

2009 Western Region General Membership Meeting Laku Landing, CO

Call meeting to order at 5:40 pm
Introductions of Council Persons

Regionals - Chief Judge Phil Yastrow
Thank you to everyone.

Recognition

John & Lucie Goodman for more than 60 years of skiing and tournament support. NW skiers awarded a plaque to them and a family ski trip
Wayne & Barbara Canfield

Election results – Dave Vogt

Area 1 Brad Corbin; Area 2 Greg Badal. New director is Connie Morris.
Thank you and we welcome volunteers for these positions.

Council Meeting Notes

- Boys 1/Girls 2 Nationals schedule has been reversed
- Adding tournament rounds: you must obtain EVP approval at least three days prior to the start of your event. Councilperson should be first contact.
- Winter BOD Meeting Two task forces assembled:
 - Separate pro and amateur skiers with rules. TC Boice is our rep. Not a lot has happened with the committee. Not able to determine a way to do so at this time.
 - Realignment of regions – Tad Scharpf. Also not much has occurred with this committee.
- Class C tournament scores are weighted the same as record tournament scores. Concern that course measurements are loose or borderline in tolerance. Recommendation to the Technical Committee to devise a means to make Chief Judges more accountable for course measurement.
- Ensure standards of officials at tournaments are rated officials. We've had a situation where a skier was denied a record because non-rated officials were in the towers.
- Regional Guide remains printed but is also available online.
- Recommendation to Safety committee from Mike Hayes that parents of junior skiers consider using a helmet because of slower speeds and larger wakes. Gath makes a helmet that appears to be a suitable product in protection from head injuries with the junior skiers.
- Junior Development
 - Regional committee established with members from several areas in the region.
 - Steve Garcia – we're trying to expand it, make it consistent and standardized. We have had good growth in the program, but there are more kids out there that we'd like to get involved.
 - Junior skiers from the west chosen by IAC – Junior Team: Makayla Haw, Storm Selsor, Steven Brooks, Erika Lang. Under 13 Taylor Garcia and Nick Lang. Congratulations!
- Zero Off speed control/Promo Boat – proposal to allow boats that are four years old to be used in C class tournaments. An alternative that we've elected to use is the availability of an exception via the towboat committee – Will Bush with two weeks prior notice. We are looking for the promotional support but sometimes usage of newer boats is not feasible.
- Budget – ahead of budget for the year

- A good portion of our income comes from sanction fees. Request that council people check with area tournaments to see what their 2010 tournament plans look like so we can look at budgeting process earlier.
- Discussion of need for timing graphs from GPS speed control slalom events. There are still boats out there that can be used with Perfect Pass Classic, need for report is important for those boats.
- Increase in travel stipend for officials representing the Western Region to \$500. Intent is to help offset travel expenses and encourage senior officials to participate in international events. Officials competing are not eligible.

Rich Slingerland Award

Explanation of award by Richelle and past recipients who are present.

Awarded to Laura Johnson

Discussion

- Boats with Towers
 - Greg Badal raised concern about MasterCrafts not being allowed at tournaments in the NW area that have towers on them. John Goodman addressed issue. NW Federation voted no to towers on any boat. Tower can be removed or it can sit on shore and receive credit. Skiers felt there was a disadvantage to having a tower.
 - John elaborated on problem – longer distance jumpers found that ropes were going up the tower and getting stuck. Mark Roske indicated that they have pulled over 70 jump rides at their site and have not had any issues. Feeling that we should not be throwing this in the face of manufacturers at this time when people are having a difficult time selling boats.
 - Eric Lee – not a good time to be banning towers. We should be encouraging them given the direction the sport is going.
 - Pat Rogers – if it is a safety issue, they should be address appropriately. He is asking the NW Federation to review their policy.
- Norm Wenzel stated that there is a difference between boats used at sea level and boats used here at 5,000 feet. He motioned that the Towboat Committee take this into consideration when testing boats and allow for the usage of a different prop that allows for higher rpm at higher elevation. Greg Badal seconded. All in favor. Motion will be brought to the BOD as a recommendation to the West.
- Janie Fausold motioned that western region should consider allowing people who have qualified to ski Open in one event to allow them to ski and be scored as a three event skier, even though they're not qualified in the other events so we can encourage three event skiing. In other words, let them be eligible for overall somehow. Jim Kinney seconded. Forest Fischer made a friendly amendment – if you are skiing in different age divisions or categories – whatever category you're skiing two events, that's the event you would be eligible for overall in. Adjustments would have to be made for slalom or jump where speeds or ramp heights are inequitable.

Motion to adjourn by Sally Mecham at 6:46 pm