

SOUTHERN REGION MID-WINTER MEETING

January 16, 2021

Minutes of Virtual Meeting

Submitted by Cynthia Logan, Treasurer (Meeting was also recorded.)

1. Opening

- 9:00 am start
- Bob Harris logging in attendees to establish a quorum.

2. Call to Order

- Keith Lindemulder, EVP, called the meeting to order around 9:06 am.

3. Appointment of Parliamentarian

- Keith asked Jeff Clark to be Parliamentarian. Accepted.

4. Introduction – Roll Call

- Keith made some introductory remarks.
- Conducted Roll Call from list compiled by Bob Harris.

5. Announcement of Quorum

A quorum was established and announced as such by Bob Harris and Keith Lindemulder.

6. Review and Approval of Agenda

- Agenda put forth by Keith. Approved by acclamation.

7. Jim Jaquess – Article IX, Section 2

- Introduction of Article for discussion.
- Jim asked Keith – WHY? (Keith's inattention and lapse in fulfillment of duties).
- Keith answered that he had lapsed in his duties due to:
  - i. Moving
  - ii. Unexpected personal issues unrelated to health
- Jim and others cited several instances of Keith's inattention and lapse in fulfillment of duties expected of the EVP. i.e., Jim Jaquess mentioned there was no Online Guide.
- Discussion followed.
- Decision by vote of Council: Do NOT act on Article IX, Section 2.

8. Review and Approval of 2020 Summer Meeting Minutes

- Jim Jaquess – No Summer Meeting Minutes to approve? WHY? Not posted on the SR Website. Keith Lindemulder committed to produce and post the minutes before the end of January AT THE LATEST.

9. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report presented. Jazmine Gagner motioned to "table" approval until after discussion of the USA-WSWS Foundation Report, especially regarding a discussion with how to proceed with the Elmer Stailings Scholarship Fund. Seconded. Approval was tabled.

10. Report of Executive Vice President

- Reg/Nat Officials are usually announced at this point, however, Keith Lindemulder is the only one to whom the requests to participate/officiate were sent.
  - i. Keith said he did have all email requests and they would be sent to the Teller, Gerald Kirchner, for compilation.
  - ii. Keith committed that the ballots to vote on Regional and National Officials would be out by Wednesday (01/20/21) or Thursday (01/21/21) of next week.
  - iii. Keith explained that the voting would be more complex for the Nationals this year because of the 1st half/2nd half/full week selections options.

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- iv. Bob Archambeau recommended that the Officials Ballot Format should reflect the 1<sup>st</sup> half/2nd half/full week selections.
- v. Discussion.
- Keith says that the SR is “under the microscope” from IWWF:
  - i. Increased tournament scrutiny for driving paths.
  - ii. Travers – Wednesday tournament – all scores removed.
  - iii. Boat path not followed.
  - iv. Several other errors – Dana Garcia: “snowballing” effect.
  - v. Lesson: “Follow the rules.” “Do it during the tournament.”
  - vi. Deferred discussion to Technical Committee – Jerry Jackson, Rodger Logan
- Discussion:
  - i. Jerry Jackson: LOC should have been notified within 7 days not after a month. EVP needs to take action sooner.
  - ii. Jeff Clark: “Solve it”
  - iii. Dana Garcia: IWWF perspective presented and timing of use of Sure-Path Boat Path Monitoring System.

11. 2021 Southern Regionals – update from Scott Snape. Vote for approval.

- Scott Snape reported:
  - i. The site is being prepared for 2021.
  - ii. They are massaging the schedule.
  - iii. Chief Judge selection is pending.
  - iv. Juniors will be over 3 days.
  - v. Request for \$2,000.00 from SR to be used for funding the tournament (i.e. trophies, t-shirts, banquet, etc.)
- Approve Regionals
  - i. Discussion:
    - 1. Jazmine Gagner wanted to know how long the days would be during the 5-day schedule. Scott reported that there would be 11+ hours of skiing 3 out of the 5 days, and, 7+ hours on the other days.
  - ii. Keith announced that West Palm Beach was interested and put in an application, but withdrew due to the uncertainty with COVID.
  - iii. Keith announced that Whitestone considered but no bid was received.
  - iv. Vote on Jeff Rodgers’ lake for Southern Regionals Championship, as the only site that submitted a bid.
    - 1. Motioned. Seconded. No opposed. Passed by acclamation.
  - v. Vote on Supplemental Grant of \$2000.00 to help fund the Southern Regionals.
    - 1. Motion accepted. Seconded by Bobby Hill. No opposed. Passed by acclamation.

12. Report of Federation Presidents: AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN

- Refer to detailed Submitted Reports.
- Motion to accept Federation Reports. No opposed. Passed by acclamation.

13. Committee Reports

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- Tellers – Gerald Kirschner. No report.
- Announcers – Hank Longo. No report.
- Awards – Michele Seal - No report.
  - i. Keith commented that Team Skiing would be in place at Nationals. We could also do it at Regionals if we chose to do so.
  - ii. Keith announced a need for a Regional Commissioner for Team Skiing and a SC Captain for Team Skiing.
- Boat Drivers – Eric Kelley reported:
  - i. Efforts have been revolving around Sure-Path.
  - ii. Drivers Policy Manual is being revised and updated.
  - iii. Driver’s tests are being adjusted for Sure-Path
  - iv. End Course Official should = coach for driver.
  - v. Discussion suggested there be a separate walkie talkie or channel for privacy in conversation regarding end course video monitoring and/or Sure-Path evaluation and that the boat judge be included in the conversations.
  - vi. A lot of support was expressed for Sure-Path Boat Path Monitoring System as a result of driving/drivers’ difficulties in the Southern Region.
- International Activities Lyman Hardy (reporting)/Stan Switzer:
  - i. Not enough officials apply.
  - ii. Not enough officials to pick from.
  - iii. Jim Jaquess referred to the “pecking order” = the qualifications leading up to officiating in an international event.
  - iv. Lyman indicated that there are not even enough officials at the very bottom to choose from.
- Bylaws – Jeff Clark – See detailed report.
- Judges & Scorers – Ray Crenshaw
  - i. Three Action Items:
    1. Eliminate “wait time” to upgrade from Senior to Pan Am (currently the “wait time” is 5 years.)
    2. Train and hold Scorers accountable to enter ALL officials in the tournament to facilitate Real Time (live) tracking of event data.
      - a. Dual drivers for an event – scorers will have to work that out by separating groups from a large division of participants (M1, M2). Necessary as the interaction and uploads between Sure-Path and scoring systems are instantaneous.
      - b. WSTIMS updates will be in place and instructions on how to login, separate officials, etc. will be sent out shortly.
    3. Consider criteria for “fast-tracking” only ONCE every 10 years.
  - ii. Mack Sparks eligibility - Ray Crenshaw and Kirby Whetsel
    1. Well-qualified for Emeritus status based on criteria.
    2. Nomination motioned. Seconded. No opposed. Passed by acclimation.

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- iii. Jazmine asked if there is any movement on lowering the age for Assistant and Regular ratings. Ray said it had been discussed but no change at this time.
- Junior Development – Allison Blair – not present from NC
  - i. Communicated she was excited about moving forward on this new assignment.
  - ii. Committee getting a late start because of COVID limitations in 2020.
  - iii. Tuesday, January 19, 2021 meeting to outline teams.
- Nominating Committee – EVP – Will be addressed later in the agenda.
- Rules – Bob Harris / Jazmine Gagner (see report)
  - i. Proposal 1 – clarifies which rule book prevails. OK, no problems.
  - ii. Proposal 2 – OK, no problems.
  - iii. Proposal 3 – cleanup language, simplifies. Housekeeping. OK, no problems.
  - iv. Proposal 4a – remove language and reference IWWF rules. OK, no problems.
  - v. Proposal 4b – remove Level 10. Jeff Surdej recommended but found that it was (1) too expensive and (2) did not accomplish the intended goal. SR unanimous to eliminate Level 10.
  - vi. Proposal 5 - Cleanup. OK, no problems.
  - vii. Proposal 6 - Cleanup. Housekeeping.
  - viii. Proposal 7 – Allow one minute to each “scratched” skier. Adopt IWWF rule. OK, no problems.
  - ix. Proposal 8 – Cleanup. Housekeeping. OK, no problems.
  - x. Proposal 9 – Meter Bords – Housekeeping. Moved to TC Manual. OK, no problems.
  - xi. Proposal 10 – score above zero for jump for tie-breaking. OK, no problems.
  - xii. Proposal 11 – Eliminate duplicate. OK, no problems.
  - xiii. Proposal 12 – OK, no problems.
  - xiv. Proposal 13 – OK, no problems.
  - xv. Proposal 14 – Clarify LOC vs CJ responsibility. OK, no problem.
  - xvi. Proposal 15 – OK, no problems.
  - xvii. Proposal 16 – no US Natl Record higher than World Record. OK, no problems.
  - xviii. Proposal 17 – refer to IWWF. Housekeeping. OK, no problem.
  - xix. Proposal 18 – remove duplicate diagrams. OK, no problems.
  - xx. Proposal 19 – weight systems for boats. OK, no problems.
  - xxi. Proposal 20 – “E” / “L” chart by age division. Discussion. Set at lower class unless requested by skier. With new IWWF license fee, are skiers even allowed to ski in “L” if license fee not paid? Yes, at this time, fees can be collected after the fact. Intent of license fee is to help fund extremely expensive international tournaments (i.e. World Championships) and assure safety and security. OK, no problems.
  - xxii. Proposal 21 – same as 20. Above. OK, no problems.
  - xxiii. TC Proposals – Take IWWF rules out and just reference. Too difficult to include every current IWWF rule as they are changing. Just reference in AWSA Rulebook. OK, no problems.
  - xxiv. Jazmine closing remarks: Review Action Items and let Jazmine know if and how you would like her to proceed.
- Pan Am – Dana Garcia (see detailed report)
  - i. Pan Am Championships – Chapala Mexico
  - ii. New Pan Am tests – ready to go.
  - iii. Pan Am Scorers test being prepared. Some Senior Scorers are grandfathered and have been notified by Dana.

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- iv. Tournament Council meetings with boat path reviews of 11.25m and shorter.
- v. End course requirement rules.
- Technical – Jerry Jackson (see detailed report)
  - i. Been working on:
    - 1. During 2020, AWSA Records and end course issues that Sure-Path could resolve.
    - 2. During 2021, addressing rules duplication between AWSA and IWWF. Take IWWF rules out of AWSA Rulebook and reference them only in AWSA Rulebook.
    - 3. Sure-Path – Discovery, Testing & Implementation
      - a. Must be paired with Live (Real Time) Scoring.
      - b. Will be no need to call in boat times for slalom or jump.
      - c. Tournament slalom scores will NOT be posted until end course video is uploaded or via Sure-Path data when submitting the scorebook. This is expected to be submitted immediately (within 7 days).
      - d. TECH Committee Recommendation to AWSA BOD: SR to require the use of Sure-Path or any approved Boat Path Monitoring System in conjunction with Real Time Scoring (WSTIMS,) for SLALOM only, for all Class “L” and “R” tournaments, to be monitored by Boat Drivers, Scorers, and Event Judges effective for calendar year 2021 Eric Kelley motioned for approval of recommendation. Seconded by Bob Archambeau. Vote: Approved. Motion passes.
    - 4. Technical Clinics – “How-To” Agenda:
      - a. Sure-Path → WSTIMS = “seamless”
      - b. Video Stopwatch (Chip Shand)
      - c. Video Tape Measure (Chip Shand)
    - 5. Chip Shand products: Rodger Logan highly endorses these free products from Chip. He has been beta testing, utilizing and perfecting the products since summer 2020 in coordination with Chip.
- Safety - Leon Larson / Bob Archambeau (see detailed report)
  - i. Handle guards recommended. Choice of manufacturer or style is at the option of the skier.
  - ii. Developing Safety VIDEO and Clinic for Trained Safety Officials rating.
- Seeding – Kirby Whetsel
  - i. On Committee with Natl Chair, David Allen
  - ii. No action items.
- Skiers Qualification Kirby Whetsel, Natl Committee Chair
  - i. No action items.
- Towboat / Speed Control -Greg Webb (see detailed report)
  - i. Proposal 1 – Towboat Use: Model and Year revisions. Approved. Passed by acclimation.
  - ii. Proposal 2 – Change Requirements for Retesting. Approved. Passed by acclimation.
  - iii. Proposal 3 – Reimburse Boat Owners for Cost Incurred
    - 1. Discussion: Object to language “requirement”, “mandatory”, “must” at \$25 per boat hour.
    - 2. Would like to retain the option to reimburse Boat Owner through other bartering options (i.e. hotel room, free skiing, place to stay on lake, pay fuel costs, food, etc.)
    - 3. \$25 per boat hour “must” reimbursement to Boat Owner was seen to be a huge disincentive for 3-event skiing by some.

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4. Moderate support for another “back door” option aside the \$25 per boat hour recommendation.
- iv. USA-WSWS Foundation – Jeff Clark (see detailed report)
    1. Funding the Elmer Stailings Scholarship. Two options are available.
      - a. One-year Contract (\$2000) with 20% funding fee (\$400) = \$2400.00. Not available for 2021 because not in bank by 12/31/20. If this option is chosen, because we have missed the 2021 funding deadline, there will be no (or little) scholarships for student athletes for the Southern Region for 2021.
      - b. Three-Year Contract (\$6000) with 10% funding (\$600) = (\$6,600) for a period of three years commencing 2021 through 2023.
      - c. Motion to approve \$6600 for three-year contract. Seconded. Approved.
- New Business
    - i. Request for Bids for 2022 Regionals
    - ii. Nomination of Officers (for Absentee Ballot). Note: Can still nominate from the floor at Southern Region Summer Council Meeting. Nominated as follows:
      - EVP – Bob Harris (Keith not planning to put his name in for another year)
      - Alt EVP – Kirby Whetsel
      - AWSA Director – Kirby Whetsel  
Jazmine Gagner
      - AWSA Alt Director – Leon Larson  
Jazmine Gagner
      - USA-WSWS Director – Bob Harris (should be the EVP and for a 2-yr term)Nominations closed. Motion to accept. Seconded.
    - iii. P & P’s (Policies and Procedures)
      1. Current P&Ps say: “The tournament shall be operated according to the following format: AWSA Southern Region Policies & Procedures Manual Rev 20 Approved January 27, 2020 5/26, Single lake - 7 days, Two or more lakes - 4 days, **Multiple Lake Site definition: single piece of land containing two or more sites for competition within reasonable walking distance of each other.** 1/91
      2. Recommendation: Basically, the P&Ps require contiguous lakes for the Regionals. A single lake site cannot use a backup site because it is not contiguous. Alter the P&P language to use another non-contiguous site (second lake as backup-i.e. for unexpected delays, weather).
      3. If language is altered, would need additional planning of staff, boats, etc.
- Approval of Financial Reports
    - i. Amend Financial Reports to accrue and expense \$7000 in additional costs for year ended 12/31/20 as follows:
      1. \$6,600 to fund the Elmer Stailings Scholarship for a period of three years commencing 2021 through 2023.
      2. \$400 to reimburse for a JD clinic held in 2020.
      3. Motioned. Seconded. Approved as amended.
- Adjourn – Adjourned around 4:00 pm (Eastern) 3:00 pm (Central) on January 16, 2021.