

**AGENDA AWSA – MIDWEST REGION 2015 WINTER MEETING**  
**January 23, 2015 - Auburndale, FL 8:30am**

**1) Call to Order**

**2) Introductions**

- a) Peter Dahl – MN, Nat'l Director, TC committee
- b) Darr Leutz – IL, Nat'l Dir., co-chair Jr Development
- c) Dawn Leutz – Jr Development
- d) Jason Weber - NE
- e) Jim & Kay Babcock - WI
- f) Kate Knafla - EVP
- g) Delaina Downes – Secretary
- h) Dennis – KS, Nat'l Dir.
- i) Dave – USA Water Ski Dir.
- j) Don Bucher – IN
- k) Mike O'Conner – MO
- l) Jim McClure - OH

**3) Appointment of Parliamentarian**

- a) Darr

**4) Review Agenda**

- a) No changes

**5) Approval – Summer 2014 Board Meeting Minutes**

- a) Dennis/Darr approve & pass

**6) EVP Report**

- a) Exec committee meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in December. Topics;
- b) Money given to the elite team to go to the PanAm's. In return they are supposed to do clinics in each region. Will be looking for a site to host the clinic. AWSA gives Elite team money each year for Worlds or PanAm Games. In past it has been \$25,000 to \$30,000. This year it was approved that AWSA would cap the amount to 60% of AWSA's income in any given year.
- c) Krista has developed an app for USA-WS.
- d) EC has approved giving \$10K to USA-WS for specific projects (Club Skill Events, Grassroots Events and the Sanctioning Program improvements) By helping to fund these projects then money can be freed up to give USA-WS staff a 3% bonus. AWSA is a big portion of what USA-WS staff works on each year.
- e) D2 Nationals – idea behind is to get more people at Nationals. Charlotte at West Palm would like to see more people. Concerns are time frame, money, numbers, sand bagging, that changes could keep other people from coming and not raising the census, (Roy) should address more logically and find out why the people aren't coming, look at the number of pulls as well as people, are people having fun. On pg. 10 in Midwest packet has statistical history on Nationals Midwest Regionals is trending up on the number of rides. Rides per skiers has been going up while the numbers have been going down. (Dave) Trying to stimulate the wrong problem, sport is not growing to keep up with. Straw vote to see if D2 is a good idea – no votes. Ideas are reduce the qualification level, make it more elite so fewer days and less costly, figure out how to get people involved again. Need to figure out why the people who are qualified for National's aren't skiing. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

**7) Treasurer's Report – Tom Danford**

- a) Scholarship update – see report. \$1500 a year going to collegiate skiers – 1 male, 1 female, will be awarded at Regionals, application needs to be tweaked. Make scholarship available to sophomore and

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above. Award one to male and one to female each year at \$750 Scholarship. Don feels committee needs to be bigger. Plans are to award at Regional's this year. Midwest Regional (Collegiate) Scholarship Award

- (1) Motion to approve Scholarship to one male and one female at \$750 per scholarship, awarded at the Midwest Regional General Membership Meeting. Darr/Peter Passed

**8) Secretary Report – Delaina Downes – Nothing to report**

**9) State Council Reports**

- a) Illinois – Roy Surdej
  - i) Jr clinic day before state tournament has been very successful. Bringing back college alumni skiing. Regions are supposed to start their own college alumni tournaments – have 28 teams interested in participating already just from word of mouth.
- b) Indiana – Jim Beck/Don Bucher – See report. Elected 2 into IN Hall of Fame.
- c) Iowa – Kevin Klingbeil – See report.
- d) Kansas – Dennis Downes – See report.
- e) Michigan – Doug Rooker – See report.
- f) Minnesota/ND – Darren Janzig – See report. Jr clinic before state went well.
- g) Missouri – Mike O'Conner – new for 2015, interest in driver's clinic – people interested in Zero Off. Jr team has grown and is now divided into 2 teams, one modeled off the Jr elite team. Tried to get all pulls for the State Tournament in one day but struggling.
- h) Nebraska – Jason Weber – tournaments for 2015; usually do with the Nebraska State Games but since Nebraska is hosting a national event so could impact attendance/participation, 2 on Labor Day weekend and one at Jason, Piercy's host a disabled event. Will do a Jr development clinic this year. UNL skier has gotten real involved.
- i) Ohio – Jim McClure – Buckeye Buoy Tour still strong. Doing 1<sup>st</sup> stop of BBT for 2016 after Nationals. Trying to get everyone on same clinic schedule. Good comments on tents at Nationals.
- j) Wisconsin – Jim Babcock – Jr development. Safety/judges/drivers clinic. Think Tank moving back to southern WI, Mar 13-15.

**10) USA Water Ski Director's Report – Dave Clark – see report**

**11) Committee Reports**

- a) Judges and Scorers – Kelly Zoellner – See Report in National Packet
- b) Rules – Dean Chappell/Dave Clark – proposal #2 – seems there is no factual foundation for the proposal. Discussion – seems that we are dealing with a policing issue not a rule change. Proposal #13 – Darr: change the ability of the skier to request a 5.5 vs. a 5' ramp in the Boys 3 division – saw dangerous skiing at 2014 Nationals – this became a safety issue (skiing better with less ability) – increase distance skier must go before they can up the ramp height – cannot opt up to 5.5' unless they have hit 144' or more on a 5' ramp. Rules Recommendation from Jerry Jackson: do away with having to ski in the region in order to ski at Nationals. This isn't for this year, but for next year. Discussion on taking out a requirement to qualify for Nationals. Discussion. Majority opposes. Kate will speak with Richelle directly in regards to gate rule (this has been overlooked & should be looked at again)
- c) Skiers Qualification – Jeff Surdej
- d) Technical – Peter Dahl – Discussion on the ramp tolerances that should be less than 1", but ramps were being designed where the top of the ramp was being built up right to that 1" lip. This originated from IWWF.
- e) Tow Boat/Speed Control – George Lindy – See report

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- f) International Activities – Jeff Smith/Larry Downes – See report in National Packet
- g) Junior Development – Dawn Leutz – All Star team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at Nationals; Boys 2 jump 4 of 5 placements were Midwest skiers  
ski school will be returning to Pickos; will be going a week later (June 15-19<sup>th</sup>); \$200 deposit is now required to attend & will be refunded through raffle tickets – all tickets are required to be sold; fundraising was a huge success; each state could bring a basket full of things that are from their state; National junior development team was announced & quite a few Midwest skiers were included; alternate for boys 3: explanation by Darr & discussion followed. Call a question to how many are in favor of weighing regional score equally, 80/20, keep the same.... will do something different for 2016 either equally weighted or 80/20.  
Want to remind states that if they have a Jr clinic they can get \$100 per year from Midwest.  
Coordinate thru Dawn. MN donated \$300 to Jr development.
- h) Safety – Jim Babcock
- i) Awards – Christy Kingsmill – nothing new at this time
- j) Drivers – Troy Zoellner – exec session
- k) Seeding – Dave Clark – nothing new at this time
- l) Bylaws – Bill Murbach – Nothing new this year
- m) Nominating – Kate Knafla – Mike O’Conner for National Director, Jim Babcock – Alternate National Director, Kate Knafla - EVP
- n) Announcers – Cris Kodiak – Nothing to report
- o) Tellers – Cale Burdick – Nothing to report

**12) Other Reports**

- a) USA Water Ski Foundation – See report. USAWSF is looking at possibly selling the building and would come to Florida Sports Complex.
- b) 2015 Regional Tournament – Roy Surdej – Everything is going as scheduled, entry deadlines will remain the same. There will be a new code to override the late fee for those who qualify at State tourneys.
- c) Regional Guide – Jim Babcock – is almost ready to go to print
- d) Regional Records – Jerry Hosner – new records have been posted on website
- e) Regional Website – Michael Newth – keeping it update
- f) NCWSA – Christy Kingsmill – Great Plains is at Iowa State, Great Lakes is at Pleasant Shores Ohio, Collegiate Regionals is at PITS, Illinois, Collegiate Nationals is in Cypress, TX

**13) Old Business** – no additional old business

**14) New Business**

- a) Side conversation – do tents at Regionals similar to Nationals, Roy says it can be done if states are interested. Roy will check on pricing
- b) Don – like to see numbers of skiers by state at Regionals region

**15) Regional Recommendations to AWSA BOD**

- a) Survey to skiers who didn’t ski nationals

**16) Executive Session** –

- a) 2015 Regional/National Officials
  - i) Regionals
    - (1) Chief Judge – Dennis Downes - Motion Roy/Darr - Passed
      - (a) Appointed Judges / ACJ – Tom Danford, Janet Piercy, Buddy Piercy, Janice Prociw, Mark Boender, Larry Downes, Don Bucher – Motion Roy/Darr – Passed Dennis will assign the

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Appointed and Assistant Chief Judges

- (b) Assignments – Kate Knafla
- (c) Darr suggested having a white board for assignment of judges.
- (2) Chief Scorer – Delaina Downes – Motion Roy/Darr - Passed
  - (a) Assist - Emily VanTreese
- ii) Nationals – Janet – Appointed Judge, Buddy – Appointed Judge, Janice - Scoring, Don – Assigned Judge – These are the only people who have volunteered. Motion Darr / Jim – Passed.
  - (1) Discussion on reducing the number of days to limit the cost. Maybe people would participate and work. Also allow people to work ½ the week.
- b) 2015 Regional/National Drivers
  - i) Regional Drivers
    - (1) Discussion on how to use drivers that don't have the experience some do and what their qualifications should be or what can they do to get more experience.
    - (2) Motion Don / Mike, amended / Dennis - Passed
      - (a) Accept 9 drivers (Greg Chapman, Dean Chappell, Darren Janzig, Chris Kosek, George Lindy, Brian Porter, Roy Surdej) – Ballot vote
      - (b) Brent Overmire and Dave Krohne should be asked to assist at Regionals to test boats, pull practice which would give them the experience of driving at a Regional tournament  
Discussion – Roy
    - (3) Jim McClure / Chief & Troy Zoellner / Assistant – Motion Darr/Peter - Passed
  - ii) National Drivers – Roy Surdej is the Chief Judge
    - (1) Dean Chappell, George Lindy – Ballot Vote
- c) 2016 Regional Bids –Mystic Lakes, Maize KS
  - i) Motion Darr / Peter – Passed
    - (1) Discussion: 1. Sun issue – Mystic will test in August to see if we can get the timing down to have both lakes trick in the am so slalom can be in the middle of the day. 2. Rotate Regionals between Illinois, Center City, and Mystic unless another site bids.

**17) Adjourn** – Motion Darr / Dennis – Passed

**Addendum** - Revote of National Drivers took place by email on January 24, 2015. The information we received was incorrect and Dean was supposed to be considered if there was no one else for Nationals. The re-vote was between Jim McClure and Greg Chapman. Jim McClure was voted in as the 2<sup>nd</sup> National driver with George Lindy.