

MINUTES OF FLORIDA FEDERATION
ANNUAL MEETING
July 11, 2015

President Gordon West called the meeting to order at 9:04 pm. Present at the meeting were: Gordon West, President, Curtis Rabe, Vice-President, Jeff Clark, Treasurer, Michele Seal, Secretary, Dennis Longo, Jody Seal, and Stan Switzer, Council, and Donna Switzer, Ruth Johnston, Dana Garcia, Monica Seal, Charlotte Melchers and Janet Kreeger.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the December 2014 meeting were previously distributed by email. Stan Switzer made a motion to accept the December minutes as written, seconded by Jody Seal. December 2014 Minutes are approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Clark distributed the Treasurer's report. There are currently 505 Federation members. The average has been 605 members. There are several more tournaments in calendar year 2015 so the membership number still has time to increase. Jody Seal moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Stan Switzer. The Report is approved.

The annual elections then followed.

President: Jody Seal nominated Gordon West, seconded by Stan Switzer. Gordon is re-elected by acclamation.

Council: Dana Garcia nominated Dennis Longo, Jody Seal, and Stan Switzer, seconded by Jeff Clark. All three council are re-elected by acclamation.

Vice-President: Michele Seal nominated Curtis Rabe, Dennis Longo seconded. Curtis is re-elected as Vice-President by acclamation.

Treasurer: Stan Switzer nominated Jeff Clark, seconded by Jody Seal. Jeff is re-elected by acclamation.

Secretary: Michele Seal is re-elected as Secretary by acclamation.

Hall of Fame Committee members: The terms held by Michele Seal and Donna Switzer are up. Nominations and vote followed, Michele and Donna were both re-elected to fill the positions (each term is three years). Nomination and vote then followed for Charlotte Melchers to continue as Chair of the Committee.

Junior Development Coordinator: As Steve Garcia is not present, Gordon will contact him to determine his interest in continuing as the Junior Development coordinator.

Old Business: There is no old business.

New Business: Charlotte Melchers feels that the Hall of Fame inductees should have a separate reserved table at the State banquet for suitable recognition. She also stated that Jeff Clark purchased nametags for the Hall of Fame members that attended tonight's banquet which recognize them as HOF members. A motion was made and seconded to reimburse Jeff for the nametags purchased. The motion carries. Discussion followed to send a letter to all other Hall of Fame members giving them the option to request a nametag for future banquets.

The next discussion was that the State Tournament is becoming more difficult to run cost effectively. Ideas include making it 2 rounds, with the awards based on the 1st round, the best of 2 rounds, or combined rounds. Jeff Clark referred to the AWSA Board of Directors rule that the 1st round must be the championship round in a State Tournament. Charlotte stated that 2 rounds is better for the hosting club. Dennis said that based on the demand for slalom, a 2nd round should be added for slalom. Charlotte feels this should be left open to the LOC. Donna stated that in the 20 years that Ski Paradise has held States that they couldn't have taken any more skiers than 1 round. Entry fees were not exorbitant, but they usually broke even or made money. Ruth suggested that it remain 1 round but that everyone, including officials, pay entry fees to help the cost to the LOC. It was stated that the Banquet should be at a reasonable time. Jody said that historically officials have been comped their entry. Skier numbers have dwindled; changes need to be made. Skiers want to ski and this year no practice was available. Dana would like to see foreigners that live here to be able to compete for medals. Michele wondered if the number of skiers is down due to the current AWSA rankings list procedure, or possibly the location of the event (as Florida is a big state and WPB is not centrally located) and if it would be conducive to hold 2 State tournaments or have the Federation pay the officials entries. Dennis said that the numbers are staying flat and numbers need to grow. Gordon talked about a central location and the possibility of the Federation leasing the site. Gordon then asked everyone to think about it and send emails with their thoughts and ideas. We then need to check what can and cannot be done per AWSA for qualifications of State tournaments, and the current Federation P&P manual dictates class ELR. A proposal will then be made and handled through email so that any changes are done before bids are due November 1st for the 2016 State tournament.

Ruth Johnston then made a motion that Florida States is ELR, one round, has a banquet, trophies, that hotel rooms are provided for appointed and assigned officials, and that every skier pays their entry fee. Donna Switzer seconded the motion, and discussion followed. Charlotte asked if the LOC can request less officials as WPB is pretty self-sufficient for slalom. Gordon informed that the Federation approves the list, but doesn't have specific requirements. Jeff pointed out that only 2 items in the motion are new, all others are already part of the P&P. The motion was restated to add to the P&P that the officials' hotel rooms are paid by the LOC and entry fee is paid by all skiers. Dennis would like to define all requirements of the LOC, including lunch for officials, etc. Charlotte said that the Bid form should be more specific. Jeff made a Motion to table. Motion carries. Gordon reiterated his request for everyone to email him with suggestions as stated in the paragraph above.

Jody Seal then made a motion that the Federation reimburse the officials for entry fees paid this year to ski in States, seconded by Stan Switzer. Dennis reported the total paid by officials was \$1375.00. Charlotte stated that the Ski Club of the Palm Beaches will pay half. The Motion carries. Dennis abstained from the vote. A letter will accompany the checks to the officials informing them that the SCPB is paying half, and the Florida Federation is paying half.

Donna Switzer asked who decides the level ranking required for Regionals qualification. The Southern Region Council decides this. Donna then asked if there is an AWSA rule

about Masters Men bouncing between MM and age division in a ski year. No-one presented an answer.

Dana Garcia made a Motion to do away with Florida Federation membership requirement at local tournaments, and go to a cap fee per tournament because it's hard as a host to collect per member. Charlotte suggested that this could be tried for one year. Ruth and others stated that right now there is no accountability from the tournament hosts. Michele requested to table this as more tournament hosts, which this affects, will be at the December meeting. Motion was tabled.

Gordon West stated that if only one boat manufacturer will be used at a tournament the sanction needs to say it's a closed tournament. He will advise tournament hosts of this at the December meeting.

Ruth Johnston made a motion that the Florida Federation Board of Directors shall have the authority to vote to allow an exception for a skier to ski in Florida States if they don't have ranking list scores, such as a skier that was not able to ski for medical or injury reasons but is now cleared to ski. Skiers shall request the exception through any Federation Board member and the President will forward the request to the Board for vote. Jody Seal seconded the motion. Motion carries.

For informational purposes, Jeff Clark stated that Master Women will now have a Florida State record for slalom, but not for trick and jump.

No further business coming before the meeting, Jody Seal made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stan Switzer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Seal, Secretary

Tabled:

- Ways to make Florida States more cost-effective and increase attendance.
- Define parameters of Florida States: whether officials pay entry fees, number of hotel rooms, lunch, etc.
- Consider changing the requirement of Florida Federation membership in local tournaments to a head tax.