

# AWSA Winter 2024 Meeting

January 27, 2024

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Introduction and Roll Call
- 3) Announcement of Quorum
- 4) Opening Administrative Motions and Housekeeping Matters
  - a. All Reports with Action Items have a motion and automatic second – **Motion Jim / John - Passes**
  - b. Allow HND's, Committee Chairs and guests can attend the meeting – **Motion Jim / John - Passes**
- 5) Appointment of Parliamentarian – Jeff Clark
- 6) Review & Adoption of Agenda – **Motion to move Tech under Rules Jim J / Robert - Passes**
- 7) Confirmation of Voting Roll - Confirmed
- 8) Presentation of Service awards – Kate Knafla - None
- 9) Review and Approval of the 2023 Summer Meeting Minutes - See report – **Motion Jim J / Robert - Passes**
  - a. Flip dates of Jr Worlds and JUSO (Darren) – I could not find this in the summer minutes.
  - b. Special Meeting minutes approval
- 10) Ratification of the Board of Directors Electronic Ballots - None
- 11) Nominating Committee Report – Kate Knafla
  - a. All positions are open so taking nominations...
- 12) USAWSWS Executive Director Report – See report.
  - a. USAWSWS ED search
- 13) AWSA President Report and Executive Committee report – Lyman Hardy - See report.
  - a. Members lost countered a bit by the memberships given away.
- 14) AWSA Treasurer's Report – Dennis Downes for Cynthia Logan – See report.
  - a. Income \$20K less than expected.
  - b. Expenses also down
  - c. **Motion for AWSA Pres to create a task force of incentivized people for marketing - Jim J / Bob H – Passes**
  - d. **Motion to approve treasurers report - Bob / Brad - Passes**
- 15) IWWF PanAm Report – Dana Garcia - See report. – Combing Officials ranking systems will be a big effort. Level 1 officials with an USAWSWS membership are listed in our directory as PanAm officials.
- 16) AAC Report - Alex Lauretano, Chair – No report
  - a. Would like to see virtual meeting brought back...
  - b. Not having meetings. They feel like Dana is keeping their interests in mind.
- 17) Special Presentation – Jaret Llewellyn (World Water Ski)
  - a. **Motion to create a committee to see what the next steps would be and how to integrate and report back to us - Jim J / Robert – Passes**
    - i. **Call the question Jim J / Robert - Passes**
- 18) Standing Committee Reports

- a. Announcers Committee – Jim Powell, Chair - See report.
- b. Awards Committee – Lori Krueger, Chair – See report.
- c. Bylaws Committee – Karen Melnik, Chair - See report.
- d. Drivers Committee – Chris Eller, Chair - See report. – Report approved**
- e. International Activities Committee – Jeff Smith, Chair - See report.
  - i. One thing the committee is focused on is to approach the selection of officials for international events more objectively, based on certain criteria related to their abilities so we are sending qualified officials.
  - ii. Currently engaged in a process of trying to identify what might help retain OA skiers at the Open level. Struggling to find qualified OA skiers to enlarge the ranks for these events.
- f. Judges & Scorers Committee – Robert Howerton, Chair - See report. - Report approved**
- g. Junior Development Committee – Allison Blair, Lauren Malitz, Chairs - See report.
- h. Rules Committee – Richelle Muhlthner, Chair - See report.
  - i. Southern – 1, 4, 5, 6, 7-10, 12
  - ii. SC – 5
  - iii. MW – 5, 6
  - iv. E –
  - v. W –
  - vi. Proposal 1 - Mark / Bruce – Passes**
  - vii. Proposal 4 – Motion to approve with “or a similar reason” left in Doug / John – Passes**
    - a. Motion to ask Rules to better define communication - Doug / Karen – Passes**
  - viii. Proposal 5 – Motion to accept revised proposal - Robert / Kirby**
  - ix. Proposal 6 – Motion to change wording to *approval* and not *excuse* - Darren / Robert – Passes**
  - x. Proposal 7 – Rules will retract this proposal.**
  - xi. Proposal 8-9 – Motion to reject Jim J / John – Passes**
  - xii. Proposal 10 – Motion to approve - Jim J / Brad – 11 approve 9 oppose – Motion passes**
  - xiii. Proposal 12 – Motion to accept Robert / Mark – Passes**
  - xiv. Officials table change, with the addition of H – Robert / Julie – Passes**
  - xv. Change R sanction to 15 days from 30 days. - Motion Bob / Kirby – Passes**
  - xvi. Motion to approve rest of the proposals - Passes**
- i. Technical Committee – Jerry Jackson, Chair – See report. – Report approved**
- j. Safety Committee – James Cawthern, Chair – No report.
- k. Seeding Committee – Dave Allen, Chair - See report.
- l. Skier’s Qualification – Kirby Whetsel, Chair – See report.
  - i. Kirby & Mark Crone will get together to determine the due date for qualifications.
- m. Towboat Committee – Will Bush & George Lindy, Chairs – see report.

19) Regional Recommendations

- a. Eastern Region – Karen Melnik
  - i. Recommendation to AWSA Rules Committee and SQC Committee
    - 1. Align all Masters divisions with IWWF age divisions (age 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, etc.) b. Reinstitute Level 10 and requirements for any age division skier who has previously won a national title.
    - 2. RATIONALE: Create more competition in Masters divisions and age divisions.
  - ii. Recommendation to AWSA Towboat Committee and USA-WSWS Waterways Committee
    - 1. Create a document accessible on the USA-WSWS website to serve as a resource for public-waterway-use legislation, which defines the various towboat types and different activities for which they are designed.
    - 2. RATIONALE: State legislators recently voting on bills in the Eastern Region have made this need apparent by their lack of knowledge regarding boat types; i.e, legislators were unaware of the differences (e.g. wake size) among inboard boats, wake surf boats, and AWSA-approved tournament towboats.
  - iii. Recommendation to USA-WSWS Waterways Committee / USA-WSWS Headquarters
    - 1. Create an email blast system that would notify EVPs and memberships within a state (and neighboring states) where legislation is pending that impacts water ski activity on public waterways.
    - 2. Create boilerplate letters for members to download and customize, to either oppose or support legislation impacting water ski activity on public waterways.
    - 3. RATIONALE: Create member awareness and needed engagement in pending legislative efforts that affect skier rights to use public waterways. Grow the sport.
- b. Midwest Region – Darren Janzig
  - i. Enable EVP's to send emails with attachments to region members without approvals
    - 1. Junior Development info
    - 2. Clinics
    - 3. Newsletter
  - ii. Digital official's applications
    - 1. Not priority for Integgrass
    - 2. Tracks people working on rating
  - iii. Add Summary report to Official's directory
  - iv. Clinic and test to be assistant judge
  - v. Allow FastTrack to Senior official to age 15 if Elite and pass test plus add minimum age to be CJ to 18 or 21 or higher.
  - vi. Chief Officials additional rating – snow ski COR is separate rating
  - vii. Virtual league
  - viii. Bring back Novice Division – too intimidating for beginners to ski against elite. Competitive feel for novice, novice against novice (hockey and others have ability-based leagues). Maybe change to lower end of ranking list.

- ix. Easier transition for collegiate skiers?
  - c. Southern Region – Bob Harris
    - i. Forgoing to New business
  - d. South Central Region – Julie Krueger
    - i. Webcast fee structure
    - ii. Membership contact
    - iii. Streamline information
    - iv. Pursue WWS system
  - e. Western Region – Brad Corbin - None
- 20) Old Business –
- a. Webcast for 2024 Nationals
    - i. \$7500 USAWSWS
    - ii. \$5000 – AWSA
    - iii. Cost \$10K a lake
    - iv. LOC proposes a \$25 a person fee, with excess going to AWSA budget for future. No change to fees was made.
      - 1. East –
      - 2. SC – against
      - 3. MW – too high
      - 4. S – against
      - 5. W - against
- 21) New Business –
- a. Looking for 2026/2027 Nationals bids
  - b. Looking for JUSO 2026
  - c. Have rights again to have US Open – possibly in Polk county.
  - d. Brief discussion of the Exec committee special meeting over the events Nationals.
- 22) Announcement of Date & Time of Summer Board Meeting
- a. August 12, 2024 – 8:30am Location TBD
- 23) Call for Adjournment.
- a. Kelly / Brad - Bye