
Year (Hardship Extension to 31 May)	Total Clinic Credits	Three Event Judges	Standalone modules #2
2016 (thru 31 May) #1	14	6	3
2016 (from May 31)	26	3	12
2017 (so far, with hardship goes thru 31 May 2018!))	55	11	4
Total (Biennial Years)	81	14	16
Scorers #3			
2017 (6/23 thru 11/27)	23		

2018 “TO DO” LIST:

Update Judges and Scorers Clinic materials (last update 2008)

Junior Development – Bob Archambeau (Freddie Snell)

The 2017 Jr. Development Team was a success in spite of a slow start and not having an adult leader until late June. Highlights include:

1. Raising approximately \$2500.00 for the team at the Regionals between the raffle and the auction, thanks to the generosity of many of our members and the devoted Jr. Raffle Ticket salesmen!
2. Team hoodies for each member
3. Implementation of individual team member sponsorships. Each skier was encouraged to sell sponsorships to local businesses, friends, family, and anyone else who would donate \$100.00 or more to the team. The first sponsorship per skier was designed to defray the cost of hoodies and other swag. Subsequent sponsorships per skier were to be used for clinics, ski schools, etc. for the team with 50% being for the general team and 50% going to the individual skiers to be used as above. We have raised over \$1000.00 so far with this program. We plan to redouble our efforts and set a goal of each skier getting at least one sponsor for 2018.
4. Two clinics held a Swerve Water Sports
5. Two informal “meet and greet” dinners for the skiers and families (one at the Regionals and one at the Nationals). These dinners have proved to be a great place to discuss ideas in a relaxed atmosphere. We plan to continue these events in 2018.
6. We have chosen two male and two female co captains for 2018. This is a new position and the idea is to have these four skiers represent the team’s wishes to the adult leadership, to encourage team spirit, and to come up with ideas to improve the value to being on the team. Some of the ideas include special recognition at the Regionals to our “graduating” class, a social media group for communicating clinics, individual accomplishments and training plans, etc. The co captains are Saylor Davidson, Kennedy Hansen, Coleman Norton, and Trey Snell.

7. We are planning clinics and special events for the team. We hope to get the team free tickets for the Master's with a clinic to be held on Memorial Day, a clinic at Swerve, and hopefully at least two other clinics throughout the summer. We are looking for ski schools that will give members a discount, as well.
8. Finally, we are working on a written training regiment to be published electronically and be made available to all Jrs. The idea is to help Jrs. develop good training habits. This is especially aimed at "up and coming" kids who may not know a great coach.

This "Suggested Regiment" is in the review process with some of the top ski schools. There are still some schools that I plan to contact for their input.

In conclusion, the Southern Region is blessed to have an amazing, talented, and enthusiastic group of young skiers. It is my intention to continue and enhance the positive momentum that our team has enjoyed in the past and make it even more valuable for the skiers, their parents, their states and the Southern Region.

Respectfully submitted,
Freddie Snell

Rules - Jazmine Gagner (Sara Lemley)

Rules Proposals to the BOD:	New Rule Proposals	(1 – 16)
	Clean up Issues	(17 – 23)
	IWWF alignment	(24 – 30)

PROPOSAL 1: 3.02A/10.06: W4/W5 – Align W4/W5 age divisions with IWWF. W4 will become 45-54 and W5 will become 55-59. No changes in jump speeds are included in this proposal. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals). Rationale: There is a two year difference in these divisions between AWSA and IWWF. This change would allow the women to continue to slalom at the faster speed (34mph). Jump speeds were not considered at this time, but will continue to be reviewed. Approved

(Passed – S Reg)

PROPOSAL 2: 3.02A/9.06C-D/10.06: M4/M5 - Align M4/M5 age divisions with IWWF. M4 will become 45-54 and M5 will become 55-59. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals). Rationale: This will also align with IWWF, and would allow the M4 to continue to jump at the speeds aligned with IWWF for two more years. This will also keep the M/W-4/5 age groups aligned. Approved 3.02A Division Chart for above two changes: Men 4/Women 4 45 - 52 54 years inclusive Men 5/Women 5 53 55 - 59 years inclusive

(Passed – S Reg)

PROPOSAL 3: 4.02 ADD/Change 4.02A skier who enters the Elite Open division at the Nationals in any event is not required to ski in his Regional Tournament. Rationale: In the past only Open skiers could skip Regionals. The committee felt that with the new Level 10 and the fact that some skiers do not have the option of which division they ski in, they should have the choice of skipping Regionals. Regional attendance affects their choices for travel. This could attract more skiers to Nationals and possibly more to Regionals if they were going to skip one due to work or if the cost of two tournaments close together proves to be prohibitive.

Approved **(No – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 4: 4.02C2

Where the new Slalom division has a maximum speed slower than that of the original performance -- the buoy count score carried into the new division will be reduced by 6 buoys if the score was achieved in a Class E, L, or R tournament (10.06.C).

Rationale: This is a clarification to the current rule which reduces the slalom scores by 6 buoys when a skier moves into a division with a lower max speed. While skiers are allowed to ski faster than Max speeds in a Class C tournament, the committee felt that graduating skiers' scores from the Class E, L or R tournaments should not be transferred at the total buoy count. Skiers will still have the option to ski above max speed if they choose to in their new division. Approved **(No – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 5: 6.10 Add Driver information: Equivalencies in Drivers from other Federations. Need direction from Drivers committee. Ham will be sending. RC Meeting – Waiting on response from Ham. Will include chart in rulebook similar to the one for Judges. **No Vote Necessary**

PROPOSAL 6: Add 8.04E, F, G & H

E. For tournament-supplied handle sections, the length shall be 150 cm - 2.5 cm (4'11" - 1") from inside of handle to inside of loop at a load of 20 kg (44 lb). The triangular portion of the bridle is 28 cm ± 4 cm (11 ½" ± 1 ½"), and the length of the handle is 30cm ± 6 cm (11-13/16" ± 2-3/8") (see appendix for diagram). The bridle (rope) maximum strain in elasticity is +2.5cm (1"). Maximum length after skiing is 152.5 cm (5'-0").

F. For skier-supplied handles in the Slalom and Jumping events, the length may be 150 cm + 2.5 cm/-10cm (4'11" +1"/-4") from inside of handle to inside of loop at a load of 20 kg (44lb). No tolerance on the triangular portion of the bridle. It is the skier's responsibility to ensure that the bridle (rope) does not exceed 152.5cm (5'-0") from inside of handle to inside of loop after skiing at a load of 20 kg (44 lbs).

G. A Slalom Switch or other appliance may be used to attach the slalom towline to the pylon. When so used, that appliance shall be considered a part of the boat/pylon, may be from 0.47 to 0.51m in length, and with a recommended length of 0.50m. The measurements of ropes used with such appliances shall be 0.50m shorter than the values shown in this table.

H. Class E, L and R events pulled with alternating ropes shall use lines of the same model and manufacturer, except for B1, B2, G1, G2, W6, and above when light towlines are available. Light towlines (5MM (3/16") 8 Strands) for L & R are not allowed per the IWWF Rulebook.

Rationale: Since IWWF has adopted the measuring of handles immediately after the skier skis, the TC Committee wanted to have a Pre and Post measurement and include manufacturer specifications in this section of the rules. This ensures that handles measured to actual before skiing will not be too long after they ski. TC Committee has also taken out the minimum length for skier supplied handles. Approved

(Passed – S Reg)

PROPOSAL 7: 9.06C-D M7 – Align M7 speeds (jump) with IWWF. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals). 9.06 Boat Speed

C. Masters Women, Women 3, 4; Men 5, 6, 7, 8; Boys 3; Girls 3: 51 kph/31.7 mph

D. Women 5, 6, Men 7, 8, 9, 10, 11: 48 kph/29.8 mph

Rationale: Aligns the jumps speeds for M7 to 51k (31.7mph) so that these jumpers are not disadvantaged.

Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 8: 9.06C-D: M8 - Align M8 speeds (slalom/jump) with IWWF. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals).

9.06 Boat Speed

C. Masters Women, Women 3, 4; Men 5, 6, 7, 8; Boys 3; Girls 3: 51 kph/31.7 mph

D. Women 5, 6, Men 7, 8, 9, 10, 11: 48 kph/29.8 mph

Rationale: Allows the M8 to ski at the faster speeds to also align. Approved **(No – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 9: 9.16C M3 – Align M3 jump height with IWWF by allowing M3 to jump 5.5 or 5. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals). 4. The following ratios of ramp height at take-off edge to ramp length out of water shall apply: Masters Men, Open Women, Men 1, and 2, and 3 jumpers will have the option of choosing either the .255 or .235 ramp;

Rationale: Allows the M3 jumpers to have the option of jumping with a 5.5 or 5 foot ramp. There has not been an option before unless those skiers were qualified to ski in the Masters division. This also aligns with IWWF.

Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 10: 9.16F delete/ADD: F. Skier Furnished Jump Handle: The contestant may furnish his own handle, for which he is entirely responsible, with an attaching loop to attach to the tournament line, and which must comply with the handle section dimensions in the Appendix. The contestant's handle may be of any material. For Class E tournaments personal handles shall be measured by the dock starter immediately before the skier skis. It is the skier's responsibility that the handle is in tolerance after skiing.

Rationale: This is the wording that IWWF will be using. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 11: 10.06: M8 - Align M8 speeds (slalom/jump) with IWWF. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals). 10.06 Slalom speed chart: Men 8 49/(30.4) 52/(32.3)

Rationale: Allows the M8 to ski at the faster speeds to also align. Approved **(No – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 12: 10.06B2: Change 2. In Class C tournaments, the LOC skiers may opt to ski at allow higher maximum speeds, up to 58kph (36mph) for male divisions and 55kph (34.2) for female divisions, excluding juniors, at their its discretion. In this case, the skier shall receive credit for the buoys run at the higher speed.

Rationale: ZBS should not be decided by the LOC, but the skier. Approved **(No – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 13: 11.12 Add: The boat shall pass on either side of the RED entry buoy. Rationale: The chart in the appendix explains the color of the entry, optional turn and pre start buoys, but no colors are stated in 11.02. More clarity for skiers and officials. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 14: 10.08D3: Omits the requirement for a video review judge in Class L 10.08D3 Configuration 3: ONE JUDGES TOWER between 3 and 4 b. This configuration requires two tower judges, live boat video feed to a judge for Class R/L. A boat camera is NOT required for Class C/E. If the live boat camera feed/video is available to the two tower judges in Class L, an additional boat video judge is NOT required. - see 10.08E below. Also, see Class L/R IWWF Rulebook requirements for use of boat video and video review judge (J4). c. This is recommended required for sites where it is not feasible to have a tower on the opposite side of the course for Class L/R.

E. Boat Video: An additional option based on Configuration and Class, but required for Configuration 3 Class L/R. 1. A camera may be used in the boat to record the pass. This video may be used to resolve any issues. 2. Video Review Options:

a. Class L: When the boat video is available for immediate playback for the two tower judges, a boat video review judge is not required. IF the boat judge score is different than that of either tower judge, the two tower judges must review the boat video to determine the final score. When the live boat video is not available for immediate playback for the two tower judges, follow the same protocol for Class R as described in “b” below. b. Class R: The live boat video will be monitored by a video review judge who will advise the Chief Judge if he disagrees with the event judges' decision. IF the video is available for the two tower, they can review with the boat video review judge to determine the final score. In such a case were a final decision cannot be determined or is not available for the two tower judges, the Chief Judge and the video review judge will review the video to determine the correct score. If they both agree on a score, it will become the official score. If they disagree, or agree that the video does not clearly overrule the score given by the event judges, then that score will stand. c. Alternatively, the Chief Judge may act as boat video review judge. If he disagrees with the event judges' decision, he will ask the tower judges to review the video again. The final score will be decided by a simple majority. Rationale: The requirement to have a fourth judge has been omitted in Class L tournaments. IWWF wording from minutes: For L tournaments, in the case where another judge or Chief Judge is not available (as stated above), and the boat video is available for immediate playback at the shore judge's tower, the 2 shore judges will rereview the boat video to determine the final score when the boat judge score was different from the 2 shore judges, or if they deem it is necessary to decide the final score. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 15: Delete last sentence 10.162b2 For Class E, L & R tournaments personal handles shall be measured by the dock starter under the supervision of the Technical Controller (or his designee) immediately after the skier skis. Should the handle be out of tolerance, the skier's score in that round will be recorded as zero. (See Rule 13.02.F for head to head competition)

Rationale: No longer needed since the handles are now being measured all the time immediately after the skier skis. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 16: 13.04 Mini Course ADD: At the option of the LOC in Class C and below, skiers may choose to ski mini course buoys:

1. Mini course buoys, preferably green in color, are to be placed by the LOC at approximately 8.5 meters from center-line of the slalom course. However, there is NO required measurement or specified tolerance. NOTE: The slalom course for the disabled is 6.4m from center-line.

2. Each mini course buoy is scored as 1/2 point. To get credit, the skier must go through the entry gates, around the mini course buoy and then cross the boat guide line closest to the buoy. No partial credit is awarded for mini course buoys.

3. A mixture of mini course buoys and full course buoys can be used to attain a score. The mixture must be of consecutive buoys. Once a buoy is missed (either mini and/or regular) no more buoys are counted in the scoring of that pass.

4. Mini course scoring will only be used on the first pass in Class C.

5. A skier must make 6 full buoys to get a second pass in Class C.

13.05 Other Optional Tournament Formats

For other possible formats see www.usawaterski.org/AWSA/optional_formats....

Rationale: This proposal can be used for Class C. This was felt to have enough liberty but also retain enough guidelines to promote beginners into the ranking list. Skiers maximum score using the mini course is limited to 5 1/2 buoys. The committee did not want to limit the LOC's from using other options for fun tournaments, which could still be run as Class F if desired. Approved mini course. **(Passed – S Reg)**

Other options for Class F scores with alternate formats will be placed on the USA Waterski web site under Rules.

CLEAN UP ISSUES:

PROPOSAL 17: Change 3.03C2 and D2 3.03C2 Additionally, a skier age 18 or greater shall be REQUIRED to compete in the Open Division in an event (or in Overall) if his performance score(s) in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 10 Cutoff rating score for that event by 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first Thursday of July on any date, up to the National tournament Cutoff dates, within the current ski year.

3.03D2 Additionally, a skier age 35 or greater shall be REQUIRED to compete in the Masters Division in an event (or in Overall) if his performance score(s) in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 10 Cutoff rating for that event by 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first Thursday of July on any date, up to the National tournament Cutoff dates, within the current ski year. Rationale: Needed to change the wording in Level 10. The Cutoff dates were the same but the BOD changed the COD for Nationals and Level 10 needed to stay closer to Nationals. This gives skiers time to make arrangements depending on their status as an Elite skier. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 18: 4.02B Change to reflect COD of Nationals. 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 first Thursday after the preceding National Tournament. three weeks prior to the Thursday immediately before the start of the National Tournament.

Rationale: We need to change this wording to reflect the decision of the BOD for qualification into the National Tournament. Clean Up item. Approved **(Passed – S Reg)**

PROPOSAL 19: Corrected after omission when ZBS maximum speeds changed.

10.06 Boat Speeds and Line Lengths (This option m***May be used for all Classes but certain scoring options do not conform to follow with IWWF scoring, i.e., a skier will need to make a complete pass at maximum speed before the pass will count on the IWWF ranking list).

Move to 10.06B: Since 10.06A is about minimum speeds and 10.06B is about maximum speeds. 1. The LOC may opt to allow higher maximum speeds, up to 58 kph (36 mph) for male divisions and 55 kph (34.2 mph) for female divisions, excluding juniors, in a Class C only tournament, at their discretion.

B. The maximum allowed boat speeds shall be as follows:

1. A skier may elect to start at a speed higher than his division maximum speed, up to his respective Open Division maximum speed, and may not return to his division maximum speed on subsequent passes. Any passes skied at that higher speed shall receive credit for buoys as though they were being run at his division maximum speed.

2. In Class C tournaments, the LOC may opt to allow higher maximum speeds, up to 58kph (36mph) for male divisions and 55kph (34.2) for female divisions, excluding juniors, at its discretion. In this case, the skier shall receive credit for the buoys run at the higher speed.

Rationale: After we revised the intent of the ZBS we inadvertently left out a rule. Need to put the rule back for the skiers that want to ski above maximum speeds in E, L, or R tournaments. Also was moved to another part of rule that aligns with maximum speeds. There has been confusion on when these two rules should be applied. This is not a change in the intent of the rules. Approved **(No – S Reg)**

Proposals 20 – 30 **No Votes Necessary**

PROPOSAL 20: Delete 10.08A3b IWWF has already taken this wording out of their rulebook. Boat is wider than boat guides. 10.08 Officials and Judging Area

A. Event Judges:

3. Only one event judge shall ride in the towboat, hereafter referred to as the boat judge.

a. The boat judge and scorer shall check the boat time for each pass and identify reride situations in accordance with Rules 10.09 & 10.10.

b. The boat judge shall observe the boat path (see Rule 10.07). If any part of the boat deviates outside the bounds of the boat gates, the boat judge shall award an optional reride if the path of deviation was a disadvantage to the skier. If it was to the skier's advantage, a reride is mandatory.

c. There shall be two or three people in the boat.

Rationale: This is consistent with IWWF and Rule 10.07 covers this. RC Meeting – Bob motion, Lori second, Approved

PROPOSAL 21: Delete, is this necessary now? 13.02F Handle Measurement: Should the handle be out of tolerance when the boat returns to the dock in a head to head round, the skier's performance in that round will be scored zero and the skier may not continue.

Rationale: Not needed since all handles will now be measured immediately. Approved.

PROPOSAL 22: Add

14.02 Performance Requirements

For any division, the longest jump distance, highest slalom score, or highest trick score in a round of a tournament of Record Capability shall be considered for a record if it equals or exceeds the official record performed before that round of the tournament. A skier competing in the Open or Masters Division may have his performance recognized as a record for his respective age division, provided the performance is accomplished under conditions consistent with the requirements for that age division.....

Rationale: This has been overlooked and Level 10 discussion this was brought to our attention that the rule needs to include Masters. RC Ballot Vote – Approved (TC Committee Approved)

PROPOSAL 23: Should this come out of Appendix?? It is in rule 9.03D. JUMP 9.18: Disqualification A jumper shall receive no further jumps in a round if, after leaving the boat's wake on a definite cut to the ramp, the jumper elects to pass between the boat course and the ramp, whether or not he retains the tow line. A judgment decision is required by a majority of the Event Judges as to whether the cut is "definite." Also see Rule 7.07. Clarification by Rules Committee is that the skier may still record jumps prior to the infraction, score for overall and also qualify for Nationals if this is done at the Regional tournament. (2/26/13) Rationale: This is still in rule 9.03 just not a disqualification. RC Meeting – Approved.

IWWF ALIGNMENT:

Below are proposals that need approval but follow our Policy and Procedure Manual guidelines. "11.7 RULES COMMITTEE Purpose: The committee shall put into place (subject to Board approval), review, modify as necessary and oversee the competition rules governing AWSA Sanctioned Tournaments with the goal of providing a fair competition for all of the athlete's entered. They shall review the IWWF Rules with the goal of attaining compatibility for the overall competitions held in a combined sanction tournament, so that the athletes can compete without conflicting requirements."

PROPOSAL 24: Match IWWF time between first and second pass when the skier falls. 11.07 Boat Path The boat shall follow, as closely as possible, the path specified by the judges for the event. Such path includes the preparation time before each pass. The second pass shall be in the opposite direction. The boat must make a reasonably straight path through the course. If the skier falls during or at the end of the first pass he will receive a maximum of 30 45 seconds in which to be ready to be taken by the boat for his second pass. At the skier's option, if he did not fall in his first pass, the boat may stop between passes for a maximum of 45 seconds. In each case the time shall start when the boat gets to the skier.....

Rationale: Matches IWWF wording Approved

PROPOSAL 25: 11.12A IWWF is removing, delete first sentence. A. Except in the case of an attempted side slide (see Rule 11.12.J) Aa trick is any activity that occurs between two hesitations. Hesitations are defined as the complete stopping of the ski(s) and not the body motion of the skier.

IWWF 15.19: Trick Descriptions and Values a) Except in the case of attempted side slide turns, A trick is any activity which occurs between two hesitations. In the case of an attempted side slide, the hesitation in the 90-degree position is to be ignored in applying this rule.

Rationale: Do we really need the first sentence? This will also be more specific when judging “windshield wiper” side slides where there is no hesitation. Approved

PROPOSAL 26: 11.12E, H, I and O, Add Credit for wake line tricks when ski/leg not over line and changing wording of trick vs turn for clarity. 11.12E. A wake turn is a trick performed in mid-air while crossing the crest of the wake. A wake turn not executed in mid-air and across the crest of the wake scores zero. The ski will edge towards the wake, then the push/pop comes first then the rotation, or the push/pop and rotation come at the same time. The rotation cannot come before the push/pop. An inadvertent touch of the water with the ski tip during the rotation is acceptable on tricks with 540 degrees or more of rotation. Definition of a Pre-turn: A pre-turn is a turn off of a flat ski where the push/pop comes after the rotation has started.

All wake line tricks (WL, SL and TWL) where the ski/leg does not go over the line can be credited as wake tricks if the other wake trick criteria are met.

H. Stepmover line tricks (surface and wake) are credited only when the free foot touches the ski or water, or lifted ski touches the water. The skier may not put his leg or lifted ski across or on top of the line, the handle or either arm until he begins to execute the turn. The stepover and turn actions must be simultaneous. Immediately on completion of a FB stepover turn, the skier must have at least one arm between his legs holding the handle. It is not required that the free foot or ski touch the water prior to the execution of a stepover turn. A stepover turn not performed according to the rules for a 180 or 360 surface turn scores zero. (See 11.12E for wake tricks)

I. Toehold stepover tricks must be a simultaneous action. The towing foot may not touch the water during execution of the stepover portion of the trick turn. The touching of the towing foot in the water immediately prior to or during the rotation of the ski while attempting a stepover trick will result in no credit for the trick. However, if the towing foot touches the water after all rotation has been completed, credit will be given.

O. Once the skier has put the toe strap on his foot, any trick performed in which the foot in the strap intentionally touches the ski during the setup or execution of the trick turn shall not be scored.

Rationale: AWSA had asked for clarification regarding these tricks. This was addressed at their meeting and now we are incorporating these changes in our rules. Approved

PROPOSAL 27: 11.12J Add:

All Side Slides (hand held and toe) includes a 90-degree turn from skiing position and a return to skiing position in the original direction. In order for a Side Slide to be a creditable trick, the skier must hesitate before commencing the trick, turn 90 degrees to either side, stop, return to the starting position, and stop. To perform the reverse, the skier must turn 90 degrees in the opposite direction, stop, return to the starting position, and hesitate again.

Rationale: Additional clarification and IWWF is using this wording now too. RC Meeting – Jeff motion, Bob second, Approved PROPOSAL 28: 11.16C Change Rope release length? Make it the same as IWWF. AWSA 11.16C A rope trick release mechanism up to 1.25 meter (49”) 60cm (24”) may be used (see Rule 11.18B).

Rationale: Make the length the same for both. Originally 1 meter was submitted but IWWF has 1.25m. Approved. (OK per Safety Committee)

PROPOSAL 29: ADD IWWF wording to 11.20

The Tricks event shall be recorded at all Class E, L and R tournaments (and other tournaments whenever possible) by a video camera from the boat. It is recommended that the camera be held/mounted higher than top of windshield to provide a clear view of the ski. If more than one video camera is used, the Chief Judge and Technical Controller shall declare one as the primary camera and one as the secondary prior to the start of the event. (See Rules 11.08.A, 11.08.B and 11.08.F)

Video from the boat shall be used for primary judging. For judging purposes and the record review process, only video from the official camera(s) may be used. The official camera(s) may be any video from the boat as determined by the Technical Controller and Chief Judge.

IWWF 10.11: Video Specifications Video to be used: For Judging purposes and record review process, only video from the official cameras can be used. The official camera may be any video from the same view (example from boat) as determined by the Homologator and Chief Judge

Rationale: This is TC Committee recommendation, rules committee changed a few of the words. Intent matches IWWF.

Safety – Bob Archambeau (Leon Larson)

The Safety Committee receive one requests from Richelle of the Rules Committee,

PROPOSAL 21: 11.16C Change

Rope release length? Make it the same as IWWF.

AWSA 11.16C A rope trick release mechanism up to **1.25 meter (49")** ~~60cm (24")~~ may be used (see Rule 11.18B).

Rationale: Make the length the same for both. Originally 1 meter was submitted but IWWF has 1.25m. Should match.

RC Meeting – Jeff motion, Bob second, **Approved. This change needs to be reviewed by safety.**

A 4 yes, 2 no and 1 no reply in favor of the IWWF's rule is the vote from the Committee. **(Passed – S Reg)**

Respectfully Submitted,
James Babcock, Chairperson

Risk Mgt - Bob Archambeau (Leon Larson)

There are two action items risk management would like to bring to the USA Water Ski Board for approval at the 2018 midwinter meeting. Both action items received unanimous support from the members of the risk management committee that provided feedback to the online discussion.

Item 1 – Junior safety coordinator term and renewal requirements: (Passed – S Reg)

The way we wrote the renewal requirements is logistically very tough for headquarters, and the current 2 year renewal would only affect someone who got the rating at 15. After discussing with headquarters staff, it would be much easier to manage if we adopted the following:

A junior rating will be issued for three years. Upon turning 18, the member may request that their junior rating be upgraded to a safety coordinator rating for the remainder of their rating period.

This would eliminate renewing junior ratings. It would be a one time rating. (They have to be 15 to get the junior rating.) This makes the program much easier for HQ to administer, and we don't believe it compromises our training.

Item 2 - Approval for safety clinics to be taught as a hybrid online / practical clinic format: (Passed – S Reg)

The clinic instructor may choose to send course materials to clinic participants ahead of time to review and complete a self-study prior to a clinic. This would include the concussion awareness literature, the lightning and weather literature, the USA Water Ski Safety Manual, the AWSA rule 12 (for AWSA and NCWSA participants), the tournament safety checklist, the tournament injury forms and the medical claim form. We will develop a written test on this material that must be satisfactorily completed and brought with the participant to the clinic.

In addition, the water rescue video may be sent to participants to review ahead of the clinic. The skills demonstrated in the water rescue video must be practiced and assessed by the clinic instructor in the water in order for a participant to receive clinic credit. The hands-on portion of the clinic can also be used to answer any questions raised during the self-study component.

We believe practical in the water rescue training is a critical component of clinics and can't be adequately practiced without an in-person skills session. However, we believe the rest of the clinic material, while still important, can be delivered online and this can significantly shorten the in-person time requirement and hopefully lead to more clinics and more safety officials for our sport.

Accomplishments during 2017

The risk management committee reviewed and updated the safety program description documents. This included adding the junior coordinator position and clarifying the requirements and progression through the different safety director classifications. This also included a clarification that all safety officials must maintain current CPR and First Aid certifications to maintain their safety rating. The equivalent medical training to meet the first aid requirement was clarified, and also information was added on the fast track program for medical professionals to obtain a safety rating.

Several medical certifications were reviewed by the committee chairman at the request of headquarters, and recommendations were made to headquarters staff regarding the appropriateness of these certifications for meeting the First Aid requirement. One upgrade to National Safety Director was approved pending completion of the written test. One complaint regarding the safety response to a skier at a tournament was reviewed by the chairman and former chairman of the committee and a response sent to the Chief Officials at the event.

Goals for 2018

Pending approval of the optional change in delivery format for clinics, the committee plans to upgrade some of the clinic material for online delivery and develop a written test based on the clinic material. Our hope is to increase the number of clinics available to our membership in 2018. Additional risk management documents will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Submitted by Harley Wallace
USA Water Ski Risk Management Chairman

Tournament Seeding - Kirby Whetsel

No updates to report.

Skiers Qualification - Dennis Longo

Brandy Nagel has resigned as the committee chairperson after several successful years of service. She has been replaced by Kelvin Kelm of the South Central Region. Kelvin has been active as the new chairperson.

The skier qualification methodology for 2018 has been approved by the SQC committee and is ready to be used with approval from the board of directors. I have attached a document explaining the methodology.

Ability based skiing divisions is still a hot topic with our president, Jeff Surdej, the committee and skiers. The latest survey results were again not in favor of this concept. The survey results showed LI-LS and members who do not ski events are most interested in ABO. I am not in favor of ABO for many reasons including a negative impact on competition and the lack of the social aspect of our sport.

Zero based scoring is another hot topic with skiers. Skiers in Men 8 are very negative and vocal about the use of ZBS in Class C tournaments. A skier has won the Ranking List by skiing above the division maximum speed in Class C tournaments only.

A recommendation to change the qualifications for the National Tournament is approved by SQe. The cutoff date for being ranked level 8 is being changed to 3 AM Eastern time on the first Thursday after the preceding National Tournament. This item will be discussed in the rule changes part of the meeting.

Technical - Roger Logan - Jerry Jackson

This report from the AWSA Tech Control Committee is to update the Board on items with which the committee has been involved since the last board meeting.

There's only two (2) action that requires the BOD to evaluate at this time (marked in RED – EC Dropbox & Trick Renewal)

RECORDS (Calendar year 2017):

Total = 29 Natl Records submitted by 16 different skiers; 21 approved; 8 rejected (2 boat path, 6 tricks)

RECORD TOURNAMENTS (Calendar year 2017):

No Class E standalone tournaments.

Southern 63+3*

South Central 19+3*

the

Western 23+2*

Midwest 8

East 1

TOTAL= 122

* Indicates number sanction tourns with a different sanction number, on the same weekend, same site.

2018 TC Committee ACTIONS / RESULTS

EC VIDEO

SLALOM END COURSE VIDEO required per IWWF Rule 14.15 (EC Video):

Per current rules, all Class L and R tournament EC Video are to be submitted to Pan-Am Council.

In 2017 a DROP box was setup for the TC's to upload video.

Pan-AM wants **ALL** the EC Video to be uploaded,

As of 12/17, NO consensus between PANAM/IWWF and AWSA on a common protocol.

(We know that Canada is not submitting all their EC Video, and other countries only have a few record tournaments)

AWSA Driver Chairmen and AWSA TC Chairmen think that we should have a protocol as follows:

- A) Driver- Upload only ONE 30-minute segment (ONE per YR). NOT each tourn. 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.
- B) ELITE (OPEN and MASTER)- ONE round per tourn.
- C) SKIER: Women who complete a 39off pass (her highest tourn score); Men who complete 41off pass (his highest tourn score) *(should be covered under B above)*.
- D) EC Video available for one year (either by the TC or the Tourn Host) (per current IWWF/AWSA rules).
- E) RANDOM: AWSA/PANAM/IWWF could and should request EC Video from selected tournament specifying segments/division within 2 weeks of the tournament.
- F) Each CJ/CD, enforce the rule to ensure someone is watching the EC Video full time (per current AWSA Rule).

EC VIDEO DROPBOX LINK (REQUIRES BOD Approval) (Passed – S Reg)

We have a link for anyone to UPLOAD EC Video. Anyone with this link can upload, but cannot view.

The videos are manually transferred to a SHARED FOLDER (File name SANCTION number).

Anyone with this link (shared folder) can view.

The LINK is posted on the Southern Regional Web Site.

West has their own drop box.

- 1) Should AWSA have just ONE DROP BOX for all EC Video? or several drop boxes (one for SR, one W, one for all other regionals combined).??
- 2) Should the LINKS be posted on the AWSA WEB SITE to where anyone can review (under OFFICIALS RESOURCES AND TC RESOURCE)??

3) AWSA BOD – What should be the protocol- Recommendation??

NEEDS to be voted on by each REGION and AWSA BOD.

(My recommendation would be ONE DROP box for all and the links for UPLOADING and REVIEW under TC Resources and the Officials Resources only, Each Regional TC Chairmen/Driver would have password as the administrator)

SURVEY DATA:

Emmanuel Lion's TC and Survey Program (ASCII format)- When used (**recommended**), the survey is auto submitted with the TC Report and will be uploaded in WSTIMS.

The TC Reports is now being submitted to each Region TC Member.

IF the 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 being uploaded are ASCII files, and can be re-opened using Lion's Homologation Report (if original used) to obtain the survey data. We continue to encourage all TC to use Lions Homologation and Survey program to provide consistence.

TRICKS:

Splasheye Tricks for Captured Trick Video: 99% of trick tournaments in USA are captured on SD card, then judged/timed. Donal has made available a Free Splasheye Trick Program (upgrade \$100) to judge and time tricks that are captured on external card. The TC Committee strongly recommends the upgrade program for each club to make it consistent between tournaments. This program operates the same as the live version.

TRICK TCs RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS: (Passed – S Reg)

The TC Committee passed a new renewal requirement for tricks. **(REQUIRES BOD Approval)**

If a SLALOM or JUMP TC renewal requirements have been met, he/she auto meets the renewal requirements for Tricks. This was based on the TC renewal requirements for slalom/jump actually meeting the same requirements for Trick TC renewal; and there's not enough trick tourn. Drivers Trick maintenance should follow the same procedure. This is NOT auto tracked in the AWSA Data Base, and requires manually input. Additional work is required between AWSA and TC Chairmen. The qualification form will be updated.

MINI COURSE: See Rule Change Proposal: A request was submitted to the TC Committee to specify a distance from CL for a mini course. The TC committee members VOTED NO to specified tolerance. (Wake Board, Disable (6.4m) and INT league (7.5m) all have a different measurement for turn buoys). TC Committee made a recommendation to use 7.5m from CL with NO SPECIFIED measurement or TOLERANCE.

SLALOM HANDLE: See Rule Proposal: Some of the notes were removed from the Appendix to Section 8.04. Removed the minimum tolerance for skier supplied handles and change the tourn supplied handles to a minimum of -1" (.0252m). Reworded that the PRE-tolerance should be 1.500m, if longer the skier would be at risk when measured after skiing. POST tolerance is 1.5252m. Manufactures allowable elongation is 0.0252m.

MASTER WOMEN SLALOM BENCHMARK: We were asked by several skiers to revisit the benchmark which is 1@41 (W3 Record). (I have not received everyone vote from the TC Committee Members, but so far everyone (majority) recommend leaving as is).

2018 TC OUTSTAND ISSUES:

CLASS E: Should Class E tourn be deleted? Since we allow 4 rounds per Sanction that matches IWWF and Class E does not apply to IWWF Standing LIST, maybe time to delete. Run G1 as Class C?

NATL RECORDS: IF the new rule is passed on changing the age per division/speeds/jump ramp height AND a record is submitted in 2018/2019 under different criteria than previous, Both the OLD and NEW record will be posted for ONE year. This is the protocol that has been done in the past. This does not INCLUDE were a skier may ski faster than the Division Speed, RECORDS are based on DIVISION SPEED only.

TC CLINIC: Different TCs are working on various modules and this will be posted with a link for anyone to view in the same manner as the Official Online (Quizegg). (Video training on Jump Setup/ Measuring jumps/ Boat Video using Wi-Fi/ Verifying Boat Centerline/ Update Equipment List/etc.).

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/ratio, etc.).

Slalom Handle: Issue a clarification/ post on AWSA Web site, about the elongation of rope and handles too inform everyone and the risk. MFG maximum tolerance is 1.500 m (4'-11") under static load of 44#. However, under a dynamic load (skier applying a loading) AWSA/IWWF does NOT specified an elongation tolerance on handle/bridle section. AWSA does have a specified limited elongation (stretch) tolerance on the rope, which is; "Elongation at 115 kg (250 lbs.) tensile load, 2.6% + 0.4%" and test should it may take up to 1 hour to return to its original dimension. (example 5 ft. = 60"; elongation tolerance = +1.8"). (a skier can apply up to 800# when skiing). The specifications and test are based on ambient temperature (66-72deg F). Temperature will impact the elongation. Higher the temperature the more a rope can stretch under dynamic load. Based the current rules, handles will be checked after skiing, it is the skier's responsibility to ensure that is does not elongate (stretch) greater than the maximum of 5ft (1.5252m) after skiing under 44# static load. The TC Committee has done several tests and strongly recommends that a handle be no longer than 1.500m (4'11") under static load of 44# PRIOR to skiing. This should eliminate any handles being out of tolerance after skiing.

Slalom Record Checker: Splasheye EC Video is available but is a 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 but for Windows 7/10. Donal is working on a Record Checker Program that will be easier for all Regional TC Chairmen to use.

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AWSA TC Chairmen - Jerry Jackson; email: SlalomJJ@Bellsouth.net
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 and Zack Worden

Towboat/ Speed Control - Greg Webb

There is no formal report. The Towboat committee met in San Marcos (TX) this summer. Towboat tests were postponed till March of 2018 (or so).

Question came up on Nautique Promo Program updates... Jeff Gilbert shared updates that he knew.

Nautique basically reviewed their program and started from scratch (a complete overhaul). They looked at events in each state and sought Dealers input. The new program is more of a lease program where the Dealers would agree to take the boat back at the end of the year (there would be a cost to the promo people). Dealers who were not willing to work with this arrangement were backing out of the program and other dealers are supporting it. The end result was that there were a few Promo Team members were dropped. What they realized was that some promo people were on the program for the wrong reasons.

MasterCraft is also looking at some changes to their Promo Program for this year also.

USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Foundation - Jeff Clark

Things are coming along. Cables and foundations are being completed and the Cable Park will be open in March 2018. The 3 Event Lake has started being dug. The old building and lake has been officially sold and the museum is almost cleared out. The new owner will have offices and showroom opening up soon. USA-WS will be provided offices rent free for the next three years. The new building should be starting next year and will be a part of the Lake Myrtle complex.

Old Business

USA-WS Director role changes: (Repeat information but Dates and Timelines specific to this year only)

With our decline in membership we have lost a number of seats on the AWSA BOD. We will now have 2 Seats with voice and vote instead of 5. Each Region will still be responsible to have a USA-WS Director role. For this year only AWSA will be voting on 2 representatives to represent the AWSA at the USA-BOD at the winter meeting on Jan26th to attend the USA-WS BOD meeting on Jan 27th. The USA-WS BOD has voted to allow the remaining directors to sit in on this years meeting with voice but no vote. AWSA BOD will vote during their summer meeting on the rotation of the USA-WS Directors. Reminder... Even though the ASWA has lost seats, it has not lost any voting power.

Drivers and boat path review – Nothing more needs to be discussed, the Summer Meeting covered everything

Absentee Ballot Procedure – The process will be covered under new business in the P&P changes

US Open and Beyond – We need to find out who “owns” the right to US Open and what’s being done to bring this back

State Tournaments (need to improve turnout) – Nothing more needs to be discussed, the Summer Meeting covered everything

AWSA Director (Jody Seal / Leon Larson): When an Alternate Director assumes a full-time role as Director, the Southern Region must re-vote to elect a person for the Director and Alternate roles. When Leon L took over Jody’s role – we as a Region should have voted on those positions at our Summer Meeting. To properly correct this, we will be voting on the Seal/Larson Director position which will run till August when that position will expire and in July we will be electing who will be taking over those positions. In this election Kirby Whetsel was voted National Director till August and Leon Larson will be Alternate till August as voted on By S Reg Council.

New Business

2019 Regional Bid: Requests for Regional Bid for 2019 were sent out with only 6 sites declaring any interest. Follow up material was sent out and I was available for any questions or discussions. In the end one bid was returned and that was forwarded to Council. After discussion over a couple key items there was a motion to approve and a second. The motion passed by Council

The 2019 Southern Regionals will be held at Stillwater Lakes, hosted by Space Coast Water Ski Club in Palm Bay Florida – Congratulations!

Technology and Communication: Just to mention that with all the advances in Technology, Communication has become more difficult not easier. Many are not using computers and have left those for Tablets and Phones. This has caused some issues with us communicating efficiently (both IN/OUT mail). I will be posting as much as possible on the web site and will be communicating via email. If you are not receiving information, let me know. If you are responsible for returning information, please do so via email. Thanks.

Proposed Bylaw Changes – Bob Archambeau (edited to show only the changes proposed)

ARTICLE VIII PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 3

Any senior member desiring to vote **may do so in person, at the Southern Region Summer Meeting or by absentee ballot (not both). Absentee Ballots must be sent individually and directly to the Chairman of the AWSA SR Teller's committee at least five (5) days prior to the start of the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament.** ~~return~~ The absentee ballot or copy, thereof, **will be** printed in the current AWSA Southern Region Guide **and on the Southern Region website.** ~~to be received by the Chairman of the AWSA SR Teller's committee at least five (5) days prior to the start of the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament.~~ The mail (absentee) ballot will indicate the names of the nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee, and only those names will be eligible to receive absentee votes. The Nominating Committee must submit all names to the EVP at the conclusion of the mid-winter meeting.

Completed mail (absentee) ballot with proof of AWSA and USA-WS membership (copy of current membership card) must be received by the Chairman of the AWSA SR Teller's Committee, **sent individually and directly from the senior member** at the address noted in the "AWSA Southern Region Guide", **Southern Region website** and "Waterskier" magazine.

Section 4

A Tellers Committee with Chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Vice President **consisting of a panel of three, not on ballot, from separate states, selected from Council, Directors and Committee members to be selected two week** ~~no later than sixty (60) days~~ prior to the annual AWSA Southern Regional Meeting from among AWSA SR members who will be present at the AWSA Southern Regional Tournament and annual AWSA Southern Region Meeting. Their names shall be published in the AWSA Southern Regional Guide and announced periodically at the site on the date of the annual AWSA Southern Regional Meeting.

Code of ethics and signatures: Bob Harris noted that we have not been following proper procedures regarding Article XIV Code of Conduct. It was agreed that we will send out the proper materials in order to follow procedure

ARTICLE XIV CODE OF CONDUCT

Section 1

The AWSA SR shall subscribe to the AWSA written Code of Conduct and Ethical Practices which includes the requirement that each Officer, member of the Council, and each committee representative, annually agree in writing to abide by such code.

Each part was discussed, had a motion to approve and second. Southern Region Council passed all parts.

Proposed P&P Changes – Bob Archambeau (edited to show only the changes proposed)

1.1.1 Bids for Regional Tournament Sites 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 **initially** solicit bids for the regional site **on April 1st in January (19 months in advance)** each year. All bids for the tournament shall be submitted in writing (1 copy electronically) on the current official bid form (APPENDIX III IN WORD) 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. (1/12)~~ **Bid detail will be presented to council prior to Southern Region Meeting scheduled for Winter or Summer Session. Deadline for voting is preferred at Summer meeting (one year prior to event) or Winter meeting (7 months prior to event). Voting can be as early as the Winter meeting (19 months in advance) or by electronic ballot if absolutely necessary.**

The sanction fee for the AWSA SR Regional Tournament will be \$300. There will also be a \$1.00 head tax per entry skied, which will be collected from the sponsor and donated to the ~~USA Water Ski Foundation~~ **USA Water Ski and Wake Sports Foundation** Facilities Fund on behalf of the Southern Region. 1/12

AWSA Southern Regional Tournament requirements for sponsoring water ski clubs are as follows:

The following list of requirements is intended to be a guideline for water ski clubs who are hosting the annual AWSA SR Regional Tournament. ~~Please note that some items are listed as mandatory and other items are listed as customary and/or optional.~~

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

6. The Southern Region will provide a Council approved standard medal for the first five (5) places for all divisions. The Regionals History document should be used to indicate the numbers of medals that should be ordered for each division/event. Any medals (standard medal only) not awarded are to be returned to the EVP for use next year. Any shortfall in the number ordered versus the number needed, shall be ordered after the tournament, and shipped to the recipient. ~~The cost of the extra medals and the shipping shall be billed back to the club. 1/13~~

1.1.2 Scheduling, Practice and Miscellaneous

Practice shall be at the option of the Tournament Sponsor (as approved by the EVP) and is acceptable **before or** during the Tournament on unused water.

The Chief Technical Controller shall have priority over practice at the tournament site on the day before the tournament, should the site still need preparation.

1.1.3 Entry Qualifications and Skier Seeding

Entry requirements will be based on the AWSA Ranking List ~~21 days prior to the entry deadline for the~~ **with the cutoff date of 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the first Thursday after the preceding Southern Regional National** Tournament. 1/09

1.1.6 Regional and National Officials Selection Process - General

A. ~~On October 4~~ **By November 1st** a letter must be sent by the EVP to each Judge, Driver, Scorer, Technical Controller, Safety Director and Announcer of the Southern Region asking if they desire to be an appointed official at the Regionals and the Nationals: 1/12

B. Qualifications required of officials:

1. Chief Judge: AWSA Senior 3 event Judge. 1/11
2. Appointed/Assigned Judge, Driver, Scorer, Technical Controller, Regional/National Safety Director and Announcer: Regular/Senior AWSA rated official. 1/12

Immediately after the deadline (**November 31**) for responses, the EVP shall compile a list for each category and send it to the Council and Directors for voting. All votes should be returned to the Chairman of the Tellers committee by **December 20th**. The votes shall be reviewed by the **Nominating Tellers** committee. The results will be announced at the Southern Region Mid-Winter Meeting. 1/12

1.1.7 Selection of Drivers for Regionals

The EVP will send out a ballot to the Council & Directors and they will return their votes for each of the candidates. To appear on the ballot, the official must reply to the Officials' Request form sent by the EVP in ~~October~~ **November** of the year prior to the Regional Tournament. The selected Officials will be announced at the Midwinter meeting of the Southern Region. 1/03

1.1.8 Selection of Judges, Scorers, Safety, Technical Controllers and Announcers for Regionals

Appointed/assigned officials are to be selected by vote of the Southern Region Council. To appear on the ballot, the official must reply to the Officials' Request form sent by the EVP in ~~October~~ **November** of the year prior to the Regional Tournament. The selected Officials will be announced at the Midwinter meeting of the Southern Region. 1/12

1.2 AWSA Nationals Officials' Selections

1.2.1 Senior Judges, Scorers, Safety Directors and Announcers may complete the Nationals Officials' Request form in ~~October~~ **November** of the year prior to the AWSA National Tournament and have their names placed on the ballot for consideration as Appointed or Assigned Officials at the AWSA National Tournament. The Officials will be announced at the Midwinter meeting of the Southern Region. 1/12

1.2.2 Senior Drivers may complete the Nationals Officials' Request form in ~~October~~ **November** of the year prior to the AWSA National Tournament and have their names placed on the ballot for consideration as Appointed or Assigned Officials at the AWSA National Tournament. The EVP will send out the customary request form to all Regular and Senior Drivers asking that they indicate their interest in driving the Nationals. The EVP will send out a ballot to the Council & Directors and they will return their votes on the candidates. The Officials will be announced at the Midwinter meeting of the Southern Region. 1/03

1.2.3 Regular Judges, Scorers and Safety Directors may complete the Nationals Officials' Request form in ~~October~~ **November** of the year prior to the AWSA National Tournament and have their names placed on the ballot for consideration as Assigned Officials at the AWSA National Tournament. The Officials will be announced at the Midwinter meeting of the Southern Region. Soon after the announcement (Midwinter meeting) of the names of those individuals who will represent the Southern Region at the National Tournament, the EVP shall notify all of these persons for final acceptance, and send USA-WS Headquarters and the President of AWSA the name and position of each person selected to work the Nationals.

1.3.3 Tournament Fees

The Annual ~~USA-WSF~~ **USA-WSWSF** Hall of Fame Tournament fees will be paid and allocated as a donation to the USA Water Ski **and Wake Sports** Foundation on behalf of the AWSA Southern Region.

5.6 Payment for Officials Clinics

The EVP is authorized to pay to each State Federation \$200 for a traditional, on site **(in State)** officials clinic and \$100 for **a one** virtual electronic type officials clinic hosted (types listed below) and for each clinic hosted, in their state during the calendar year. The maximum distributed to each state shall be ~~\$300~~ **\$800** per calendar year for all events hosted.

Approved AWSA Traditional and Virtual Clinic Types:

Judges Clinic
Scorer Clinic

Drivers Clinic
Safety Clinic

Upon the EVP receiving written documentation of the clinics held, these funds will be disbursed prior to the end of the calendar year in which the clinics were held. Documentation is to include the name of the State Federation, hosting site, sponsoring Ski Club name and the amount of participants for

each type of clinic. The total of the funds disbursed will be equal to the amount of clinics held in the Southern Region. 1/15

~~Approved AWSA Traditional and Virtual Clinic Types:~~ ~~Moved above~~
~~Judges Clinic~~
~~Scorer Clinic~~
~~Drivers Clinic~~
~~Safety Clinic~~

7.3 Regional Teller's Committee

The chair of the Region Teller's Committee and the members ~~(one from each state)~~ **(a panel of three, not on ballot, from separate states, selected from Council, Directors and Committee members to be selected two weeks prior to the Regional Meeting)**, in accordance with the Southern Region Bylaws, must be appointed by the EVP. ~~within 60 days following the Regional meeting.~~ The committee chairman ~~and members should~~ **shall** be announced in the EVP winter newsletter. ~~These assignments are made at the same time as those of the National Committees.~~

9.0 SOUTHERN REGION WINTER NEWSLETTER

The EVP must prepare and distribute a newsletter ~~no later than December 10 each~~ **at least two times year**. The content of this letter is up to the EVP. However, it must include the location and dates of the Regionals, the location and dates of the Nationals, the location and dates of the Midwinter Meeting and other announcements of importance and interest to the Southern Region as a whole. This may be accomplished by a posting of the information on the regional website by this date. 1/07

11.0 PAST EVP PLAQUE

The newly elected EVP is responsible for ordering a standard plaque for the immediate past EVP. This plaque is generally presented at the Midwinter General Membership Meeting if the past EVP is there. Otherwise, it is presented at the Summer Open Meeting. This plaque is to be ordered from **TROPHY SHOP, GAINSEVILLE, FL**. They have all details (designs) on file and need only the inscription to be engraved on the plaque. This should be ordered by mid-November. 1/04

APPENDIX – **No changes recommended past this point**

Each part was discussed, had a motion to approve and second. Southern Region Council passed all parts.

Nomination of Officers

Nominations for EVP and Alt EVP - Bob Archambeau – EVP
Keith Lindemulder – Alternate EVP

AWSA Director – (New – Jody Seal / Leon Larson) and Alternate AWSA Director

Nominations for AWSA Director - Dana Garcia - AWSA Director
Kirby Whetsel - AWSA Director

Nominations for Alternate AWSA Director - Kirby Whetsel – Alt. Director
Bob Harris - Alt. Director
Leon Larson - Alt. Director

Adjourn: There was a motion to adjourn and second. Motion passed

Southern Region Recommendations - Final – January 26, 2018

(From January 6, 2018 S Region Winter Meeting)

- Bylaws - At our most recent meeting, the Southern Region has asked me to question the past practice of appointing what we felt was a qualified replacement to sit in as an alternate or replacement unless in fact, they are Region appointed and Council voted alternate. Per the AWSA bylaws this “substitution” does not follow our Bylaws
- IAC – Concern that the Athletes Representation is sorely lacking at the IAC Meetings. What can be done to improve their interest?
- IAC - **Keith Lindemulder will re write these**
Why are alternate selections allowed for some teams and not for others?
Consistency of procedures and voting is different for some teams.
- Driver - Taking a driver representative away from a region because it was their turn (in rotation) to have a Chief Driver selected is not equal representation nor is it a past practice. Selecting ACD from the list provided should not be a problem. This can lead to LOC’s placing extra (their) drivers into positions without equal representation across all regions.
- Driver - Straw votes...
Allow any Senior or Regular 3 Event Driver that maintains their quantitative and qualitative requirements for Slalom and Jumping but may have a shortage for tricks, to automatically retain their trick rating at the level attained. **(Passed – S Reg)**
For ELR - drivers driving practice can receive Tournament Credit. **(Passed – S Reg)**
Link to Driving Videos should be more confidential. **(Passed – S Reg)**
- J & S - Leon Larson for Emeritus Scorer **(Passed – S Reg)**
Ann Harrington for Emeritus Scorer **(Passed – S Reg)**
“Blind Credit” for all officials to receive credit for all ratings held. **(No – S Reg)**
Eliminating maintenance requirements for J/S. **(No – S Reg)**
Modify Upgrade to Sr. **(Passed – S Reg)**
Access to officials email and Phone from USA-WSWS. **(Passed – S Reg)**
- Rules - P- 1 **(Passed – S Reg) – When we are changing speeds or ramp heights we need to include skier survey information to make good decisions. Surveying divisions is critical.**
P- 2 **(Passed – S Reg) - When we are changing speeds or ramp heights we need to include skier survey information to make good decisions. Surveying divisions is critical.**
P- 3 **(No – S Reg) – Why not level 9**
Why not make them pay an entry to allow this?
P- 4 **(No – S Reg) – Not fair for allowing skiers to ski over maximum**
Creating a rule that allows selecting an advantage over another skier is ridiculous. There needs to be a level playing field for everyone.

If we more closely align our divisions with IWWF and adjust max speeds to match, do we even need ZBS above max at all? I believe part of the discussion for it was to allow scores to go on both AWSA and IWWF rankings without having to change divisions. If people still want to ski faster for some reason, I do believe we still have the rule that allows people to ski above max speed and it is just scored as a hot time for the stated max speed. Where would ZBS above max be needed should the proposed alignments be passed?

- P- 5 **No Vote Necessary**
- P- 6 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P- 7 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P- 8 **(No – S Reg)**
- P- 9 **(Passed – S Reg) – This should start right away not wait.**
- P-10 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-11 **(No – S Reg) – Original proposal was a no vote. This one is also No.**
- P-12 **(No – S Reg) – Take this out totally**
- P-13 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-14 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-15 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-16 **(Passed – S Reg) – Need to clearly define course dimensions (disabled)
Recommend, give skiers two passes with score**
- P-17 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-18 **(Passed – S Reg)**
- P-19 **(No – S Reg) - Original proposal was a no vote. This one is also No. WARNING!
Language in this proposal is not the same as in original.**
- P-20+ **No Votes Necessary**

Level 10 status of implementation (reschedule for after 2018 Nationals? Later?)

Safety -

We need “Fast Track” for medical professionals and a definition on what professions are included and approved. Practical evaluations still need to be given for ALL individuals

Proposal: Any practicing medical professional i.e. Doctor, Physician Assistant, Board Licensed Nurse, Physical Therapist, EMT/Paramedic (we could expand or better define this) are allowed a fast track to Safety Director level. Class would not be necessary – not even a classroom maintenance clinic if they are current. BUT they would be required to take a “Modified Practical” during a live sanctioned event. This would involve review of the site and safety check list – hands on what to look for during all events – a quick review of things to observe and an actual water practical (talking to an injured skier – evaluation – flipping – water rescue – teamwork – and backboard/immobilization. I estimate that this would take a max of 2 hours. It may require a special curriculum, but I would be happy to work on that. They would still be required to work the standard events for maintenance for promotion (experience in the field is what we are striving for). This could also lead to more team Doctors!

Medical professionals – ones who practice every day would be qualified for this. I am not sure about anyone related to the medical field as they don’t have the practical medical experience. I was asked about lifeguards and my answer was no. They could easily work through and relearn our water extraction process but the whole course would benefit them better

Towboat -

Towboat credit for tournaments... if a person uses their personal boat to pull a tournament because a promo is not available, will the respective boat mfr. receive credit for pulling that event? (already sent to Towboat Committee)