**Rules Committee Meeting Minutes**

 **11/4/17**

The AWSA Rules Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:05am on Nov 4, 2017. Meeting was held at the home of the Leutz family on Isles of Hancock.

Members in attendance were:

Richelle Muhlitner, Chair-West

Dave Vogt, West

Dean Chappell, Midwest

Jeff Surdej, Midwest

Gary Noll, East

Dave Allen, East

Bob Mayhew, South Central

Jazmine Gagnor, South

Sara Lemley, South

Lori Krueger, Athlete

Alex Lauratano, Athlete

Kathy Ives, South Central through go to meeting

Absent:

Corey Vaughn, Athlete

**PROPOSAL 1: 3.02A/10.06:** Realign age divisions/speed with IWWF, W4/5 M8 maybe a two year window? See end of document for another proposal and IWWF TC minutes for their age division changes.

Currently W5 skiers are not in +55 IWWF for two more years and their speeds do not decrease until age 55 IWWF. Should W4 be extended until 55 especially since skiers who do not want to ski 34mph can use the ZBS option.

Same idea for M8 skiers, should their max speeds match IWWF now as 32mph instead of dropping so quickly to 30mph. They also still have the option to stay at 30 using ZBS. Matches more closely to IWWF without using 10 year increments.

Also IWWF is looking at changing their jr divisions.

Rationale: A survey was sent out to AWSA members to discuss whether this is a good idea.

Survey: 60% are in favor of changing junior divisions, 42% adding U21 and changing M1/W1 to 21-27 and M2/W2 to 28-34, 45% Change W4 to 45-54, 48% Change M8 to 32mph, Almost 50% increase M7 jump speed, M4 Change 45-54 to align with jump speeds. Give M3 a 5.5 jump option.

Another survey question +35/+45 etc. This proposal did not pass BOD last year because there were no restrictions on changing divisions at each tournament or between rounds. How to handle age division records was not addressed at that time either.

***From SQC-Changing the divisions would mean significant work with ranking list levels, new NOPS factors, record benchmarks, etc.***

**RC Meeting – Broken up into several proposals**

**PROPOSAL 1a: 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. Jazmine Motion, Bob M second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 1b: 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. Dean motion, Bob M second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 1c: M7 –** Align M7 speeds (jump) with IWWF. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals).

Rationale: Aligns the jumps speeds for M7 to 51k (31.7mph) so that these jumpers are not disadvantaged. Dean motioned, Jazmine second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 1d: M8 -** Align M8 speeds (slalom/jump) with IWWF. (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals).

Rationale: Allows the M8 to ski at the faster speeds to also align. Dean motion, Jazmine second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 1e: 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).

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 in the Masters division. This also aligns with IWWF. Alex motion, Dave V second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 1f: Junior Divisions –** On hold until IWWF makes any changes.

Rationale: The committee recognized that there is strong support for these division changes. IWWF is in the process of adding divisions within their rules. We want to make sure that we align to get the speeds and age divisions correct. This would require extra programing once everything is finalized. We will continue to discuss with members of AWSA.

**No Action**

**PROPOSAL 2a: Goes along with 3.03 change?**

**~~3.01 Amateur and Professional Status~~**

~~There shall be no distinction between amateurs and professionals.~~

Rationale: Goes with the next proposal. This was voted down by the BOD last year.

**No Action**

**PROPOSAL 2b: Change 3.03 All changes as submitted see discussion at end of proposal.**

**Survey Results: Over 50% are OK with Level 10.**

**3.03 Elite Division Competition**

A. Elite Divisions. There shall be two Elite Divisions of competition:

1. The Open Division may be entered by any skier of any age who is Open Qualified.

2. The Masters Division may be entered by any skier age 35 or greater who is Masters Qualified.

3. Entry into either Elite Division may be Required or Optional depending on the Qualification Level as defined below.

B. Elite Qualification Levels and Durations. For each of the two Elite Divisions, there shall be two Qualification Levels.

1. Level 9 which is optional for Elite Division participation.

2. ~~Level 10 which is~~ ~~m~~Mandatory ***Entry*** for Elite Division ~~participation~~ ***as follows.***

***a. Open Division. Open Division participation is mandatory for any skier, age 18 or greater, who has placed in the top 5 placements at an elite level tournament, defined as a tournament where the total cash prize exceeds $10,000, in either the previous or current ski year. Mandatory entry is only for the event(s) that the participant placed in the top 5.***

***b. Masters Men slalom: For M3, M4 and M5, the top 3 placements from each Regional Championship and the top 5 placements from the National Championship, AND who have also achieved a performance of 1 at 10.25m / 55kph at any Class C or higher tournament, are required to ski in the MM division for the following ski year. In the following ski year, if the MM skier fails to place in the top 3 at Regionals or top 5 at Nationals OR fails to meet the performance requirement, he may choose to ski in his age division or MM for the next ski year.***

***Entry into Masters Men Trick, Jump and overall, and all Masters Women events are optional for all other level 9 qualifications.***

These Qualification Levels are further described in sections C-G that follow.

C. Open Qualification:

1. A skier of any age shall be ELIGIBLE to compete in the Open Division in an event (or in Overall) if his ranking score in any reported division for that

event equals or exceeds the Level 9 Cutoff ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year.

2. ~~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 on any date, up to the National tournament Cutoff dates, within the current ski year. This rating score for each event will be established annually by the Skiers Qualification Committee provided there were at least five skiers in that event who met that qualification in the most recently completed preceding ski year; otherwise entry into the Open Division will remain OPTIONAL.~~

a. Junior Skiers (Boys 1-3 or Girls 1-3) are exempt from th***e***~~is~~ mandatory requirement to compete in the Open Division.

b. Skiers, age 35 or greater, who have an Open Level ***~~10~~***9 ranking in an event (or in Overall) may elect to compete in that event in the Masters Division rather than in the Open Division.

c. Open, ***~~Level 10~~*** and Masters ranked skiers ***meeting the mandatory criterial above*** may ski in their respective age division for score only and no placement. Their scores will be posted in the Open ***or Masters*** Division and will not be included in the age division ranking list for that event(s). This option would not apply at Regionals or Nationals.

D. Masters Qualification:

1. A skier age 35 or greater shall be ELIGIBLE to compete in the Masters Division in an event (or in Overall) if his ranking score in any reported division for that event equals or exceeds the Level 9 Cutoff ranking score for that event on any date within the current ski year.

~~2.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 score on any date, up to the National tournament Cutoff dates, within the current ski year. This rating score for each event will be established by the Skiers Qualification Committee provided there were at least five skiers in that event who met that qualification in the most recently completed preceding ski year; otherwise entry into the Masters Division will remain OPTIONAL.~~

E. Duration.

1. A skier will maintain their Level 9 ~~or 10~~ Open or Masters qualification status through the National Tournament at the end of the ski year in which they attained that Elite status.

2. A skier with a ~~level 10~~ ***mandatory*** Open or Masters qualification (as defined in 3.03(***b~~c~~***)2 ~~or 3.03(d)2~~ above) in an event (or in Overall), who is therefore REQUIRED to compete in the Open or Masters Division, will therefore NOT be eligible to compete in their age division in either Regionals or Nationals. Consequently, such skiers shall no longer count towards the Qualification Levels and Cutoffs for their age division in that event.

F. Elite Overall Provisions:

1. GENERAL: A skier having an OVERALL Elite qualification may compete in the Elite Division in any of the three events, even if an Elite qualification is not held for the individual event.

2. LEVEL 9: Skiers, who have a Level 9 ranking in Overall and wish to compete in Overall, may choose to ski in their age division events.

3. ~~LEVEL 10~~ ***Open / Masters***: Skiers ***meeting the mandatory criteria of 303.B.2.a and b***.~~having an elite level 10 ranking~~ in Overall, and wishing to compete for Overall, may only do so in the Elite Division and shall be required to ski all three events in that Elite Division.

4. TOURNAMENTS WITH PLACEMENT: Skiers with a level 9 **~~or 10~~**qualification in one or two events and skiing in a tournament with placement, such as Regional or National tournaments, may ski in the Elite division for placement and must also ski a second time in their age division event, for Overall score purposes only, if desiring to compete for Overall placement.

5. TOURNAMENTS WITHOUT PLACEMENT : At all other tournaments, skiers with a level 9 **~~or 10~~**event qualification may use their Elite score to obtain an Overall age division score provided the score does not exceed the division’s parameters (speed or ramp height).

G. Determination of Elite Cutoff Scores.

1. WHEN: The Open and Masters Cutoff ranking scores shall be determined each day, from the distributions of ranking scores in each event on that day.

2. OPEN CUTOFFS: The Open Cutoff (Level 9) ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9 as determined by the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M1, M2, and OM divisions for men and the W1, W2, and OW divisions for women. ~~The Level 10 rating score for each event shall be set annually by the Skiers Qualification Committee.~~

3. MASTERS CUTOFFS: The Masters Cutoff (Level 9) ranking score for each event shall be the lowest ranking score in Level 9 of the collection of skiers in that event with ranking scores in the M3, M4 and MM divisions for men, and the W3, W4 and MW divisions for women. ~~The Level 10 rating score for each event shall be set annually by the Skiers Qualification Committee.~~

4. GOVERANCE: The percentile targets for Levels 9 shall be set by the Skiers Qualification Committee in accordance with directives approved by the AWSA board.

5. DUAL RANKINGS: If a particular skier has rankings in more than one of the divisions in either of these collections for an event, that skier shall only be counted once for that collection, with the higher of those scores.

6. JUMP VARIATIONS: Where jumping speeds and/or ramp heights differ between the divisions which contribute to one of these collections, suitable adjustments (as defined by the Skiers Qualification Committee) shall be made to those scores to put them on a common basis for the applicable Elite Division.

**Rationale:** Lori / Kathy,

I sent this out in draft form a few weeks and I request that you present it to the rules committee on 4 Nov as an alternative implementation of the Level 10 .

I suggest a mandatory entry for Open Division based on placement at “Elite” level tournaments. As a starting point, the top 5 placements at any tournament with a total cash prize exceeding $10,000. Other placements/criteria could be considered, but I think the simpler, the better. This will ensure that the true “Elite” level skiers cannot ski their age division, but still allows the person who works a full time job, but just happens to be a really good skier can compete in his/her age division if they desire. The level 9 optional entry would remain the same. IMO, juniors should be exempt from mandatory entry into Open even if they are world record holders.

For the old folks in Master divisions. I believe 99% of this is driven by Masters Men Slalom, with the other events and the Women getting dragged along with the tide. While I personally think entry into MM should be optional, if there truly is an organizational desire to force some into MM, then placement at major tournaments, along with a very high performance standard, is a much better way. My suggestion is that for M3, M4, and M5, the top 3 from each Regionals and the top 5 from Nationals, who have also skied at least 1@41, have to step up to MM for the following ski year.

Skiers who meet the mandatory requirements would not be counted in the age division ranking list.

The attached Word document has my suggested red line changes to rule 3.03. Rule 3.01 should be deleted since it really has no affect and my recommendation for mandatory entry into Open is partially based on prize money.

I have 2 questions for both of you:

1.  Will the other Regional rules committee members be advised of this before hand or will they see it for the first time at the rules committee meeting on the 4th?

2.  If they will see it before hand, do you think it would be beneficial, or counterproductive, if this was made public to a larger community (BOS) so affected members could advise their opinion to their respective rules committee members before hand.  I see this as a very mixed bag and will follow your recommendation.

**RC Meeting –** This rewrite was very well written with a lot of good ideas but do not think a change is as necessary as a reevaluation of the ranking required to enter the Elite division. Jeff motion, Bob M second, RC recommends that the Skiers Qualifications Committee investigate the Level 10 ratings. The RC currently feels the Level 10 ratings in all three events are too low in order to mandate skiing in an Elite division.

**\*PROPOSAL: Possible clarification.**

***3.03B2b. Skiers, age 35 or greater, who have an Open Level 10 ~~ranking~~ rating in an event (or in Overall) may elect to compete in that event in the Masters Division rather than in the Open Division, but shall not be required to ski either of these elite divisions if the five skier requirement (see section 3.03(d)2 below) has not been met for that Masters event.***

Rationale: Should a skier like Freddy or Scot Ellis who has skied Open be allowed to ski M3 jump since there aren’t 5 in MMJ?

**RC Meeting –** No action, felt that there would not be enough skiers to justify making more changes to this rule.

**PROPOSAL 3: 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.

**RC Meeting –** Jeff Motion, Dean second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 4**: **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.~~  The rankings average of the last ranked skier in level 8 at that time will be considered the Level 8 Cut Off Average for that event and division (See Ranking List Section of Website for specific details).  A skier may also qualify for Nationals after the Cut Off Date by increasing his Ranking List Average above the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division between the Cut Off Date and Nationals; or by attaining a score equal to or greater than the Level 8 Cut Off Average for his respective event and division at the Regional Tournament or at any class C or above event between the Cut Off Date and the first day of Nationals.

Rationale:We need to change this wording to reflect the decision of the BOD for qualification into the National Tournament. Clean Up item.

**RC Meeting –** Bob M motion, Jazmine second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 5: 4.02** **ADD/Change**

4.02 …….A skier who enters the ***Elite*** ~~Open~~ division at the Nationals in any event is not required to ski in his Regional Tournament.

Rationale: Some feel that this applies to Masters division also? The committee felt that since we are mandating where some of these skiers need to ski that we should offer them the option to elect to ski only Nationals. This could attract more skiers to Nationals and possibly more to Regionals if they were going to skip one due to work or cost of two tournaments close together.

**RC Meeting –** Bob M motion, Dave A second, 9-3 **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 6: 4.02C2**

Where the new Slalom division has a maximum speedslower 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 the current rule about reducing slalom scores by 6 buoys when a skier moves into a division with a lower max speed. We are not following this now on the ranking list. While skiers are allowed to ski faster than Max speeds in a Class C tournament, the committee felt that letting graduating skiers scores from the Class E, L or R tournaments should not be transferred at the total buoy count. The skier will still have the option to ski above max speed if they choose to in their new division.

**Survey results: Split results, reading responses.**

**RC Meeting –** Bob M Motion, Gary second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 7: 6.03E** Recommendation from J&S to let officials who need to upgrade to Senior co-chief at record tournaments to fulfill the requirement in areas where there are not enough Class C tournaments????

At Class C tournaments or Class C portions of mixed-class tournaments:

* 1. The chief officials shall preferably be separate officials.
	2. An official (Chief Judge, Driver and Scorer) may co-chief (both officials simultaneously on site)with an official who is currently rated for those events to satisfy the requirements for advancement to senior.

Rationale: Some regions have more RC tournaments and to fulfil the requirement to upgrade to a senior states the official needs to be a chief of a tournament. We cannot use a less qualified official for an IWWF tournament and recommended that the J & S review and if they are an ACJ that is their domain. Do we need a rule here?

**RC Meeting** – **No Action:** This should be handled by the Judges and Scorers Committee.

**PROPOSAL 8: 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 Judges chart.

**PROPOSAL 9: 9.16F delete:**

1. 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’s the skier’s responsibility that the handle is in tolerance after skiing.***

Should we follow IWWF or just delete it? IWWF says, **It’s the skier’s responsibility that the handle is in tolerance after skiing.**

**RC Meeting –** Jazmine motion, Gary second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 10a:** Corrected after omission when ZBS maximum speeds changed.

10.06 Boat Speeds and Line Lengths (\*\*\*May be used for all Classes but certain scoring options do not 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:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Male** **Divisions**  | **Maximum** **Speed**  | **Female** **Divisions**  | **Maximum** **Speed**  |
| Boys 1  | 49/(30.4)  | Girls 1  | 49/(30.4)  |
| Boys 2  | 55/(34.2)  | Girls 2  | 52/(32.3)  |
| Boys 3  | 58/(36.0)  | Girls 3  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Men 1  | 58/(36.0)  | Women 1  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Men 2  | 58/(36.0)  | Women 2  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Men 3  | 55/(34.2)  | Women 3  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Men 4  | 55/(34.2)  | Women 4  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Men 5  | 55/(34.2)  | Women 5  | 52/(32.3)  |
| Men 6  | 55/(34.2)  | Women 6  | 52/(32.3)  |
| Men 7  | 52/(32.3)  | Women 7  | 49/(30.4)  |
| Men 8  | 49/(30.4)  | Women 8  | 49/(30.4)  |
| Men 9  | 49/(30.4)  | Women 9  | 46/(28.6)  |
| Men 10  | 49/(30.4)  | Women 10  | 46/(28.6)  |
| Men 11  | 46/(28.6)  | Women 11  | 46/(28.6)  |
| Open Men  | 58/(36.0)  | Open Women  | 55/(34.2)  |
| Masters Men | 55/(34.2) | Masters Women | 55/(34.2) |

 ***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.

**RC Meeting –** Jazmine motion, Alex second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 10b:**

***2. In Class C tournaments, the ~~LOC~~ skier 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 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.

Survey results: Split results about going faster than max speed.

**RC Meeting –** Jazmine second, Alex second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 11:**

**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**

* 1. Event Judges:
1. Each event judge shall independently determine the credit to be received by the skier in accordance with Rule 10.12, and shall communicate his results to the scorers immediately after each pass.
2. In all Classes of tournaments the event judge must continue scoring a run even though he feels the skier missed a gate.
3. Onlyone event judge shall ride in the towboat, hereafter referred to as the boat judge.
4. 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.
5. ~~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.~~
6. 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 12:** **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. 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 additionaloption ***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 immediately 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 re-review 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.**

**RC Meeting –** Jeff motion, Bob second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 13: 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.

**RC Meeting –** Jazmine motion, Bob second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 14: 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.

**RC Meeting –** Bob motion, Jazmine second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 15:**

**11.03 Trick Pass**

Positioning tricks at the start of a pass must be done before the entrance buoy,unless the skier declares a positional trick to the boat driver/judge prior to his run. Any trick completed before the entry buoy will be treated as a positional, out of course trick. Any trick completed after the entry buoy will be treated as an in course trick, unless the skier declares a positional trick to the boat driver/judge in advance. ***When using hand timing in Class C tournament and start cannot be reviewed, the first trick when started before and ended after the entry buoy will be no credit.***

**OR,** To make it simple, why not state ***for Class C, live (no video) manual timing, the timing of the pass begins on the first trick (see 11.03A123) after the entry buoy***.

Rationale:

The average shore timer cannot determine if a trick starts before and end on either side of a buoy moving 18mph.

This does conflict with video, but lets make it easy for C.

How do we handle this in a Class C with hand timing? Two different options?

Since rule 11.03 states that a trick COMPLETED after the entry buoy counts as an in-course trick, timing would need to start at the beginning of that trick, which could occur before the entry buoy.  For live (non-video) trick timing, the timer cannot look into the future to determine precisely when an initiated trick will be completed.  For live timing then, should the time start at the beginning of a trick initiated prior to the entry buoy that, in the opinion of the timing judge, might not be completed until after the entry buoy?

**RC Meeting – No action felt this was getting too complicated and was not a necessary addition to the rules.**

**PROPOSAL 16**: 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: If the skier falls during or at the end of the first pass he will receive a maximum of **45** seconds **(ready to go)** in which to be ready to be taken by the boat for his second pass. If the skier did not fall during or at the end of the first pass he may ask the boat to be stopped between passes for a maximum of 45 seconds **(set down time)**.

**RC Meeting –** Jeff motion, Dean second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 17:** **11.12A** Why do we have the first sentence? IWWF is removing, should we also?

1. ~~Except in the case of an attempted side slide (see Rule 11.12.J)~~ ***A***~~a~~ 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.

**RC Meeting –** Jazmine motion, Bob second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 18: 11.12E 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 wake tricks criteria are met.**

Should our wording match IWWF? See below.

1. Stepover 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 scores zero.
2. 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.

IWWF: Toe step tricks rope in water? 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.

IWWF: Execution of entire trick vs turn wording? Toehold stepover tricks must be a simultaneous action. The towing foot may not touch the water during the execution of the trick **turn**, except that at the end of the trick after the stepover and turn are complete either the towing foot or the ski may touchdown first.

Stepover line tricks *(****surface and wake****)* are complete only when the free foot touches ski or water or the lifted ski touches water after the turn before the next trick or the end of the pass.

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.

**RC Committee –** Jeff motion, Jazmine second, **Approved**

**PROPOSAL 19a: 11.12D? Change:**

***New trick number 5a – O, 7F***

***New trick number 5b - BB, 5B, 5F, 7B***

Rationale: I would like to separate #5 (O, BB, 5B, 5F, 7B, 7F) because they are all different tricks that require different movements and control to achieve them. It would also be encouraging for some beginner trickers along with those that may not be able to do toe tricks.

**RC Meeting –** Jeff motion, Jazmine second, **Disapproved. Recommend bringing this to IWWF first. AWSA has tried having different tricks but it becomes too confusing for skiers and officials.**

**PROPOSAL 19b: 11.12F4 Delete**

***~~4. For trick number 5, reverse tricks are limited to 360 degrees but may follow a 360-degree, 540-degree, or 720-degree turn~~***.

I am curious as to why it was grouped in the first place? And if you do a 720, why can you only do a 360 as a reverse?

1. Credit may be received for performance of only one trick and the associated reverse, if any, on one ski, and one trick and the associated reverse, if any, on two skis under each number listed. If a trick skier performs two tricks under the same number, the higher scoring trick should be credited regardless of which is performed first. Tricks may be repeated, but a repeated trick scores zero unless the judges ruled that the first attempt or attempts were unsuccessful.

**RC Meeting –** Jeff motion, Jazmine second, **Disapproved. Recommend bringing this to IWWF first. See above**

**PROPOSAL 20: 11.12J Add:**

A***ll*** Side Slide***s (hand held and toe)*** include~~s~~ 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 ADD: Add new trick T7BB and RT5F have video from Eric Lee**

**RC Meeting – No action. Recommend bringing this to IWWF first.**

**\*PROPOSAL ADD:**

**AWSA Rules Amendment Request Form**

*In order to request that the rules be amended you must be a U.S. Citizen and a current member of USA Water Ski with AWSA listed as*

*your primary sports division. This form must be submitted in electronic format to the Chairman of the Rules Committee by August 31st*

*to be considered for the upcoming year.*

Member Name: \_Eric Lee\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

USAWS Member Number\_\_\_200008363\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age Division\_M6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(ex. B1)

U.S. Citizen?\_Y\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

AWSA primary sports division? \_Y\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no

Rule number to change?\_\_\_\_11.12 \_\_\_\_\_ (ex. 1.08)

Suggested wording:

11.12 B) 1) A clearly recognizable trick shall be credited. Deductions for obvious form breaks shall be limited to 10% per each form break.

11.12 E) replace “zero” with “a deduction”

11.12 H) “zero” with “a deduction”

11.12 I) replace “no credit” with “a deduction”

Reason: Regular trick judges are taught to recognize tricks. Regular judges make up the bulk of the judging at most tournaments so most scores are based on the recognition of tricks – not close scrutiny of credit/no credit. Thus it is reasonable to give a score based on identification of the trick. A 10% cut for a form break is quite reasonable and will improve consistency of scores. Some tricks may have more than one form break ( example: tip drag and short landing) so multiple 10% deductions may be appropriate.

Background: Trick judging is quite subjective. Unfortunately the subjectivity manifests in an all or nothing score. No other performance based sport gives all or nothing based on subjective assessment of form breaks. A deduction system is reasonable, workable and will enhance the consistency of judging and scoring. A sloppy SLO has much more spectator appeal than a perfectly executed surface O. Let’s remove the random inconsistency for the skiers, make the scoring match what the spectators see, encourage fun exciting tricks and make the skier’s display the focus of tricks – not the judge’s philosophy. Partial credit for tricks will solve the trick judging problem and encourage more skiers to try fun exciting tricks.

**Rationale:** This was brought up the last two years and Rules Committee has not taken any action on this concept.

**RC Meeting – No action. This is a total change in judging and scoring and AWSA would need to be the same as IWWF.**

**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. Orignally 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.**

**PROPOSAL 22: Or recommendation.**

Recommendation that boats do not speed back to dock with trick handles

**RC Meeting – No action. Not a rule**

**PROPOSAL 23: ADD IWWF wording to 11.20**

The Tricks event shall be recorded at all ClassE, 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 record review process, only video from the official camera(s) can be used. The official camera may be any video from the same view (example from 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**

**RC Meeting – Approved. This is TC Committee recommendation, rules committee just changed a few of the words.**

**PROPOSAL 24: 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.~~

**RC Meeting – Approved. All handles will now be measured immediately.**

**PROPOSAL 25: Possible change, IWWF has opened up dual duties, do we want to change ours?**

**15.05 Qualifications of Officials**

1. At Class ~~E~~ ***RC*** tournaments, the Chief Judge shall be a Senior Judge, andmay serve as an event judge*.* The other Appointed Judges shall be either Senior or Regular Judges. The Chief Boat Driver shall be a Senior Driver. The Chief Scorer shall be a Senior Scorer. All chief officials (Chief Judge, Chief Driver, Chief Scorer, Chief Technical Controller and Chief Safety Director) shall be separate individuals.

IWWF has duplications of duties:

|  |
| --- |
| **Any combination of two of the following positions may be held without conflict: Chief Judge/Driver/Scorer/Homologator/Judge** Yet they still have this wording: The Chief Judge shall supervise all judging and scoring operations and shall select the Judges and the assistants for each event. (For the choice of the Jury for each event, refer to articles 13.09, 14.11, 15.11). The Chief Judge, who must not serve as an Event Judge, shall assign to his assistant those duties he deems appropriate.Rationale: Certain Federations are unable to run tournaments unless they can have multiple duties. Do we think that we want to allow less restrictions? |

**RC Meeting –** No action. Based on the current wording, there appears to be no changes to the AWSA rules. Also, this needs input from Judges and Scorers Committee.

**PROPOSAL 26:** Add/Change/Clarification/Exception?:

For a State Tournament can two different sites put together events to make an overall score (maybe one site doesn’t have a jump?)

Rationale: Should this be in the rulebook, appendix (interpretations) or left up to EVPs? How would IWWF feel about their site IDs?

**RC Meeting –** No action. Recommend that the EVP handle these exceptions.

**PROPOSAL 27:** If there is a weather delay and all four rounds run on one day, is that OK?

Weather problems affecting 4 round tournaments?

**RC Meeting –** No action.

**PROPOSAL 28:**

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)~~

**RC Meeting – Approved. This is still in rule 9.03 just not a disqualification.**

**PROPOSAL 29: Clarification**

Should we have something in Clarification about the direction of tricks?

WB (to right)

WF

RWB nc (to left)

RWF nc

……

WB nc (to left)

WF nc

RWB (to right) because the basic is nc this becomes WB repeat

RWF because the basic is nc this becomes WF repeat

Rationale: Direction of turns needs to be remembered when applying reverse tricks. The example has a few tricks between the sequences and the direction of the first RWB/RWF are the same as the second WB/WF. This could result in skiers getting more points on tricks that they are unable to do in certain directions so they are switched.

**RC Meeting –** No action from Rules Committee. Recommend this to be sent to the Judges and Scorers Committee to be addressed in Judges and Scorers training material.

**PROPOSAL 30: Change wording in appendix for length of handle sections to a Pre and Post measurement taking out the minimum tolerances.**

**Note: Slalom/Jump Event**Handle sections: The maximum length shall be 150 cm (4’-11”) prior to skiing with 44 lb load.  The Post Tolerance after skiing is 152.5 cm (5’-0”) with 44 lb load.

Tournament supplied handles, the minimum length is 147.5 cm (4'-10"), the triangular portion of the bridle shall be 28 cm ± 4 cm (11 1/2" ± 1 1/2" ), and the length of the handle 30cm ± 6 cm (11-13/16" ± 2-3/8") (see diagram).

Skier-supplied handles, no minimum tolerance on length and on tolerance on the triangular portion of the bridle.  It is the skier’s responsibility to ensure that the handle is within tolerance prior to skiing and to ensure that the handle will be within tolerance after skiing (Post tolerance).

All measurements shall be from inside of handle to inside of loop.

Change diagram too.

Rationale: IWWF proposed wording- Personal handles shall be measured by the dock starter under the responsibility of the Homologator, immediately **after** ~~before~~ the skier skis. ~~Once the handle is measured it will remain in the custody of the tournament officials until it is used.~~ ~~The Chief Judge may require skier ropes and handles to be re-measured immediately after use.~~ Should the handle be out of tolerance following a skier return to the dock, **the skier’s performance in that round is deleted.** ~~then it shall be retained by the tournament officials and retested after at least a one hour relaxation period. If the rope remains out of tolerance after the one hour period, the skier’s performance in that round is disqualified.~~ ***Don’t think we should use the word delete since we want documentation that a skier took to the water for insurance reasons?***

**RC Meeting – Approved. This matches AWSA’s rules and intent and TC Committee has approved.**

**Recommendations to Rules**

1)Mini course, Survey Results: Mini course OK but not scoring in Class C tournaments. Two different documents submitted as examples for scoring/rules.

**10.12. Mini Course, OR 13.04??**

E. At the option of the LOC in class C and below, skiers may choose to ski mini course buoys

1. Mini course buoys are to be set at 7.5 meters +/- 1.1 meters. (8.5m is ideal)

2. Each mini course buoy is worth 1/2 a buoy. To get credit for 1/2 the skier must round the mini course buoy and then cross the boat guide line closest to the buoy.

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 (both mini and 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.

6. Boat speed timing will be entered using the final score of that pass, i.e. a full mini course pass of 3 buoys will use the 3 ball time.

7. In class F events, the LOC may use a alternate mini course by driving the boat between the boat guides and skier balls but scores will not be entered into scoring for rankings.

8. In class F events, the LOC may give skiers a minimum of 4 passes and/or 2 falls in which case the highest scoring pass will be entered into scoring and used for rankings.



Rationale: There was strong support from our survey to include a mini course. The proposed one 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. The committee did not want to limit the LOC’s from using other options for fun tournaments. There was enough discussion that if placed on the Class C ranking list that there needed to be some structure.

**RC Meeting –** Jeff motion, Dean second, **Approved mini course 1 with RC mods (Jeff’s version). Other options will be placed on the USA Waterski web site under Rules.**

2) Play hard ball with IWWF to unify the rules and eliminate as much of the tech (cameras, recording devices etc) as possible. If they cant adapt then AWSA should break away. **No Action. Our bylaws state that we are to work together with IWWF.**

3) The Jump meter is really are archive, and we should just make a section and put all this information in its on section on the Web. TC Resource would be a good place. Thought: Make a rule book for Administration, Class C tourn. All Record tourn will be per IWWF. Take all the site setup/course/tolerance out. Make a different Book for Site Setup/Course (course, tower location, buoy size, rope tolerance, jump ramp tolerances) This shouldn't change, unless IWWF changes. Does the skiers really need to know this information? Yes the judges should know it. All tolerance should be same for Class C as R for setup. This would be the TC Section/Rule Book. **No Action. TC Committee Chair needs to keep this section in our rulebook for now.**

4) Fun format document instead of putting mini course rules in the rule book. **We will be putting more examples of Mini course examples on our web site. Also a proposal to incorporate Mini Course into Class C rules/rankings.**

5) Add back the old “Novice” categories in some of the age divisions (like B3/G3, M/W 1 & 2, then Sr. Men/Women for the rest. **No Action**

6) Include Boys and Girls divisions in the level 10 requirements to get some true professionals out of amateur divisions. **No Action**

7) We need to reword COD with L10 ***(See Proposal #4)***

8) Proposal regarding two year increments for kids divisions.

**No Action, See discussion from Proposal #1.**

No other proposals were brought up during the meeting.

Next year’s date will be discussed later. Having the meeting during KOD turned out quite fun. Will see if this is an option again next year.

Meeting adjourned at 4:06pm. Thank you very much to Dean and Becky for organizing the hospitality.

Special thanks to Sara for taking minutes.

Thanks to the Garcia family for putting on a great event for all of us to enjoy after our meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Richelle