



HOME OF UNITED STATES SKI ASSOCIATION CENTRAL DIVISION REGION 2

USSA Central Division Region 2 Board Spring Meeting
Saturday, April 1, 2017
4:00 – 5:00 PM
Quality Inn, 2901 Hummingbird Road, Wausau, WI

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 4:35PM CST

Board Member Attendance: Eric Gee (president), Craig Spidel (VP), Sydney Koop (taking minutes/coaches chair), John Manderfield, Ken Wentland

Guests: Brewster McVicker and Anje Worrell Full Attendance sheets attached below EXHIBIT A

1. Approval of Minutes from fall meeting
 - Motion to approve by Ken W, second by Craig S.
2. Recap of 2016-2017 presented by John Manderfield
 - Provided overview of season and success of major events including the Glover, Hosking and Indian Head
 - Excited about new venues added including Tyrol Basin and Sunburst
3. Region Financials presented by Eric Gee
 - Discussed modernization of the financials; we now have better tools implemented in the past year to better evaluate the region financials
 - Majority of revenues through race entries and regional dues
 - Detailed financial statements are available for review with Eric Gee
 - Discussed fund raising efforts (Craig S.)
 - Looking for suggestions on how we can raise funds.
 - Looking to purchase new trailer in the off season; sponsorship opportunities will be available
4. Region 2 Equipment presented by John Manderfield
 - Physical inventory for trailers has equipment has been updated (\$52K gross inventory)
 - Timing equipment (\$23,500 value)

5. New Business Proposal: Mt. La Crosse

- Approved Proposal and supporting letter attached below EXHIBIT B
- Motion to open discussion by John M., second Craig S.
- Recap: Mt. Lax Ski area and ski team would like to be added to Region 2. Proposal was distributed and was discussed at this meeting.
- Discussion/Q&A:
 - a. Craig S: Asked how the move would impact the Mt. Lax program.
 - Mt. Lax representatives feel this would be a positive move for them. They like the championship event R234 holds, the venues available and financial impact will be positive for them based on how they can staff events in R2 versus R1. In addition, being in R2 will allow the Lax High School athletes to compete throughout the year with other Wisconsin HS racers. (Steve Mikkelson, head coach Mt. Lax)
 - b. Craig S: How will this move impact races Mt. Lax attends?
 - Mt. LaCrosse is aware that they would need to attend primarily R2 events and believe that with the addition of more southern races in R2 that they will have good participation at the events. (Steve M)
 - c. John M: How large is the Mt. La Crosse Ski Team
 - 35 in the program, 10 or so traveling (Steve M.)
 - d. John M: How does Lax the team feel about the regional rules, not skiing outside of the region when a region race is taking place?
 - Mt. Lax board is aware of the rules and understands the requirements. (Steve M)
 - Discussed as a region/central that we need to all work together better to bring athletes head-to-head (Bill Patza, coach Mt. Lax)
 - e. Eric Gee: Noted that there is no impressed motive on the part of R2 to change territories or to obtain additional membership. This is one time situation and is not a template for the future. Needs to be noted that this should be seen as a long-term solution for Mt. LaCrosse.
 - f. Questions from the membership:
 - Is there a downside to region 2 to add Mt. LaCrosse?
 - a. None expressed.
 - Why the move in the beginning?
 - a. Discussed that Mt. Lax has moved between regions a couple of times all due to various logistical issues at that time based on the location of races and how the regions were operating. (Bill Patza)
 - g. Concern expressed about Mt. La Crosse moving back and forth between R1 and R2 (especially given we still have many races in the north).
 - a. Travel is not a concern for Mt. LaCrosse and it was expressed that overall they feel they are a better fit with the R2 as outlined in their proposal.
- *Motion to accept proposal, all in favor/carried*
 - Proposal will move to CASC

6. Anje Worrell: R/C Youth Coordinator comments
 - Discussed importance of seeing sport as a year round sport – extending the season and providing opportunities.
 - Discussed value of our camps – Indian Head speed camp was the best she have ever been to. Terrain was built well. In her experience some of the best progressions she has seen.

7. Culture of Ski Racing/Volunteerism (Eric G.)
 - Discussed we are primarily a volunteer group. Rely on support of families. Volunteerism is a part of skiing racing and our culture and we need more help.
 - Recognized two young men for their exemplary service as season long volunteers. Dakota Jorgensen and Elijah Andrews committed to learning our timing and race management software. Both spent the season in timing starting out apprenticing on the timing computers and wrapped up their experience by taking the role of primary timekeepers. Both young men have expressed an interest in taking the timing and calculations license exam in the fall.
 - Fall alpine officials clinic is a great opportunity to get move involved and become licensed officials.

8. Equipment Rules: (Brewster)
 - Evolving year to year, changes are in the idea of safety first. Many studies have been done and continue to be done with safety in mind. USSA has a national committee to review the equipment. 17/18 season is already published on the rules page of the USSA website.

9. Content & Communication (Craig)
 - Discussed importance of communication within our divisions especially given how large our physical distance. Board continuing to work to being more proactive – updated website content, live timing improvements, tweets at races, working to have more social events at races.

10. Metro Cup Series (Sydney)
 - Reviewed the success of the first season. We had 31 athletes sign up this season bringing our total of U12 and under athletes (either Metro Cup athletes or full time members to 76 – up from just 46 last season. The true success of the program can be measured over the next two seasons as we learn how many of the Metro Cup athletes move into full time USSA athletes.
 - Discussed that we are reviewing how we can improve some of our communications and reduce sign up confusion to implement next season.
 - Suggestion from membership to consider looking at sponsorship for each race to provide special prizes/awards to keep it fun for the athletes.

11. Short Term Membership (Eric)
 - One per season can be used which caused some confusion this season. This rule will be added to the website prior to next season.

- Coaches need to check with race organizers to ensure a ST membership can be used at the race an athlete would like to attend.

12. Fall Officials Clinic (Eric/Brewster)

- Held once per year, always held in November following the FIS TD update, which is the third weekend in October. Currently looking at weekend of November 18/19. Location is TBD.
- Reminder online CO class (competition official) is available. Helps you learn about all the positions at a race, educates you about the basics of our sport. Good to take prior to AO clinic for new parents so that they can decide where they would like to serve and what classes to take the AO.
- Concern expressed from membership on the cost to purchase an officials membership (\$60) as a volunteer. Discussed how it would be nice to have an incentive or maybe no fee would provide incentive to get more people to help out. This is a USSA fee that we don't expect to have changed and seems to be in line with many other sports organizations.

13. Fall Fitness Assessment (Eric)

- Importance of this event – evaluate fitness of athlete throughout the season. Try to do more than once per year. Spring assessment was done at the spring Granite Peak event; will help develop a plan of focus on what they need to work on for the off-season.

14. Open to questions from the floor/membership:

- Concerned expressed from member over ST membership/regional fees – not worth it for some families to pay for the region dues and using a ST membership just once limits some participation.
- Suggestion for clubs to work more hand-in-hand with PSIA; talk to your ski schools and build partnerships
- Trailer Sponsorships: Would like to see published trailer space details, suggested region creates a value deck total sponsorship program that can be distributed
- Live timing – hills giving poor internet data; can we put together a race sheet that outlines the requirements for running a race with us that includes internet requirements? Brewster believes USSA will be doing this in the homologation reports soon.
- Fund raising – Consider 50/50 raffle at social events
- SWAG – would like to have more of this going forward to utilize at award ceremonies

15. Fall Board meeting planned for September in conjunctions with CASC. Typically the third Sunday of the month. Details to come.

Motion to adjourn, John M., second Craig S.; end approx. 6:00PM CST

Region 2 Board Meeting Attendance

	Last Name	First Name	Club	Coach/Athlete/Official	USSA Member
1	Speichinger	Amelia	SPST	Athlete	yes
2	McIntosh	Ernest	USA	manager	
3	Worrell Worrell	Angela	USSA	R/C regional youth coordinator	✓
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Mount LaCrosse Proposal

Background

For a number of years now, Mount Lacrosse has expressed an interest in rejoining the ranks of Region 2. Historically, when the territories were delineated, Mount LaCrosse and LaCrosse County were included in the Region 2 territory.

Subsequent to that, politics of the time allowed for the Mount Lacrosse Ski area and LaCrosse County to be considered as Region 1

At this time, The Mount LaCrosse ski team Board of Directors have unanimously approved the action to request relocating their affiliation to Region 2

Even if this board fully supports this action, further proposals will have to be made at the CASC level which I have begun the process of authoring. I will present the appropriate proposals at the CASC meeting if this matter is approved in region 2

Attached, please find the document submitted to me by Mount LaCrosse.

Proposal

Invite the Mount Lacrosse ski team to return to Region 2 affiliation including the consideration of the mount Lacrosse ski area and the county of Lacrosse Wisconsin returned to Region 2 territory

There is an understanding that if the proposal is approved here in Region 2, in order to consummate this agreement, the CASC board will have to consider and ratify a similar proposal

Mt. La Crosse Ski Team

FROM THE DESK OF Steve Mikkelson

March 23, 2017

Eric Gee,

Eric this letter is to request that the Mt. La Crosse Ski Team (LAX) would like to move to Region 2 of the USSA Central Division. As per our discussion earlier this month, La Crosse would like to move from Region 1 to Region 2 for the upcoming ski season of 2017-18. This request has been approved by the MLST Board Members:

Carmina Benson President

Jeannie Ruprecht V.P.

Charlie Smith Treasure

Michelle Kind Secretary

Brian Harris Past President

Steve Mikkelson-Program Director/Head Coach

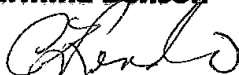
Thank you for your consideration,

Steve Mikkelson



Head Coach MLST

Carmina Benson



President