

2020 USA Water Ski and Wake Sports: American Water Ski Association - Eastern Region Summer Meeting Minutes (July 28, 2020)

In attendance were the following:

Jim Powell, EVP presenting

TG Powell, Acting Secretary

Al Harris, Amy Craig, Becky Bartlett, Bill Cooper, Bill Fosbenner, Brett Brandau, Bruce Epstein, Chip Shand, David Allen, Dean Rudy, Diana L. Frucci, Diana Olinger, Doug Robbins, George Vosburgh, Heather Boroughs, John Wilkins, Jon Thacher, Jonathan Bickel, Karen L. Melnik, Matt Byrne, Mike Strudevant, Pat Byrne, Ralph Hall, Ray, Sam Ingram, Scott Behner, Steve Lohr, TG Powell, Tonya Maurer, Wilson Merchant

Call to order July 28th 7:06 pm – virtual GoToMeeting

- 1) Roll call of council, confirm we have a quorum
 - a. CT – Pat and Tonya
 - b. DE – Brett Brandau
 - c. MA – Dave
 - d. MD - Mike
 - e. NH – Scott
 - f. NJ – Bill and Bill
 - g. NY – John, Dean and George
 - h. PA – Doug and John B.
 - i. VA – Karen, Ralph, Al, Chip, Jon, TG, Jim, Steve
 - j. VT – Bruce
 - k. WV – Sam
- 2) Jon Thacher acted as parliamentarian
- 3) Agenda approved with no changes
- 4) Unfinished business – Jim Powell
 - a) approve minutes from winter meeting
 - a. Motion John W.
 - b. Second Bruce E.
 - c. Approved ALL

- b) Suggestion from winter meeting to increase Regional sanction fee from the current \$125.
 - a. No specific support
 - b. Request to review budget and consider need
 - c. Tabled until winter meeting
- 5) Treasures report – Jim Powell
 - a. Reviewed account balances
 - b. We are within our proposed 2020 budget
 - c. Pat Byrne suggested that we should closely track sanction fees that come from USAWSWS
 - d. Introduce Heather Miller nominee for ER Treasurer (VA Fed Treasurer, CPA)
 - i. Jon Thacher called for vote by acclimation
 - 1. No opposition
 - 2. There being none, Heather is elected Treasurer
- 6) Nominating Committee – John Wilkins (Chair), Jon Thacher
 - a. Jim Powell EVP, 1yr term expires in 2020
 - i. Nomination for Jim Powell
 - ii. No other nominations
 - iii. Motion nominations be closed
 - iv. Moved and seconded
 - v. Jim Powell elected by acclimation
 - b. Ralph Hall AWSA Director, 3yr term expires in 2022 (will continue)
 - c. Doug Robbins AWSA Director, 3yr term expires in 2021 (will continue)
 - d. Hutch Haines AWSA Director, 3yr term expires in 2020
 - i. Nomination for John Wilkins to take Hutch Haines seat as AWSA Director
 - ii. No other nominations
 - iii. Motion nominations be closed
 - iv. Moved by Tonya and seconded by Wick
 - v. John Wilkins elected by acclimation
 - e. Pat Byrne USAWSWS Director, 2 year term expires Jan 2020
 - i. Nomination for Pat to continue for another term
 - ii. No other nominations
 - iii. Motion nominations be closed
 - iv. Moved by John Wilkins and seconded
 - v. Pat Byrne elected by acclimation
 - f. Appointment of Alternate National Director for Summer Meeting
 - i. Becky Bartlett agrees to attend by phone if necessary
- 7) Regional Awards
 - a. TOMMY KELLY, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD
 - This award is presented to the best overall male and female skier in the Eastern Regional Tournaments based on total NOPS score.

2020 Recipients

Ava Cole

Ty Robbins

b. AL TYLL AWARD

For the highest score in Tricks at the Eastern Regionals

2020 Recipients

Alexia Ableson

Jake Abelson

c. TINY RICHARDS MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is presented to the judge who displays the most skill, knowledge and dedication to the sport of water skiing.

2020 Recipient

Billy Cirilli

d. JAMES G. SYLVESTER MEMORIAL TROPHY

This award is presented to the individual demonstrating the highest degree of sportsmanship and integrity in the sport of water skiing.

2020 Recipient

Dave Knight

e. Allen Rossi Award

To skier that best exemplifies the read deal spirit of Allen Rossi - dedicated to skiing. Not gone out yet. Will be awarded at a tournament at the end of the season.

2019 went to Paul Myers

f. Tonya - Need to figure out how to refurbish/replace with plaques the physical awards that recipients receive and are able to keep.

i. brought up the state of the actual awards, and the need to address this issue.

ii. Tiny Richards award may still be unaccounted for.

iii. Jim to review with Hutch and see about relocating the old trophies to museum and create new type of award for recipients.

8) Drivers Committee – Al Harris

a. We now have a functioning online driver clinic. We had one with 7 attendees, some people from ER. I thought it worked just as well as a live clinic

b. If someone wants to have an online clinic, request it from Al Harris. Plan to do one over the winter.

9) Guidebook – Jim Powell

- a. Thanks to Tonya for her work assembling the Guidebook
- b. Guidebook posted on website. We did not do a printed version. We did not have the budget.
- c. Jim tried to do a hybrid version, but dropped the ball on that, and did not create that form to take orders. It is available in virtual form, just like everything else this year.
- d. Pat Byrne - for anyone who really wants a paper version, I will print one up for them. Jim added that the Region will pay for it.
- e. For 2021 guidebook, we need to establish a committee to determine what we want to do with this going forward.
- f. Tonya requested that we can find someone else, so we can move it into the next phase of digitizing the guidebook.
- g. Justin was suggested as someone that could do a good job and take on the guidebook

10) Junior Development – TG Powell

- a. No change in bank account balance for Junior Development from what was reported at the Winter Meeting -no activity
- b. No Juniors Party at Regionals this year due to public health concerns.
- c. The Most Improved Awards were distributed via self-service at Regionals
 - i. Tonya – thanks to TG for packaging and sending all of the awards at the last minute. Kids had fun handing them out to each other.
- d. Eastern Region 2020 All Star Team
 - i. Jake Abelson
 - ii. Samantha Hill
 - iii. Brody Keller
 - iv. Sage Pottbecker
 - v. Evan Robbins
 - vi. Ty Robbins
 - vii. Alternate: Aaron Bartlett
- e. Juniors Party at 2020 Goode Water Ski Nationals Will be at The Pool at Bennett's on Thursday, August 6 at 6pm. Tickets are \$15. Juniors can buy tickets at <https://www.awsasouthcentral.com/nationals-jd-party-and-awards>
- f. Eastern Region Junior Development Team 2021 Juniors that attended Eastern Regionals will be included in the 2021 Eastern Region Junior Development Team. In addition, juniors that were qualified to ski Regionals may request to be included on the team by notifying the Junior Development Committee.
- g. The Junior Development Committee is requesting juniors to send in a photo to be included in the Juniors section of the 2021 Eastern Regional Guide. Junior Photos for 2021 Regional Guide Photos for the Juniors section of the 2021 Eastern Regional Guide should be emailed or texted to TG Powell, Junior Development Committee at tg.powell@gmail.com or 703-395-7499

11) Regionals Records – Chip Shand

- a. Top performers age 14 and 15 at Nationals are used to establish baseline for records for B4 and G4. Will do the same for Regionals Records.
- b. Regionals Records - Want to make sure there is no concern about records that were set at Regionals this year. I will record any records this year, even though it was Class C.
- c. For B5/B5 the original B3/G3 records will prevail
- d. For B3/G3 the original B2/G2 records will prevail

12) Tech Control – Chip Shand

- a. selfishly promoting that I have developed Video Tape Measure for jump measuring
- b. If you can, run them both simultaneously, with Splash Eye or Corson and send Chip comparisons it will help get IWWF approval
- c. Email Chip if you are interested. It is free and runs on a laptop.
- d. There are updates to video stopwatch trick timing program. It is posted in TC section of AWSA website
- e. Thank you, Chip - Congratulations and well done.
- f. Becky - Thank you from Wolfeboro

13) Regionals – who's on deck? – Jim Powell

- a. Options
 - i. DavesPond
 - ii. Lake Holly
 - iii. Pangaea
 - iv. The Pond (threepeat?)
 - v. Twin Lakes
- b. We had 2020 Regionals at Avon. Thank you to Old Farms Skiers. 2nd year in a row and dealing with all the craziness of this summer. Thank you for providing a location for an amazing Regional tournament
- c. Looking to 2021, we have not received any bids year at this point. Does anyone have any suggestions?
- d. Avon, Pat Byrne - we need some time to cool off a little bit and have a conversation with our leadership group on if we would be willing to host in 2021. It is a possibility, but that is all at this point.
- e. Diana Olinger - Question - Do we want to think strategically about if we are still dealing with Covid next year to a state that would be less likely to have restrictions.
- f. We are planning on summer of 2021 being a summer where we can get together to ski, until we are told otherwise.

14) Rules Committee – David Allen

- a. Not sure there is anything pressing. Level 10 still being discussed.

15) Safety Committee – Karen Melnik and Pat Byrne

- a. Karen Melnik - safety is Covid related this year. Many working hard to abide by guidelines.

- b. Pat - not much going on at the National level, other than the waivers and guidelines due to Coronavirus

16) Tow Boat – Brett Brandau

- a. Not too much new on Towboat Committee. We expect to test a new Mastercraft this fall! Good to see more R&D in tournament towboats.
- b. Most discussion is on availability of boats for tournaments. We are not doing a meeting at Nationals, we met virtually. You should have gotten a towboat survey. Any tournament boat owners - promos or not - to be compensated for use of boat. Guideline is \$50/hour but it is up to organizers and boat owners to work it out. We think there are less than 80 promo boats across all the manufacturers in the country.

17) BOD Packet Highlights – National Directors

- a. Doug Robbins -- Hot topic is towboat proposal just discussed - Southern Region opposed that as stated. The Eastern Region has been hurt the most by lack of promo boats. I think anything that can help incentivize bringing newer boats back to tournaments is a good thing.

18) AWSA Exec Highlights – Jim Powell

- a. Membership down by 6% in June (working on highlighting benefits of membership) Compared with other sports disciplines we are least affected.
- b. 77 cancelled events so far this season
- c. Tournaments taking place are full, people are still skiing
- d. New Elite Teams fundraising committee has been formed. Ron Koenig been a huge supporter of USA Teams, and worked hard to raise money for the Teams. This year there is a new fundraising committee. Ron does not have to do it all himself
- e. Don't forget, Grass Roots leagues and events can get sanction reimbursed by AWSA and free guest passes
- f. PB stickers, Century Club stickers and new practice score ranking list up to L5
- g. Nationals - 2021 at Waters Edge, IL – 2022 at Mystic Lakes, KS – 2023 bids this fall
- h. Bids due Nov. 30, 2020 for (2021 Can Am, 2022 Jr US Open, 2023 AWSA Nationals)
- i. 2020 Nationals will have a professional webcast. Be sure to login to see!
- j. Doug - of the 77 cancelled events, how many were in the East? We need to look it up. What is the policy for credits for these fees. LOC can get a refund or apply it to next year. For any ER cancelled events due to Covid 19, we refund the fee, or apply it to tournament next year. Motion and second. Approved by acclamation.
- k. Bill and Jim, and new treasurer will keep track of sanction fees for cancelled tournaments
- l. Pat Byrne - PB stickers. It is ineffective. Juniors get lots of PBs. Suggest that we send a supply of them to LOCs to be awarded onsite as personal best score is achieved.
- m. Jim will check on if we can do that.

19) New Business – NONE

20) Proposed 2021 Winter Meeting Date – Saturday, January 9, 2021. Marie has already secured the room at the Embassy Suites Valley Forge.

21) 8:44pm Adjourn