

Jumping Nordic Combined Sport Committee Meeting Minutes

May 17-18, 2002

Alan called the meeting to order and took roll call.

Committee members in attendance: Jim Holland, Larry Stone, Bard Elden, Kari Ylianttila, and Chuck Heckert. Excused: Bill Erickson, Greg Lunde Absent: Dave Jarrett

Alan made an opening statement and then appointed Art Tokle as the parliamentarian and Linda Johnson as the recording secretary.

The 2002 agenda was approved as well as the minutes from the 2001 spring meeting.

Linda gave a report on the program this year. Our membership was up, particularly in the officials and youth categories. The officials were attributed to all SLOC volunteers having to be members of the organization, but there wasn't any particular reason for such an increase in youth unless it had to do with the NSF learn to jump program. All of the sports except Nordic had an increase in membership fees, which is a very good thing.

Sanctioning and events remained the same. We're fortunate with our calendaring in that the same events in the regions usually occur at roughly the same time each year. It gives us a variety of events in each region and everyone can plan their schedules accordingly. A big thanks to Coleraine and Steamboat for doing an excellent job with JO's and Nationals with very little snow.

An event organizer's manual was produced and mailed to all clubs in fall. There is also an education certificate available for coaches or officials clinics.

Alan and Chuck had reports from the FIS meetings in Garmisch. The biggest issue was to try out a new judging system at the Summer Grand Prix which will focus on distance and landing.

Bard reported on his goals and accomplishments from last season as well as presenting his plan for the upcoming season. He is now the Head Coach and has hired Corby Fisher as the jumping coach and Dave Jarrett as the cross country coach.

Kari also reported on his goals and accomplishments from last season and presented his plan for this season.

Matt gave his report on development and fielded several questions on funding of athletes.

Larry Stone reported on issues with changing our JO structure. The committee has proposed a change to doing a J2 JO's for 15 and under and a North American Championship for 19 and under. Some people in the East had objected and wanted 16-18 year olds to be included in JO's which defeats our purpose. This led to a heated discussion regarding what we were trying to accomplish versus keeping people happy. This discussion would continue through the meeting.

From the calendar committee there was only the report that Brattleboro is sketchy for this year. They may not be able to get finished, but do plan on future events.

We broke into subcommittees to discuss and prepare motions for some of the issues that would need to go to the Board the next day.

We reconvened at 4:30 to deal with our motions and election of sport committee members as all terms had expired.

Motion by Art Tokle that all officials assigned to National Championships must be a member of USSA and attend a clinic to become a TD. Second Chuck, motion carried.

Motion from PT Bland to do homologation on all jumps between the size of K45 – K70. Second Art Tokle. Discussion why as low as 45 when the FIS standard is 60. PT's research shows that accidents occur most often on hills from K45 on up. After much discussion we decided that this motion would give the perception of safety risks and perhaps create some legal issues. PT tabled the motion, Chuck second.

Motion by Larry Stone to reelect Alan Johnson as chairman and Jim Holland as the jumping athlete rep, second Chuck Heckert, motion carried. Alan nominated Art Tokle to replace Bill Erickson as the Officials rep, second Larry Stone, motion carried. Chuck moved to retain Larry Stone as the Athlete Programs rep, second Alan Johnson, motion carried. Alan moved to reelect Greg Lunde as the Calendaring committee rep, second Art Tokle, motion carried. Motion by Alan Johnson to replace Dave Jarrett with Matt Laue as the Nordic Combined Athlete rep, second Chuck Heckert, motion carried. Motion by Larry Stone to reelect Chuck Heckert as the Divisional rep, second Alan Johnson, motion carried.

All are two year terms, expiring in May 2004.

Introduction of a new ski jump/NC event. Motion by Larry Stone. That the North American Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined Championships be established to begin in January, 2003. This event would be held every third year in Canada. Event schedule to include at a minimum: K90 individual, K90/10km Nordic Combined and K90 team. The schedule is not to exceed four days. This event will replace the J1 and OJ classes at the Junior Olympics with a higher profile, stronger field of competition at a critical time of year. Second, Chuck Heckert. Discussion on ages and using FIS age classes or calling it a 19 and under event. After lengthy discussion the motion was tabled until Saturday.

Format change for Junior Olympics. Motion by Larry Stone: That beginning in 2003 the Junior Olympics will be a one class event for athletes 15 years and younger. Event to be staged on a K50 – K70 hill size and include at a minimum: Medium hill individual SJ, medium hill NC and medium hill team event; total schedule not to exceed four days. Second Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Women's Ski Jumping. Motion: This is a request to USSA to assume a more active role supporting the expansion and development of U.S. Women's Ski Jumping in an effort to maintain pace with the rapid development of international Women's Ski Jumping programs. Second Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Adjourned 5:45 p.m.

Reconvened Saturday morning at 8a.m. Broke into subcommittees to finalize other motions that did not require board approval.

Reconvened as a group at 1:00.

Alan reported on the USSA Board meeting and our action motions. The issue of support for women's ski jumping came up before our request. The board will assume a supportive and more active role in the sport. The North American Championship event was tabled and Alan will discuss with Alan Ashley and Luke Bodensteiner the athletic importance of it so that Alan can take it to the fall board meeting. The license for officials was a mute point as that is already a USSA rule we should be following.

Kari made a motion to run the U.S. Ski Jumping Championships according to FIS World Cup rules. Second, Larry Stone, motion carried. There was quite a bit of discussion on this issue. It came up because we have the good problem of having 90 competitors at Nationals. This gives the organizers the option to cut the field.

Bard made a motion that two more options be available at the U.S. Nordic Combined National Championships. They are an individual sprint (7.5km) and individual 15km cross country in addition to the existing 10km individual event. Second Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Motion by Alan to eliminate divisional quotas for National Championships. Second, Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Alan made a motion that the SJ/NC Sport Committee create an executive board to consist of the Chairman, Athlete Programs Subcommittee Chair, an athlete rep and an at-large committee member. Second, Larry Stone, motion carried.

Alan moved that Matt Laue be named the Athlete Rep for the upcoming two year term of the Executive Board and that Kari be the at-large staff member. Second, Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Alan proposed that a Judicial Review Board be created that shall consist of the Sport Committee Chair, Athlete Programs Subcommittee Chair, Athlete Rep of the Executive Board and alternate reps consisting of the other Athlete rep for the Sport Committee, or another Sport Committee member to be named by the Executive Board. Second Chuck Heckert, motion carried.

Matt reported on some of the calendar changes. Coleraine is out as an Alpen Cup qualifier, but is still an NRL event. Coaching for the Schuler Cup will be divisional coaches from East and IMD and for the Alpen Cup Central and Rocky.

The coaches spent quite a bit of time on the 2003/04 calendar. We would start in Park City and then have four week breaks between competitions/camps. July 14 –20 would be Coleraine , August 11 – 17 either Lake Placid or Calgary, October 6 – 12 Flaming Leaves and then conclude at Park City.

Meeting adjourned.