

AWSA Easter Region Meeting Minutes for January, 2018 Mid-Winter Meeting

When: January 6, 2018 (Start at 9, end by 5:00pm)

Location: Chesterbrook, PA (Embassy Suites @ Valley Forge)

Start time **9:00** am.

- 1) **Appointment of Secretary**
- 2) **Roll call**
- 3) **Review agenda**
- 4) **Treasurer Report** (Marie) - 20 min
- 5) **Rules Committee / Rules Proposals** (David Allen, Gary Noll) – 1 hour
- 6) **Regionals** – 1 hour
- 7) **Nationals Update** – 15 min
- 8) **Break for Lunch**
- 9) **Vote on Officials** – 20 min
- 10) **AWSA East Regional Committee Reports** - 45 min
- 11) **AWSA National Committees** - 90 min
- 12) **AWSA President Message** – 15 min
- 13) **AWSA Executive Item:** (Jim Powell) 30 min
- 14) **AWSA/USA Water Ski Executive Items** (Doug Robbins) – 25 min
- 15) **AWSA Board Meeting January 27,2018** – Agenda found here <http://www.awsaeast.org/awsa-board-package-jan-2018-agenda/>
- 16) **Regional Recommendations** (non-rule related) – 15 min
- 17) **The EVP Awards** (time permitting) – 5 min
- 18) **Adjourn 5:00pm**

Details Below...

When: January 6, 2018 (Start at 9, end by 5pm)

Location: Chesterbrook, PA (Embassy Suites @ Valley Forge)

Name	Representation	Attended
Powell, Jim	EVP	Yes
Haines, Hutch	National Director	Yes
Thacher, Jon	National Director	Yes
Noll, Gary	National Director	Yes
Byrne, Pat	USA Water Ski Director & HND	Yes
Byrne, Matt	Council – CT	Yes
Brandau, Brett	Council – DE	No
Allen, Dave	Council – MA	Yes
Giove, Jean	Council – MD	Yes Virtual
Sturdevant, Mike	President – MD (non-voting)	No
Robbins, Dave	Council – ME	No
Behner, Scott	Council – NH	Yes
Fosbenner, Bill	Council – NJ	Yes
Vosburgh, George	Council – NY	Yes
Rudy, Dean	Council – NY	Yes
Davis, John	Council – PA	Yes
Noll, Gary	Council – PA	Yes
Bickel, Jon	President – PA (non-voting)	No
Merchant, Wick	Council – VA	Yes
Melnick, Karen	President/Council – VA	Yes
Campfield, Justin	Council – VT	Yes
Epstien, Bruce	President – VT (non-voting)	No
Ingram, Sam	Council – WV	No
Paul Allebach	HND (non-voting)	No
Bill Baker	HND (non-voting)	Yes
Bob Corson	HND (non-voting)	No
Roger Hammel	HND (non-voting)	Yes Virtual
Steve Lohr	HND (non-voting)	Yes
Doug Robbins	HND (non-voting)	Yes
Jerry Stansberry	HND (non-voting)	No
Tonya Maurer	HND (non-voting)	Yes

Additional Membership Attendees (names noted below RVSPd as attending:

TG Powell (Jr. Development) - VA	John Paulovich - NY
Amy Craig (By Laws, Waterways) - MD	John Corkery - NY
Al Harris (Boat Drivers) - VA	Al Harris - VA
	Ann Lohr – VA
Kacy Craig - MD	Chip Debus – East/South
Dawn Gearheart – NJ (virtual)	Don Christman – NJ
John Wilkins – NY (virtual)	Diane Thacher – VA
	Bill Cooper – NJ (virtual)

Total Attended: 36 people attended representing 9 of our 12 states.

Yellow: Actions and Votes

GREEN: Motions and East Region Recommendations

Official start time **9:07** am.

1) Appointment of Secretary

- a. **Tonya Maurer agreed to capture minutes for the meeting (Thank you Tonya!)**

2) Roll call

- a. Council Quorum was present
- b. Attendees were captured

3) Review agenda

- a. No changes to the agenda

4) Treasurer Report (Marie) - 20 min

a. Reviewed 2017-year end

- i. The region did not have a loss in 2017. There was a transfer from savings of \$3000 to support outbound checks. The region is in a good place financially.
- ii. As part of the regional championship true-up, the region was responsible for the discount for the Jr Entries, for portion of the banquet because the banquet included the regional meeting which is typically paid for out by the region and for the invited officials regional banquet tickets. These stipends are accounted for in the reconciliation spreadsheet for the event. Even with the (\$2775) stipends, the region netted \$1208.77.
- iii. **ACTION ITEM:** There was an error in the 2017 summary regarding the transfer of funds to the region from Twin Lakes which will be corrected and an updated end of year financial statement will be provided to the council & regional members.
- iv. **MOTION [DOUG]:** EVP to provide the summary of the revenue and expenses that resulted from the Regional Championship. This summary will illustrate the allocation of funds and how the profits were split between Twin Lakes and the region. The summary needs to be provided with in 1 week of the winter meeting.
 - 1. Second: Hutch
 - 2. Motion: Passed
 - 3. Summary completed on 1/11. Emailed to Council and Committees. Posted on Regional website. (Jim Powell)
- v. **MOTION [JON T]:** For 2018 all regional stipends (i.e. off set for Jr Entry fees) are to be done via a check from the regional checking account to ensure traceability.
 - 1. Second: Matt
 - 2. Motion: Passed
- vi. TONYA recommends that there is a review of all financials between EVP and Treasurer before the winter meeting, ensuring alignment before the meeting.
- vii. **REMINDER** → get all the clinic information to Marie after the clinics so that HQ can be paid in a timely fashion.

b. Budget Items for 2018

- i. Clinic instructors – send Marie the registration file as soon as the clinic is over either through email (scanned/PDF) or Fax; this way she can cut a check to HQ for the clinic fees.
- ii. **MOTION** from Jim: Grant the EVP access to \$2000 in 2018 for Membership Engagement activities.
 - 1. Rationale is that funds are needed to reach out to new and existing membership in different ways to expand engagement.
 - 2. Seconded: Matt / Hutch (EVP has earned the right to help to take steps to grow the membership in the region without having to ask for permission)
 - 1. **MOTION:** Passed

5) Rules Committee / Rules Proposals (David Allen, Gary Noll) – 1 hour

- Gary noted that all rule proposals are “motions” with automatic second.
- All proposals not discussed are supported by the East Region.
- The following proposals were discussed (see the specific section for the notes):

- H – 4.02 Elites not required to ski regionals: Opposed
 - L – 9.16F – Measure Handles Immediately after Skiing: Support Proposal
 - Q- 10.16 B 2 – Handles: Support Proposal
 - AA – 13.04 Mini Course: Support Proposal
- Q: Doug – Are there changes to Zero Based Scoring? A: Gary/Dave: this is still in effect; however the skier can't see above their max in an E/L/R; Also, last year it was an option of the LOC to allow a skier to ski above their MAX – this has been changed to remove the need for LOC approval. This is the skiers choice.
 - Q: Chip – Have there been changes to Level 10? A: Gary: Jeff & the committee has asked that the Skier Qualification committee look at the ratings that were set. Dave – are you suggesting that professionals (level 10) can skier with reg divisions? Hutch – 2 yrs ago the east voted in favor but it didn't pass at the BOD meeting; last year the east vote was split.
 - **REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION (Request from STEVE L):** That the rules committee work with the TC to obtain support for rule changes that do need technical specifications – i.e. like the mini course.
 - **REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION (Request from STEVE L):** The Rules Committee – needs a writer to help put the rule book into laymen terms. The current rule book is very hard to understand. We have customers that don't understand the content. Note that Dave Allen stated that the specificity is needed to help remove incorrect interpretations.
- a. **PROPOSAL: 3.02A/10.06: 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).
- i. 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.
 - ii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- b. **PROPOSAL: 3.02A/9.06C-D/10.06: 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).
- i. 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.
 - ii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- c. **PROPOSAL: 9.06C-D M7 – Align M7 speeds (jump) with IWWF.** (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals).
- i. Rationale: Aligns the jumps speeds for M7 to 51k (31.7mph) so that these jumpers are not disadvantaged.
 - ii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- d. **PROPOSAL: 3.02A/9.06C-D/10.06: M8 - Align M8 speeds (slalom/jump) with IWWF.** (Note – these changes would go into effect after 2018 Nationals).
- i. Rationale: Allows the M8 to ski at the faster speeds to also align.
 - ii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- e. **PROPOSAL: 9.16C 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).
- i. 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.
 - ii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- f. **PROPOSAL: Change 3.03C2 and D2**

- i. 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.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.
- iv. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

g. PROPOSAL: 4.02B Change to reflect COD of Nationals.

- i. 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.
- ii. Rationale: We need to change this wording to reflect the decision of the BOD for qualification into the National Tournament. Clean Up item.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

h. PROPOSAL: 4.02 ADD/Change

- i. 4.02A skier who enters the Elite Open division at the Nationals in any event is not required to ski in his Regional Tournament.
- ii. Rationale: In the past only Open skiers could skip Regionals. The committee felt that with the new Level 10 and the fact that some skiers do not have the option of which division they ski in. It affects their choices for travel. 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.
- iii. **DOUG: Pleas provide additional rational for this change.**
- iv. **GARY: Level 10 (professionals) were allowed to skip regionals because it was assumed that these athletes were preparing for elite tournaments (travel/practice). The rules committee was asked to extend the same to MM/MW. Note that this means you can't be level 9 in M3 and skip regionals, this is only if you are skiing in MM, MW in Nationals.**
- v. **GARY: The thought process behind the ability to skip is to help the athletes because it can be expensive to attend both regionals and nationals; this rule would assist them financially.**
- vi. **DAVE: Additionally it is thought that by allowing this rule; then we would see more skiers in the age divisions because MM/MW/Elite won't be in attendance.**
- vii. **Q: DOUG: there was a way to buy out of regionals, was that discussed? A: DAVE: No was not discussed. DOUG: this rule could be a significant financial impact on the LOCs that host.**
- viii. **VOTE**
 - 1. For: 0
 - 2. Against: 8
 - 3. Abstain: 6
- ix. **EAST RECOMMENDATION** Opposed.

i. PROPOSAL: 4.02C2

- i. Where the new Slalom division has a maximum speed slower 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).
- ii. Rationale: This is a clarification to the current rule which reduces the slalom scores by 6

buoys when a skier moves into a division with a lower max speed. 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.

- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**
- j. PROPOSAL: 6.10 Add Driver information:**
 - i. Equivalencies in Drivers from other Federations. Need direction from Drivers committee. Ham will be sending.
 - ii. RC Meeting – Waiting on response from Ham. Will include chart in rulebook similar to Judges equivalencies.
 - iii. **UPDATE: this proposal was retracted/removed.**
- k. PROPOSAL: Add 8.04E, F, G & H HANDLES**
 - i. E. For tournament-supplied handle sections, the length shall be 150 cm - 2.5 cm (4'11" - 1") from inside of handle to inside of loop at a load of 20 kg (44 lb). The triangular portion of the bridle is 28 cm ± 4 cm (11 ½ " ± 1 ½"), and the length of the handle is 30cm ± 6 cm (11-13/16" ± 2-3/8") (see appendix for diagram). The bridle (rope) maximum strain in elasticity is +2.5cm (1") (Maximum length after skiing is 152.5 cm (5'-0").
 - ii. F. For skier-supplied handles in the Slalom and Jumping events, the length may be 150 cm + 2.5 cm/-10cm (4'11" +1"/-4") from inside of handle to inside of loop at a load of 20 kg (44lb). No tolerance on the triangular portion of the bridle. It is the skiers responsibility to ensure that the bridle (rope) does not exceed 152.5cm (5'-0") from inside of handle to inside of loop after skiing at a load of 20 kg (44 lbs).
 - iii. G. A Slalom Switch or other appliance may be used to attach the slalom towline to the pylon. When so used, that appliance shall be considered a part of the boat/pylon, may be from 0.47 to 0.51m in length, and with a recommended length of 0.50m. The measurements of ropes used with such appliances shall be 0.50m shorter than the values shown in this table.
 - iv. H. Class E, L and R events pulled with alternating ropes shall use lines of the same model and manufacturer, except for B1, B2, G1, G2, W6, and above when light towlines are available. (Light towlines (5MM (3/16") 8 Strands) for L & R are not allowed per the IWWF Rulebook.)
 - v. **Not discussed at the meeting**
- l. PROPOSAL: 9.16F delete:**
 - i. 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.
 - ii. Rationale: This is the wording that IWWF will be using.
 - iii. **Q: ROGER: Has there been any testing with the use of the handle through the process to ensure that there were no issues with the rope response in this process. A: GARY: This was a recommendation from Tech Committee. A: Dave: They want to ensure that the rope/handle is with in spec when the skier is done.**
 - iv. **HUTCH: East Request for the TC committee – need to see what happens if the movement of the rope immediately vs an hour later. Concerned that we don't know**
 - v. **JOHN W: this rule aligns to the IWWF rules. Unlike the main line, the handle is in the hands of skiers and now this would mean that skiers would need to hang around for an hour. The proposed rule to measure right after.**
 - vi. **GARY: Based on my experience at Nationals being an AJ for 4 days and measuring ropes before and after people skied; I didn't see a lot of variance in the length of the handles.**

- vii. TONYA: I had an experience at Nationals where I measured a rope beforehand at the insistence of the skier; the rope was literally “just in”; when she returned to the dock and I measured the handle it appeared “out” to me but the ACJ and CJ said to let it sit on the dock & get the next skiers rope set up then re-measure it – which I did and then the handle was again ‘just in’ tolerance. People set them selves up for exposure & they intend to bend the rules/cheat.
- viii. DOUG: 40 lbs is not a lot of weight; however, the weight is something that is manageable for the LOCs. Ultimately this would align to IWWF
- ix. VOTE:
 - 1. For: Passed -all
 - 2. Against: 0
 - 3. Abstained: 0
- x. East Recommendation: Supports the proposal

m. PROPOSAL: Corrected after omission when ZBS maximum speeds changed.

- i. 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).
- ii. Move to 10.06B: Since 10.06A is about minimum speeds and 10.06B is about maximum speeds.
- iii. 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.
- iv. 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)

- v. 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.
- vi. 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.

- vii. 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.
- viii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

n. PROPOSAL: Change 10.06B2

- i. 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.
- ii. Rationale: ZBS should not be decided by the LOC, but the skier.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

o. PROPOSAL: Delete 10.08A3b

- i. IWWF has already taken this wording out of their rulebook. Boat is wider than boat guides. 10.08 Officials and Judging Area
 - A. 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. Only one event judge shall ride in the towboat, hereafter referred to as the boat judge.
 - A. 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.
 - B. 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.
 - C. There shall be two or three people in the boat.
- ii. Rationale: This is consistent with IWWF and rule 10.07 covers this.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

p. PROPOSAL: 10.08D3: Omits the requirement for a video review judge in Class L

- i. 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 additional option 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.

- ii. Rationale: The requirement to have a fourth judge has been omitted in Class L tournaments.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

q. PROPOSAL: Delete last sentence 10.16B2

i. 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)~~

ii. Rationale: No longer needed since the handles are now being measured all the time immediately after the skier skis.

iii. **Discussion circled back that this is really just a house cleaning item.**

iv. **VOTE**

1. **For: PASSED - all**

2. **Against: 0**

3. **Abstained: 0**

v. **EAST RECOMMENDATION: no opposition**

r. PROPOSAL: 11.12 Add

i. The boat shall pass on either side of the RED entry buoy.

ii. 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.

iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

s. PROPOSAL: 11.07 Boat Path, Match IWWF time between first and second pass when the skier falls.

i. 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.....

ii. Rationale: Matches IWWF wording.

iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

t. PROPOSAL: 11.12A IWWF is removing, delete first sentence.

i. A. 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.
- ii. Rationale: Matches IWWF.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

u. PROPOSAL: 11.12E, H, I and O, Add Credit for wake line tricks when ski/leg not over line and changing wording of trick vs turn for clarity.

- i. 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.
- ii. 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 other wake trick criteria are met.

H. Stepmover 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 for a 180 or 360 surface turn scores zero. (See 11.12E for wake tricks)

I. 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.

O. 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.

- iii. 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.
- iv. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

v. PROPOSAL: 11.12J Add:

- i. All Side Slides (hand held and toe) includes 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.
- ii. Rationale: Additional clarification and IWWF is using this wording now too.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

w. PROPOSAL: 11.16C Change

- i. Rope release length? Make it the same as IWWF.
- ii. AWSA 11.16C A rope trick release mechanism up to 1.25 meter (49") 60cm (24") may be used (see Rule 11.18B).
- iii. Rationale: Make the length the same for both. Originally 1 meter was submitted but IWWF has 1.25m. Should match.
- iv. RC Meeting –Approved. This change needs to be reviewed by safety. (OK per Safety Committee)

v. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

x. PROPOSAL: ADD IWWF wording to 11.20

- i. The Tricks event shall be recorded at all Class E, 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)
- ii. 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.
- iii. Rationale: This is TC Committee recommendation, rules committee changed a few of the words. Matches IWWF
- iv. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

y. PROPOSAL: Delete 13.02F

- i. 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.
- ii. RC Meeting – Approved. Since all handles will now be measured immediately, there is no need for this sentence.
- iii. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

z. PROPOSAL: Delete from Appendix.

- i. JUMP 9.18: Disqualification
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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)
- iv. Rationale: This is still in rule 9.03 just not a disqualification. Was put into this section when the Disqualification section was revised.
- v. **Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.**

aa. PROPOSAL: 13.04 Mini Course ADD:

- i. At the option of the LOC in Class C and below, skiers may choose to ski mini course buoys:
- ii. 1. Non-surveyed mini course buoys are to be placed by the LOC at a recommended distance of 8.5m +/- 1.1 meters from the centerline of the slalom course with green as the suggested color.
- iii. 2. Each mini course buoy is scored as 1/2 point. To get credit, the skier must go through the entry gates, around the mini course buoy and then cross the boat guide line closest to the buoy. No partial credit is awarded for mini course buoys.
- iv. 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.
- v. 4. Mini course scoring will only be used on the first pass in Class C.
- vi. 5. A skier must make 6 full buoys to get a second pass in Class C.
- vii. 13.05 Other Optional Tournament formats
- viii. For other possible formats see www.usawaterski.org/AWSA/optionalformats...
- ix. Rationale: This proposal 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. Skiers maximum

score using the mini course is limited to 5 ½ buoys. The committee did not want to limit the LOC's from using other options for fun tournaments, which could still be run as Class F if desired.

- x. RC Meeting –Approved mini course. Other options for Class F scores with alternate formats will be placed on the USA Waterski web site under Rules.
- xi. GOV – What is the best distance for the mini course buoys? Do we know what is best for the skiers?
- xii. GARY – It was agreed that the mini course would be fun, they used this in college with positive results. For going to class C – the gates need to be used to help used as stepping stone to the full course. There are difference distances for kneeboard & disabled skiers as well (i.e. distance of the buoys is 6.4' for disabled). This is a RECOMMENDED distance. This is not an official rule, it is a recommendation. This is not a tech requirement.
- xiii. STEVE – it really doesn't matter, there are some clubs that use skinny and some that use wide distances.
- xiv. DAVE – this will allow for scores for class C – it really doesn't matter; the skiers will make the course and they can only get a score of 5.5 regardless; and this is a way to encourage LOCs to get the new skiers and entry level skiers.
- xv. JON – the language really should be the “approximately” in the middle.
- xvi. VOTE:
 - 1. In Favor: PASSED
 - 2. Opposed: 1
 - 3. Abstained: 0

xvii. East Recommendation: Supports the proposal

bb. PROPOSAL: Change Handle specifications in Appendix

- i. Reworded the “note” and placed more information into Rule 8.04.
- ii. *Note:
- iii. 1) For tournament-supplied handle sections, the bridle length shall be 150cm -2.5cm (4'11" – 1") inside handle to inside loop with 20 kg (44lb) load.
- iv. 2) For skier supplied handles in the Slalom and Jumping event, the bridle length may be 150cm +2.5cm (+1") inside handle to inside loop with 20kg (44lbs).
- v. 3) The Maximum bridle length of all SLALOM handles after skiing is 152.5cm (5'-0") with 20kg (44lb) load.
- vi. 4) All measurements are from inside the handle to inside of loop.
- vii. Note: For tournament-supplied handle sections, the bridle length shall be 150 cm ± 2.5 cm (4'11" ± 1") the triangular portion of the bridle 28 cm ± 4 cm (11 ½ " ± 1 ½"), and the length of the handle 30cm ± 6 cm (11-13/16" ± 2-3/8") (see diagram). For skier-supplied handles in the Slalom and Jumping events, the tolerance on the bridle length shall be +2.5 cm/-10 cm (+1"/-4) with no tolerance on the triangular portion of the bridle. All measurements shall be from inside of handle to inside of loop.

A Slalom Switch or other appliance may be used to attach the slalom towline to the pylon. When so used, that appliance shall be considered a part of the boat/pylon, may be from 0.47 to 0.51m in length, and with a recommended length of 0.50m. The measurements of ropes used with such appliances shall be 0.50m shorter than the values shown in this table.

- viii. Rationale: IWWF has changed when the handle is measured. Because of rope specifications we want to make sure that when handles are measured before skiing as actual then they will not be too long when measured after skiing.
- ix. IWWF wording, Personal handles shall be measured by the dock starter under the responsibility of the Homologator, immediately after the skier skis. Should the handle be out of tolerance following a skier return to the dock, the skier's performance in that round is deleted.
- x. RC Meeting – Approved. This matches AWSA's rules and intent and TC Committee has approved.
- xi. Not discussed in the East Region winter meeting.

cc. Informational item:

- i. PROPOSAL: Junior Divisions – On hold until IWWF makes any changes.
- ii. 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 programming once everything is finalized. We will continue to discuss with members of AWSA.
- iii. No Action at this time.

dd. Conference Call follow up to review questions/answers on proposals and regional recommendations

- i. Meeting will be on Jan 21, at 7pm.
- ii. **ACTION:** Council is to review the proposals and bring the ones that they either need more information about OR want the east to 'reject and send back to the committee'

6) Regionals – 1 hour

a. 2018 – Twin Lakes

- i. 2017 success story – The LOC/Region partnership worked well.

(i) JOHN P:

- a. We need to encourage the young folks to officiate and organize.
- b. JJ is now a 3-event senior!
- c. Don't bet on 2019. Encourage that another site to do 2019.

(ii) DISCUSSION on JRs doing volunteer work:

1. MARIE: Feel that we need to help them get involved in the sport.
 - a. JON T: We can help them get involved.
 - b. JOHN D: The Cost Model – also needs to be a task sharing model: TONYA: It is a job/task sharing model too
2. JUSTIN: I think we should ask them, rather than put a financial implication involved and a better lesson taught by the parents
 - a. MATT: We need to ensure that if we know then we can have our kids help
 - b. WICK: The JRs should be concentrating on their performance and ensure that we allow them to help and be a volunteer; we need to do that at our local tournaments and within our states
 - c. **ACTION ITEM: SCOTT/JUSTIN – GREAT IDEA**
 - i. Let's come up with some Junior Official cards and they get the recognition
 - ii. Give them passport to help them accumulate activities around gaining knowledge/tasks for an end goal
 - d. PAT: NOTE that the region is not giving the juniors a discount on their event fee, we are giving the discount to the parents to acknowledge the overall all expense for families – that was the intent.

ii. 2018 changes

1. **2. Cost sharing model**, for 2018 we would have a straight 50/50 split of the revenue after expenses identified in this document.
2. **4. Assumptions**,
 1. A) Add one additional Assistant Chief Judge so we have one for each lake, trick and jump on the big lake and slalom on the back lake.
 2. B) Get Regional Approval to have any 1 ev Sr Slalom Driver with experience at Twin Lakes the ability to drive with the approval of the Chief Driver. I spoke with Jerry Jackson from the Southern Region at the Malibu Open and he said that this is the policy they have adopted in the Southern Region since many of the best slalom drivers are slalom only.
 3. C) Registrar will be responsible to set up the pay pal for the region well in advance of the season and all entries will go thru this account.
 4. D) Hotel will be booked for 4 nights(Wed thru Sat) for Judges, Scorers, Safety and Drivers (hopefully if we finish on Sat some of the officials will head out!). Additionally the only officials to get rooms on Tuesday are the Technical Controller and Chief Driver. (I will help to screen the Hotels for the base deals and offer options to the Region). Any officials who stay on site in campers or motor homes(they will have priority) will be given a \$100+/- credit per official toward entries. Non-skiing officials that camp are not compensated.

5. Region:
6. C) Jr Development Chair will do all the coordination and scheduling for the event(I will be available to help block out the date and get the deposit in).
7. E) Chief Judge will have 2 Assistant Chief Judges, one for each lake.
8. G) I don't think we had an actual treasurer! Coordinate between registrar/co tournament directors and EVP.
9. Twin Lakes:
10. A) Twin Lakes will provide their boats for Practice but request that each of the promo boats offer up 2 hours for practice on Wednesday. If only our boats are used Twin Lakes will keep all the practice revenue from Wednesday. Twin Lakes will offer practice on Monday and Tuesday using our boats and drivers and all this revenue will go to Twin Lakes.

iii. **6. Cost Sharing Approach**

1. C) Sponsorship, Twin Lakes will handle local, Region will handle Regional and National. All will be split! Target should be \$10,000+ we only did about 5K in 2017, there is a big opportunity if we start early!
2. D) Co Tournament Directors will determine who gets free banquet tickets. Need a discussion on cost of the banquet! The ONLY people that should be comped tickets are the appointed officials. See the officials expectation section.

Expenses to run the event:

3. I) Fuel for boats from Wednesday morning practice thru the completion of the tournament!
4. J) We will have 12 Porta Johns for the Regionals, we are evaluating alternate suppliers.
5. I) Boat cleaning supplies (region to supply the manpower) See, promo boat committee section.

iv. **7. Labor Sharing Approach:**

1. B) Boat Fueling - Twin Lakes and Region
2. C) Secure boats at the end of the day - Chief Driver and Drivers along with the promo boat committee people.
3. D) Dock Starters - Twin Lakes and Regional volunteers(hopefully Juniors)!
4. J) Practice boat drivers and safety - Mon & Tues, Twin Lakes, Wed, Region
5. K) Practice Coordinator - Mon & Tues, Twin Lakes, Wed, Region
6. M) Porta let cleanup - Twin Lakes will address
7. N) Radio Zar - Twin Lakes (2017 we had 18 radios, we now have 24) ☺
8. O) Parking Attendant - Twin Lakes with help from Region!
9. Q) Skier Goodie Bag – Region -added a new committee
10. R) T-shirt coordinator – Region

v. **Council Vote on Twin Lakes site and Twin Lakes / Region partnership for 2018 Eastern Regionals**

1. DOUG: The biggest resource suck is trick; we need to focus on filling areas where we have issues when it comes to driving. Note that the southern region does not use single event drivers at nationals. The invited drivers at nationals and at regionals really must be 3 event drivers. Ultimately, we need to focus on where we need the help. There are single event drivers have made a choice to be single event drivers.
2. JOHN: example of Pat Regan – SR single – he knows the site and is a senior slalom driver.
3. MATT: as CD, it is a scheduling issue. You have to be a regular to drive. We can have them drive it. There aren't enough events to support everyone; can't guarantee that any one driver will be driving a specific division/event.
4. FULL DISCUSSION: <<< too much to capture >>> Summary is that the schedule of events needs to be evaluated and the events where additional officials are needed can be augmented by volunteers; this applies to judging, scoring, driving. For 2017, the trick event sucked across all areas of officials – judges, scorers and drivers.
5. DAVE: there will be a better way to import officials that will have full and accurate officials list w/ ratings. There will be reports that can be provided to the chiefs to help with plugging in hold with volunteers.
6. LESSONS LEARNED - KAREN: Safety boat and jump; first we were in a promo boat then told we can't use promo boat, the club boat broke down, then Karen ended up in the boat the entire

event then one of Chip's daughter. We need to be clear as to what the approach will be for safety next year when it comes to the jump event.

7. JOHN P: The Wed practice we need up to 2 hr; because we used the club the entire time; need to work with the Promo boat owners to secure additional hours and support for practice.
8. **ACTION ITEM** Scott/Matt/John will work with the promo boat owners to confirm use for Wed practice.
9. JOHN D: **LESSONS LEARNED** – need to be sure that we arrange for the promo boats early not 2-3 weeks before the event. TONYA: the regionals aren't a surprise; the manufacture promo reps should be proactive and ensure that boats are assigned to regionals in the beginning of the year.
10. STEVE: the weighting of the MC was an issue at regionals need to be very clear around if they will or will not be weighted. **LESSONS LEARNED**.
11. GOV: pays \$15 an hour to support the promo boat owners. That is an idea.
12. **MOTION [Justin]** – Approve the Twin Lakes bid as is.
 - a. SECOND by Matt
 - b. Discussion: None
 - c. VOTE:
 - i. Yes – Passed
 - ii. No – 0
 - iii. Abstained - 0
13. **MOTION** – Allow funds for accommodations to support apprentice to key management positions to support regionals. **Motion was not voted on.**
14. JIM: We have a profit from regionals. This is the first time ever it has happened for the region using this type of arrangement. Use this surplus to help augment the management team, by bringing in new people (mentees/apprentice) to learn the ropes and understanding how regionals work behind the scenes.
15. SCOTT: The key to the model is tournament director is local and that there is a tournament director representing the region.
16. There was confusion between Jim's ask about mentee/apprentice for the key management positions vs. folks thinking it was for aspiring officials.
17. DOUG: for the various roles and the for the pre-planning; we need to back fill the roles 'like Tonya/Scott' going forward. We need to think about how to do this. Jim's idea is heading in the right direction.
18. JOHN D: from 2010 -2013 we had Hidden Pass, Pangaea We need to manage the burn out of the key people that are making it happen.
19. KAREN: the task is very daunting to run regionals. Peggy H has been a mentor to her to get to the point she is at now. Having a mentor really helps others come through the ranks.
20. JOHN P: we need to know the strengths of the resources that you have; you need a couple of strong people in your club; you need strong folks in the
21. IDEA: Whoever that bids on 2019, they step into that position as the mentee. Then this person would be the TD for the following year.
22. SCOTT The regional TD position needs to be voted by the council.
23. NIGHT JUMP – will be a separate sanction, the invited officials are not expected to support night jump. JON T: cautioned the team; if cash prize, then we need to be really clear about the implications to professional.
24. NIGHT JUMP – would happen after the banquet; need to ensure that women are included in the night jump; Great idea – encourage that this a compact group of skiers and keep to about 90 minutes.

7) Nationals Update – 15 min

- a. 2018 - Maize, Kansas – Mystic Lakes (8/7 - 8/11)
 - i. And yes – it is a 3 lake site
- b. Gary Noll selected as Chief Judge
- c. David Allen selected as Chief Scorer
- d. Is there a Chief

8) Break For Lunch

9) Vote on Officials – 20 min

a. Regionals Officials Suggested:

- i. Judges (David Knight CJ, Ralph Hall ACJ (added 1/12), ??? ACJ):
 - a. Bill Cooper – 3 event senior
 - b. Gary Noll – 3 event senior
 - c. Mike Shelhamer Sr S, Reg T/J
 - d. Roger Hammel (pan am)
 - e. Bill Baker (pan am)
 - f. Doug Robbins – 3 event regular
 - g. Wick – 3 event reg
 - h. Chip Debus – 3 event senior
 - i. ALTERNATES
 - i. Dave Allen may be alternate for Roger he gets his 3-event senior rating.
 - ii. **ACTION ITEM FOR JIM POWELL**: need additional contingency for Roger, Dave Allen will be a scorer. Ralph Hall is 3-event senior, he will be ACJ. (Jim Powell 1/12)
 - j. ~~Jay Dunne (regular slalom & jump, NO trick)~~ – not an invited official, needs 3 event rating of regular or above
- ii. Drivers (Matt Byrne CD)
 1. Al Harris
 2. Brett Brandau
 3. Cole Maurer
 4. Marie Fields
 5. John Thatcher
- iii. Scorers (Tonya Maurer CScr)
 1. Dave Allen
 2. Jennifer
 3. TG
 4. 2 additional scorers will need to be identified and will need to be funded by the event
- iv. Safety (Karen Melnik CSaf)
 1. Kathy
 2. Pat
 - v. Announcers
 1. Jim Powell will be the chief, others can assist (JJ Paulovich, Corey Vaughn)

b. Nationals (3 lake site: 2 Judges, 2 drivers, 1 scorer)

- i. Judges:
 1. Dave Knight
 2. Bill Cooper
 3. ALTERNATE xxx
- ii. Driver:
 1. Al Harris
 2. Matt Bryne
 3. ALTERNATE Marie Fields
- iii. Scorer: TG, ALTERNATE Tonya
- iv. Announcing: Jim Powell
- v. Safety: Karen will think about it; Simon Gray is also a possibility

10) AWSA East Regional Committee Reports - ## min

a. Regional States

- i. CT (Matt Byrne) – nothing to report
- ii. DE (Brett Brandau) – nothing to report
- iii. MA (David Allen) – great numbers around newer skiers, great 2017
- iv. MD (Mike Sturdevant/Jean Giove) – really nice state tournaments and they are planning on doing it again at Lake Cheney.

- v. ME (Dave Robbins) – Scott – is working with others in Maine and Bob Marley (comedian); **ACTION ITEM:** Scott to arrange a meet & greet with Bob & Jim.
 - vi. NH (Scott Behner) – record participation, and add a 2 day for Wolfeboro; and Dube’s is looking to do the same; had to actually turn away skiers; looking to coordinate JR dev activities; working to bring on new skiers (GO NH!)
 - vii. NJ (Bill Fosbenner) – 4 tournaments (3 at John’s, 1 at dividing creek); great participation in 2017
 - viii. NY (Dean and George) – states at 8/4 @ Peckams, and one tournament at Labor Day which had great skiing and great participating
 - ix. PA (John Davis) – 5 tournaments in 2018 (one of which is Scott Worthington who passed away in an event) ; participation is declining
 - x. VA (Karen Melnick) – meeting at the Lohrs in Nov; Jr Dev Clinics is doing great – 6/20 -6/21; Timberlake looking at a safety clinic in the spring (date TBD); FYI – Pat will be looking to do a safety clinic at Regional; many tournaments in 2018; Lake Holly will be celebrating their 40th (July 7/8);
 - xi. VT (Justin Campfield) – public rules have been very beneficial; currently working with the State of VT to create a Water Resources Board taking away from the state department
 - xii. WV (Sam Ingram) – slalom course is in on Deep Creek lake that is on the border of MD and West VA. Looking to cultivate interest on this public water!
- b. Regional Clinics (Tonya Maurer)**
- i. No information
- c. Regional Guidebook (Julie Erwin)**
- i. Guide Book Due Date: 1/19/2018
 - ii. Proposed changes to National section of Guidebook
 - iii. SCOTT: Recommendation around setting up a ‘fun’ tournament on Fridays to allow for practice that has some instruction – so make practice more of an event. In the guide book a generic page around how to reach out to sites to get practice. More of a generic.
 - iv. SKI NAUTIQUE – will only give credits for those tournaments that are in the regional guide. They will not give credits for any pop ups.
 - v. **ACTION ITEM FOR JIM POWELL:** NEED an apprentice to back fill Julie Erwin.
- d. Regional Jr Development (TG Powell)**
- i. [Safesport](#)
 - ii. Regionals
 1. 2 main JR clinics that happened in the region.
 2. The National Team is an recognition for the top skiers (Region gave an additional \$150 towards the recognition): Quinn, Evan, Brody, Blake
 1. Great Jr dev event at regionals; great raised \$1,803
 2. Using funds in the JR Dev bank account to support the Jr example in 2018 put \$200 towards Jr Dev Clinic.
 3. Justin: would like some flexibility around the # of events for the \$200; allow the \$200 for 2 event jr dev clinics.
 - iii. Nationals
- e. Regional Nominating (Jean Giove):** noting to report
- f. Regional Records (Chip Shand):** regional records have been updated on the website, **ACTION ITEM FOR CHIP SHAND:** Amy Craig W4 slalom record (from the Ken Mead – ELR) didn’t get up dated on the website.
- g. Regional Search/Site (John Davis):** 2017 we moved to the joint venture approach; and we need to look for sites for 2019 & 2020. We have 12 locations with Jumps – there are various sites that can host.
- i. SCOTT: there is a lot of technology that is needed to support the regional event; is there a way to generate a stipend/fund to support these other sites that need the infrastructure; E/L/R – there are 3 turn key sites (Twin Lakes, Lake Holly, Pangaea); for E/L or E there are likely more turn key sites. Need to look at the
 - ii. GOV: may not until 2021
 - iii. Need a 5 year plan for regionals.
 - iv. Can there be some way to build out a portable equipment? What can’t

- v. Spash-eye costs \$8000 Jump, \$4000 for Slalom
 - vi. Some sites build out their jump set up for every jump tournament (i.e. Silver Lake & Wolfeboro).
 - vii. Twin Lakes spent over \$7000 to upgrade.
 - viii. Need to look at the different sites and look to see what can happen to continue to bring regionals to the skiers.
 - ix. ACTION ITEM: Provide the information that John Davis had provided to the council back in 2015/2016.
 - x. 5 Year Plan:
 - 1. 2018 – Twin Lakes
 - 2. 2019 – TBD
 - 3. 2020 – TBD
 - 4. 2021 – Pangaea??
 - 5. 2022 – Timberlake??
- h. Regional Tournament Coordinator (Bill Fosbenner)
- i. 49 tournaments last ski season
 - ii. Twin Lakes – will have a June slalom tournament;
 - iii. Two Sites had tournaments last year that didn't have their event last week – they get a credit for 2018.
 - iv. Oakham – T/J on Sat & Slalom on Sun
 - v. Avon & Oakham have conflicts in both June and July.
 - vi. Get your tournaments sanctioned BEFORE Jan 19th!!!!
- i. Regional Webmaster (Darlene McCormick)
- i. Best utilizing our resources, i.e. website, and communicating in advance about best methods
 - ii. Darlene is a Webmaster available for jobs with budgets
 - iii. Where best to post Meeting Minutes on Website
 - iv. JIM: using the web site can be used communicate to the region & store information
 - v. JIM: need to post all the meeting minutes have all been posted on the web-site and are found under the By-Law folder. These will be uploaded within 30 days of the meetings.

11) AWSA National Committees

- a. Executive (Jim Powell)
- i. New email communication through USA Water Ski Database
 - ii. Welcome email for new USAWS members
 - iii. Announcing needs to be more of a priority
 - iv. JIM: one of the weaknesses is that the database of the membership is owned by USA Waterski – so as EVP doesn't have access to the information. Proof: Jim noted the email exchange that he had with a new member who is every excited and will be attending the regionals.
 - v. JIM: noted there will be an automated email to welcome new skiers to the region.
 - vi. JON T: thought that there was a motion that passed at AWSA BOD that allowed the email addresses to the EVPs.
 - vii. DOUG: It seems that based on the USA Water Ski hierarchy – the EVPs of AWSA should have access to the email addresses.
 - viii. JIM: Advocate to have announcing at all tournaments; really need to be sure that all the participants know what is going on. Highly recommend that there is announcing.
- b. Awards (Hutch Haines)
- i. MOTION: We should discontinue passing around the large trophies. Instead, we should have them refurbished and offer them to be on display at HQ with a nice write-up about each of the honored skiers. Awards would be continued in the form of a plaque that the recipient would keep.
 - 1. Second,
 - 2. Yes,
 - 3. No,
 - ii. BILL B – asking that we retire and move the James Sylvester (first TC, and inventor of the propylene rope, and several times over EVP) and Tiny Richard and Aly Tyll; refurbish and send them to HQ.

- iii. BILL B – Recommends that we create an award for Ed Nichols for overall skiers for above M/W 5.
 - iv. JIM – we talked about refurbishing, and send them to HQ; then give the annual winner a plaque to take home; then send a name plate to HQ to add to the trophy.
 - v. PAT – create a big plaque then add the name plates.
 - vi. MATT- we should not create new awards that are huge & hard to travel with.
 - vii. SCOTT – Add the bios to the names on the website.
 - viii. **ACTION ITEM:** Hutch will come up with a recommendation and will present to the council for decision.
- c. Boat Drivers (Al Harris)
- i. Drop box is being setting up for all end-course videos for E/L/R. Every single record tournaments.
 - ii. The conversation that is in play right now is where to put the videos and who can actually see the videos.
 - iii. PAT: there was sensitive issue a couple of years around the video
 - iv. STEVE: what is the difference when it comes to trick videos
 - v. AL: train the drivers on trick judging for those that are also ‘boat judges’.
 - vi. **MOTION:** DOUG - That we include in our **regional recommendation** that we fast track – Regular Jump or Slalom -then they would fast track to a regular trick driver. Take the on-line course for trick rules.
 - 1. Second Matt
 - 2. Passed
 - vii. Driver Committee proposal passed → Al – Drivers that have 3 event driver (regular or above) that gets the trick down grade – that they are reinstated if the Slalom/Jump ratings are not being downgraded.
 - 1. **MOTION [Jim]** to support the proposal.
 - 2. SECOND - Matt
 - 3. MOTION PASSED
- d. By Laws (Amy Craig)
- i. By Laws
 - 1. ARTICLE X SECTION # –
 - 1. Discussion
 - 2. **MOTION [JIM]** to approve to accept the changes and publish the Bylaws.
 - 3. SECOND: <<didn’t capture name>>
 - 4. MOTION PASSED.
 - 5. Note that there is additional action is to further reconcile the by-laws to the P&P to ensure there are not any discrepancies.
 - ii. P&P
 - 1. ARTICLE X SECTION # –
 - 1. Discussion
- e. IAC (Ralph Hall, Hutch Haines)
- i. Ralph would like to step down from IAC and is looking for an eager replacement.
 - ii. HUTCH: There is a meeting once a year; there is a lot of work that is done (with excel sheets a mile long) around skier qualifications. Ralph Hall is looking to step down.
 - iii. Discussion around maybe
- f. Judges & Scorers Qualifications (Dean Rudy)
- i. **MOTION** Request for Emeritus status for Marie Baker.
 - 1. Second MATT
 - 2. In Favor: Passed
 - 3. Opposed: 0
 - 4. Abstained: 0
 - ii. **MOTION** Dave/Matt: to move Dave Robbins to Emeritus for Judge.
 - 1. Second Jim
 - 2. In Favor: Passed
 - 3. Opposed: 0

4. Abstained: 0

- iii. **EAST RECOMMENDATION** Roger: that we expand the module for trick & testing materials to include the technology that is used for various tournaments (i.e. video cameras, etc.).
 - iv. JIM: as a CJ for a class C typically takes on the responsibility of a TC.
 - v. Roger: Bob Harris likely already has this information and can provide to the J&S committee.
 - vi. **EAST RECOMMENDATION Scott/Jim:** Need to enable the assistant official forms to be digitized for electronic submission. As well as giving aspiring judges credit that is stored in the AWSA / USA Water Ski database to be used to help move aspiring officials closer an assistant officials.
- g. Safety (Pat Byrne)**
- i. Report on new trick release rope discussion.
 - ii. There is now discussion around the length of the rope.
 - iii. The rope release will be increased to 49"
 - iv. This is a new rule that has been passed
- h. Seeding (Jennifer)**
- i. Nothing new
- i. Show Skiing (Pat Byrne)**
- i. There is discussion around coordinating the show ski regionals to eliminate the conflict with the 3 event regionals.
- j. Skiers Qualification (Dana Hinman)**
- i. No News
- k. Technical (Chip Shand)**
- i. EC VIDEO DROPBOX LINK (REQUIRES BOD Approval)
 - 1. We have a link for anyone to UPLOAD EC Video. Anyone with this link can upload, but cannot view. The videos are manually transferred to a SHARED FOLDER (File name SANCTION number).
Anyone with this link (shared folder) can view. The LINK is posted on the Southern Regional Web Site. West has their own drop box.
 - 1) Should AWSA have just ONE DROP BOX for all EC Video? or several drop boxes (one for SR, one W, one for all other regionals combined).?? **YES**
 - 2) Should the LINKS be posted on the AWSA WEB SITE to where anyone can review (under OFFICIALS RESOURCES AND TC RESOURCE)?? **NO**
 - 3) AWSA BOD – What should be the protocol- Recommendation?? NEEDS to be voted on by each REGION and AWSA BOD. **EAST – anyone can upload and that only the TC and Drivers committee can view.**

(Committee recommendation would be ONE DROP box for all and the links for UPLOADING and REVIEW under TC Resources and the Officials Resources only, Each Regional TC Chairmen/Driver would have password as the administrator)

 - a. JON T: The situation that occurred last year did not land with downgrades. The situation as the event was on Sat, the protest happened on Sun by the EVP.
 - b. MATT: we want to avoid any ability to allow skiers to protest down the road.
 - c. **MOTION [JIM]** Who is in favor of having a national drop box to store the end course video can be stored and you can view the end course? This will allow it to be public.
 - i. IN FAVOR: 5
 - ii. OPPOSED: 5
 - iii. Abstained: 2
 - d. **EAST RECOMMENDATION [Doug]:** Asks for a recommendation that the score for a skier is not posted (when a record is set) until the TC and DRIVER have reviewed the end course video.
 - e. **EAST RECOMMENDATION [Council]:** To only allow the TC / and DRIVER Rep to have access to the videos.
 - ii. TRICK TCs RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS: The TC Committee passed a new renewal requirement for tricks. (REQUIRES BOD Approval)

1. If a SLALOM or JUMP TC renewal requirements have been met, he/she auto meets the renewal requirements for Tricks. This was based on the TC renewal requirements for slalom/jump actually meeting the same requirements for Trick TC renewal; and there's not enough trick tourn. Drivers Trick maintenance should follow the same procedure. This is NOT auto tracked in the AWSA Data Base, and requires manually input. Additional work is required between AWSA and TC Chairmen. The qualification form will be updated.
 2. **VOTE: Who is in agreement of the TC proposal? ALL IN FAVOR.**
- I. Tow boats (Doug Robbins) 10 min.
- i. Update on Boat Testing
 - ii. Clarification on weight use in tow boats.
 - iii. Clarification on tow boat requirements for various class tournaments. Approval procedure for use of older boats.
 - iv. **DOUG: no test in the fall, might in the fall**
 - v. **JIM: new rule around use of tow boats goes back to about 2010**
 - vi. **AL: Ski Nautique is going from 51 to about 31 promo boats. Beware. 40 days available for coverage based on the number of boats that have.**
 1. Timber Lake
 2. Bruce Epstien
 - vii. **DOUG: MC has also changed their promo boat program.**
 - viii. **EAST RECOMMENDATION: Build in a process that ensures that the types of the boats (includes the specs – prop, engine, etc.) are available to the scorer to ensure that the information gets into the scoring system and flows to AWSA accurately. Create a report that can be generated out of the scoring program and given to the promo boat owners to evidence that their boat was at the tournament and the volume of skiers/pulls that occurred in the event.**
- m. Waterways (Amy Craig)
- i. **Nothing to report**

12) AWSA President Message

- a. Let Ron Koenig know if National Boat Auction is a good idea
- b. Need to continue to work on giving evp's email access to improve our communication to our members. Move up priority list at HQ.
- c. Have a dedicated team scorer and team announcer at Nationals (Jim Powell)
- d. Look into a webcast of Nationals
- e. **Regions revisit if they want guide going forward. Replace 10 Nationals pages with more updated info such as fun formats, etc.**
- f. **Membership Taskforce is moving forward**
- g. **321K is a step in the right direction, Member # went up!**
- h. **Considering "Compete" App funding (by Jennifer Lapointe) – augmented reality, down load onto your phone; the app tracks the speed of the boat; and it will overlay your set over a virtual course; it will measure the size of the spray, how fast across the wakes you go; prototype is already created; looking to give this app away free as part of new boat sales – when the user signs up for the appt then they get a AWSA membership.**
- i. **Target those that are not renewing and alumni skiers.**
- j. **REMINDER to Enter GPS in for sites so that App can map them**

13) AWSA Executive Item: (Jim Powell)

- a. **AWSA Executive Item: Teams @ Regionals/Nationals – .5 hours**
 - i. 2018 Teams
 1. Who will run team skiing in the region (team commissioner)
 2. What teams will make up the region (states/Areas, etc.)
 3. Who will captain each of those teams

- ii. HUTCH: For the team event we are doing the same thing as last. Great time at the regional level. He will be confirming the names of the state leaders.
 - iii. JIM: would like us to get more involved with getting more energy and more team stuff going on.
 - iv. BILL: should the skiers have some kind of level before they ski.
 - v. JIM: If we were turning away skiers, then that would be something to review.
 - vi. MATT: it really does encourage others to come to team.
- b. AWSA National Website development in discussion**
- i. Fresh look that appeals to potential new members
 - ii. Opportunity to get on our mailing list
 - iii. Instruction for new skiers in an easy to find location
 - iv. Better visibility for AWSA
 - v. JIM: we have no AWSA online brochure; AWSA is buried under USA Water Ski. The international Wake Board organization – the first page has several eye-catching videos. This needs to be a 'hook' introduction page for new skiers. This would be a funded activity.

14) AWSA/USA Water Ski Executive Items (Doug Robbins) – 25 min

- a. AWSA SD Membership - Growth for first time since I was elected to BOD's in 2001
- b. Biennial review / membership trend / Change in AWSA seats & votes on the USA-WS BOD
- c. Membership Task Force Report
 - i. DOUG: we have experienced growth for the first time in a very long time.
 - ii. DOUG: 10 year membership trend review at USA Water Ski, and a reevaluation of the AWSA BOD seats that will go from 5 members (2.5 votes) down to 2 members (around 18 votes) ... the other disciplines will go up a little with votes. AWSA will still have the most votes, but reduced members.
 - iii. DOUG: Membership task force presented the plan to the USA Water Ski board then to all the sport division boards – they all agreed to a 4 pillar plan -all 4 are needed for the plan to work – should be implemented after May/June of this year:
 - 1. First – restructuring the new membership is \$19.95 base membership, then renewal membership \$25 annual fee to join (flat fee) with licenses as a buy up (i.e. competition and officials). And create an official only license – those that are officials will have a different
 - 2. Second - USA Water Ski and Wake Sports
 - 3. Third - Update to the mission and vision statement
 - 4. Forth – Need partnership with the industry, we are up to started with 6, now up to 9 manufactures. This will bring value to the 19.95 base membership fees.
 - iv. DOUG: There is a new employee at USA Water Ski that will be dedicated to this effort.
 - v. The \$19.95 gives you the manufactory discounts, the magazines and that we can reciprocate mailing lists.
 - vi. MATT: how will the new members be allocated or contribute to the Sporting Disciplines?
 - vii. BILL: What happens to the life time membership? DOUG: [ACTION] Nothing, however he will follow up on what will happen on the purchasing of insurance that happens every year.
- d. USA-WS Technology Systems Overhaul
 - i. All the databases are bifurcated. Last year there was money put aside to support the overhaul.
 - ii. There is a lot of activity to bring improvements forward.
- e. HQ Building on Holy Cow Road & Lake Myrtle Project Update
 - i. Holy Cow Road has been closed (\$1.5M). There is a 3 year rent free lease. Action Water Sports (master craft dealer out of MN) bought Holy Cow Road; Lake Grew was also sold with the building sale.
 - ii. Lake Myrtle – has a phased approach costing about \$8M. It was a 3 year time line; they are behind with donations.
 - iii. Bob Crowley is 68; they are talking about an exit plan over time.
- f. Safe Sport Update (see updates here <http://www.awsaeast.org/safe-sport-usaws-update-12-12-2017/>)
 - i. Look at the packet. We are obligated to take part.

- ii. AWSA will list the names of the people that are in violation of the Safe Sport Update.
- iii. USOC audited AWSA – no violations.
- iv. KAREN: what about Jr Dev events? DOUG: noted that if it a sanctioned event (page 78, page 87). There are some certification requirements (Safe Sport module and the background check) for any Jr Dev/ Skier Clinic officials/instructors. Cost for the background checks are around \$22.50.
- v. BILL: Do the pros have to get the certifications/background checks.

15) **AWSA Board Meeting January 27,2018** – Agenda found here <http://www.awsaeast.org/awsa-board-package-jan-2018-agenda/>

16) **Regional Recommendations for AWSA Meeting** (non-rule related) – 15 min

- a. EVP: Motion to make email addresses and snail mail addresses available to EVPs and committee chairs
- b. EVP: Motion to convert the assistant judge/scorer/driver to an on-line entry process – no more paper or PDFs
- c. EVP: Motion to convert the clinic registration form into an excel version that can be easily uploaded to the ‘database’ – reduce effort at HQ
- d. Request for Emeritus status for Marie Baker.
- e. Request for Emeritus status for Dave Robbins.
- f. **REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION (Request from STEVE L):** That the rules committee work with the TC to obtain support for rule changes that do need technical specifications – i.e. like the mini course.
- g. **REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION (Request from STEVE L):** The Rules Committee – needs a writer to help put the rule book into laymen terms. The current rule book is very hard to understand. We have customers that don’t understand the content. Note that Dave Allen stated that the specificity is needed to help remove incorrect interpretations.
- h. **MOTION:** DOUG - That we include in our **regional recommendation** that we fast track – Regular Jump or Slalom -then they would fast track to a regular trick driver after they take the on-line course for trick rules.
 - 1. Second Matt
 - 2. Passed

17) **The EVP Awards** (time permitting)

- a. **Super Beast Award** presented to the young adult that has shown the highest level of volunteerism through the season or at the Eastern Regional Tournament. Need not be an AWSA official.
 - i. 2017 Nominations
 - 1. Gal Bejerano
 - 2. Cameron Davis
 - 3. Emma Davis
 - 4. Colin Frucci
 - 5. Rai Chevalier
 - 6. Tommy Wiley
 - 7. Ava Cole
 - 8. Emily Nichols
 - 9. Freddy Davis
 - 10. Elizabeth Powell
 - 11. Robbie Craig
 - 12. Whitney Shelhamer
 - ii. 2017 Award winners
 - 1. Stephanie Shand
 - 2. Marissa Shand
 - 3. Shayne Rudy
 - 4. Kacy Craig
 - iii. Plans for 2018 nominations
 - 1. Use young officials record cards “passports” to track participation.
 - 2. Nominations from tournament officials around the region.

3. Presentation at 2018 regionals.

18) Adjourn 5:00pm → MOTION TO ADJOURNE 4.36pm.