

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

MEMBERSHIP/COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

16 January 2010
Dallas, Texas

OPENING PROCEDURES: The meeting was called to order at the LaQuinta Inn near the DFW airport at 8:45 a.m. and roll call was by sign-in. Ron Ives was appointed as the parliamentarian.

The minutes from the summer meeting (Cedar Creek - Fayetteville, AR) were handed out and approved as written - motion by Janet Hooten, second by Julie Krueger.

COUNCILORS AND REPRESENTATION OF CLUBS: Elgin Faulkner distributed a current list and email corrections were made by the attendees. Updates from the summer meeting (July 2009) were minimal.

TREASURERS DATA: Kathy Ives, SCR Treasurer, reported that there was still \$910.00 in uncollected head taxes. There were additional expenses in Junior Development over the previous year as well as a grant to the LOC of the Regional Tournament for junior t-shirts. Expenses were \$15,800 versus income of \$13,000.

Motion to accept the report was made by Mike Perry with a second by Jeran Hooten; motion passed.

Bob Mayhew, EVP, noted that this is the second year of deficit spending; in 2008 we also had a \$2000 difference in income versus expenses. Obviously this cannot continue indefinitely, yet it is doubtful that as a non-profit organization we need a \$20K bank balance to survive as an organization. The switch from Guide Announcement fees to a Regional Sanction fee yielded an equivalent income for 2009. The sanction fee could be raised to \$60/sanction in the future (equal to the original Guide Announcement fee) to bring us another \$1000/year based on an average 90 sanctions per year. Beyond that a combination of sanction fees and head tax could equate income versus expenses.

REGIONALS 2010:

QUALIFICATIONS: The following change was added to the SCR Policies and Procedures (P&P) by an electronic vote of the Council in August of 2009 and was ratified by the Council at this meeting: Changes are in blue:

1.1.3 Entry Qualifications and Skier Seeding

All skiers will be allowed entry if they are qualified at Level 5 (ranking order level) or above on the National Ranking List. Those persons qualified in two events may also ski their third event.

Regionals are to be seeded by the Seeding Committee. (1/89)

Background information for the above:

1. Advancement to Regionals will be based on the Nationals Rankings List for the SCR as of the Cut-off Date (COD) on the Friday of the SCR Junior Development Tournament but not more than 21 days before the start of the current Regional Tournament. (In 2009, this will be Friday, July 10)

2. At the COD the Rankings List Average of the last ranked skier in each division in the S,T, and J events and Overall will be established as the Cut-off Average (COA).

3. After the COD, skiers may still gain entry to Regionals in any event or Overall through two (2) Last Chance Qualifying methods (LCQ's):

A. Any skier who records a score or achieves a rank EQUAL TO OR ABOVE THE COA at any State Championship, or at any class C and above tournament between the COD and the start of the Regional Tournament.

B. Any skier who places in the top three at any three-event SCR State Championship, top five in the SCR Junior Development tournament, or top five of the previous AWSA National or SCR Regional Tournament.(1/09)

4. For skiers without a current ranking order level; i.e. who have not posted any tournament scores in 12 or more months, the following protocol will be followed to determine a qualifying Regional Tournament ranking level. The Qualification Official (QO) will review the most recent archived National Ranking List for the immediate past ski year. If there is a ranking order level entry for the skier in that listing the QO will use that level minus 1 to determine a current ranking level. For example, a level 8 skier would now be qualified at level 7. If the QO must go back two years to find a ranking level then that level minus 2 will be used; if three years then minus 3 and so on. Seeding values for these individuals will be such that they are the first to ski in their age division/event at the Regional Tournament. If there is more than one of these individuals in a division/event they will be seeded alphabetically by last name; i.e. A-Z. (1/10)

It should be noted that the Qualifications Official (QO) does not receive room accommodations. For 2010 the EVP will serve as this official.

ENTRY FEES: At the suggestion of Roger Boskus, TD for the 08-09 Regional Tournament and with the concurrence of the 2010 LOC (Lakes of Cypress Hill), the entry fees were increased and modified to the following: (Again, from the P&P - changes in blue)

1. The SCR Regional Tournament will be an AWSA sanctioned "Record Capability Tournament". The class of each event whether "E", "L" or "R" will be determined by the Regional Council (1/04). The entry fee will be a maximum of \$110 - 1 event; \$120 - 2 and 3 events, and Family (3 or more) - \$350.00. (1/10).

The motion was by Julie Krueger with a second by T. Caldwell. Motion passed.

These new fees reflect the increased costs of hotel, fuel and food for the LOC. Re-grouping the categories also matches better with the online registration (OLR) that will be used almost exclusively at this year's Regional Tournament.

One other change was made to the list of officials receiving room accommodations to reflect what has already been occurring over the past several years. Again, changes in blue:

4. The hosting club will provide room accommodations during the tournament (the same number of nights as the tournament) for the following appointed tournament officials (updated 1/10):

CHIEF JUDGE	CHIEF DRIVER
ASST. CHIEF JUDGES	ALL APPOINTED DRIVERS
ALL APPOINTED JUDGES	CHIEF SCORER
<i>CHIEF TECHNICAL CONTROLLER</i>	ALL APPOINTED SCORERS
<i>ASST. CHIEF TECHNICAL CONTROLLER</i>	ASSIGNMENTS JUDGE
CHIEF SAFETY DIRECTOR	
ASST. CHIEF SAFETY DIRECTOR	

OTHER CHANGES TO THE P&P:

1. Travel fees - Directors. Here is the update to the P&P:

2.4 Directors and National Committee Members Expenses

National committee members required to travel to National Meetings more than 300 miles from their homes may receive a \$300 check to offset expenses with approval of the EVP. (1/08)

National Directors including the EVP shall receive a \$300 check for each Board Meeting attended in addition to the head tax disbursement. (1/08) *In addition, National Directors required to travel more than 550 miles from their home of record for the SCR Midwinter meeting shall receive a check for \$300 to offset expenses. (1/10)*

The motion for this travel expense modification was made by Janet Hooten with a second by Joe McCreary. Motion passed.

2. Head Tax/ Regional Sanction Fee. These are the changes made for these two areas:

1.2.2 Regional Sanction Approval *and Sanction Fee*

Tournament sanctions must be approved by the EVP, a task accomplished electronically in coordination with AWSA Headquarters.

The EVP may check listed officials at random to see if they have actually been contacted. Council authorizes the EVP to refuse sanctions to those who list officials without their consent. (1/88)

For a tournament to be announced in the Regional Guide, it must be AWSA sanctioned. (1/89)

Tournament sanctions are to be refused for the following year to any club that does not pay its head tax by the Winter Meeting. (1/90)

A Regional Sanction fee of \$50 will be assessed for each sanctioned event held within the SCR except for the Regional Tournament. Sanction fees must be submitted to the EVP and paid prior to approval. (1/10)

1.2.3 Head Tax

Regional Head Tax for all AWSA sanctioned tournaments other than "Grass Roots" is \$2.50 per skier recorded in the scorebook. Of this amount, \$1.00 per skier shall be divided among the National Directors, including the EVP, proportional to their attendance at the National AWSA Board Meeting. \$1.50 per skier of this tax shall support Regional expenses. Additionally, a head tax surcharge of \$4.00 per contestant is to be levied for the Regional Championship Tournament only. (total of \$6.50 per skier). The surcharge amount is to go to the Regions general expense account to fund various Regional programs as directed by the Council.(1/00)

If any tournament head tax is not paid before the AWSA Winter Regional Meeting, the fees will be doubled. (1/6/90). *Any SCR site selected by the AWSA Board of Directors or International Activities Committee to host a tournament or selected by the SCR to host the SCR Junior Development Tournament will be excused from paying the head tax for these tournaments ONLY. (1/10)*

The motion for the changes to the P&P regarding the head tax and regional sanctioning fee was made by Julie Krueger with a second by T. Caldwell. Motion passed.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: An email from Brandon Wolf - AWSA HQ - was made available to all attendees concerning the reasoning and advantages of using online registration. It is slowly gaining adherents across the country because of its simplicity in setting up the tournament. This end result helps to overcome the details of setting up the process initially.

NATIONAL ISSUES:

1. Sequence of IM/OM etc. at National Tournament. The Tournament Director of the 2010 National Tournament solicited input on the sequence of competition among the international and Open rated skiers during the preliminary rounds at this tournament. The Open rated skiers expressed that they strongly preferred to follow the international skiers a sequence that the SCR Council agreed to support.

Post-op: At the time these minutes were written financial support for the "pro" section of the Nationals had been withdrawn

2. Name change: The suggested name change for USA-WS was to USA-Water Ski and Wakeboard. A summary of the reasoning and the experiences of IWWF was presented to the Council and Members. The support of this change was definitely not there and the Council voted to have the National Directors vote against such a change. Motion by Gordon Hall, second by Joe McCreary; motion passed unanimously.

Post-op: The AWSA BOD voted down the name change as did the USA-WS BOD but the latter was only by a very narrow vote (one person changing their vote could have changed the name). Other variations in the name will probably be considered over the coming months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Rules:

1. Grass Roots for Class F, I: This change consolidates Classes F and I into the Grass Roots campaign leaving only Class N, C and E as other choices. This was promoted by the Staff at HQ.
2. Rule 2.05: This new rule was defeated at the AWSA BOD level.
3. Out of Region Skiers: This rule was modified to say that "over half of the OOR skier's tournaments would have to have been in the other region." It deleted the need to research practice time. This passed the AWSA BOD.
4. Youth lines for B2/G2: Decision postponed on this at the AWSA BOD level until more research done on breaking strengths by TC and Risk Management Committees.

5. **Elite Skiers (MM) ranking:** A level 9 ranking for Open and MM skiers (now grouped as Elite Skiers) was proposed and approved by the AWSA BOD. This new level of ranking replaces the last of the ratings qualifications. The cut-off for this ranking is set at 7% for the moment. For example, for Elite men slalom under 35 y/o it would be 7% of all levels of M1, 2 and current OM skiers

Judges and Scorers: At the national level little is being accomplished. The AWSA President is currently seeking a new Chairman for the committee.

1. **T. Caldwell report:** Progress was limited on developing a system of measuring official's skills in several areas and concomitantly developing some continuing education to offset any detected declines in ability.

2. **Floyd McCreight:** Floyd expressed a strong desire to develop a "reward" system in this area; indeed, a motivational system for officials as well a recruitment approach for new and younger officials. This is a challenging task and the Council and EVP applauded Floyd for his enthusiasm in this area.

Action Item: Floyd to report at summer meeting steps that have been taken and any progress to date.

Junior Development: Joe Darwin. The JD Tournament at Katy was a definite success with 75+ skiers competing. In fact, the number of skiers in attendance meant that jumpers were limited to one round in order to get the tournament completed in a timely fashion. This turn-out was most rewarding and the 2010 tournament is again scheduled for the Lakes of Katy.

Roger Boskus also managed the juniors very well at the Regional Tournament by continuing with the Friday emphasis on junior events. There were 80 juniors in attendance 10 more than in 08.

A raffle will begin again on May 1 of this year and funding will continue to be available for at least 10 scholarships to be awarded in the December of 2010.

Drivers and Towboats: Jerry Bautsch. The economic recession and increasing price of promotional boats have curtailed availability across the country possibly less so in the SCR. To meet this challenge the National Towboat policy has been changed to the following:

Record Tournaments (unchanged) – current year and one prior year. Class C and below (add one additional year) – current year and 3 prior years. The policy will be modified to reflect:

- AWSA Nationals, AWSA Regionals, and Record Capability (Class E,L,R) tournaments may use a current year (2010) or previous year (2009) AWSA Approved Towboat
- Class C or lower tournaments may use a 2010, 2009, 2008, or 2007 AWSA Approved Towboat (3 years prior)
- All eligible year Approved Towboats participating in AWSA sanctioned tournaments will receive credit toward Regional and National Tournament participation

Policy Exceptions for Approved Use:

- Exceptions for approved use of other boats not on the “approved list” may be made by the Chair(s) of the Towboat Committee.

- Older Boats – If there are not sufficient numbers of approved boats available in an area for use, the LOC may apply to their Regional Towboat Committee member (**Mike Hamilton in the SCR or Chair(s) of the AWSA Towboat Committee**) for approval to use an OLDER model year towboat. Consideration will be given to the condition of the boat, speed control system and version of speed control software in the boat.

For drivers no changes were proposed in the annual report to the region or AWSA BOD.

IAC: Jeffery Armstrong's letter - SCR IAC member - was reviewed. There was only one bid received from a site in Ohio to hold the 2010 Team Trials. The perception among the Council and members present is that the financial remuneration for the site is poor at best and may inhibit attractive bids.

Kerri Lee has been appointed as Chief Judge at more than one of the IAC tournaments for 2010. It is very nice to see SCR officials participating at this level in the sport.

Safety: Terry Dlugosh is the SCR representative to the AWSA Safety Committee and served as the Chief of Safety at the 2009 National Tournament in West Palm Beach, FL. Kelvin Kelm was also a safety official at the tournament.

Executive (AWSA): Bob Mayhew announced that Princeton Lakes had been chosen by the EC Committee as the proposed site for the 2010 Junior U.S. Open - **bid was later approved by the AWSA BOD**. This is the second year that this tournament will be held in the SCR.

The other major topics on the agenda of this committee involve funding National Teams for competitions around the globe. The well-managed finances of AWSA enables us to continue this funding in spite of the national economy.

Announcers Committee: Tyler Boyd is now the representative to this committee from the SCR. There is also a new manual for announcers recently completed by Hank Longo, Chairman of this committee.

AWSEF: Scholarship recipients from the SCR are as follows: Jamie Leanne Grant - Rogers, AR - \$3000 from the Barbara Bolding/Jim Grew scholarship, and Sam Greenwood - Little Rock, AR - \$500 from the Jimmie McCormick Memorial B2/G2 fund. Also, of considerable importance, was the **Award of Distinction to Jay Bennett**. This award will be made at the April Hall of Fame inductions in Florida.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominations/election of Officials - 2010:

1. Bob Mayhew, EVP, noted that the electronic ballot for officials this past fall went well using the auspices of the "Survey Monkey" program. Kudos to Ron and Kathy Ives for their management of this effort.
2. Some members of the Council expressed concern that the deadline (15 October of each year) for nominations was not well communicated. Bob Mayhew noted that it was announced on the website on the 1st of October plus an email was also sent to each Regular and Senior Official more than once during the month including an extension of the deadline until the end of the month. The 15 Oct deadline has also been in existence since 2002 according to a review of the SCR Policies & Procedures.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mary Gail Holcombe: email ballot on her emeritus status was ratified by a unanimous vote of the Council.
2. Members were reminded that tournament sanctions should be filed by 31 January; the Regional Sanction fee also needs to be paid prior to approval.
3. Bob Mayhew announced that for the 2010 Guide there should be more information on the Ranking System in the reference section.
4. Those wishing to employ the "turn and burn" protocol in their slalom tournaments need to file a rules exemption. There is no AWSA form for this. Check out Rule 1.10(a,b, and c) for details. These requests need to be to Scott Snape - Chairman of the Rules Committee - **6 weeks in advance of the tournament**. Basically the request is to be relieved of the stipulations of Rule 13.01(d) and should only be applied to rounds 2 and 3.
5. Bob Mayhew requested that the Council provide a grant to the SCR Treasurer of \$500/year in concert with the grants provided to the webmaster and Seeding Chairman. Joe Darwin made the motion, with a second by Floyd McCreight, and the motion passed unanimously.
6. SCR recommendations to the AWSA BOD were as follows:
 - a. The SCR Council is bemoaning the continuing and never-ending changing of the rules and would suggest that the Rules Committee meet only every other year. (For the AWSA Board.)
 - b. Council suggests that the new Executive Director for USA-WS have a vote on the USA-WS Board of Directors much like any CEO might have. (This suggestion needs to be forwarded to the USA-WS BOD.)
 - c. The Council would like to see the age for an Assistant Judge be dropped to age 14 AND secondly, that a competent and aspiring judge be awarded an Assistantship by a Senior Judge in that event at a tournament with confirmation following to Headquarters. (For the Judges and Scorers Committee.)

Action Item: Recommendation (c) needs to be communicated to the SCR Judges and Scorers Cmte rep and followed up by that committee for action or no action.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Bob Mayhew extended his thanks to Tacey Virgoe and Joe McCreary for their efforts in arranging the hotel and meal accommodations for the meeting this year in Dallas. Hopefully, we will return next year but the Council will vote its final approval on this location at the summer regional meeting as is required by the SCR P&P.

AJOURNMENT:

Circumstantial evidence suggests that Joe Darwin had the honors this year to be the primary on the motion; however, the person providing the second was not recorded. Regardless.....