

AWSA Winter Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, January 28, 2023, 8:30 a.m. ET

2701 Lake Myrtle Park Rd, Auburndale, FL 33823

See meeting invite for meeting link.

- 1) Call to Order –
- 2) Introduction & Roll Call
- 3) Announcement of Quorum –
- 4) Appointment of Parliamentarian –
- 5) Review & Adoption of Agenda -
- 6) Administrative Motions –
- 7) Presentation of Service Awards –
- 8) Review & Approval of the August Meeting Minutes (See separate attachment) –
- 9) Ratification of BOD electronic ballots since last Meeting – (no votes were taken)
- 10) USAWSWS Executive Director's Report – Nate Boudreaux – See report
- 11) AWSA President's Report & Executive Committee Report – See report
- 12) AWSA Treasurer's Report – See report - Motion to accept (Auto) –
- 13) Nominating Committee Report – No report
- 14) PanAm Report – See report (see separate attachment due to size)
- 15) Standing Committee Reports
 - a) Announcers Committee – See report
 - b) Awards Committee – See report
 - c) Bylaws Committee – See report
 - d) Drivers Committee – See report
 - e) International Activities Committee – See report
 - f) Judges & Scorers Committee – See report
 - g) Junior Development Committee – See report
 - h) Rules Committee – See report
 - i) Safety Committee – See report
 - j) Seeding Committee – See report
 - k) Skier's Qualification – No report
 - l) Technical Committee – See report
 - m) Towboat Committee – No report
- 16) Regional Recommendations
 - a) Eastern Region –
 - b) Midwest Region –
 - c) Southern Region –
 - d) South Central Region –
 - e) Western Region –
- 17) Old Business –
- 18) New Business –
- 19) Time & Date of Next Meeting
 - a) August
- 20) Adjourn –



USA-WSWS Executive Director Report

AWSA Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, January 28, 2023

2022 Organizational Highlights

100th Anniversary of water skiing – In partnership with Visit Central Florida, USA-WSWS created a year-long marketing effort around the 100th anniversary of water skiing which included an enhanced annual banquet/gala, branding at all USA-WSWS events, more than 3,000 promotional giveaways (tote bags, water bottles and hand fans) and a commemorative issue of *The Water Skier Magazine*. Worked with the city of Lake City, Minn. to have a USA-WSWS presence at Water Ski Days, an annual celebration of the birth of water skiing.

100th Anniversary Book Project in partnership with PCI – As part of the 100th Anniversary, PCI, a publishing company in association with USA-WSWS, will be producing a book in 2023 that celebrates 100 years of water skiing with 400 member stories. Below are some stats from the project:

- 2,400 responses
- Stories
 - 1,452 total stories collected (414 included in the book)
- Data Verification
 - Confirmed 2,200 email addresses and updated 95
 - Confirmed 822 home phone numbers and updated 453
 - Updated 1,259 cell phone numbers
 - Confirmed 2,146 home addresses and updated 149

Get on the Water program - USA-WSWS recognizes that new skiers are essential to keeping towed water sports thriving. *Get on the Water* was a two-month promotion from June-July that provided affiliated clubs with free sanctioning, free guest members and 100th anniversary giveaways. In 2022, host clubs also received a discount on club membership, and the first 20 clubs to host an event received a customized ski kit from Radar Skis. In 2022, **31 clubs** hosted **50 events** in **17 states** and introduced **849 new skiers** to the water.

Veteran Adaptive Water Ski Clinics and Equipment Grant program – Thanks to a grant from the U.S Department of Veteran Affairs, hosted **13 events** with **123 veteran skiers**. A total of \$32,744.54 was reimbursed to the host clubs and each received \$16,000 in ski equipment. USA-WSWS made \$12,496 from the grant on guest member fees, sanction fees, travel

reimbursements, and administration expenses. Additionally, 11 individual veteran athletes were awarded equipment valued at nearly \$10,000. Ten of 11 equipment grant recipients participated in a Veterans Learn to Ski Clinic and eight are brand new skiers who had their first water skiing experience at one of our veterans' ski events.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuvQjOqYas&t=7s>

Girls, Inc. Learn to Ski program - Financial limitations often bar some segments of society from participating in towed water sports. Through a grant from the Women's Sports Foundation and Sports 4 Life, we were able to host a free learn to ski program for minority girls in Central Florida. The purpose of Sports 4 Life is to create and expand developmental youth sports programs that serve African American and Hispanic girls, ages 11-18. The program was hosted by Cypress Gardens Show Ski team and Central Florida Show Ski team from June-July 2022, and each host club hosted a total of five, 2-hour sessions. None of the 32 girls that participated had ever attempted to water ski before, but by the second week, every girl had successfully gotten up on two skis. Many of the girls are now permanently involved with the local ski clubs as members.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUpX1aiDyug&t=18s>

Launched new membership registration system – The new system gives members a better user experience when joining/renewing with USA-WSWS. The system also has customized dashboard for individual members and clubs to access and view their membership details.

Launched new podcast (Hit It!) – Hosted by Tyler Boyd and sponsored by Visit Central Florida, the monthly podcast features current and former stars from each of the Sports Disciplines.

<https://usawaterskihitit.podbean.com/>. In 2022, podcast guests included:

- Episode 1 - Scot Ellis
- Episode 2 - Regina Jaquess
- Episode 3 - Marcus Brown
- Episode 4 - Freddy Krueger
- Episode 5 - Anna Gay
- Episode 6 - Sammy Duval Part 1
- Episode 6 Part 2 - Sammy Duval Part 2
- Episode 7 - Matt Heilman and Dave Rezin directors of Team USA show ski team
- Episode 8 - Dawn Goode and Regina Jaquess
- Episode 9 - Lauren Morgan
- Episode 10 - Jeff Surdej and Marcus Brown discussing Collegiate water skiing
- Episode 11 - Keith St. Onge
- Episode 12 - Jay Bennett

Ancillary revenue secured (in addition to existing USOPC administrative grant and digital media agreement):

- \$12,000 in administrative/membership revenue from VA grant

- \$11,375 from referrals from Nextiva for USA Track & Field (\$10,375) and USA Climbing (\$1,000). Nextiva also produced this brand video for USA-WSWS at no cost - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2rnW9BW4vc>
- \$5,000 DE&I grant award from USOPC
- \$1,000 in value in kind banners/signage from AMI Graphics
- \$72,042 from Employee Retention Credit (ERC) from 2021
- \$1,000 in gas cards from Maverik that was distributed to NCWSA (to support collegiate teams travel to 2022 Collegiate Western Regionals) and 2023 ASWA Western Regionals

Safe Sport Training – Nearly 80% of adult USA-WSWS members have taken either the core or refresher Safe Sport training

2023 Goals and Objectives

- Grow *Get on the Water* program
- Continue Adaptive Clinics and Girls, Inc. Learn to Ski programs
- Develop marketing microsite www.wheretowaterski.com and apply for Google Ad grant for SEO support
- Complete website refresh to www.usawaterski.org as part of USOPC/Team USA web platform upgrade
- Launch streaming channel on Roku/Samsung/others in partnership with RTH-TV
- Host inaugural Wake Sports Festival
- Launch new Learning Management System (LMS) to host boat driver and instructor certification as well as officials testing and re-certification. Work to re-develop coaching level 1 certification and boat driver educational content

Additional notes relative to AWSA:

- Developed custom rankings list certificates and National Champion certificates/graphics



- USA-WSWS contributed \$7,500 towards AWSA Nationals webcast in 2022 (an additional \$2,500 from 2021)

What USA-WSWS is doing for AWSA in 2023

- Continued support of AWSA Nationals webcast at \$7,500
- Contributing \$5,000 toward Jr. Development program
- Contributing \$5,000 toward Team USA athlete apparel (polos, sun shirts and backpacks) starting with the U17 Team (Note – they will get polos and sun shirts)
- Distributing \$5,000 from Towboat Testing revenue to AWSA with the plan to slowly increase this distribution over the next three years
- Including coaches' liability insurance with all level 1 instructor certifications (in the past this used to cost individuals \$60 if they wanted insurance but now it's included at no cost)
- Changed the Nationals contract from 75/25 split of net revenue to 90/10 revenue split for the LOC
- Offering \$4,000 in value in kind from Airbnb to Nationals LOC from USOPC/USA-WSWS partnership



Report from the President

December 16th, 2022

The American Water Ski Association (AWSA) ended 2022 with 6,706 members, an increase of 322 members from 2021; of this, 137 digital memberships originated through the ski and boat company campaign. The Nationals Championships, held in Maize, Kansas, was a huge success due to the hard work of the Mystic Lakes Ski Club. Congratulations!

In 2023, the National Championship will return to Okeeheelee Park in West Palm Beach, Florida. I would like to thank Charlotte Melcher and the Ski Club of the Palm Beaches for working with AWSA on scheduling. Their flexibility and attention to detail positions us to complete the tournament in four days. We have a tentative bid for the 2024 and 2025 National Championships from Paradise Lakes in Bakersfield, California, the site of several past Nationals.

A summary of major events can be found below. Some highlights include:

- Our three major pro tournaments (Masters, Mastercraft Pro, and Malibu Open) were very successful this year; we expect they will continue in 2023.
- It has been a long time coming, but the rights to the U.S. Open are now the property of AWSA. We will explore sanctioning this event with interested sponsors in 2023.
- The 2023 Open World Championship will return to Sunset Lakes in Groveland, Florida.

Tournament	Location	Date
2023 Masters	Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia	May 26th - 28th, 2023
2023 Junior U.S. Open	Mystic Lakes, Maize, Kansas	June 24th - 25th, 2023
2023 National Championship	Okeeheelee Park, West Palm Beach, Florida	August 8th - 12th, 2023
2023 Mastercraft Pro	Lake Grew, Polk City, Florida	September 2023
2023 Malibu Open	Lymanland USA, Tuscaloosa, Alabama	September 15th - 16th, 2023
2023 Open World Championship	Sunset Lakes, Groveland, Florida	October 8th - 15th, 2023
2024 Junior U.S. Open	San Marcos River Ranch, Martindale, Texas	June 2024
2025 Junior U.S. Open	Stillwater, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin	June 2025



USA-WSWS agreed to return proceeds from the AWSA boat test to AWSA beginning in December of 2022. These funds are earmarked for several projects, including funding our U.S. Teams, Nationals' webcast, and enhanced junior development clinics.

Regarding funding, we are currently in the process of restructuring the Nationals' payout for the LOCs. The National Championship bid contract forms will be made available to the Board at the January meeting.

We have two new committee chairs – Chris Eller replaced Greg Badal as Chair of the Drivers Committee, and Jim Powell replaced Hank Longo as Chair of the Announcers Committee. Dennis Downes is now Chairman of the Board of AWSA. Darren Janzig is now Executive Vice President (EVP) of the Midwest Region. All other EVPs remain the same. To all the committee members, committee chairs, and EVPs, I appreciate your hard work.

AWSA approached an individual about running our social media platforms for a small fee. This is an area in which we have been lacking and is an opportunity for improvement.

Projects for 2023 and beyond:

- Identify new host sites for the National Championships.
- Acquire non endemic sponsors.
- Clarify nationality status for all U.S. Teams.
- Secure a permanent spot for USA-WSWS/AWSA on the Pan American council. This will give AWSA consistent input at the decision making level.
- Secure additional presence on USA-WSWS committees.

It is going to be a great year. Thank you for all you do to support and further our sport.

Lyman Hardy

President, American Water Ski Association

2022 AWSA Executive Committee Meeting
December 3, 2022
Via Zoom

Attendees

Lyman Hardy
Kate Knafla
Cynthia Logan
Dennis Downes
Darren Janzig
Brad Corbin
Robert Howerton
Jim Jaquess
Karen Melnik
Lauren Morgan Not in attendance
Alex Lauretano
Jeff Surdej – non-voting
Doug Robbins – non-voting Not in attendance
Bob Harris – non-voting Not in attendance

Meeting Agenda:

Call to Order – 9:01 AM

1. Towboat test money, owed to AWSA
 - a. AWSA will receive half of the money at the end of this year and half at the beginning of 2023
 - b. Suggestions of what to use the money for:
US Teams
Programming/Technology
2. Nationals Contract (financial page emphasis) note we are only nationals
USAWSWS takes money from
 - a. Simplify the formula and be more transparent
 - b. Past contract stated that 25% of entry fees go to USAWSWS
Current contract states that 10% goes to USAWSWS
 - c. New contract would help AWSA/LOC Financials
- 2A. 2023 Nationals
 - a. WBP wants to do it in 4 days, August 8-12
 - b. Wants to hold a 55K men/women tournament – August 11
Finals under the lights with food trucks/alcohol and a band possibly

Discussion on costs to run Nationals

Do we bring in someone to run the event - taking a majority of coordination effort off the LOC's hands.

3. US Open rights - we now retain, so what do we do with it.
 - a. Difficult to raise money for this event
 - b. Boat dealers already have one big event that they sponsor each year
 - c. Lyman will work on a brief outline of the tournament and present it to outside people/companies in case someone wants to take it on

- 4a. 2024 Jr US Open is at San Marcos

- 4b. 2025 Jr US Open bid from Stillwaters, WI (Tony Drake)
Motion - Lyman, 2nd Karen - Approved
 - a. Not bringing in the level of skiers the last few years – what needs to be done to build this up. No discussion

5. 2024-25 Nationals Bakersfield is interested
 - a. Discussion – apprehension due to past Nationals at the site
 - b. Currently have verbal bid – LOC wants to talk to Dennis
 - c. Lyman will ask for a “broad” contract needed by January 2, 2023

6. Have USAWSWS combine AKA (31 members)/USH (28 members) and no preference (26 members) with show skiing, establish minimum membership numbers, what do we do with wake sports (62 members)
 - a. Karen will look at the Bylaws of USAWSWS to see if this is allowed
and see what the current requirements are for a Sport discipline to have a vote on USAWSWS Board.

7. 2023 Nationals webcast/ can we afford to telecast 4 lake site?
 - a. Challenges – internet service, will cost more with 4 lakes
 - b. Recommendations
 - i. ask TWBC for options
 - ii. only webcast the Juniors and the Pros
 - iii. don't have it every year
 - iv. should money from AWSA and USAWSWS be put aside annually similar to what has been done the past two years?

- New Items:

8. US National Records set by a skier who is dual citizen, but continues to ski for own country at World Events – Discussion
 - a. Phillipa Shed's Slalom record will stand
Rules were followed, but some are not happy with the outcome

- 8a. Some skiers that have been displaced due to IWWF ruling on Belarus/Russian skiers and now these skiers want to ski for US teams in the future
 - a. Only skiers with US Citizenship and US Passport can ski on US Teams
 - b. Dual Citizens are able to ski on US Teams if they have not skied for another country

9. SQC – need to get the percentiles for the ranking list updated. May be too late for 2023, so need to start working on 2024
 - a. Discussion regarding qualification for Nationals – too easy to qualify for some

10. Nationals Task Force
 - a. looking at nationals size, qualification and hosting possibilities
 - b. Need feedback from the regions

11. We had 167 new members from the ski companies promotion – give a free membership with the purchase of a new ski

Adjourn: 11:01 am

**USA WS American Water Ski Association
Budget vs Actual (Pro Forma) November 30, 2022**

	Development ed Funds	
	Actual	
Begin Balance 1/1/22	9550.02	B/S check
Income		138645.36
<hr/>		
Contributions		
General Support		
Interest Income		
National Entry Fee	20550.76	
Regional Support		
Team Support - Auction Items		
Total Team Support	0.00	
Total Income	20550.76	
<hr/>		
Expense		
Awards / U.S. Open		
Membership/USAWS		
Directors Insurance		
Officials Maintenance		
Meeting Expenses (includes Pink Sheet Inventory)		
Travel		
Scoring Website		
Bank Service		
Uniforms (paydown of Inventory)		
Nationals Webcast		
Fundraising Expenses		
Team Expenses-Uniform Inventory	18546.89	
Elite PA World Team		
Programming		
Junior Development		
Total Expense	18546.89	
Net Income	2003.87	
End Ending Balance 11/30/22	11553.89	B/S check 167174.92
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<i>Notes:</i>		
**Other Team Restricted Fund Balances 11/30/22		167174.92
Physician		0.00
Can Am Team		
MW Genl Team		
World Games		
<hr/>		
Unallocated Team Funds		
PanAm Funds		
Total		

AWSA Announcers Committee Report 2023

January 28, 2023

For AWSA Winter Meeting

Authored by: Jim Powell, Chairman



Introduction

This report marks the first change in Chairmanship of the Announcers Committee that I'm aware of. I'm proud to now serve as chair of this important committee. As I step into this position, I'm excited to build on the work that has been done. Announcing is a role that can help make being on site at an AWSA tournament feel like an event rather than just a bunch of people skiing. At the least, announcing can keep skiers and others on-site informed about what's going on. At its best announcing can add to the excitement, recognize sponsors, and most importantly bring focus to the amazing performances that take place on the water, no matter the level.

Thanks to Hank

The announcers committee would like to thank Hank Longo for laying a great groundwork and setting an example for how to elevate the quality of announcing at AWSA tournaments and events. Hank, a USA Water Ski Hall of Fame recipient, fellow announcer, and first recipient of the Tommy Bartlett Outstanding Announcers Award in 1996, has put countless hours into training and development of AWSA Announcers.

He along with the support of other announcers from a variety of sports disciplines authored the original 40 page Announcers Manual.

We'll continue to call on Hank for his support and expertise as this committee develops future initiatives.

Current Committee Members

Eastern Region – Jim Powell (Chair)

Midwest Region - Cole Kalkbrenner

South Central Region - Todd Leach

Southern Region - Tommy Newman

Western Region - Ryan Nason

Please send comments to:

Jim Powell

Chair, AWSA Announcers Committee

Jim.skiboy@gmail.com

703-395-7891

AWSA Announcers Meeting Notes

The AWSA announcers committee had a virtual meeting on November 3rd. Present was Ryan Nason, Cole Kalkbrenner and Jim Powell. With follow-up from Todd Leach and Tommy Newman.

Initiatives

- 1) Announcers Tips
 - a. Create a concise one sheet of Announcers Tips
 - i. Pull highlights from current full Announcers Manual
 - ii. Jim has created an OCR of the original scanned PDF V1 manual. Working on clean-up.
 - iii. Keep Tips to 1 or 2 pages
 - iv. Create separate sheet for just Chief Announcers
 - v. To be reviewed by committee and peers.
 - vi. Complete by April 1, 2023 and have posted on website

- 2) Technology
 - a. Discussed need for PA technology recommendations for LOCS
 - i. Getting sound around the lake
 1. Transmission
 2. IP
 3. Analog cabling
 - ii. Working with onsite and webcast
 1. Mixer technology
 2. Wiring configuration
 3. Interfacing

- 3) Skier Information / Bios
 - a. Review and update information requested for skier bios
 - b. Develop list of data that could be pulled from ranking list
 - c. Request better data access for Announcers Committee
 - i. Ability to access raw data that can be used to track performance
 - ii. Ability to generate custom reports for announcing.
 - d. Give Chief Announcer access to print tournament bios from WSTIMS
 - e. How might we use WWS as a source for skier information?

- 4) Announcers Training and Development
 - a. What should we do beyond the manual?
 - b. New announcer development program
 - i. Clinics?
 - ii. Announcer certification
 - iii. Qualifications for Premier tournaments
 1. How to measure

- 5) P&P plus Rules Recommendations
 - a. Add Announcers Committee to AWSA P&P
 - b. Request Rules change
 - i. 6.02, H - It is also recommended to appoint 1 announcer per lake for Regional tournaments.
 - ii. 6.03, J - It is also recommended for all tournaments that the LOC appoint 1 announcer per lake.

2022 Award Winners

AWSA:

Athlete of the Year:	Regina Jaquess
Jr. Athlete of the Year:	Lexi Abelson
Male Slalom Skier of the Year:	Nate Smith
Female Slalom Skier of the Year:	Regina Jaquess
Male Trick Skier of the Year:	Jake Abelson
Female Trick Skier of the Year:	Erika Lang
Male Jump Skier of the Year:	Freddy Krueger
Female Jump Skier of the Year:	Lauren Morgan
Male Overall Skier of the Year:	Blaze Grubbs
Female Overall Skier of the Year:	Brooke Baldwin
Team of the Year:	35+ World Team
Volunteer of the Year:	Bob Harris

USA-WSWS:

Male Athlete of the Year:	Noah Kinnaman
Female Athlete of the Year:	Teri Jones
Jr. Athlete of the Year:	Lexi Abelson
Coach of the Year:	Matt Heilman & David Rezin
Volunteer of the Year:	Mike Mosley & Jazmine Gagner
Team of the Year:	Arizona State University
Club of the Year:	Aquanaut Water Shows

AWSA Bylaws Committee Report

Date: December 10, 2022

To: AWSA Board of Directors

From: Karen L. Melnik, Chair AWSA Bylaws Committee

Re: 2023 Winter Report, AWSA Bylaws Committee

The committee members, to include Jeff Clark (S), Michael Tilton (E), Lisa Holland (SC), Bill Murbach (MW), Chris Converse (W), Brian Detrick (AAC), Karen Truelove (AAC), and I would like to express our appreciation for allowing us to serve the organization. The AWSA Bylaws Committee reviewed a proposed addition to the AWSA Policy and Procedures (P&P) from the Chairperson of the Announcer's Committee (Jim Powell). The proposed addition would add 12.4 Announcer's Committee under the Special Committee section of the P&P:

12.4 ANNOUNCER'S COMMITTEE

Purpose: The committee shall implement, review, modify and oversee the certification and education program for all current and aspiring AWSA certified Announcers, with the goal of increasing both the number of Announcers and the expertise of these volunteers, as well as the opportunities available to them to work in their capacity.

Membership: There shall be at least one representative from each AWSA Region as selected by the Regional Executive Vice Presidents and approved by the President. The Athlete Advisory Committee may appoint one or more representatives. At the discretion of the AWSA President, at large members may also be appointed (non-voting).

Responsibilities: The committee shall advocate for announcing at AWSA tournaments, work with the LOCs to improve quality of announcing and facilities and provide continuing education and guidance to existing and aspiring certified announcers.

Specific Policies or Practices Governing the Committee: Decisions shall be made by a 2/3 vote and are subject to Board Approval. The committee shall attempt to meet in person or virtually at least once each year.

Rationale: Although the Announcer's Committee has existed for many years as a Special Committee, it does not appear in the P&P with the other Special Committees. Articulating the purpose and responsibilities of the committee is consistent with the other committees identified in the P&P.

The Bylaws Committee remains open to the membership and the Board of Directors for issues to consider.

National Drivers Committee Report

December 2022

Committee Members

Chris Eller-Chair

Scott Ellis-Athlete

Jon Travers-Athlete

Mark Roske-West

Chris Kosek-Midwest

Scott Greenwood-South Central

Eric Kelly-South

Al Harris-East

Will Bush-Consultant

Chris Eller was appointed Chair of the committee following the US Nationals in August. The committee is seeing a tremendous amount of change, mostly due to the new Boat Path Monitoring Systems (BPMS) now available. They are being used extensively throughout the world, and the amount of data received weekly is extraordinary. Based on the performances of the drivers at US Nationals and Record events throughout the country driving quality and consistency is certainly improving across the board. It is a great teaching tool for up and coming drivers. The biggest question now is how to interpret and utilize all the data we are receiving. The driver committee would like to encourage all events to use BPMS during jump events. This data is important as deviation maximums for the jump event will likely be implemented in the future.

The committee is working on updating driver testing materials so that BPMS data can be used for grading purposes. Parameters are in place for boat path deviation but no real way to measure it live during testing existed until now. These changes may lead to adjustment of criteria to achieve each level, possibly adding an "Elite" driver rating for International/Pro event purposes. IWWF is looking to create a list of drivers they would use in these type of events based on their performances in record tournaments and Elite/International events.

Al Harris is updating the Driver Policy manual currently. This will add Masters Ratings to the Fast Track program to align with other officials programs for Elite skiers. Also language was added for the procedure Chief Drivers will use to communicate credit for drivers that pull practice at Regionals and Nationals. Clarification that they did not drive at the event but will get credit for driving practice.

Internationally a database is being talked about to house all the BPMS data received for each driver. The idea is this would allow each driver a unique login where they could see their data and use it as a tool to improve their driving. If implemented correctly and criteria can be established this database could do away with the need for upgrade/testing clinics. If a person has enough data in the system they could simply

apply to upgrade and the committee could approve or deny the upgrade request. It would be a live list much like the skiers ranking list we have now.

Will Bush headed up a group to host a virtual driver clinic the first weekend in December. There were also several TC's, scorers, and judges involved with teaching and participating. There were 220+ attendees to the Surepath portion of the clinic. This portion consisted of basics starting with how the system works and setup all the way through troubleshooting issues and how the system interacts with the scoring program. The second portion of the clinic was more traditional for aspiring assistant drivers as well as those who needed a clinic for upgrade. The information was easy to understand, very well presented and covered the topic very well.

Don Butcher from the South Central Region has been granted "Retired" driver status. Ron Ives is pending approval from the AWSA Board of Directors for Driver Emeritus status. Both were overly qualified and received easy confirmation from their regions and the Driver Committee.

AWSA INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

November 9, 2022

The AWSA International Activities Committee (IAC) met by Zoom on November 9, 2021. In attendance were Hutch Haines (East), Doug Robbins (East), Ben Favret (South), Lyman Hardy (South), Kerri Lee (South Central), Sam Greenwood (South Central), Connie Bergmark (West), Brandy Nagle (West), Larry Downs (Midwest), Jeff Smith (Chair, Midwest), Scot Ellis (AAC), and Lori Krueger (AAC). Absent was Corey Vaughn (AAC). Dana Garcia attended the first part of the meeting to make a presentation regarding a drivers survey and the driver selection process, as discussed below.

The first item on the agenda was the review and approval of the minutes from the November 2021 meeting, and the board reports for January and August 2022. The minutes and board reports were approved.

Next was a discussion of the events held during 2021. A tournament report was received from Jill Smith, manager of the 35+ World Championships team. The primary discussion was focused on the information gathered during the athlete “notice of interest” process, and how that process could be improved by providing more athlete information to the team manager to assist with the team registration process and team communications. In addition to Jill’s comments, Kerri Lee (who posts and manages the athlete “notice of interest” process) has communicated with the managers of the 2022 teams about how to improve the process. Changes to this process will be made going forward, to reflect the input received.

Dana Garcia then presented the results of an athlete survey of drivers, which included some (but not all) drivers from outside the U.S., in addition to athlete survey responses on U.S. drivers who are either qualified as international (Pan Am) three-event drivers or drivers who have recently driven professional events (one or more events). In addition to the survey information, the IAC believes that Sure Path data would also be a helpful tool (Will Bush is reportedly working on a reporting process for this data). Currently, only three event drivers are considered by the IAC as nominees for international events, and it was discussed whether single event (or two event) drivers might also be considered. Historically, the Pan Am TC and IWWF TC have only considered three event drivers, and there is no change currently proposed to this practice at either the Pan Am or IWWF level (although there has reportedly been some informal discussion about making a change). It is not anticipated that the Pan Am TC or IWWF TC would consider any single- or two event nominees for 2023, although Dana asked that we give consideration to nominating one or more single- or two event driver candidates (at least as alternates).

The IAC discussed how the drivers selection process could be improved, including continuing and evolving the athlete survey process (to be coordinated with Dana, who oversaw the 2022 athlete driver survey), gathering Sure Path data, and updating the “stepping stones” data collection and requirements. More detailed resume information should also be collected for drivers. The IAC agreed that we should continue to evolve this process to promote

opportunities for drivers who are qualified and have a level of experience appropriate for the tournament nomination under consideration.

The “stepping stones” process was also discussed, both in terms of officials and drivers. This process is intended to ensure that nominees for international judge, scorer, driver and other positions have adequate experience to qualify them to serve at world championships and other international events, and that they have the skills needed to perform at a high level at those events. It was agreed that the “stepping stones” policy should be reviewed and updated, and Lyman, Doug and Sam agreed to be on a sub-committee to make recommended updates and changes for the IAC’s consideration.

Next was a discussion of the upcoming 2022 Pan American Championships and 2022 U17 World Championships. Those teams were previously selected and announced, and there was a general discussion regarding these upcoming tournaments. Of note was the tight funding of the Open Division athletes and team staff (for the Pan American Championships), and the tight funding of the team staff for the U17 World Championships (we do not fund age division athletes or staff for age division-only events). Lyman indicated that he was working on improving the funding situation for 2023, and that this was an issue that would be discussed further as a part of the upcoming board meeting. The committee noted that the U14 team currently has funds in its designated account, and agreed that 2022 Pan Am Championships U14 team members should be reimbursed for their entry and practice fees from that account (unlike other age division teams, the U14 team has no other international events for the utilization of those funds). Special thanks should be given to our Pan American team staff (Mark Lane – coach; Courtney Lane – manager; Dr. John Carder – team physician), and our U17 team staff (Sam Greenwood – coach; Jessica Van Dyk – manager; Dr. Robert Kacprowicz – team physician).

The committee then turned to a general discussion of athlete selection procedures and requirements. In general, the committee believes that the current Q&P process generally continues to work well. The committee noted that questions have recently been raised regarding the issue of skiers’ designated federations as it relates to skiers whose federation has been transferred from another country to the U.S., and how this impacts the eligibility of those skiers to ski as U.S. team members. The committee discussed the current IWWF Rules of Eligibility for Athletes for World and Confederation titled Events (adopted in late October 2022), noting that the current IWWF Eligibility Rules state that “being qualified for a country requires the athlete to be in possession of a passport of that country.” Unresolved is the issue of the eligibility of athletes whose federation was changed under the prior IWWF policy (which did not address the requirement of holding a passport from the “new” country), and who do not hold a U.S. passport. The IAC decided to update the 2023 Q&Ps for international teams to reflect the current IWWF Eligibility Rules, and to address any issues relating to athlete federation changes under the prior rules if and when they arise. Except for updating the athlete federation affiliation requirement, the committee agreed that the most recent Open Worlds and U21 Worlds Q&Ps should remain unchanged (except for tournament information and dates).

The “athlete pipeline” issue was then discussed, specifically the issue of how we can retain qualified athletes (including three-event athletes) as they come up from the junior ranks. This has been a challenge for many years, with no obvious solutions. Ben, Scot and Kerri were appointed to a sub-committee to look at this issue, and to make recommendations to the committee for consideration.¹

The current Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct were then discussed, and the committee agreed there was no reason to revise or update these documents. It was noted that we have completed USOPC’s review of these policies in anticipation of the 2023 Pan Am Games, and that USOPC did not request any changes to these documents.

A discussion was then held about the 2023 international events. It is Canada’s turn to host the Can Am Challenge, although Canada has not yet moved forward with the planning of this event. The Chair will continue to discuss this with Canada, and keep the committee informed. No information is yet available about the 2023 35+ Pan American Championships. It was also noted that USOPC has reviewed and approved our 2023 Pan Am Games Q&Ps and team staff selection procedures, and those are posted on the website. The requirement that team members complete all SafeSport and background check requirements, and sign the Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct, was noted. USA-WSWS staff continues to handle this.

The next item discussed was the ongoing difficulty of obtaining team staff. Kerri has (and will continue to) send out solicitations of interest to everyone who has historically served or expressed interest in these roles, and will continue her efforts. It was also noted that we still need to update our team staff “checklist” to assist staff in meeting the requirements and timeline for team registration, fee payments, SafeSport and background screening, etc.

The committee then discussed the selection of officials (judges, scorers and drivers; the IAC provides Dana, as Pan Am TC representative, with the names of TCs and Safety personnel expressing interest in working at one or more international events). The committee decided to proceed with the selection of officials nominees for the Pan Am Games, but to defer selecting (and re-advertise for) officials for the Open Worlds and U21 Worlds because the dates and locations of those tournaments had just been announced. Likewise, the selection of officials for the 35+ Pan American Championships will be deferred (and re-advertised) once the date and location of that tournament has been announced.

After a discussion of the nomination of officials for the 2023 Pan Am Games (which the Chair did not participate in, as he was under consideration), the following nominees were selected:

Judge 1:	Jeff Smith
Judge 2:	Nikki Lee

¹ In light of Ben’s departure from the committee, a new sub-committee representative will be appointed to replace him.

Scorer: Nikki Lee (if not selected as a judge)
Driver 1: Matt Byrne
Driver 2: Mark Roske

These nominees will be notified after board approval of these IAC minutes.

It was then noted that the IAC has had a standing sub-committee for 35+ competition, made up of Jill Smith, Stan Switzer, Connie and Brandy. This sub-committee has worked well, and will remain in place for 2023.

It was noted that the IAC needs additional athlete participation to comply with the new Bylaws requirements. Scot and Lori will continue as AAC representatives. It was suggested that Lauren Morgan might have interest (she has since been appointed by the AAC as a committee representative). Corey Vaughn does not actively participate as a committee member.

The meeting was then adjourned, to be re-opened for the selection of officials for the 2023 Open Worlds and U21 Worlds.

The meeting was then re-opened on December 6 for the selection of officials nominees for the 2023 Open Worlds and U21 Worlds. In attendance were Doug Robbins (East), April Coble (South), Lyman Hardy (South), Kerri Lee (South Central), Sam Greenwood (South Central), Connie Bergmark (West), Larry Downs (Midwest), Jeff Smith (Chair, Midwest), Lauren Morgan (AAC), and Lori Krueger (AAC). Absent were Hutch Haines (East), Brandy Nagle (West), Scot Ellis (AAC), and Corey Vaughn (AAC).

After a discussion (during which the chair, Larry, Sam and April did not participate as to events/positions for which their parent or spouse was under consideration), the following nominees were selected:

2023 Open World Championships (Groveland, Florida)

CJ/ACJ: Lisa Steiner
Judge 1: Lisa Steiner
Judge 2: Richelle Muhlitner
Judge 3: Cyndi Benzel
Scorer 1: Robert Howerton
Scorer 2: Nikki Lee
Driver 1: Scott Greenwood
Driver 2: Scot Ellis

2023 U21 World Championships (Chapala, Mexico)

CJ/ACJ: Jeff Smith

Judge 1: Jeff Smith
Judge 2: Dan Van Dyk
Scorer: Larry Downes
Driver 1: Chris Eller
Driver 2: Greg Badal

These nominees will also be notified after board approval of these IAC minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, subject to the selection of officials for the 35+ Pan Am Championships once information about the tournament is available.

**2023 U.S. TEAM SELECTION
and
INDEPENDENT SKIER NOTIFICATION
QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES
World Championships**

A. Team Description

A six-member team will be selected to compete at the 2023 World Championships. The tournament will be held October 8-15, 2023 at Jack Travers International Tournament Skiing in Groveland, FL., U.S.A. The team will be announced on or about **August 29, 2023**.

B. Team and Independent Athlete Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility for selection to the U.S. Team shall be:

1. U.S. citizen or passport holder (see IWWF Rules of Eligibility for World and Confederation Titled Events; see also IWWF Rule 14.13); and
2. Member of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports in good standing.

C. Notice of Interest Requirements and Procedures

To be considered for a position on this team, *or to compete as an independent athlete (see IWWF eligibility rules for independent athletes at IWWF Rule 15)*, **ALL ATHLETES MUST FULLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STEPS BY July 24, 2023:**

1. **Notice of Interest to be selected as a *member of the U.S. Team* (athletes must indicate the event(s) in which they are interested in competing) must be submitted;**
2. **Notice of intent to participate as an *independent athlete* must be submitted (independent athletes can only participate in the tournament through this process; independent athletes not completing this process will not be entered). Independent athletes first qualifying through the IWWF Weekly Ranking List (after the Notice of Intent deadline) may still be allowed to enter, but may have to pay an increased entry fee.**
3. **These notice forms are online at [\[link\]](#)**
4. In completing these forms, all athletes (or their parent/guardian in the case of minor athletes) **must acknowledge and agree to the USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Code of Conduct and Athlete Agreement**. Those documents are available for review online at USA-WSWS's website. All athletes must also complete all applicable SafeSport requirements, and (for athletes 18 years and older) complete a background check.
5. **Full payment of all entry fees for independent athletes must be received by the official U.S. team manager, not later than the Notice of Interest deadline. All independent athletes filing a Notice of intent to participate will be advised of the entry fees in advance of the payment deadline.** All fees are non-refundable (for any reason) except full or partial refunds will be made to athletes selected as team members. Forfeited fees will be used to fund team expenses, as determined by the IAC and Team Manager.
6. All completed athlete Notices of Interest will be acknowledged.
7. A list of all submitted athlete Notices of Interest (who have filed a Notice of Interest and paid all fees) will be available online beginning approximately four (4) weeks before the Notice of Interest deadline. Notices of Interest will not be considered as received unless the Notice of Interest form has been completed and payment of all fees has been received.

8. **Primary consideration will be given to those individuals who have completed this process on a timely basis, but the IAC reserves the right to consider other individuals for the team.**
9. Questions regarding this process should be addressed to IAC members _____, or _____.
10. Wild Card Entries. "Wild card" entries may also be submitted by the IAC per IWWF Rule 14.14, allowing the entry of skiers will may not otherwise be qualified to ski in this tournament (or who may be qualified to ski some, but not all, events). These entries will be selected by the IAC in its sole discretion. Athletes who wish to be considered for a "wild card" entry should contact _____ and _____ to advise them (not later than the above deadline) of their interest, and should also submit information supporting their request for consideration.

D. Selection Considerations

The AWSA International Activities Committee (IAC) is tasked with the responsibility of selecting athletes to participate on the Water Ski Teams that will represent the United States in International Competitions. The committee's primary goal in this process is to select teams that will have the greatest opportunity to win each of the international competitions. In this selection process, there are numerous considerations that the committee will utilize in the effort to select the best combination of athletes for each tournament, with the ultimate goal to win the event's team title. These elements include, but are not limited to:

1. Numerical Division of Male / Female athletes to make up the team;
2. Numerical scores from selected tournaments that precede the target event and are close enough in time to the target competition to produce the most viable team (see Team Selection Score procedures below). These scores are compared to expected scores from other international teams to predict the anticipated scores that may be produced using the existing scores for comparison;
3. Each individual skier's past performance in recent premier tournaments, to include any issues that may or could possibly affect anticipated scores in the target international competition;
4. The ability of any skier to function in a team atmosphere, contribute to a team effort, and other positive or negative factors that may exist.

The IAC reserves the right to rely on all of these factors in selecting this team. In the event of unforeseen circumstances which, in the judgment of the IAC, render these considerations and procedures clearly ineffective, the IAC may (by a two-thirds vote of the full IAC committee) amend these considerations and procedures as necessary to accomplish the goals of the AWSA International Competition Program.

E. Procedures and Team Selection Score Calculation

1. The team will be selected based on the above requirements and criteria. No team trials will be held.
2. Sex distribution for the team shall be 3/3 or 4/2.
3. Each Athlete's Team Selection Score shall be determined as follows:
 - a) Each athlete's Team Selection Score shall be determined from the athlete's three best tournament scores in each event (the events being slalom, trick and jump) which shall be

extracted from USA Water Ski & Wake Sports, and International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation, scores (Class L and R tournaments) for tournament performances during the period of August 14, 2022 to August 27, 2023 (inclusive). Each score must be from a different site. Scores from 2023 will be given primary consideration, although the IAC may consider 2022 scores for skiers with fewer than three 2023 scores, or for skiers with one or more 2022 scores which are higher than one or more 2023 performances. To be considered, all U.S. tournament performances must be reported to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (through the tournament organizer or scorer) not later than August 28, 2023 at 11:59 PM; proof of all international tournament performances (IWWF Class L or R) not otherwise reported to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports must be submitted by each athlete to the IAC (to the above IAC representatives) not later than August 28, 2023, at 11:59 PM. All tournament performances are subject to verification by the IAC. It is each athlete's responsibility to ensure that all eligible scores are submitted in a timely manner. No late-reported scores, or scores which cannot be verified, will be considered.

b) Each athlete's Team Selection Score will be determined by weighting the three tournament scores as follows:

- i) 50% of the athlete's best score, plus
- ii) 50% of the athlete's average score (average of the three scores).

c) Each athlete's Team Selection Score, as determined through this process, shall then be considered in selecting the team.

4. A foreign team pool will then be determined. **Three Foreign Teams** (those opposing teams expected to be most competitive at the World Championships) shall be the basis of the **Foreign Team pool****. If the **Base Score** (see section 7 below) in any event is likely to be established by a **Foreign Team** member who is not on one of the first three **Foreign Teams**, then these scores shall be treated as **Wild Card Scores** for the purpose of establishing the **Base Scores** in three events.

5. Combinations of six U.S. skiers will be identified (Team 1, Team 2, etc.) and shall be hereafter referred to as **Team X**. Each **Team X** shall meet the gender requirements above, and shall have at least three skiers in each event (tricks, slalom, and jump).

6. Each **Team X** (and **Foreign Team Xs**) **Team Score** shall be calculated in a simulated World Championships tournament, using the Team Selection Score for each member.

7. Scoring shall be based on the 1,000 point system outlined in IWWF Competition Rule 15. The 1000 points in each event shall be awarded to the higher of:

- a) The best **Team Selection Score** from the members of **Team X**; or,
- b) The best **Team Selection Score** from the members of the **Foreign Team** pool; or,
- c) The best **Wild Card Score**

The highest score (from 7a-c) shall form the **Base Score** for men and women in each event. Each competitor (U.S. & Foreign) will be awarded **Individual Overall Points** according to the relationship of his/her **Team Selection Score** to the **Base Score** for that event, as follows:

Men's Tricks: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules
Women's Tricks: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules
Men's Slalom: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules
Women's Slalom: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules
Men's Jump: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules
Women's Jump: Calculated from IWWF Rule 15.04 of the Competition Rules

8. The **Team Score** for **Team X** and each **Foreign Team** will be calculated (as per IWWF Technical Rule 5.05) by summing the best three **Individual Overall Points** scores, from either gender, in each event (3 slalom, 3 tricks, & 3 Jump).

9. **Team X** having the highest **Team Score** with at least four team members in each event will be named the U.S Team unless:

a) Its **Team Score** does not produce a winning team; or,

b) The **Team Score** is not considered to produce a large enough win margin; in which case, the IAC may consider other **Team X's** with fewer than 4 scores per event, according to the following prioritized event combinations: (Slalom, Trick, Jump) (4,4,3 - 3,4,4 - 4,3,4 - 3,4,3 - 4,3,3 - 3,3,4 - 3,3,3)***.

c) Other Selection Criteria (see above) are determined by the IAC to substantially outweigh this numerical analysis.

F. Other Information

1. All registered independent skiers for the U.S.A. will be designated by the IAC as alternates to the U.S. Team. The method of selecting these alternates will be at the discretion of the IAC and will not necessarily be based on any fixed formula.

2. Excellence in competition is the sole determining factor in making any U.S. Team. The policy of the IAC is always to send the best possible team.

**** Foreign Team Selection Score:** The current formula for calculating the Raw Score Value for foreign team members is based on the original methodology developed with the introduction of this team selection program.

The formula is: Foreign Skier Team selection Score = Top-2 Avg/2 + Median/2.

***** Risk Factor:** "Risk Factor" is a formula used to quantify the Team Selection Score that would result in a case where the fourth (4th) highest Individual Overall Points value (in each event) was substituted in place of one of the top 3 Individual Overall Points values used to calculate the original Team Selection Score.

**2023 U.S. TEAM SELECTION
and
INDEPENDENT SKIER
QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES
Under 21 World Championships**

A. Team Description

A six-member team will be selected to compete at the 2021 Under 21 World Championships. The tournament will be held June 19-25, in Chapala, Mexico. The team will be announced on or about **May 9, 2023**.

B. Team and Independent Athlete Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility for selection to the U.S. Team shall be:

1. U.S. citizen or passport holder (see IWWF Rules of Eligibility for World and Confederation Titled Events; see also IWWF Rule 14.13);
2. Active member of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports in good standing, born in 2002 or later (per IWWF eligibility rules). Age qualification rules are set forth in IWWF Rules 2.03, 17.01.

C. Notice of Interest Requirements and Procedures

To be considered for a position on this team, *or to compete as an independent athlete (see IWWF eligibility rules for independent athletes at IWWF Rule 17)*, **ALL ATHLETES MUST FULLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STEPS BY April 18, 2023:**

- 11. Notice of Interest to be selected as a *member of the U.S. Team* (athletes must indicate the event(s) in which they are interested in competing) must be submitted;**
- 12. Notice of intent to participate as an *independent athlete* must be submitted (independent athletes can only participate in the tournament through this process; independent athletes not completing this process will not be entered). Independent athletes first qualifying though the IWWF Weekly Ranking List (after the Notice of Intent deadline) may still be allowed to enter, but may have to pay an increased entry fee.**
- 13. These notice forms are online at [link](#)**
- 14. In completing these forms, all athletes (or their parent/guardian in the case of minor athletes) must acknowledge and agree to the USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Code of Conduct and Athlete Agreement.** Those documents are available for review online at USA-WSWS's website. All athletes must also complete all applicable SafeSport requirements, and (for athletes 18 years and older) complete a background check.
- 15. Full payment of all entry and team fees must be received by the official U.S. team manager, not later than the Notice of Interest deadline.** All athletes filing a Notice of intent to participate will be advised of the entry and team fees in advance of the payment deadline. All fees are non-refundable (for any reason) except: (a) full or partial refunds will be made to athletes selected as team members in the event/to the extent that team funding is available; and (b) refunds will be made to athletes who only express interest in being selected to the team, i.e., no refund will be made to athletes submitting a Notice of Interest and also indicating an intent to participate as an independent athlete. Forfeited fees will be used to fund team expenses, as determined by the IAC and Team Manager.
- 16. All completed athlete Notices of Interest will be acknowledged.**

17. A list of all submitted athlete Notices of Interest (who have filed a Notice of Interest and paid all fees) will be available online beginning approximately four (4) weeks before the Notice of Interest deadline. Notices of Interest will not be considered as received unless the Notice of Interest form has been completed and payment of all fees has been received.
18. **Primary consideration will be given to those individuals who have completed this process on a timely basis, but the IAC reserves the right to consider other individuals for the team.**
19. Questions regarding this process should be addressed to IAC members _____ or _____.
20. Wild Card Entries. "Wild card" entries may also be submitted by the IAC per IWWF Rule 14.14, allowing the entry of skiers who may not otherwise be qualified to ski in this tournament (or who may be qualified to ski some, but not all, events). These entries will be selected by the IAC in its sole discretion. Athletes who wish to be considered for a "wild card" entry should contact _____ or _____ to advise them (not later than the above deadline) of their interest, and should also submit information supporting their request for consideration.

D. Team Selection Considerations

The AWSA International Activities Committee (IAC) is tasked with the responsibility of selecting athletes to participate on the Water Ski Teams that will represent the United States in International Competitions. The committee's primary goal in this process is to select teams that will have the greatest opportunity to win each of the international competitions. In this selection process there are numerous considerations that the committee will utilize in the effort to select the best combination of athletes for each tournament, with the ultimate goal to win the team title. These elements include, but are not limited to:

1. Numerical Division of Male / Female athletes to make up the team;
2. Numerical scores from selected tournaments that precede the event and are close enough in time to the event to produce the most viable team (see Team Selection Score procedures below). These scores are compared to expected scores from other international teams to predict the anticipated scores that may be produced;
3. Each individual skier's past performance in recent premier tournaments, to include any issues that may or could possibly affect anticipated scores in the target international competition;
4. The ability of any skier to function in a team atmosphere, contribute to a team effort, and other positive or negative factors that may exist.

The IAC reserves the right to rely on all of these factors in selecting this team. In the event of unforeseen circumstances which, in the judgment of the IAC, render these considerations and procedures clearly ineffective, the IAC may (by a two-thirds vote of the full IAC committee) amend these qualifications and procedures as necessary to accomplish the goals of the AWSA International Competition Program.

E. Team Selection Procedures and Score Calculations (Team Athletes Only)

1. The team will be selected based on the above requirements and criteria. No team trials will be held.
2. Sex distribution for the team shall be 3/3 or 4/2.

3. Each athlete's "Team Selection Score" shall be determined. The Team Selection Score shall be the average of each skier's **two** best tournament scores in each event (the "events" being slalom, trick, and jump) which shall be extracted from USA Water Ski & Wake Sports ranking list performances (Class E, L and R only) during the period beginning August 14, 2022 and ending on May 7, 2023 (inclusive). The IAC reserves the right to give preference to scores achieved in calendar year 2023. Each round score must be from a different site. To be considered, all scores must be reported (through each tournament's local organizing committee or scorer) to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports not later than Monday, May 8, 2023 at 11:59 PM (PDT). It is each athlete's responsibility to ensure that all eligible scores are submitted in a timely manner.
4. Team Selection Scores shall be based on the 1,000 point system where 1,000 points is the **greater of the average of the top two** Ranking Values on the most recent "officially posted as final" IWWF Rankings List and the highest score among U.S. scores posted for this selection process, excluding those who have aged out. The Team Selection Scores shall be computed in accordance with IWWF (U21 Competition) Rule 17.04. The scores resulting from these calculations (including an overall score computed based on the sum of these Team Selection Scores (from each event), in accordance with applicable IWWF Rules) shall be used in the numerical score evaluation process.
5. The top male and female skiers based on "overall score" will be selected first provided that the skier contributes to the team score in at least one event. "Overall score" is computed as the sum of the Team Selection scores from each of the three events.
6. The next skier will be the male or female skier with the next highest "overall score" provided that the skier contributes to the team score in at least one event.
7. The fourth and fifth skiers will be the male and/or female skiers with the highest "two event score" not already selected on the team, provided that the skier contributes to the team score. "Two event score" is defined as the sum of the two highest "event scores" for a skier.
8. The sixth skier will be the male or female skier with the highest "one event score" not already selected on the team, provided that the skier contributes to the team score.
9. The six skiers chosen following the above criteria will be Team 1. Then other combinations of six U.S. skiers will be identified and shall be hereafter referred to as "Team X." Each Team X shall meet the gender requirements above, and shall have at least three skiers in each event (slalom, tricks and jump). The Team Score for Team X will be calculated by summing the best three individual Team Selection Scores from each gender in each division (3 slalom, 3 tricks, and 3 jump). Consideration will be given to the number of scores per event, with the preference of at least four scores in each event (4 slalom, 4 tricks, and 4 jump). Team X having the highest Team Score will be named the U.S. Junior World Championships Team.
10. If there are no qualifying overall scores meeting some or all of the criteria (male and/or female) set forth in any of the above steps (steps (E.5-8)), the IAC will consider alternative criteria and procedures as necessary to accomplish the goals of the AWSA International Competition Program.
11. The IAC reserves the right to choose another combination of athletes who create a higher team overall score than chosen using the above steps.

12. The team selected through this process will be designated as the official 2023 Under 17 World Championships Team.

F. Other Information

1. The IAC may (but may not) designate alternates to the U.S. Team. The method of selecting these alternates will be at the discretion of the IAC and will not necessarily be based on any fixed formula.
2. Partial funding may be available for team members, but all skiers are responsible for all unfunded costs.
3. Excellence in competition is the sole determining factor in making any U.S. Team. The policy of the IAC is always to send the best possible team.

Judges & Scorers Committee Report

December 2022

The status of testing materials:

Videos for trick testing have been updated for both the Regular and Senior practical tests. These videos were submitted for inclusion in the Integrass system. The membership records are still a priority and the LMS portion of the Integrass database release dates is being identified as possible by mid-2024 and therefore the current videos are available via DropBox.

The LMS configuration requirements have not been clarified and therefore new videos are still on hold until the format and size limitations have been defined. The goal for the committee is to have new videos ready for review, approval, and distribution via the LMS, but is still in the planning and development process.

Slalom is still in process for updates and upgrades for both Regular and Senior tests. The previous test has been modified for current YouTube access and is working for both regular and senior testing. The resources and process of pulling clips have been a low priority. The committee worked to clarify and re-implement the current test in order to keep upgrade opportunities available.

Creation of a post-clinic specifically for online clinics, is being developed and could be available by mid-spring. It will be a "take it until you make it" focus, so failure isn't an option. Confirmation of information presented and digested is the expectation and should help ensure more universal expectations for what a judge or scorer uses for a criterion on judgements and interpretations.

Renewal testing has been recommended and will be piloted and implemented over the next year for a cycle possibly on a 4-year basis. Details are still being determined for levels and expectations. Consistency in expectations nationwide is a focus of this project.

Foreign officials:

The documentation for newly tested or re-tested PanAm officials has allowed for a segregation of records and expiration dates for Senior vs PanAm level judges, scorers and drivers in the officials' directory now that IWWF has more clearly defined how various levels equate from various federations. Several non-USA officials that were tested via the PanAm program are now included in the AWSA directory. An effort has been made to include all re-tested PanAm Judges, Scorers and Drivers from AWSA in the EMS database system with accurate testing dates and re-test dates. This project was implemented to allow and track AWSA officials working in IWWF administered events and continues to focus on new tracking dates, although all data is entered by hand and is a continuous work in progress.

IWWF has identified training criteria is the responsibility at the Federation level for what USAWSWS identifies as SafeSport. This adds to the complexity of the transition from foreign to AWSA. We are still looking into how we may want to handle this similarly to the Drivers Committee Attestation form, but that has not been confirmed at this time.

Tournament expectations:

The consensus of the committee is that the resource of live posting scores is a component of WSTIMS that should be a preferred activity at all events when possible. Accurate entry of officials assigned to events continues to be a critical component of all events, especially E or higher classes. This information is often the logged information that comes to play when questions or concerns create a need to review events. This information of who worked events or groups is important and shall include integration of driving records that reflect SurePath data being part of the submitted scorebook both for data analysis and for verification of maintaining expected tolerances by the drivers' and technical committees. The jump event SurePath data is still being assessed for updates in the rulebook, which makes including data from all classes appropriate to include.

Trick scores and trick videos via the WSTIMS Live Scoring component is also an expectation for E, L or R events. Many class C events are utilizing video timing and the process of accurate file naming and uploading is a strong foundation for officials upgrading or maintaining skills for all levels of events and should be included when possible.

The variety and broad range of data associated with posting this information allows for a resource for conversation and review when the committees assess future expectations and proposals to rule, technical or policy manuals.

The Seeding committee is asking for scorers or the person(s) submitting scorebooks adhere to timeframes listed in sanction documentation and to include all items required to complete a tournament scorebook package as a single upload.

Fast track:

The quantitative requirements are clear cut, but numerous skiers don't realize that the program isn't restricted to just senior upgrades and the committee is recommending a regular rating option be more visible.

The focus is for a top-level judge to be cognizant of the rules as well as administrative tasks related to the rating. The committee continues to review practical, written and experience minimums for all fast-track officials.

A topic being reviewed is for a Fast Track judge being restricted as an event judge for a limited time to ensure that administrative experience and expectations are being met. Further conversation is needed on this topic.

Manuals, Testing and Clinic materials

There are new rules and criteria that were implemented this year. The written tests have been corrected or updated to align with the current rules and have been used for several applicants. Debbie Kern and Ray Crenshaw have taken the lead on these projects and have been terrific at making appropriate materials available.

Bob Harris, Dave Allen and TG Powell are working to implement Senior Clinics for Judges and Scorers to address rule, technical and software changes that impact each category of official. Details will be shared once we confirm the when, where, and how.

Emeritus Requests: Board Approval Required

Bill Baker, Judge – ER approved

Jeran Hooten – SCR pending

Elgin Faulkner, Judge, TC –approved, Need letter from headquarters

Judges & Scorers Committee

Robert Howerton – chair

Ray Crenshaw

Jane Greenwood

Kate Knafla

Jim Grew - Consultant

Melanie Hanson - Consultant

Tom Nathan

TG Powell

Alex Lauretano - AAC

NATIONAL JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
DECEMBER 2022

- Financials
 - Income/expense report for 2022 attached.
 - Most notable: about \$2250 gains
 - As of 9/30/22 \$11,553.89 in account
 - 2023 Budget attached
- Fundraising
 - \$\$ raised for 2022: \$15,475 (sponsorships, raffle, live auction at Nationals)
 - Would like to increase Sponsorship dollars for 2023. This would likely come from families and business of our junior skiers, not necessarily ski companies.
 - Had meeting with Nate Boudreaux, Bob, Archambeau, Allison Blair, and Lauren Malitz to discuss an approach to get more fundraising dollars from companies. Goal is to try and find a company within the waterski community that would “own” different pieces of the National JD program. **Action item- need follow-up to this meeting
- National Jr. Team
 - Should be naming the National Jr. Team mid-late December, following updated Rankings List from Pan Am tournament .
 - Planning to go back to Sunset Lakes/Travers with the National Jr. Team Clinic in late March/early April.
 - Need to plan swag for team
- National Junior Party planning
 - Need to get with Embassy Suites to plan. Most likely to be scheduled for Thursday, August 10, 2023, at the hotel banquet room. Food is quite expensive, so might need to look elsewhere.
- Most Improved Awards for Regionals and Nationals
 - Last year we paid almost \$5500. This includes a Most Improved plaque for all junior divisions, for each event, for all 5 regions, plus the same for Nationals. Regional plaques are \$17.75 each and we ordered 190. National plaques are \$34.50 and we ordered 38.
 - Do we price another company? Do we find different plaques?
 - The JD committee has discussed the importance of these awards, and they are coveted to those who receive them. It just seems that now that there are 5 divisions instead of 3, having to order so many makes these prices very high. **Note that we had to increase the support from the regions last year to help pay for them, and each region is paying \$700.

PROPOSED RULES CHANGES FOR 2023

The AWSA annual Rules Meeting was held November 9th, 2022 via Zoom.

Members present

Richelle Muhlitner, Chair
Ryan Nason, West
Scott Snape, South
Danielle Duglosh, South Central
Kathy Ives, South Central
Erin Kalkbrenner, Mid West
Mason Mechler, Mid West
Gary Noll, East
Dave Allen, East
Corey Vaughn, AAC
Lori Krueger, AAC
Alex Lauretano, unable to attend
Cyndi Benzel, unable to attend due to hurricane Nicole

Guests

Dana Garcia, Pan Am Representative
Jerry Jackson, TC Chair

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These are the current rule proposals discussed at annual rules meeting. Along with our committee members present, Jerry Jackson and Dana Garcia joined in. There is a survey which is being sent out regarding Proposals 3, 19 and 21. We should have results before the meeting to review.

Proposal 1)

1.14 Tournament Review-Escalation Process ADD last paragraph.

It is incumbent upon the person alleging any failure to follow the rules to first personally complete due diligence to assure that the correct rules are considered before filing any complaint. Failure to comply can result in discipline to a member who files complaints that are not accurate as determined by Council, BOD or AWSA President.

Rationale: Wanted wording to make sure that there are no frivolous accusations which take up too much time before checking with the tournament committee.

Motion Ryan, Second Scott: Approved

Proposal 2)

2.05 Change wording to match current process for Nationals check in.

- A. Nationals: **All contestants must check to see if their registration is complete.** ~~All contestants must register for the National Tournament, either in person, by web registration at usawaterski.org, or through a representative, providing all required proof of qualification and fees no later than one-half hour before the scheduled start of the contestant's first event. If the skier's registration on usawaterski.org is incomplete or the skier is NOT shown as qualified and fully paid in the online registration system, then they would need to present themselves at on-site Registration. On-site registration must occur within the allowable hours as listed on usawaterski.org and in *The Water Skier* magazine.~~

Rationale: There was conflicting wording in 2.04 and 2.05 between entry and registration.

Motion Ryan, Second Corey: Approved

Proposal 3)

10.06 Change Men 9 max speed to 32mph vs 30mph

Motion Ryan, Second Gary: Approved

Survey being sent out.

Proposal 4)

4.02 ADD

4.02 National Tournament Qualifications

General: A contestant in the National Tournament must have competed in the corresponding event at his Regional Tournament (see Rules 4.03 and 4.06) during the same year. To have competed in an event at a Regional Tournament means to have attained skiing position in each event as defined in Rule 8.07. In addition, a contestant must qualify under Rules 4.02.A, 4.02.B, or 4.02.C (below) and must be a U.S. Citizen. **However, a competitor with dual citizenship who skis for another federation in an international competition (example: Worlds/Sr Worlds/Pan Am Games/World Games) to which the US sends a team, shall not be eligible for placement until after the next international tournament competition (same type as previously skied in: Worlds/Sr Worlds/Pan Am Games/World Games) in which the competitor did not ski for another federation.** ~~following their performance in that international competition.~~

Rationale: An issue came up where some of these tournaments were postponed because of Covid. Do we want this rule to match the Record Rule?

Motion Corey, Second Dave: Approved

Proposal 5)

Add 4.02D ***Only US Citizens may ski in the AWSA Nationals unless the LOC puts in a request for international skiers that meet the qualification requirements. This will be posted on the tournament announcement.***

Rationale: Should the Nationals be only for US Citizens? Some have offered "some" non-citizens an option to ski for a score but no placement. This could end up with a lot more skiers at an event.

Motion Corey, Second Ryan: Approved

Proposal 6)

Change 4.03A1 In any year, a skier shall be qualified to enter only one Regional Tournament for placement. A skier shall ski for placement in the Region where he does more than half of his tournament skiing during the ten weeks prior to the Regional Tournament. ~~A skier,~~ ***but*** has the option to return to his Regional of legal residence to ski for placement.

Rationale: The word "shall" is confusing to some

Motion Ryan, Second Gary: Approved

Proposal 7)

Rule 6.01C National Tournament

Event judges shall be chosen by the Chief Judge from among the Appointed ***and Assigned*** Judges. When the Appointed ***or Assigned*** Judges are not available as event judges, the Chief Judge may choose other Senior or Regular Judges as event judges. In all events, the majority of the event judges must be Senior Judges ***unless the event is Class R, which requires all judges to be Senior Judges.***

Rationale: Since the National Tournament has Appointed and Assigned Judges which are supplied by the Regions, we should align with the requirements of USA-WSWS.

Motion Ryan, Second Kathy: Approved

Proposal 8)

6.02G Change

The Chief Technical Controller shall be appointed by the **LOC** and the Regional Executive Vice President with the approval of the Regional Council. Assistant Chief Technical Controllers may also be appointed.

Rationale: This was proposed last year and there was push back. The proposal included that all of the officials for Regionals be put into their Policy and Procedure book. Felt the original rules are fine but still want the TC appointment to have input from the LOC since they are very different depending on each site.

Motion Ryan, Second Corey: Approved

Proposal 9)

Change 8.10E If the speed control unit becomes inoperable and cannot be quickly repaired, and a replacement boat or unit is not available, the tournament shall be continued using manual driving **and timing** ~~with no other effect.~~ **in compliance with timing tolerances.**

Rationale: Needed more than "with no other effect".

Motion Ryan, Second Corey: Approved

***Proposal 9A)**

8.09B2 Add to end of paragraph. Gate buoys shall be provided with an elastic device (recommend minimum length 16" for elastic between line and buoy). This will allow the gate buoys to rise and fall under tension with the passage of the wakes, for judging the gates.

Rationale: This sentence was originally in the 2021 rules and deleted with reference to IWWF rules. The TC Chair would like it to be back in our rule book.

Proposal 10)

9.10B. Time Out of Tolerance: See tables **below for appropriate actions and IWWF Rule 10.06 for Class E/L/R.**

Rationale: Should reference IWWF 10.05 in this version of AWSA rules since there are certain circumstances where the 52M segment is used for E/L/R tournaments.

Motion Dave, Second Kathy: Approved

Proposal 11) Reverse trick credit

11.12D. Credit may be received for performance of only one trick and the associated reverse, if any, on one ski, and one trick and the associated reverse, if any, on two skis under each number listed. If a skier performs two tricks under the same number, the higher scoring trick should be credited regardless of which is performed

first. Tricks may be repeated, but a repeated trick scores zero unless the judges ruled that the first attempt or attempts were unsuccessful. If the original (basic) trick is not credited, then the reverse if credited actually becomes the basic trick. ***If this rule is violated, only the higher scoring sequence of the repeated tricks shall be scored.***

Rationale: There have been some trick sequences that have been missed either by judges not calling repeats or misinterpretation of the rule or issues with programming. After discussing with Dave Allen, Dana Garcia and Candido Moz, this wording matches what is in place in IWWF.

Approved after meeting

Proposal 12)

Change 14.01 AWSA Recognition

Only US Citizens, with USA-WSWS Full Active Membership, are eligible to set AWSA records. Citizens of other countries are not eligible to set AWSA records. However, a competitor who skis for another federation in an international competition (***example: Worlds/Sr Worlds/Pan Am Games/World Games***) to which the US sends a team, shall not be eligible to set a ***US National Record until after the next international tournament competition (same type as previously skied in: Worlds/Sr Worlds/Pan Am Games/World Games) in which the competitor did not ski for another federation.*** ~~for the remainder of that calendar year, plus the following two calendar years, following their performance in that international competition.~~

Rationale: Most international tournaments are 2 years apart. The intent of the current rule is to prevent someone setting a AWSA National Record between international tournaments, when skiing for another federation (dual citizenship).

Motion Dave, Second Kathy: Approved

Proposal 13)

Change 14.04 Record Forms

Record forms shall be devised in accordance with these rules by the Technical Committee approved by the Board of Directors. All requirements for the record submission ~~and approval process~~ will be set forth in the official application form. For World Records, reference IWWF Rule Book.

- A. For a National Tricks record to be considered, the official video must be reviewed by the judges. Subsequent to the scoring of an event and the existence of a tentative record, the judges for the event shall review the video to determine the scoring of the record on the basis of the video. Any changes in the scoring resulting from this review shall not change the results of the tournament itself (although the provisions of Rule 11.20 may otherwise result in official scoring changes). The video and the original judges' scoring sheets shall accompany the record application. ***The Record Review Board (RRB) (9 members) will***

review the video in real time to determine the results, the Technical Chairman or his designee to verify timing.

- B. For a National Slalom record to be considered, *EC video/EC Data (BPMS)* of the boat path are required (Reference IWWF Rule 8.15.). The EC video/EC Data (BPMS) shall accompany the record application.
For National Slalom records the final two passes of boat path ***BPMS Data will be examined by the tournament Chief Judge and Chief TC to verify boat path is within specification per IWWF Rule 8.15 (preliminary approval). If EC video is used, the EC video will be examined by the Technical Chairman or his designee to verify that the boat path is within the deviation specified in IWWF Rule 8.15 and 25.0.***
- C. For a National Jump record, ~~to be considered, when using a video based jump distance measurement system,~~ ***the Chief Judge and Chief TC shall review the captured jump to verify setup (grid) and distance (preliminary approval).*** The application shall include the survey, ~~a copy of the video, a gif formatted file of the record jump, a gif file of the video grid box if in the record jump gif any of the buoys are obscured, and all configuration and~~ ***setup and jump capture files that are appropriate from the system being used to allow independent verification.***

Motion Dave, Second Ryan: Approved

Proposal 14)

Change 14.05B

It shall be the Technical Controller's responsibility to complete the record application form, with assistance from the Chief Scorer and Chief Judge and other event or appointed officials, as may be required by the Record Form. The completed Record Form and other required materials, as specified in the Record Form, shall be sent by the Technical Controller to the Chairman of the Technical Committee within ~~1521~~ days of the date of the performance. In addition, the Technical Controller of the tournament shall send notification of the performance to the Chairman of the Technical Committee within ~~710~~ days of the performance. After review, the Chairman shall forward recommendations to the AWSA President for final approval.

Approved

Proposal 15)

Change Jump timing chart.

52m segment times to match IWWF for jump speeds.

AWSA Slow 52m segment 54K 3.55 change to **3.56**

51K 3.76 change to **3.78**

Rationale: IWWF was having problems with the timing for jumpers at some of the events who jumped far at the slower speeds. The 52-meter segment needed to be changed to reflect what the boat was doing at that point in the course. AWSA doesn't use the 52m segment but should align.

Motion Dave, Second Ryan: Approved

Regional Recommendation

Eastern Region: 10.08e4/ 11.9d – change where money goes from protests

Proposals No Action or Not Approved

Proposal 16)

Junior divisions

Discussion regarding too many junior divisions from the Summer BOD meeting. Sent an Email to Jr Development Committee. They would like to see how it plays out before changing.

No action

Proposal 17)

Age division changes to allow older skiers to ski in younger age divisions

3.02 Divisions

- A. Competition for the three major events shall be separated into the following divisions as determined by the contestant's age. The "ski year" shall begin on the day after the conclusion of the Nationals, and shall end on the final day of the following Nationals. The contestant's age on December 31 of the ski year shall determine his division for the entire ski year. For example, if a skier's birthday within the "ski year" could result in an age division change and his birthday is between the day after the conclusion of Nationals and December 31 inclusive of that "ski year", he will ski in the older division, beginning the day after Nationals. Otherwise, he will remain in the younger division for one more season concluding with the end of the following Nationals.

Skiers 35 and older may elect to ski in a younger division down to Men's and Women's 2. National Records will only apply if the record is set in their actual age division. ~~Once a skier chooses to ski a younger division they may not return to their actual division until the next ski year. This excludes the Elite divisions.~~

Motion Ryan, Second Kathy

Approved

After further discussion along with Mark Crone's input, the Rules Committee is pulling this proposal. Too cumbersome to program, the ranking list would not have skiers in different divisions with confusion as to who is actually qualified with our ranking levels.

Proposal 18)

Change, 4.02A2 Placement to Nationals from Regionals: Events: For those qualified by placement in an event without a Level 8 ranking, scores from the current Regionals or immediate past Nationals must **have a ranking score** ~~be~~ above zero ~~in the event~~. From Robert Howerton (J &S).

Rationale: There has been frustration regarding skiers who are using placement only to ski Nationals and have a bad Regionals with only a zero. Felt that this keeps the standards high for skiing Nationals.

No action

Proposal 19)

Change W3 jump speed: Hey rules people! We really need to increase W3 Jump max to 33.6. Please see this as formal request for the committee to review and deliberate over...again.

Thank you!
Jaz

9.06 Boat Speed

The boat speed for each attempt shall be chosen by the skier from those listed in the table in the Appendix, up to the maximums listed below. Skiers may choose to go slower than the speeds listed in the Appendix, in which case the times will not be required. In addition, the skier shall be given a choice of having the speed control deliver a faster speed throughout the 41m segment, or having the speed control return to the baseline (RTB) speed for the 41m segment. The speed control shall be engaged before the 180m (590 foot) buoy. The driver shall not deviate the boat speed in an attempt to aid the skier's landing in order to ride out the jump.

- A. Open Men, Masters Men, Men 1, 2, 3: 57 kph /35.4 mph
- B. Open Women, Women 1, 2, **3**; Men 4: 54 kph/ 33.6 mph
- C. Masters Women, Women 3, 4, 5, 6; Men 5, 6, 7, 8; Boys 4 & 5; Girls 4 & 5: 51 kph/31.7 mph
- D. Women 7, Men 9, 10; Boys 3: 48 kph/29.8 mph

E. Women 8, 9, 10, 11; Boys 2; Girls 2, 3; Men 11: 45 kph/28.0 mph

No action/survey W3 and MW

Proposal 20)

9.10E When weather, tournament-supplied equipment, or some other reason not the fault of the skier causes a delay of more than ten minutes between jumps, the skier shall have the option of requesting an unscored jump to be taken before the remaining jump(s). "However, the Chief Judge, with the approval of the majority of the Appointed Judges, may deny this option if there is reason to believe that further delays will preclude finishing the tournament in a timely manner or otherwise work to the disadvantage of the remaining skiers."

In IWWF rules, the skier shall be offered a reride without the other qualification above.

Rationale: Different in the two rule books. The committee did not feel a need to change

No action

Proposal 21)

Change Women's ramp height:

I would like to request that AWSA revise the jump height options for W1-W3 to be more equitable and consistent with the IWWF. Please see the rule sections below:

IWWF

To be eligible to jump at 1.65m the skier must have achieved a score of 38m at the 1.50m height in a homologated competition as certified by their Federation.

	Boys	54 kph	1.50m or 1.65m
Under 21	Women	54 kph	1.50m or 1.65m
Open	Men	57 kph	1.50m or 1.65m or 1.80m

AWSA 9.16C3

The following **ramp** ratios shall apply: Masters Men, Open Women, Men 1, 2 and 3, jumpers will have the option of choosing either the .255 or .235 ramp; Boys 4 & 5 shall use the .235 ramp unless they can show a certified result of a jump of 38 m (125 feet) on the .235 ramp, in which case they may opt to jump on a .255 ramp; Open Men will have the option of choosing either the .266, .255 or .235 ramp; and all other divisions will be set at .235. At the option of the sponsoring club, any division may jump at a ramp ratio of less than .235.

Thank you for your consideration.

Connie Bergmark

No Action Survey W1-2/M1-2 MW coaches____

Proposal 22)

Richelle, the only place in the AWSA rules that mentions continue at risk is 10.01.B. Since this has become a topic regarding gate and buoy reviews for the nationals, it needs to be considered for a future revision of the rules. If a skier was allowed to continue at risk for any reason other than 10.01.B, someone else could file a protest that the rules weren't followed, even if the review after the fact showed the skier made the gate. Unless there was an exception granted to the rules, I don't know how the protest could be refuted. As I pointed out in another email, IWWF makes it clear for tricks but not for slalom.

I don't think anyone would care if it's a rankings list only tournament, but for championships like regionals, nationals, etc. it should be considered - unless the last protest that occurred in KS has been erased from everyone's memory. Rationale: Feel that with the availability to review, and the fact that the next skier should be held until the review is made, no change was needed.

No Action

Proposal 23)

10.06B2. In Class C tournaments, the skier may opt to ski at higher maximum speeds, up to 58kph (36mph) for male divisions and 55kph (34.2) for female divisions, excluding juniors **and M7 and above**, at their discretion. In this case, the skier shall receive credit for the buoys run at the higher speed.

~~OR 10.06B2. In Class C tournaments, the skier may opt to ski at higher maximum speeds, up to 58kph (36mph) for male divisions and 55kph (34.2) for female divisions, excluding juniors, at their discretion. In this case, the skier shall receive credit for the buoys run at the higher speed.~~

Why focus on just M7 and above. Even though this affects the ranking list, the committee didn't feel we should limit the skiers.

No action

Proposal 24)

Amendment to AWSA Rules 10.08E4 and 11.09D

...If the funds are not returned to the skier, they shall be forwarded to the ~~USA-
WWF~~ **AWSA Team Fund of their choice** as a contribution in the skier's name.
From the Eastern Region.

Why are we changing from supporting the Foundation?

No Action

Proposal 25)

10.03B Entrance and Exit Gates. **Reference IWWF Rule 8.08 for Class E/L/R. For Class C or below tournaments**, it is a miss to ride outside the entrance or exit gate, but there is no penalty for grazing a gate buoy with the ski or part of the body. **It is not considered missing the Entrance Gate if the skier passes between the Gates and Slalom Buoy#1.** ~~A skier shall be judged as missing the entry or exit gate when the center of the ski passes to the outside of the center of the gate buoy as shown in the diagram below.~~

We already have two exceptions to the IWWF rules on gates.

10.03C already allows the skier to miss the entry gate on the first pass in Class C. If the skier otherwise made all six on that pass, and make the gate and all six on the next pass, the missed gate is forgiven.

10.08C1e already allows the event judges to be located at whatever is deemed the best possible view of the course. That's a very broad specification.

No Action

Proposal 26) MW and breaking records: Lori

NO action

Respectfully submitted,
Richelle Muhlitner, AWSA Rules Chair

2023 AWSA Winter Meeting Report

The 2023 Regional Safety Committee consists of Patrick Byrne, East Region. Terry Dlugosh, South Central. Leon Larson, South. Jeff VanTreese, Midwest. Harley Wallace, West. James Cawthern, South.

- 1) Report that a Sure Path rover antenna created an unsafe environment for a rope release in a trick event(s) at the 2022 National event. Questions over a potential safety hazard and what is the rule? Reported by Terry D. The antenna had to be relocated so that a rope release would not catch the hardware causing damage or unsafe release from the boat. I inquired about the need for the antenna to remain for a trick event. It does not and should be relocated for any trick event. For those of you who drive or tech, it is known that the antenna position is important and the measurement to the pylon center is critical for the system to provide accurate data. No need for any rule or recommendation.
- 2) No other concerns brought to my attention since the Summer 2022 AWSA Meeting.

I conducted a personal safety clinic for 2 newcomers from South Carolina this summer. Their interest in the program is sanctioning practice events for teaching new skiers at their private club site. They did great overall and emphasis on Concussion Awareness was a key factor. They left the clinic with confidence to take charge in an emergency. They also learned just how difficult it can be to help an injured person. It was admitted that were in no way prepared to handle an unconscious person. They intend to keep practicing and are grateful of our program.

For ski year 2022 there have been 35 sanctioned safety clinics nationwide. So far there is one planned safety clinic for 2023. I intend to host at two during this winter in Georgia. One online and one in person course for newcomers.

USAWS noted that most clinics when being submitted for sanction are somewhat last minute. Getting the word out is crucial. Many safety people miss out on the chance to get one clinic in their area. Others too wait till it's near the end of their classroom requirements (4 years). Please instructors, plan and allow some time for others to take your class. As for safety, take the course as often as possible!

Accidents do happen, be ready.

James Cawthern

AWSA National Safety Chairman

AWSA Board of Directors Seeding Committee Report

There have been some updates to regional seeding reps. There has been some updates for additional folks receiving tournament package reports. Also, this winter I'm hoping to start a detailed reviewed of the tournament package upload process to identify areas for improvement.

Dave Allen

Technical Controller Winter Report Jan 2023 12/9/22

To: AWSA Board of Directors

From: Jerry Jackson

AWSA TC Chairmen

ACTION #1 Philippa Shedd Slalom Records

Rule 14.01 2022 states "..., a competitor who skis for another federation in an international competition to which the US sends a team, shall not be eligible to set a record for the remainder of that calendar year, plus the following two calendar years, following their performance in that international competition"

The Record Review Board questioned the eligibility of two pending records set by Philippa Shedd since she skied for GB in the Senior Worlds in 2018 (Lago Los Morros, San Bernado CHI during Nov 26 thru Dec 2, 2018). However, due to Covid, the Senior Worlds schedule for 2020 was cancelled. The NEXT Senior Worlds was held in Baurech Lake, France during Sept 13-18, 2022, where she again skied for GB.

AWSA TC Committee Chair requested a RULE INTERPERATION on rule 14.01 for Dual Citizenship persons setting a AWSA Records between international competitions when we skip the scheduled two-year competition; in this case due to COVID.

Rules Committee Response:

Jerry,

This rule was put in place "with the calendar year along with the following two years" with the intent that skiers could not set records if they have skied for another federation. We could not have predicted a lockdown of countries and events due to Covid.

The Rules Committee feels that she is not eligible for these records.

There are also the Eligibility rules for dual citizens for IWWF which state:

2.3. Dual Nationality If an athlete has dual nationality, he may choose which country he wishes to represent and must be a member of that Federation. But, having represented that country, he cannot also, except as provided for in paragraph 2.1 above, represent the other country in question.

Has she requested to change? Obviously not since she skied for GB in 2022 and would not have been able if she had changed.

Richelle

BOD Action- Approve/Disapprove Philippa Shedd slalom records listed below:

W6 SLALOM	Shedd, Philippa	4 @ 38off 32mph	07/03/22	Stillwater Lakes 3 Event
W6 SLALOM	Shedd, Philippa	4.5 @ 38off 32mph	08/28/22	Champion Lake Fall Record

ACTION #2.

Senior TC Rating (Upgrade). Change the requirement for NEW Slalom/Jump Senior TC Rating, from just having a **regular judge rating in one event** (example slalom only), to **MUST** have a **Regular Judges Rating in the EVENT** being applied for (Slalom/Jump) (excluding Tricks).

(Example, must be a Regular JUMP Judge to apply for Senior JUMP TC).

Reason: Need to ensure the Senior TC in JUMP has a clear understanding of jump rules/setup. Currently, to apply for a Senior TC in jump, you only need to work 6 total jump tournaments and be a Slalom Regular Jump Judge.

ACTION #3**SENIOR TC EXAM/TEST-**

Requesting IWWF to initiate ONE Homologation/TC Senior TEST for ALL Federations. Requesting BOD approve the use of the IWWF Homologation Senior Test/Exam for all upcoming AWSA Senior TCs

REASON- Regardless of where you are, the TC Requirements are the same for all. The AWSA Senior TC Test is way out of date.

INFORMATION ONLY

JUMP – (AS A REMINDER TO ALL) PER IWWF RULES RTK-GPS to be used at ALL Class L/R tournaments to COLLECT DATA. No AWSA Sanction Class E/L/R Jump Tourn should be run without Sure-Path.

Video Gate Program- Chip Shand GATE Program. GREAT – Make sure you are using it.

JUMP Program- (VTM) Chip s has upgraded the program. Which will now accept IP Cameras.

SURE-PATH- James has developed a Windows **Desktop View** that you can use to see all the Deviation and the BREADCRUMBS. The Desktop Viewer inputs the data from the JUDGE SCREEN Program **OR** you can transfer all the data by DATE from Rover to JUDGES SCREEN.

Homologation/TC DOSSIER Rule/Report- IWWF Rule 25 is being re-organized, and the Dossier (TC Report) is being re-organized into sections (General/Slalom/Tricks/Jump). Currently, the Dossier Report (checklists) is not in order by events.

AWSA TC Manual: Rodger Logan and Bob Harris are going to update the TC MANUAL this year. If you have any input, please provide.

TC Clinic- There will be a TC Clinic in Feb (Maintenance and UPDATES). **David Allen is doing a SCORER Clinic with TC to cover SP interface with WSTIMS.**