

# **FREESTYLE SPORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES USSA CONGRESS 2006 – PARK CITY, UT**

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May 12-13, 2006

Meeting Chair: Andy Wise

R&T Rep: Andy Hayes

Judges Rep: Bill McNice

Coaches Rep: Glenn Eddy

Development Rep: Chris Haslock

Membership Rep (East): Deb Newson

Membership (CEN, RMD): Lewis Sundquist- absent, Thom Schaefer proxy, Don Banghart- absent, Dan Miller proxy (1 vote)

Membership (NOR, FW, INT, PNSA): Mike Papke- absent, Kate Duhamel, Caron Keim, Pat Deneen (1 vote)

FIS Rep: Jay Simson

USSA BOD Athlete Rep: Mariano Ferrario

Athlete Rep: Michael Macomber

Athlete Rep: Jen Hudak

Athlete Rep: Jenny Haywood

Ex-Officio: Jeff Lange- absent

At-Large: Konrad Rotermund

Head Coach: Jeffrey Wintersteen

Program Manager: Emily Fisher

= 16 votes + chair

## **Friday May 12, 2006**

### **1. Welcome and call to Order**

Andy Wise called to the meeting to order. He reminded all the subcommittee chairs that last spring he urged all the chairs to get their agendas in on time and that did not happen again this spring. Effective meetings can't happen without proper agendas and time to prepare.

### **2. FSC elections**

Wise noted that FSC elections needed to be added to the agenda.

### **3. Agenda Approval - Simson/Miller- unanimous**

Approved with the addition of FSC elections. Simson reminded the committee that it should be elections, not re-elections; it is not assumed the same people will be elected.

### **4. Approval of Fall Minutes- Rotermund/Simson- unanimous**

### **5. Executive Committee Report**

Wise reported that the FSC Executive committee met two or three times during the year. Each time it was regarding petitions to start for elite level events. An injury clause for the Development group was an idea that came forward after a petition to start. Normally the Executive committee looks at an individual and inserts them back at the same level of competition prior to the injury/issue. This has worked very well in the past, however, the Executive committee has always felt that the NorAm events were protected events and petitions were not heard for that level of events. The Development subcommittee will bring this issue forward. Wise also reported that, at the fall Board of Directors meeting, the one issue going forward was the elimination of age groups in aerials. The USSA staff felt that this was a significant change and it should be tabled until the spring. Major rule changes should occur in the spring. This issue was returned into R&T for further research.

### **6. USSA Board of Directors' Report**

Wise stated that his Executive committee report touched on what had happened with the Board of Directors and if anyone had any questions, to please contact him.

## **7. USFST staff report**

Polly-Jo Clark welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that everyone read the attached staff report (appendix B). Clark noted that Emily Fisher is now the voting member on the committee. Emily was the one who dealt with the domestic program and all the issues brought to the table on a regular basis. Clark gave a summary of the coaches education program this year; there were one or two clinics two years ago. We agreed that we needed more clinics in order to evaluate the material. This year there were three clinics in the east, two hosted by Diana Williams and one hosted by Glenn Eddy. The feedback from those clinics would be used in creating the moguls fundamentals. We need to add video of the drills and exercises from the US team.

Clark stated that the program also needed to develop a distribution method for the information and how to test the clinic participants but we needed to progress and develop the next level of education. There were cds available for purchase right now through our coaches' education department on general topics, psychology, strength, conditioning and nutrition, and relate to freestyle. Clark reported the Brian Lake was working on aerial coaches' education. There were two clinics last year and there would be four this summer. He was working on making the clinics better.

The application and information regarding the process to bid for events would be available very soon. "There has been a lot of interest, which hopefully means there will be a lot of bids. The dates that we are looking for are in the staff report to give everyone a head start. In the bid information the dates for US Selections are later in December/early January than in the past. We have received consistent feedback that coaches, athletes, and parents would like this event later in the season due to school and proper training time concerns. This year the NorAm committee realized that simultaneous events did not work well. It is expensive to USSA to send judges to multiple events and expensive to organizers who are trying to break even. This year we will not have simultaneous or one discipline events. Junior Olympics are open for bid and we would like a two-year bid. We have collected some data regarding Junior Olympic entries and need to evaluate the cost of operating four venues with the rise in entry fees. We hope the history will help guide event organizers in the future. We also need to evaluate the increase of adding events and how JO's will operate in the future. US Championships will be in Killington, VT again next year; we are very excited to return to a great venue and freestyle community. This year's event was great on and off the hill."

FIS Meetings - Clark reported that Jeff Wintersteen, Jay Simson, Travis Mayer and she were going to FIS meetings next week. USSA had proposed the minimum age for FIS events be lowered, a minimum of 13 years for Continental Cups and 15 and younger for Olympic Winter Games. In the past US Selections, NorAms and US Champs had been sanctioned as FIS events in order to have Americans score FIS points - in case the FIS list was used for World Cup quotas or minimum points used for start rights. In order for an event to be scored all athletes must have a FIS license, if one athlete doesn't have a license then it will not be scored. If the FIS does not lower the ages then USSA will consider not sanctioning US Selections and US Champs as FIS events. Another motion the US is putting forward is to increase the max team size at Junior Worlds to account for the new disciplines. The FIS had added halfpipe in the past but did not increase the max team size so FIS had to make an exception for the US team.

Simson commented that there are some other issues out there. "The highlights are that France is proposing a pace set change, which was hard to interpret but it would separate bigger time differential. A team mogul event at the Olympics has been proposed consisting of a dual type format in aerials, and men and women in moguls. The FIS is also considering getting rid of A and B seed in aerials, limit dd in the first round. There is another proposal to define dd in case of bad weather, right now there are two conflicting rules. There is a proposal to require mogul athletes to file non-mandatory flight plans in aerials for mogul airs. Additionally there is a proposal to allow different off axis jumps, based on direction of rotation. In aerials there is replay and measurement of amplitude in moguls to be added to judging which would not happen this year but the measurement would be how far and how high in mogul air which would be automatically in the mogul score. The re-play in aerials would be in a confined time period; it would be in aerials to look at the dd and in moguls to make sure

a grab was done. The FIS is evaluating training, implementation, assist programs, and training issues for judges. The FIS World Cup tour has no title sponsor so there are funding problems.”

Wintersteen – “From a staff perspective, we are pressing at the development committee at the FIS, adherence to the FIS specs. We travel around the world and the courses are not in the specs, TD fudges it, makes it so mogul skiing is not part of it. We want a steeper course, airs are important but not the only thing. Finland, Russia, and Germany share our view. One point of view is to have a big air show, our side is to keep it mogul skiing.”

Clark continued that for judges and TD selection for World Championships 2009 the deadline for nominations was next summer. “In the US we have a unique problem in that we have more qualified judges to be at these events than we can fill. The US needs to have our own selection process before the deadline before we can submit to the FIS. For 2007 the US judge will be Bill McNice and the TD will be Andy Hayes. Also in hindsight, thank you to Andy Wise for being TD at Junior Worlds this year.” Clark asked for questions or comments.

A discussion followed regarding the inclusion of halfpipe in the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Clay Beck asked about a petition that had been circulated about having halfpipe in the 2010 Olympics. Clark and Wintersteen had no knowledge of the petition and it was not included on the FIS agenda. Originally when it was brought to the FIS council the council recommend to the IOC that skiercross be included in 2010 and halfpipe in 2014 and the staff had no new info. Beck wanted to give a presentation to FIS about how exciting and fun halfpipe could be. Rotermund commented that the most important thing would be to get lots of skiers at World Championships from 18 nations, which is a measure that the IOC used.

Clark reported that the NorAm committee was working on a calendar and trying to get a schedule from Canada. There were a lot of challenges but the goal was to run multiple discipline quality events. “The good news is the USSA has earmarked money for the NorAm tour to help have bigger and better events. Another challenge is the Canadian sites and their development program, however, with Vancouver we have seen the addition of an aerial development program and several steps in the right direction.”

Brian Lake reported on Junior Worlds in St. Petersburg Russia. Glenn Eddy, Garth Hager and Brian Lake went at US team staff. The US team did well in moguls and duals but struggled in aerials. The venue was great and the event went well.

Fisher asked the group to please review the attached staff report. “Please make sure to mark your calendars with the important dates. The deadlines may seem a long way off but the sport will run much smoother if the deadlines are followed. Late or incomplete agendas will not be accepted for next year’s spring meeting.” The FSC could not come to a conclusion regarding points list dates. The FSC would like to know when Junior Olympics and US Champs are next year before committing to points list dates. As soon as Juniors were sited Emily would email the committee for a consensus on FSP dates. The dates had to be set prior to the Comp Guide going to print (August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006).

Wintersteen reported on the USFST. Darcy Downs would be leaving the program to work for Canada in Vancouver. It was a great opportunity for Darcy to be closer to family; we wished him well and would really miss him. In addition to that position we would be filling a C team mogul coach, this is an upgrade from a contract position to a full time position. When Diana Williams resigned we hadn’t had this position and it was very challenging. We were really happy to have this position again. We would also be hiring a Development aerial coach to be located in Lake Placid to run a development program there.

**8. FIS Report-** Clark, Wintersteen and Simson provided their reports in the written staff report.

Wise thanked the staff and moved for the FSC to adjourn so the subcommittees could meet. **Passed unanimous.**

## Saturday May 13, 2006- FSC meeting minutes

Meeting Chair: Andy Wise

R&T Rep: Andy Hayes  
Judges Rep: Bill McNice  
Coaches Rep: Glenn Eddy  
Development Rep: Chris Haslock  
Membership Rep (East): Deb Newson  
Membership (CEN, RMD): Lewis Sundquist- absent, Thom Schaefer proxy, Don Banghart- absent, Dan Miller proxy (1 vote)  
Membership (NOR, FW, INT, PNSA): Mike Papke- absent, Kate Duhamel, Caron Keim- absent, Pat Deneen (1 vote)  
FIS Rep: Jay Simson  
USSA BOD Athlete Rep: Mariano Ferrario  
Athlete Rep: Michael Macomber  
Athlete Rep: Jen Hudak  
Athlete Rep: Jenny Haywood  
Ex-Officio: Jeff Lange- absent  
At-Large: Konrad Rotermund  
Head Coach: Jeffrey Wintersteen  
Program Manager: Emily Fisher

= 16 votes + chair

**FSC Elections-** Andy Wise asked for any nominations for the chair of the FSC.

Rotermund/Miller nominated Andy Wise, no discussion, passed unanimously. Andy Wise noted that the Board of Director's position was not up at this time but would be up for re-election next year. Right now Wise held both positions but this did not have to be.

### 9. Sub-committee Reports

#### a) Judges Subcommittee- McNice

McNice asked everyone to read the Judges subcommittee report attached (appendix C). Sonny McKay is the new FIS rep. The FIS proctor meeting is TBD and the North American judges' clinic would follow that and was TBD too. The Judges subcommittee had one motion in new business, brought forward in subcommittee report. The motion set guidelines of minimum license level to run clinics, train and oversee the judges program at divisional levels.

**Judges motion #1-** A minimum of a B license ~~should be~~ is required to administer training and certification of divisional judges to insure continuity of scoring throughout the country.

Wise - This is a good idea and something that is questioned every year.

Fisher calls the question

**Motion passed-** 14 for, 1 opposed

McNice - one last statement, please we need to get more people involved. Get them licensed. Put into pipeline, more opportunity.

#### b) Athlete Subcommittee- Ferrario

Nothing to report.

#### c) R&T sub-committee- Hayes

There were several motions passed in R&T and most of the discussion happened at the subcommittee level.

**R&T Motion #3-** 3043.7.5- The color of paper used for the start orders must be as follows: moguls: yellow, aerials: blue.

3045.2.4 - The start lists and results lists (officials and unofficial) must be printed on the following different colored paper: moguls: yellow, aerials: blue.

Delete 3043.7.5, delete 3045.2.4

Fisher calls the questions, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #4-** Create a J6 age group.

J5- 9 to 10 years old

J6- 8 years and younger for 2007-2008

Wise - can we do it for this year? Staff responded that they would try but best to plan on 07-08.

Fisher calls the question, **motion passed unanimously**.

**R&T Motion # 9-** 6008.3- Inverted maneuvers- There is a change from front to back or vice versa. There are a different number ~~or a different composition of the components between the~~ of maneuvers. There are a different numbers of twists but the number of somersaults remains the same. There are a different number of somersaults but the number of twists remains the same.

Question called, **passed unanimously**.

**R&T Motion #11-** Adopt the FIS Halfpipe 3 judge format rule 6153.2

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**.

**R&T Motion #12-** Create a scoring committee or working group that is actively involved in making sure that our scoring and judging rules are being followed and that the scoring system is helping this procedure. Will have an R&T rep, a judges' rep, a coaching rep, scoring system designer and staff. Chairman- Haslock, committee- Bob Haywood, Stone, McNice, Hayes and TBD staff.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Motion #13-** Maximum Event Ratings

Event	Max Pts	Type
US Championships	956 (912 Floor)	Float

Question called, passed 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention

**R&T Motions #15-** Change the name of the 4600 Section to Slopestyle. ~~4600 Big Air, Quarterpipe and Slopestyle~~

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #18-** Add section 6600 Slopestyle. Add a rule section for slopestyle using 6150 and the FIS halfpipe rules for judging as the basis for this section.

A discussion followed as to when the language would be available and who would have input. Andy Hayes agreed to have the language available at the beginning of June and to gather input from coaches, R&T sub-committee and staff.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #19-** delete 6150, with the creation of 6600, 6150 is not necessary

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Motion #21-** The minimum point value for all meets and all disciplines is 100

Hudak questioned if this was necessary. Fisher pointed out that in smaller divisions or disciplines that are just beginning there can be events were none of the athletes in the event have FSPs in order to rank the event so even though athletes have competed during the year they do not appear on the FSP list. Hudak understood the dilemma.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #22-** Aerial Age Limitations. A motion in the fall FSC meeting was passed to eliminate age limitations all together however staff tabled bringing the motion to the Board of Directors and asked for more detailed guidelines.

**Amend rule 3070.2**

<p>3070.2</p>	<p><b><u>Age Limitations for Jumps</u></b></p> <p><del>The following age limitations apply for aerial maneuvers in national competitions. In mogul and dual mogul competitions, a competitor may not perform more than a single inverted maneuver per jump.</del></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><b><u>Age category</u></b></th> <th><b><u>Highest Acceptable Jumps</u></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Junior 5</td> <td>Upright jumps only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 3-4</td> <td><del>Single inverts</del></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 2</td> <td>Double inverts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 1/Seniors</td> <td>Triple inverts</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><del>Age limitations are determined as described in paragraphs 3046.1 through 3046.3.</del></p>	<b><u>Age category</u></b>	<b><u>Highest Acceptable Jumps</u></b>	Junior 5	Upright jumps only	Junior 3-4	<del>Single inverts</del>	Junior 2	Double inverts	Junior 1/Seniors	Triple inverts
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There was discussion regarding at what age athletes are now beginning to flip and spin. The aerial coaches stated that these guidelines were in sync with all other acrobatic sports such as gymnastics and diving.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**d) Development Sub-Committee- Haslock**

Haslock informed the committee that Chad Coleman who is a coach for the Bogus Basin team was severely injured in a ski accident at Tamarack mogul event this spring. Chad broke his back and was paralyzed. He said that Chad has stayed very positive and there will be a fundraiser for him June 15 at the Boise Base center. If anyone is interested in going, please pick up the flyer. The organizer is also accepting any and all donations for a live and silent auction. Haslock also mentioned that anyone could contact him directly.

**Development Motion #1** - (previously a Membership motion)- Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only. Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Development Motion #2** - This was not a formal motion but a suggestion to staff to make sure the FIS rules match what is published in the USSA Comp Guide with regards to age limits for Junior Worlds selection.

**Development motion #5** - Development Group Injury Clause. After the US Freestyle Team is named in May 2006, the top five men and top five women from the previous year's final FSP in moguls and dual moguls and the top two men and women in aerials will be named to the USSA Development Group. This will guarantee them a start on the NorAm tour next season. All Development Group athletes must participate in the U.S. Selection Events. In the case of a development group athlete that is injured and not able to compete in U.S. Selection Events they must provide medical documentation they are unable to compete. Once medically cleared to compete, they would retain their NorAm start. Question called, **motion passed unanimously.**

**Development Motion #6** - This was not a formal motion but a suggestion to staff that when considering bids to suggest to Junior Olympic Organizers to formally change the entry fee structure. There recommendation is to have one base fee and additional cost per event. Staff would consider in the future.

**Development Motion #7** - Criteria for selection to the USSA Halfpipe Program.

US Halfpipe Program size for 2006-2007 will be 8 men and 8 women

1. The top 2 men and top 2 women from the most recent FSP list would be named.

2. From US Team Selections the top 8 men and top 8 women will be named to the US Halfpipe Program.

-Double Halfpipe should be in conjunction with USSA Selections though the halfpipe discipline will be an open event.

-Should be USSA Sanctioned contest, not FIS!

-The competition will be a fixed 912 points.

Haslock presented this motion after working with part of the Development committee to create a program for the development of halfpipe. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the future of halfpipe and validity of creating a program. Haslock felt that USSA had already missed the halfpipe bus and this would put halfpipe on par with all the other disciplines within USSA. Hudak stated that this was a beginning and the details were not set in stone but it was a start. Wintersteen expressed concern that the selection criteria went back to the previous season and athletes did not have knowledge of the selection criteria until after the season. He said that it was easy for the criteria to be misunderstood and have athletes think the criteria were built around favorite athletes. On the mogul and aerial side criteria was published prior to the season so there were no surprises and everyone understood the criteria.

Haslock said that this criteria was to support athletes who had remained in the USSA system. Haslock said that this was at least showing the halfpipe community support and created a program. Fisher wanted to know what the program consisted of and expressed that creating a program created expectations. If there was no benefit of being part of the program then it did the program a disservice.

Beck stated that the program should begin somewhere and the benefits were flexible. Elana Chase and Beck also pointed out that the team would be named after US Selection Events and make the points list better. Rotermund reiterated that he did not think it was fair for athletes to have criteria after the season, for 07-08 it would make sense. Haslock decided that it would make more sense to debate motion #8 first. Motion #7 tabled.

**Development motion #8**- Selection criteria for halfpipe to World Championships

For the 2006-2007 season, the top placing men and women (minimum of 1, maximum of 4 per gender, with the intent that all available quotas would be filled) from US Team Selections will fill the US quota for World Championships. If any of these athletes are unable to compete or decline their qualifying position, the next 10 (ten) highest-ranking athletes from Selections will fill the spot. ~~Should none of the top ten athletes from Selections be able to compete at World Championships, the next 5 highest-ranking athletes from the most current FSP list will fill the declined spots.~~

Rotermund stated that he would like all the athletes to come from the two US Selection events. Haslock pointed out that some qualifying athletes could be injured. Beck supported this by saying this year's US champ was injured at the beginning of the season. Wintersteen stated that this is for a spot on the World Championship team and athletes should be excited to go and he was not interested in going any deeper than 10 athletes. Haslock pointed out that it conflicts with the X-Games. Rotermund amended the motion to strike the last sentence. Clark pointed out the notification process and the process of declining spots. She pointed out that one of the reasons 2005 was challenging was the notification process of the halfpipe team; there were no deadlines, protocol for accepting a team spot. The team needs to be announced and you cannot do that until everyone has accepted his or her spot.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously.**

Haslock returned to Motion #7. Beck noted that if a seven-day event for US Selections (two mogul events, two aerial events, one dual event and two halfpipe events) is a problem to site then, we could do the event separately, they could be stand-alone events. Macomber asked that if they are separate events that they do not conflict. Preston questioned what was happening with FIS halfpipe events and if they created a program of 16 athletes will it be bigger than the quotas.

Wintersteen noted that the quotas are open now but the future is unclear. Clark questioned again what the eight male and eight female athletes would be offered, what were the privileges, perks of being named to the program. Chase stated that the perks were flexible and she and Beck had volunteered to manage the program if USSA was afraid of the workload. Fisher stated the workload was not a problem the lack of vision and long-term plan was the problem. Wintersteen was also concerned that we would be selecting 16 athletes to a program and that insinuated perks and privileges. Hudak stated again that the perks were not set in stone but it would be a means for athletes to get to events especially with Elana and Clay managing the program. Haslock stated that the whole package would be great, but also pieces of this would be a great beginning, a way to identify skiers.

Wise called the question, **motion passed, 10 in favor, 2 abstentions.**

**Development Motion #9-** Add the USSA Halfpipe Program to the criteria for US Championships.

Criteria #1- All USFST A, B and C Team and Halfpipe Program.

Eddy asked if this would add 16 people to the quota and Haslock said yes.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

Haslock was re-elected as chair of the Development committee for another term.

**Development motion #11-** Criteria for Selection to USSA Halfpipe Program for 2007-2008

USSA Halfpipe Program size for 2007-2008 will be eight men and eight women

1. The top two men and the top two women from final 2006/07 FSP list would be named
2. From 2007/08 USSA Selections the top six men and top six women in addition to #1 will be named to the US Halfpipe Program.

-Double Halfpipe contest should be held in conjunction with USSA Selections.

-All athletes who compete at US Championships will be invited to 2008/09 Selections.

-Should be USSA Sanctioned contest.

Question called, **motion passed, 10 in favor, 2 abstentions.**

Rotermund commented that this was a good first step but now the challenge is that the core group of athletes needed to start competing at these events. The goals are to have 50 competitors at US

Champs and 18 countries at World Championships. International and US participation is very important.

**e) Coaches Sub-Committee- Eddy**

Coaches Motion #1- Amend 3070.8 - Add 40 hours of internship.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously.**

**f) Membership Sub-Committee Report- Newson**

Newson reported that there were no motions from Membership to bring to the committee. Fisher will work on a proposal for new Junior Olympic criteria that will be emailed to the entire committee this summer. Deb Newson was re-elected as chair of the Membership subcommittee.

**10. Old Business- Wise**

Wise reported that all of the old business was taken care of in R&T.

**11. New Business- Wise**

Eddy reminded the committee that the alternate selection for US Selection events needed to be cleaned up. Last year there was confusion among coaches and petitions to start were filed in order to add alternates.

**New Business Motion #1- Selection criteria #6-** There will be five alternates per sex per discipline. These alternates are to be named off the final FSP list of the previous season and will represent the next five names on the FSP list per sex and per discipline that have not already qualified for the event. Alternates will be placed into the event in the order they are named and will be notified immediately. The alternates will only compete if any of the skiers qualified via criteria # 2 and # 3 don't accept their spots or get injured.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

Miller brought up that he would like the committee to consider removing all event ratings and have all events float next year, all regional events, etc. Fisher responded that in the past a division might have used high-ranking skiers to manipulate events. For instance bringing Toby Dawson to a Rocky Mountain event and if he did not win the winner would be given 1000 points. Hayes also stated that this created problems for smaller divisions and made the NorAm tour less important.

Wintersteen brought up the fact that the selection process for NorAms was different than what was listed in the Competition Guide. He asked that the language be cleaned up to represent what actually was happening.

Rotermund also thought that the athletes chosen from the FSP list should not go on forever, it should be limited to 10 from the FSP. Haslock brought forward the idea of a minimum point value for athletes from the points list, for example 600 points would be a minimum to enter a NorAm. Clark noted that this was something we could examine this summer and add to the Comp Guide with input from coaches and the committee. Eddy asked to use the most recent FSP list for selection.

Wise thanked everyone for coming and noted that right now there would be no fall meeting. The interest and participation had really slacked for the fall meeting. If something big came up then it could be dealt with via conference call or email.

Fisher- move to adjourn, Schaffer second, **motion passed unanimously**

**APPENDIX A**  
**Freestyle Sport Committee Meeting Minutes - Record of Motions**

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**Judges motion #1** - A minimum of a B license ~~should be~~ is required to administer training and certification of divisional judges to insure continuity of scoring throughout the country.

Wise- This is a good idea and something that is questioned every year.

Fisher calls the question

**Motion passed-** 14 for, 1 opposed

**R&T Motion #3** - 3043.7.5 - The color of paper used for the start orders must be as follows: moguls: yellow, aerials: blue.

3045.2.4-The start lists and results lists (officials and unofficial) must be printed on the following different colored paper: moguls: yellow, aerials: blue.

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J5 - 9 to 10 years old

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Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Motion #13** - Maximum Event Ratings

Event	Max Pts	Type
US Championships	956 (912 Floor)	Float

Question called, **passed 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention**

**R&T Motions #15** - Change the name of the 4600 Section to Slopestyle. ~~4600 Big Air, Quarterpipe and Slopestyle~~

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #18** - Add section 6600 Slopestyle. Add a rule section for slopestyle using 6150 and the FIS halfpipe rules for judging as the basis for this section.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #19** - delete 6150, with the creation of 6600, 6150 is not necessary

**Question called, motion passed unanimously**

**Motion #21** - The minimum point value for all meets and all disciplines is 100

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**R&T Motion #22**- Aerial Age Limitations.

**Amend rule 3070.2**

<p>3070.2</p>	<p><b><u>Age Limitations for Jumps</u></b></p> <p>The following age limitations apply for aerial maneuvers in national competitions. In mogul and dual mogul competitions, a competitor may not perform more than a single inverted maneuver per jump.</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><b><u>Age category</u></b></th> <th><b><u>Highest Acceptable Jumps</u></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Junior 5</td> <td>Upright jumps only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 3-4</td> <td>Single inverts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 2</td> <td>Double inverts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior 1/Seniors</td> <td>Triple inverts</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Age limitations are determined as described in paragraphs 3046.1 through 3046.3.</p>	<b><u>Age category</u></b>	<b><u>Highest Acceptable Jumps</u></b>	Junior 5	Upright jumps only	Junior 3-4	Single inverts	Junior 2	Double inverts	Junior 1/Seniors	Triple inverts
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Junior 5	Upright jumps only										
Junior 3-4	Single inverts										
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<b><u>Age category</u></b>	<b><u>Highest Acceptable Jumps</u></b>										
Junior 4-and younger	Single inverts/ 1080 rotation										
Junior 2-3	Double inverts/ all rotations										
Junior 1/Seniors	Triple inverts										

**Question called, passed unanimous**

**Development Motion #1** - (previously a Membership motion) - Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only. Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Development Motion #2** - This was not a formal motion but a suggestion to staff to make sure the FIS rules match what is published in the USSA Comp Guide with regards to age limits for Junior Worlds selection.

**Development motion #5** - Development Group Injury Clause. After the US Freestyle Team is named in May 2006, the top five men and top five women from the previous year's final FSP in moguls and dual moguls and the top two men and women in aerials will be named to the USSA Development Group. This will guaranteed them a start on the NorAm tour next season. All Development Group athletes must participate in the U.S. Selection Events. In the case of a

development group athlete who is injured and not able to complete in U.S. Selection Events they must provide medical documentation they are unable to compete. Once medically cleared to compete, they would retain their NorAm start. Question called, **motion passed unanimously.**

**Development Motion #6** - This was not a formal motion but a suggestion to staff that when considering bids to suggest to Junior Olympic Organizers to formally change the entry fee structure.

**Development Motion #7** - Criteria for selection to the USSA Halfpipe Program.

US Halfpipe Program size for 2006-2007 will be 8 men and 8 women

1. The top 2 men and top 2 women from the most recent FSP list would be named.

2. From US Team Selections the top 8 men and top 8 women will be named to the US Halfpipe Program.

-Double Halfpipe should be in conjunction with USSA Selections though the halfpipe discipline will be an open event.

-Should be USSA Sanctioned contest, not FIS!

-The competition will be a fixed 912 point

**Motion passed, 10 in favor, 2 abstentions.**

**Development motion #8**- Selection criteria for halfpipe to World Championships

For the 2006-2007 season, the top placing men and women (minimum of 1, maximum of 4 per gender, with the intent that all available quotas would be filled) from US Team Selections will fill the US quota for World Championships. If any of these athletes are unable to compete or decline their qualifying position, the next 10 (ten) highest-ranking athletes from Selections will fill the spot. ~~Should none of the top ten athletes from Selections be able to compete at World Championships, the next 5 highest ranking athletes from the most current FSP list will fill the declined spots.~~ Question called, **passed unanimous.**

**Development Motion #9**- Add the USSA Halfpipe Program to the criteria for US Championships.

Criteria #1- All USFST A, B and C Team and Halfpipe Program.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**Development motion #11**- Criteria for Selection to USSA Halfpipe Program for 2007-2008

USSA Halfpipe Program size for 2007-2008 will be 8 men and 8 women

3. The top 2 men and the top 2 women from final 2006/07 FSP list would be named

4. From 2007/ 08 USSA Selections the top 6 men and top 6 women in addition to #1 will be named to the US Halfpipe Program.

-Double Halfpipe contest should be held in conjunction with USSA Selections

-All athletes who compete at US Championships will be invited to 2008/ 09 Selections

-Should be USSA Sanctioned contest.

Question called, **motion passed, 10 in favor, 2 abstentions.**

**Coaches Motion #1**- Amend 3070.8- Add 40 hours of internship.

Question called, **passed unanimous.**

**New Business Motion #1**- Selection criteria #6- There will be 5 alternates per sex per discipline. These alternates are to be named off the final FSP list of the pervious season and will represent the next 5 names on the FSP list per sex and per discipline that have not already qualified for the event. Alternates will be placed into the event in the order they are named and will be notified immediately. The alternates will only compete if any of the skiers qualified via criteria 2 and 3 don't accept their spots or get injured.

Question called, **motion passed unanimously**

**APPENDIX B**  
**Freestyle Staff Report**

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May 12, 2006

**Introduction (PJC)**

Welcome again to the spring USSA Congress and the Freestyle meetings. First a big thank you to everyone for attending and participating in the management of the grassroots, clubs and domestic program of Freestyle. Once again we have great attendance of our athlete representatives – thank you! We are fortunate to have volunteers who are dedicated to working on our sport and the time and effort are really appreciated.

We have just finished a long arduous season and from the staff of USSA and Freestyle would like to thank everyone for being proactive and prepared for Emily and PJ to be able to focus on the Olympics. It was great to know that everyone was organized as best as could be and that the additional support Freestyle received from USSA staff that was holding down the fort while we were away. A huge thanks to Jeff Weinman, Sarah Duffany, Margo Yakteman, Dana Alexandrescu and Carolyn Black for covering us!

I know – a lot of thank yous – it may seem a bit ridiculous, but we do appreciate everyone.

We are looking forward to another great year of Freestyle action!

**Member Data (PJC)**

1993-94 = 1800	2004-05 = 2606
2002-03 = 2413	2005-06 = 2794
2003-04 = 2555	

Details of 2005-2006

Competitor = -9 athletes  
Coach/Official = +6  
Official = +16  
Rookie = +23  
Youth = +138

23% increase in youth memberships.

Halfpipe

JO's field size

2002-03: 20 women, 60 men  
2003-04: 24 women, 60 men  
2004-05: 25 women, 65 men  
2005-06: 22 Women, 61 Men

Nationals field size

2005-06: 13 women, 15 men

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Points List Spring 2003</b>	<b>Points List Spring 2004</b>	<b>Points List Spring 2005</b>	<b>Points List Spring 2006</b>
Aerials – women	29	31	43	32
Aerials – men	104	106	109	77
Big Air – women	42	52	38	28
Big Air – men	213	247	179	176
Halfpipe – women	22	34	36	38
Halfpipe – men	99	145	154	146
Moguls – women	191	194	159	152
Moguls – men	528	458	303	304
Dual Moguls – women	94	126	129	117
Dual Moguls – men	240	283	234	235

### **Coaches Education (PJC)**

We held three more pilot clinics in moguls fundamentals (level 100), all in the east. The feedback overall is good, with noted areas to improve which we are working on. The next steps to round out the first level of moguls coaches' education, are to collect video for use as part of the education clinics and create a moguls fundamentals test. USSA staff will work on these with the appropriate parties this summer.

We will be working on continuing to build out the next levels and the specific curriculum for each.

For those who are not aware, there are educational CD's, not sport-specific, available to purchase. As we build out the Freestyle portion of coaches' education, these will be incorporated into the appropriate levels of our education program.

Aerial Coaches' Ed (Lake)- We have moved forward with the Education department to have Chris Seeman, Chris Haslock and Wes Preston as certified clinicians. There will be one clinic in Steamboat in August, two clinics in Park City one in June and one in July, and one clinic in Lake Placid in June.

### **Event Bids (PJC & ESF)**

US Selection Events - USSA has received consistent feedback and requests for US Selection Events to be moved later in the season due to early snow and academic concerns. Several athletes do not have ample time on snow prior to competing at a high level or they must choose between US Selections and school. In addition to that the feedback this year was that there were too many Nor-Am events. The Nor-Am committee is planning on having four Nor-Am events (two in the US, two in CAN) during the month of February. There are several options for US Selections if it is not tied to a Nor-Am and could be later in the year. The event bids will be based on an Organizer's ability to hold the event in one of the three proposed time frames.

- ◆ Option #1
- Dec. 15- Athlete arrival
- Dec. 16-17- Train
- Dec. 18-22- 5 competition days (2 aerial, 2 mogul, 1 duals)

◆ Option #2  
Dec. 26- Arrival  
Dec 27-28- Train  
Dec 30- Jan 2- 5 competition days.

◆ Option #3  
Dec 31- arrival  
Jan 1-2 train  
Jan 3-7- 5 competition days

January 8<sup>th</sup> is the travel day for Deer Valley World Cup. If a regional skier qualified for a World Cup start and is named to the USFST they would have to travel right away to the Deer Valley World Cup.

NorAms:            January 26-28, 2007  
                         February 2-4, 2007  
                         February 9-11, 2007  
                         February 23-25, 2007

Notes: USSA needs to confirm the availability of these weekends with CFSA  
The published dates assume three-discipline events on a Fri/Sat/Sun

Junior Olympics:            March 5-11, 2007 OR  
   March 12-18, 2007

Reminder there are five disciplines and the FSC recommended that each event be on separate days.

#### **Junior Olympic Registration History**

2002- Sugarloaf- \$200, included lifts, 4 events, 4 competition days  
2003- Steamboat\$280 included lifts, \$175 without lifts, 5 events, 5 competition days  
2004- Silver Mountain \$275 included lifts, 5 events, 5 competition days  
2005- PCMR/UOP \$215, Lifts \$30/day, 5 events, 4 competition days  
2006- PCMR/UOP \$320, Lifts \$30/day, 5 events, 5 competitions days

5 year average = \$275 including lifts (average of including lifts and not including lifts averaged). The goal for Junior Olympics would be to not go above the five-year average including lift ticket prices. The site fee from USSA will also be evaluated and if increased then budgets/costs would be closely monitored.

#### **US Championships**

March 19-25, 2007- Killington, VT

We are in the process of putting together the bid letter and package info for US Selections, NorAms and Junior Olympics. Once complete it will be posted on the web.

FIS (PJC)

The FIS Congress is May 20-27, 2006 in Portugal and attending for Freestyle from the USA are Jay Simson, Jeff Wintersteen, Travis Mayer (international athlete rep) and Polly-Jo Clark.

We have submitted proposals in a few areas, of note for this group are:

- Judging: moguls air point breakdown, course specifications
- Minimum Age to Compete (in FIS events): proposal is to reduce to 13 for Continental Cups and below (Europa Cups, NorAms, FIS Races, Nationals) and for all else (World Cups, World Championships, OWG) move to 15.
- Jr. Worlds Maximum Team Size: adjust to incorporate the addition of new disciplines (halfpipe and ski cross). Currently FIS staff makes an exception to the rule to accommodate a large team, we feel it's better to change the rule to reflect the added disciplines.

#### 2009 World Championships and 2010 OWG Judges and Technical Delegate Selection

- USSA will be putting a selection process in place to evaluate eligible candidates. Selection will be based on feedback from past selection processes and any new requirements from the FIS.
- USSA nominations are due to the FIS by August 2007 for the 2009 World Championships and by August 2008 for the 2010 OWG.

#### 2007 World Championships, Madonna, Italy, January 22-27, 2007

- USSA has been awarded two assignments: Andy Hayes as the FIS Technical Delegate and Bill McNice as a Judge.

2006 Jr. Worlds, Krasnoe Ozero, Russia: Andy Wise served as the Technical Delegate.

#### **NorAm (PJC) - 2005-06 Participation**

<b>Events/Sites</b>	<b>#s On NorAm Standings</b>	<b>Nations</b>
Aerials: 6 events @ 2 sites	22 men; 16 women	CAN, USA
Moguls: 6 events @ 5 sites	59 men; 51 women	CAN, JPN, SWE, USA
Dual Moguls: 4 events @ 4 sites	52 men; 51 women	CAN, JPN, USA
Halfpipe: 4 events @ 3 sites	48 men; 18 women	CAN, JPN, NZL, USA

#### 2005-06 Review

We received a number of requests to host events and accommodated a relatively diverse schedule and accommodated simultaneous events at different sites. In October the Lake Placid organizers cancelled their aerial event due to financial difficulties. We made a conscientious decision to work with organizers on hosting events with one discipline. We had smaller judges' panels at some of the halfpipe and aerials events and even considering this, organizing committees were financially challenged.

Hosting a NorAm under any circumstances is a challenge, trying to make one work with small field sizes like we have in aerials and halfpipe is yet a much bigger challenge. It also stresses resources of USSA with respect to judges and TD's. In addition to the funding the travel it's just as difficult to find the people to cover the events. We don't have enough judges and TD's to cover simultaneous events. None of this even begins to address the costs to individual athletes and their club programs.

Overall the season was a success, the US took seven of eight of the NorAm Standings titles.

#### Critical Issues Moving Forward

- Diverse schedule: we need to tighten up the schedule, getting back to multi-discipline events at four sites over four weekends in late January and through February.
- Monitor moguls and dual moguls total events (10 in 2005-06).
- Aerials events need to be at more venues: while we are very fortunate to have a venue like the Utah Olympic Park, we need to get these athletes to train and compete on other venues to better deal with the variations that come with different courses.
- Finances for both the athletes and the organizers.
- FIS implementation of universal rules for all Continental Cups (NorAms, Europa Cups, Australia/New Zealand Cups, etc).
- Canadian participation in aerials: They have a development program up and running, we should expect their numbers to increase next year and the coming years.
- Lack of Canadian sites (including aerials venues): We continue to talk with them about the lack of venues in Canada and what they're doing to develop them.

\*\*\* In the great news category: for the 2006-07 season the Freestyle program has had approval of an initiative to help the US portion of the NorAm Tour with some funding. The purpose is to improve the

US NorAms for athletes and organizers – we are still working on the details on implementation. We are very excited about this positive step forward.

Next Meeting: We are in the process of setting up the next conference call of the NorAm Committee.

#### NorAm Committee Members

Polly-Jo Clark, Chair, USSA  
Andy Wise, USSA  
Konrad Rotermund, USSA  
Matt Gnoza, USSA  
Brian Lake, USSA

John Pomeroy, CFSA  
Wayne Hinkel, CFSA  
Jay Vaughan, CFSA  
Michel Hamelin, CFSA

#### Junior World Review (Lake)

This was an interesting event since it was in Russia. The main difficulty I had, was trying to get the team named and organized in a timely manner. Despite this challenge, we had a great team and good results. The organizers did a good job.

#### 2006-2007 Development GROUP (ESF)

The following group of athletes is the 2006-2007 USSA Development Group. They are guaranteed starts in their qualified discipline for NorAms in the 06-07 season. They must participate in US Selection events to retain their start rights.

##### Men's Moguls

- 1- Holt Haga
- 2- Joseph Discoe
- 3- Jimmy Discoe
- 4- Patrick Deneen
- 5- Nick Hanscom

##### Men's Dual Moguls

- 1- Holt Haga
- 2- Glenn Engleman
- 3- Patrick Deneen
- 4- Bryon Wilson
- 5- Jimmy Discoe

##### Men's Aerials

- 1- Scotty Bahrke
- 2- Dylan Ferguson

##### Women's Moguls

- 1- Caterina Mader
- 2- Jordan Poyfair
- 3- Sarah Ruckriegle
- 4- Kristen Sweeney
- 5- Cheryl Pearson

##### Women's Dual Moguls

- 1- Caterina Mader
- 2- Sarah Ruckriegle
- 3- Olivia Akerley
- 4- Kristen Sweeney
- 5- Kenna Nash

##### Women's Aerials

- 1- Sharlee Strelbel
- 2- Chloe Dauwalder

#### Emily's Deadlines

##### 2006- 2007

###### a. Proposed Freestyle Points List Dates for 2006-2007

Period	Close	Valid
Fall List	Nov. 14	Nov. 17
1 Mar 28- Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 15
2 Dec. 13- Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 19
3 Jan. 17- Feb 20	Feb. 20	Feb. 23
4 Feb. 21- Mar. 6	Mar. 6	Mar. 9
5 Mar. 7- Mar. 27	Mar. 27	Mar. 30

Please take a good look at the closing and valid dates of the 2006-2007 points list. Last year we extended the Feb list by one week. Please let me know if this is something the committee wants to keep in place for 06-07. Once they are approved at this meeting they are set for the season.

#### Fall FSC Meeting - if necessary

Petition to Start - The Petition to Start form is now available on the USSA member web site. Please go to [ussa.org](http://ussa.org), Freestyle, Competitions (scroll down! on the right). The next deadline for Petitions to start for US Selection Events is July 1, 2006. All petitions submitted by July 1, will hear a response from the Executive Committee by July 20, 2006. The fall deadline for petitions is October 1, 2006. All petitions submitted by October 1, will hear a response from the Executive Committee by October 20, 2006.

2007 Competition Guide - Each summer the Comp Guide is edited from how it was printed the year before. Anyone wishing to get a jump start on it can use the 2006 comp guide, however, changes must be noted when the original is sent to you, please don't just send the new text, note how it has changed from the previous year.

#### TIMELINE:

June 15, 2006 - Divisional Chairs receive the Comp Guide for editing

July 10, 2006 - All divisional sections due to Emily at USSA, noting changes

July 21, 2006 - Final draft of divisional sections sent back to divisional chairs for final edits

August 4, 2006 - All final edits to Emily, no more changes! All divisional sections must be complete at this time or the Comp Guide will remain the same as 2006 version.

#### Summer 2006

As a thank you to the staff for four years of hard work the CEO has announced that the USSA office will be closed from July 24-August 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure to remember ALL departments will be closed during this time.

#### **2007 Spring Freestyle Sport Committee Meeting**

The spring FSC Meeting will be held May 16-20, 2007 in Park City, UT. In order to have a productive meeting it is very important to distribute all agendas and prospective motions ahead of time. Giving all FSC reps the proper time to think about potential motions and their ramifications of those motions is the most productive way to progress the sport. In addition to that, USSA Executive and legal must approve all agendas. A little organization now goes a long way. USSA will distribute and post on the web site all agendas and motions that are submitted on time. Additionally it is important to make sure all agendas and motions are in the approved format.

April 6, 2007 - Spring FSC Agendas DUE to USSA Office

April 13, 2007 - Spring FSC Agenda posted to the web site

May 16-20, 2007 - Spring FSC Meeting, 9:00am - 5:00pm

June 2, 2007 - Spring FSC Meeting minutes posted to the web site

#### **USSA Award Nominations**

The award nomination process will be the same as last year.

March 9, 2007 - All nominations due to USSA for International and Domestic coach of the year. All nominations MUST have a complete bio.

March 12, 2007 - Ballots distributed by USSA freestyle to all USSA Freestyle coaches.

March 21, 2007 - All ballots due to USSA.

March 25, 2007 - International and Domestic Coach of the Year announced at US Championship banquet.

## **US Team Staff Report (Wintersteen)**

The Aerial program from the elite team standpoint will not have many changes, still using the centralized system we have employed in the past. There will be some staffing changes as Darcy Downs has left us for a position in Canada. We wish Darcy well and appreciate his contribution to the team for a number of years and two Olympics. Obviously we will be looking to replace Darcy on the World Cup team. We will be also be establishing a development program in Lake Placid this summer with a full time staff person. We are extremely excited about this, as it has been an ambition of ours for some time.

The development group will be selected from east coast aerials athletes and possibly other acrobatically skilled athletes that show commitment to be aerialists. These will not be "team" athletes and will still need to qualify for the national team as any other athlete. However, it starts to fill our development pipeline to help ensure our future success.

Moguls remains largely unchanged from an elite level, though we are looking at ways to add snow days in our prep period. In addition we will be adding a C-Team position, and are excited to be building back up to where we were in 2002. I feel strongly that the C-Team we had established in 2002 is in large part responsible for our success the last few years.

We look forward to a great World Championship year and beyond to 2010. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

**APPENDIX C**  
**Judges Subcommittee Minutes**

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USSA Freestyle Sport Committee  
Annual Committee Chair Report – May 2006

Report by: Bill McNice  
Date submitted: 05/01/2006  
Committee Name: Freestyle Judges Subcommittee

**Committee Membership Status**

Chair: Bill McNice

Voting Members:

East	Scott Lounsbury	PNSA	Jim Bates
Far West	TBD	Central	Sonny McKay
Northern	TBD	IM	Gary Stone
Rocky	Missy Fowle	Training	Jim Bates
R&T	Andy Hayes	FIS Rep	Sonny McKay
FSC	Andy Wise		

**Activity Summary since fall FSC meeting**

Missy Fowle has been elected as the Rocky Division representative. Northern and Far West divisions have not submitted their Head Judge nominees to the subcommittee.

**Judges Proctor Meeting**

FIS Freestyle Judges Proctor meeting will be scheduled for this summer. USA proctors anticipated to attend are Jim Bates and Frank Howell. Minutes should be available following the meeting.

**Fall Training/Development programs**

- FIS “A” Level Judges Seminar, TBD, USA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> FIS “A” Level Judges Seminar is expected to be held in CAN. TBD
- See attached activity report from Judges Training Director (J. Bates)

**2007 World Freestyle Championships – Madonna di Campiglio**

Bill McNice will represent USA at the 07’ World Freestyle Championships in Madonna di Campiglio, ITA.

**Future Activities**

- Judges Subcommittee meeting will take place during the fall FIS Seminar.
- FIS “A” level judges assist program, TBD
- Update the USSA Judge Constitution over the summer. Additions/deletions to be presented in the fall.

**APPENDIX D**  
**R&T Subcommittee Minutes**

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**Rules and Technical Subcommittee Meeting Report**

Chairman: Andy Hayes  
Park City, Utah, May 14, 2006

Voting Members:

PNSA; Pat Deneen	East; Glenn Eddy for Leon Bodzioch
Intermountain; Chris Haslock	Central; Thom Schaefer
Rocky; Mattie Wade	Far West; Kate Duhandle for Eric Hickman
Northern; Andy Hayes	Head Judge; Bill McNice
FIS Rep; Jay Simson	

**USSA Rule Change Proposals**

The R&T subcommittee reports the following motions that passed from their meeting of May 13, 2006

**Motion 3. To delete rules 3043.7.5 and 3045.2.4** This is in regards to the use of colored paper.

**Motion 4. To add the J 6 age group of 8 years old and under.**

**Motion 9. Change rule 6008.3 second sentence to:** There are a different number of maneuvers.

**Motion 11. To adopt the FIS Halfpipe 3 judge format FIS rule 6153.2**

**Motion 12. To create a Scoring Committee Working Group consisting of:** Chairman, Chris Haslock, Bob Haywood, Dick Stone, Bill McNice, Andy Hayes.

**Motion 13. Add a floor of 912 points to all event rankings at the US Championships.**

**Motion 15. Change the name of the 4600 section from Big Air, Quaterpipe and Slopestyle to Just Slopestyle.**

**Motion 18. Create the 6600 rules for judging section for Slopestyle.** Use the FIS 6152 section for Halfpipe as the basis for this section.

**Motion 19. Delete the 6150 section.**

**Motion 21. A minimum point value for all disciplines was set at 100 points.**

**Motion 22. Change the age limitations for all Aerials in all disciplines to:**

J1 – Triples, J2 & 3 – Doubles and all rotations, J4 and under – Singles and up to 1080.

**APPENDIX E**  
**Development Subcommittee Minutes**

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USSA Freestyle Sport Committee Meetings May 12, 06

Development Subcommittee

Chair: Chris Haslock : Present

Freestyle Program Manager (non-voting): Emily Fisher : Present

Athlete Representative: Jen Hudak : Present

Membership Representative: Deb Newson : Present

US Freestyle Ski Team Representative: Brian Lake : Present

NorAm Committee Representative: Konrad Rotermund : Present

Coaches Representative: Elana Chase : Present

Coaches Representative: Clay Beck : Present

• **Vote on Motions**

Proposal Number:	Development Motion #1A
Description:	Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only.
Current Rule:	Big Air and Aerials include Seniors.
Proposed Change:	Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only.
Discussion/Reason:	Although it is nice for the athletes to have another competition, it takes away from the spirit of the event when the seniors are there. By eliminating the seniors, aerials could be a double only event. No need for a triple.
	Passed Unanimously

Proposal Number:	Development Motion # 1
Description:	Junior Olympics: Seniors in Aerials run in a separate "Event"
Current Rule:	Page 49, 1. For 2006 seniors and juniors will be included in the quotas for aerials and Big Air.
Proposed Change:	1. For <del>2006</del> 2007 seniors and juniors will be included in the quotas for <del>aerials and Big Air</del> Slopestyle; in addition to Juniors in Aerials, Senior Aerialists in the top 50 of the overall points list will be invited to compete in a separately scored simultaneous event.
Discussion/Reason:	Due to the lack of good aerial events throughout the country, seniors need the opportunity to compete at a high level event such as this with 7 judges. The results for the seniors would be separate allowing only juniors to be shown on the official results of the JO's and on the USSA website. This would allow us to choose the Juniors from the Junior list making it much clearer who would be invited and who would show up.
	Withdrawn

Proposal Number:	Development Motion # 2
Description:	Junior Worlds Selection Criteria – Age Limits
Current Rule:	Page 51, FIS rule 7.2 The maximum age for entry is (19); the minimum age is (15). Only those competitors are eligible who have their 15 <sup>th</sup> or 19 <sup>th</sup> birthday during the competition year. The competition year is the same as the license year (July 1 <sup>st</sup> – June 30 <sup>th</sup> ).

Proposed Change:	Page 51, FIS rule 7.2 (3046.3) The maximum age for entry is <del>(19)</del> ; 20. The minimum age is <del>(15)</del> . <del>Only those competitors are eligible who have their 15<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> birthday during the competition year. The competition year is the same as the license year (July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>).</del> The age limits to be eligible to be entered into this competition are as follows: The athlete must be born between January 1 <sup>st</sup> 1987 and December 31 <sup>st</sup> 1992.
Discussion/Reason:	This is the new language and rule of the FIS (precisions 2006).
	Recommended to Staff to mirror the FIS Language

Proposal Number:	Development Motion # 3
Description:	North American Series – Selection
Current Rule:	Page 53 The USSA Development Program Participants will be determined by adding the place points from both 2004 U.S. Selection Events. The total number of Development Program participants will be determined once the number of USFST C Team spots has been determined.
Proposed Change:	Page 53 The USSA Development Program Participants will be determined by adding the place points from both 2004 U.S. Selection Events. The total number of Development Program participants will be determined once the number of USFST C Team spots has been determined. In the case that All (Moguls, Aerials and Halfpipe) the Selection Events, are held at the same time period but not able to be held in the same region, athletes who are invited and competitive in more than one event may compete in only one discipline and still be added to the development list for other disciplines that they are competitive in as well.
Discussion/Reason:	This year due to snow conditions and certain mandatory venues the Moguls were held in Colorado while the Aerials were held in Utah. Because the dates were not changed it was physically possible to do both disciplines. However, it was not realistic to expect an athlete to be in both places and at the top of their game. Most chose wisely to not make the daily trek and needed to be added. Those who chose to drive did not qualify for both and were not added. This is unfair to our combined skiers.
	It was stated that the executive committee could deal with individual cases like it did this year. Failed 4 against with 2 abstentions

Proposal Number:	Development Motion # 4
Description:	Junior Olympics make the Maximum Age Match the FIS
Current Rule:	Page 49, The Chevrolet Junior Olympics brings together the top junior competitors from each division.
Proposed Change:	Page 49, The Chevrolet Junior Olympics brings together the top junior competitors from each division. To be eligible to be entered into this competition the athlete must be born before January 1 <sup>st</sup> 1987.
Discussion/Reason:	A full realignment to FIS age groups would be a better fix but it may be cumbersome for now. This allows our best FIS juniors to compete in the Jr. Olympics and therefore keeps our upcoming skiers where they should aspire to be. Other sports have their juniors stop as high as after age 23.
	Failed 4 against with 2 abstentions

Proposal Number:	Development Motion #5
Description:	Development Program injury clause
Current Rule:	Page 53, Paragraph 2 2006-2007 Development Program After the US Freestyle Ski Team is named in May 2005, the top five men and top five women from the previous year's final FSP in moguls and dual moguls, and the top two men and top two women in aerials will be named to the USSA Development group. This will guarantee them starts on the NorAm Tour. All development group athletes must participate in the U. S. Selection Events.
Proposed Change:	Page 53, Paragraph 2 2006-2007 Development Program After the US Freestyle Ski Team is named in May <del>2005</del> 2006, the top five men and top five women from the previous year's final FSP in moguls and dual moguls, and the top two men and top two women in aerials will be named to the USSA Development group. This will guarantee them starts on the NorAm Tour. All development group athletes must participate in the U. S. Selection Events. In the case of a development group athlete who is injured and not able to compete in the U. S. Selection Events they must provide medical documentation they are unable to compete. Once medically cleared to compete, they would retain their NorAm start.
Discussion/Reason:	These athletes have proven they are skiing at the NorAm level already and should be given the opportunity to come back in at the level they left.
	Amended by Fisher Passed 5 in favor with 1 abstention

Proposal Number:	Development Motion #6
Description:	Formally change the structure of Juniors registration cost structure.
Current Rule:	Juniors Registration Fee has been one fee for everyone.
Proposed Change:	There should be a base cost that would cover all the extras for an organizer then each event should be an a la carte item.
Discussion/Reason:	By having one cost for all events, it is the perception by all involved that it is unfair. We need to provide organizers with a new cost structure model. For example, \$100 base cost. \$50 for moguls, \$50 for duals, \$50 for Aerials, \$50 for half pipe, \$50 for big air.

Suggested to Staff as a outline for some recommended changes to JO's entry process

- Other items of discussion:
  - **Selections** – make request to schedule it a week later for college students. Already addressed by staff.
    - What if it needs to be separate regions? OK suggested the dates still don't conflict.
    - What if it needs to be separate times? OK
    - What if we run it the first week of January? OK
  - **Junior Olympics** - Have we out cost ourselves. Some suggestions were made to staff.
    - The highest entry fees in any sport by almost double.
    - Entry fees did not include lifts.
    - Become a revolving door instead of an Olympic Celebration?
    - Can we find other revenue streams?
  - **Nationals**
    - Halfpipe belongs there; it is a World Championship Event and should have equal prize money.

- **NorAm Committee Recommendations**

- Bring NorAm Committee into the Event Selection Process?
- We are missing the International Travel portion of the NorAm. Should we go back to having all events together and in a four week time block in the middle of the season including two Canadian events?
- Can we get Canada to come on board with more Aerialist and Halfpipe skiers to help keep these alive or should we switch to a super series that does not need to follow NorAm rules so organizers have a chance to make ends meet and will not cancel due to financial reasons?
- Drop dead dates for events – two weeks prior. This seemed to work much better this year.
- Pre-paid registration for all events. *What did our working group consisting of Deb, Konrad, Justin, and Emily find on this?*
- Open the quotas for Aerials and Halfpipe?
- Decide on ways to make these events less costly for organizers particularly dealing with the events with smaller quotas and turnouts. *It was noted that this was well received at the NorAm Committee meeting and that for compelling reasons smaller five judge panels may be used for the smaller field events such as Aerials and Halfpipe so maybe keep this in place even if all events are together.*

There were several discussions about the NorAm. Staff has some money to put toward this as well as a general consolidation of events are planned.

- The state of our sport and bringing new skiers into it.
  - Spreadsheet of Freestyle events USSA vs. non USSA events - see attached.
    - How can we catch the boat?
  - Halfpipe

Dale Schoon asked the Development committee to bring forward some ideas through the FSC as to what it would take to help make these skiers feel and become more welcome in the USSA system. Presented to the FSC the following day.

- Slopestyle
- Ski Cross
- Other Business

Motion to adjourn: with the plan that four of the seven Development committee members would meet after hours and work on the substance that Dale requested. The pared down committee drafted the motions # 7-11 that were then presented during the report to the FSC.

**APPENDIX F**  
**Coaches Subcommittee Minutes**

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Freestyle Coaches Subcommittee  
Yarrow Hotel, Park City UT  
5/13/06

Meeting chair:	Glenn Eddy
Central	Thom Schaefer
Far West	Clay Beck
Intermountain	John Zuck
Northern	Andy Hayes
Pacific Northwest	Pat Deneen
Rocky	Eric Skinner

1 - Coaches education program report – as described in the staff report

2 - Old business

- Discussion of working group on jump qualification enforcement – Jeff Lange to report back.

3 – New business

- Motion to recommend 40 hrs internship for level 2 slopestyle coaches – not a requirement for certification, but a recommendation – unanimous
- Discussion of current US Ski Team coaching issues – Shannon Bahrke presented.

4 - Adjourn

**APPENDIX G**  
**Membership Subcommittee Minutes**

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Spring Meeting 2006

Present: Deb Newson- Chair (East), Andy Wise (Northern), Chris Haslock (Intermountain), Dan Miller (Rocky), Far West (Kate Duhamel), Pat Deneen (PNSA), Thom Schafer (Central)

Proposal Number:	1 - Withdrawn
Description:	Institute deadline for Nor Am registrations.
Current Rule:	No deadline
Proposed Change:	After Selections, all qualified athletes need to financially commit to the NorAm schedule. Monies would be collected by USSA by January 1 <sup>st</sup> . USSA would then forward all registrations to the individual event organizers with payment. If an athlete decides not to compete and gives two weeks notice to the USSA office prior to the first day of training, then their monies would be refunded. If an athlete were not able to give two weeks' notice due to injury, then they would be refunded. In all other instances, their registration would become a donation to the US Ski Team.
Discussion/Reason:	It is not fair to athletes who make the commitment to compete at Selections. Due to last minute notice they lose NorAm starts to regional athletes only because they cannot make it to the Nor Am event on time due to the late notice of qualification. If USSA does not wish to take on this financial project, then we could look into Active.com or some other online registration process as an alternative.

Proposal Number:	2 - Moved to Development
Description:	Formally change the structure of Juniors registration cost structure.
Current Rule:	Juniors Registration Fee has been one fee for everyone.
Proposed Change:	There should be a base cost that would cover all the extras for an organizer then each event should be an a la carte item.
Discussion/Reason:	By having one cost for all events, it is the perception by all involved that it is unfair. We need to provide organizers with a new cost structure model. For example, \$100 base cost. \$50 for moguls, \$50 for duals, \$50 for Aerials, \$50 for half pipe, \$50 for big air.

Proposal Number:	3 - Moved to Development
Description:	Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only.
Current Rule:	Big Air and Aerials include Seniors.
Proposed Change:	Change the invitees to Junior Olympics to Juniors only.
Discussion/Reason:	Although it is nice for the athletes to have another competition, it takes away from the spirit of the event when the seniors are there. By eliminating the seniors, aerials could be a double only event. No need for a triple.

Proposal Number:	4 - Withdrawn
Description:	Institute a deadline for Juniors registration.
Current Rule:	No deadline.
Proposed Change:	The registration deadline should be five days after List #3 and if clearly stated in all information published in reference to the event, as well as stated in the rulebook there should not be any problems. After the registration deadline any invitations not confirmed via registration would become null and void. This would allow alternates an appropriate amount of time to make travel and competition plans. If for one reason or another, i.e. injury, athletes miss registration, they would need then to file an appeal with the FSC Executive Committee. If their appeal were accepted, they would be added above and beyond the quota.
Discussion/Reason:	Mainstream Marketing's online registration helped immensely this year. However, when the invitation list is held by USSA and there is no interfacing between the invitation list and registration, it does not complete the circle. Like the NorAm, athletes miss out on opportunities and those that live nearby are given a chance when they were not the next person on the qualified list.  This is the process that we use in the Eastern Division for five events that are by invitation only. We have NEVER had any problems that were not easily remedied.

Proposal Number:	5 - Withdrawn
Description:	Make Nationals a USSA event with FIS format.
Current Rule:	It is a FIS event.
Proposed Change:	See description.
Discussion/Reason:	It is necessary to change US Champs to a USSA event due to the age requirements of FIS events. We should maintain FIS format.

Proposal Number:	6 - Withdrawn
Description:	Make acquiring a FIS license easier.
Current Rule:	It is a separate process.
Proposed Change:	Make acquiring a FIS license part of an athlete's USSA competition license.
Discussion/Reason:	Canada has two levels of license on their membership form. Their national license (\$70) is considerably cheaper than the national/FIS license (\$145). I am not suggesting this option as it would reduce membership revenue. However, a FIS license only costs \$10. Why does USSA charge \$50? This exaggerated fee alone limited the half pipe competitor interest in the Half Pipe NorAm tour.

New Business: Pat Deneen nominated Deb Newson to serve as Chair of the Membership Sub-Committee. Haslock seconded. All in favor.