

SPRING MEETING NOTES,* MINNESOTA STATE SKI COACHES' ASSOCIATION

VASALOPPET CENTER, MORA,MN, APRIL 21, 2018

The morning session included the USSA Level 1 Clinic and demonstration facilitated by CXC.

A video featuring Jessie Diggins was shown.

Rich Heilman, Association Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report. A \$355.00 profit was earned at the Banks Relays. \$900.00 in dues was returned to us by the State Coaches' Association. Rich is compiling a list of all of our expenses for the year. These included our Association awards, Skier awards (All State and All State Academic), the President's stipend, Website fees and the expenses for the Spring and Fall Meetings. Our balance as of the Spring meeting date is \$5,239.89.

The Association's Awards were presented by Doug Boonstra. They included Coach of the Year to Mary Claire Ryan of Brainerd, Assistant COY to Scott Clark of Andover, and Volunteer(s) of the Year to the "Snow Farmers" of the Vasaloppet Association.

Our new President, replacing Doug Boonstra, is Rob Lageson of St. Paul Central

Kyle Bratrud, who skied at Eden Prairie, gave a talk on his career in Nordic Skiing, and highlighted three key concepts: "Start them young," and "Ski fast across the ground, (Be comfortable as you ski)," and Don't Focus on " I have to win."

Three CXC junior development summer camps are scheduled. Cable in June, July in Duluth and August in Ironwood. Chaska and Rochester are the sites for two Junior Development Clinics on September 8th and 15th, respectively.

An "Open Mic" time was opened to the floor. Mike Miller sought clarification of the relationship between clubs and high school teams, vis-a vis MSHSL policies. Doug Boonstra stated that our kids need to choose between club and high programs and commit. Larry Meyer said that there is League policy governing this and that AD's need to certify that a skier can participate in both.

Dave Paulson emphasized using community development funds to develop community programs for new skiers, including adults who might want to learn to compete. Scoring all of a team's entered skiers, up to ten racers, in a race was recommended.

Mike Weimerskirch discussed trying to coordinate our scheduling with Wirth and Hyland and also emphasized our having a high school rules book. This is being worked on with the goal of trying to limit specific Minnesota high school rules to one page.

Starting our season later in November will be discussed by a summer committee with an eye to discussing this with the League.

Timing inconsistencies from Section to Section were discussed. The "first foot" has been in force but chip timing has come to the fore, somewhat muddying the waters as to results. That is, the time is taken by chips which are sometimes on the ankle and other times on the bib.

The MSHSL is discussing a waxing policy especially as it relates to high fluoro powders and attendant health concerns. (see the current Association website for our Wax Truce recommendations).

Doug Boonstra stated that the league will consider our Sprint Relay proposal in June of 2019. If it passes, it could be implemented for the 2020 season.

The possibility of a new venue(s) for State was brought up. Wirth, Spirit Mountain and Giant's Ridge are interested and will be talking with Doug Boonstra this summer. The possibility of Duluth and Wirth alternating years was brought up.

- As no quorum was present, no proposals nor amendments were introduced or voted on.

Respectfully submitted

Denny Nelson

Secretary.

