

## CROSS COUNTRY SPORT COMMITTEE MEETING

---

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress 2018  
Doubletree Hotel, 1800 Park Avenue, Park City, UT  
May 4, 2018

---

Cami Thompson Graves	Chair	5/2022
Robert Lazzaroni	U.S. Ski and Snowboard Program Director	Employment
Bryan Fish	U.S. Ski and Snowboard Program Director	Employment
August Teague	Coaches Committee Chair	5/2022
Allan Serrano**	Officials Committee Chair	5/2020
Joey Caternichio	Alaska	5/2020
Yuriy Gusev	Midwest	5/2022
Amie Smith	New England / NENSA	5/2022
Alan Watson	PNSA	5/2020
Gus Johnson	Far West	5/2020
Wilson Dippo	Intermountain	5/2020
TBD	Rocky Mountain	5/2018
Rebecca Watson	High Plains	5/2022
Joe Haggemiller	Great Lakes	5/2022
Shane McDowell	Mid-Atlantic	5/2022
Rick Kapala	At-Large	5/2022
Reid Lutter	At-Large	5/2022
Rosie Brennan	Athlete, Board Rep	5/2020
Annie Hart**	Athlete	5/2018
Dakota Blackhorse-von Jess	Athlete	5/2018

\*\* Absent

1. Motion to approve the 2017 Sport Committee Minutes
  - 1.1. Motion - August Teague / Second - Rebecca Watson / Passed unanimous
2. Discussion about Chair position. Rick Kapala withdrew his candidacy for the position. Further discussion about XC Sport Committee nominee to the Board of Directors.
  - 2.1. Nominations for At-Large positions. Motion to nominate Reid Lutter to At-Large Position
  - 2.2. Motion to re-nominate Rick Kapala to At-Large position - Justin Beckwith / Second - Joe Haggemiller / Unanimous
  - 2.3. Motion to re-nominate Cami Thompson Graves as Chair was made / Second – Amie Smith / Unanimous
3. August proposes to remove CXC from Midwest and Great Lakes positions, agreed by consensus.
4. Joey opened discussion regarding Term Lengths. Moved to change Term Lengths to 2 years.
  - 4.1. Motion – Joey / Second – Joe Haggemiller / Fails to pass: 1 for (Joey)
5. Presentation from Tom Kelley. Introduction of Tom Webb.

6. Coaches Committee Report – August.
7. Discussion of the calendar. Motion to approve the calendar.
  - 7.1. Motion – August / Second – Joe Haggemiller / Passed Unanimously
8. Discussion of the SuperTour. Motion to increase SuperTour Entry Fees to \$45. Further discussion (Rick) about financial parameters for SuperTour OCs; increased cost of timing given increased data requirements. Distribution of rights to OCs for digital properties to help cover increased operational costs. Rick clarified: he does not want to see an increase in cost to OCs to cover streaming or timing services. Yuriy: there is no additional load on the timers, it's just a change in operations. Report on the cost of operating the streaming service; estimate of professional service cost of \$50,000 per event (?) and 21 total events for the season. Reid: Bring the discussion back to entry fee increase.
  - 8.1. Motion – August / Second – Rick / Passed unanimously
9. Discussion of rule change 50.2 to randomize the A-seed for SuperTour sprints.
  - 9.1. Motion – August / Second – Joey / Passed unanimously
10. Discussion of homologation requirement and best practice for waxing facilities.
11. Junior Subcommittee report.
12. Discussion of motion to combine Pacific and Mountain regions into one region for JN hosting purposes. That motion failed in subcommittee.
13. Motion to combine Pacific and Mountain regions into one “Mountain” but keep 2 spots in the 5-year rotation.
  - 13.1. Motion – August / Second – Bryan / Passed Unanimously
14. Motion to increase Junior Nationals quota sizes by creating Large and Small Divisions. Clarification of the language for the motion. Yuriy: discussion of procedure regarding timeliness of proposal. Robert, Cami: discussion to split the motion for conceptual approval, specific language to go back to the junior committee for finalization before Executive Committee approval (30 days).
  - 14.1. Motion – Joey / Second – August / Passed : 2 against (Joe, Yuriy)
15. Motion to increase Junior National entry fees to \$225
  - 15.1. Motion – August / Second – Joey / Passes: For - 11, Opposed - 4 (Joe, Aimee, Shane, Rosie)
16. Discussion of changing ski exchange rule for long distance races. Motion to disallow ski exchanges for Junior Races, 1 or no ski exchanges for 30k/50k races. Discussion of Junior Race wording.
  - 16.1. Motion – August / Second – Rick / Passes : Opposed – 3 (Gus, Rosie, Joey)
17. Discussion of change to US National Championship Schedule. Motion to change SuperTour Finals/Spring Nationals to include a National Championship Sprint, Short Individual, Team Sprint, and Team Relay to start 2020.
  - 17.1. Motion – August / Second – Rick / Passes unanimously
18. Discussion of criteria for U18, JWC, and U23 World Championship.
  - 18.1. Motion – August / Second – Bryan / Passes unanimously

19. Discussion of subsequent Coaches Subcommittee business.
20. Motion to accept Auburn Ski Club as venue for 2020 Junior National Championship
  - 20.1. Motion – August / Second – Alan / Passes unanimously
21. Motion to recognize Juniors in Senior brackets for sprint competitions as Junior award winners.
  - 21.1. Motion – Joey / Second – Joe / Passes unanimously
22. Discussion of WC and WSC criteria to be voted on by the Sport Committee before they take effect. Created a working group to develop criteria.
  - 22.1. Motion – Rosie / Second – Joe / Passes unanimously
23. Motion to set Junior National Qualifier publication dates to October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - 23.1. Motion – August / Second – Gus / Passes: Opposed – 2 (Alan, Joey)
24. Discussion of requirement to make all JNQs NRLS. Failed in subcommittee
25. Motion to require all coaches at NRLs to have a minimum of a SafeSport certification. Bryan: clarifies ANYONE working with a U.S. Ski & Snowboard licensed athlete is considered a coach. Rick: amended motion to direct policy to SafeSport policies, Bryan seconds amendment. Rick: how do we enforce policy over all individuals at the NRL? Language change: **All NRL events will adhere to SafeSport policies.**
  - 25.1. Motion – August / Second – Bryan / Passes unanimously
26. Conclusion of Coaches Subcommittee business.
27. Report from the Officials Subcommittee: Scott Wilson
28. Report of development of Working Groups and major event assignments.
29. Discussion of NRL level yellow card, clarified as written warning, the inability of yellow card tracking at the NRL level, and thus the inability to enforce multiple rule infractions.
30. Announcement of 86 Technical Document on the national roster.
31. Discussion about adding an At-large position to the Officials Subcommittee. August: add a timer to your At-large position.
32. Rick: discussion of live-timing requirement for sprint heats in sprint events. Request for the Officials Subcommittee to handle the development of this requirement. Scott agrees to take it to the subcommittee.
33. Joe: request to table Officials Subcommittee report to get to divisional benchmarks because the Central Representatives needed to leave. Decision to carry on.
34. Discussion of rule book changes: wording changes, not content changes.
  - 34.1. Change of language clarifying TD reimbursement policies
  - 34.2. Removal of existing Junior National homologation criteria and replace them with a percentage of FIS standards (see attachments)
  - 34.3. Motion – Joe / Second – Alan / Passes unanimously
35. Announcement of TD Pipeline
36. Wilson: request to table Officials Subcommittee report to get to divisional benchmarks, but the report and discussion continued.

### 37. Venue homologation reports

38. Discussion of divisional benchmarks. Joey: does failure to meet benchmarks have consequences i.e. Loss of divisional status, gain of Gold Status? August: Feedback has been benchmarks is the wrong word.

38.1. Discussion about minimum number of NRL races within divisional territory. Joe: the border is unnecessary. Bryan: if you don't have NRL races, are you providing viable opportunities to your communities? August: Clarification that this is not JNQ specific, just that the NRLs are offered. Rebecca: 2 would be a better minimum number for High Plains. Further discussion, Cami: Are 3 reasonable? Joe: No, 2 are better. Debate between Bryan/Robert and Joey about divisional status of Great Lakes and Midwest. Alan: discussion about requirements vs recommendations. Shane: difficult to get host venues to host NRLs without the requirement. Alan: what can we do to encourage benchmark compliance without using a top-down model? Rebecca: As long as we're not talking about destroying divisions or cutting out participants, this is positive. Amie: supports this point, what can we do to support the divisions other than with the threat of divisional de-certification. General agreement that regions strive to have 2 NRL races per year. Justin: Mid-Atlantic would like to have 3 NRL races.

38.2. Discussion of recognized award categories. Attempt to move away from high school or similar awards. Joey: strike the awards category recommendations. Robert: there have been issues. August: add the word "minimum" to make sure we aren't limiting potential award categories. Cami: struck the awards criteria. August: "Recognize awards categories to encourage maximum participation."

38.3. Discussion of race distance standardization. Joey: limits the ability of the divisions to use alternative formats like skier cross and 3ks. Wilson: Confirmed point. Bryan: Can you add maximum distance language. Amie: This is a guideline, not a requirement. August: Flexibility is necessary given altitude and other requirements. Cami: "Encourage divisions to host appropriate race distance for the age groups." Bryan: Offer average distance recommendations. August: can you pull race distance averages from the different divisions and from other nations? Change to: Host appropriate race distance for the age groups as per U.S. Ski & Snowboard Pathway Chart.

38.4. Bryan: the "Pipeline" is now the "Pathway".

38.5. Discussion regarding coaches' education and certification. Cami: "Provide coaching education opportunities within the division, and encourage all coaches to be certified at an appropriate level."

38.6. Discussion regarding officials' education and certification. Cami: "Provide officials education opportunities within the division, and encourage all officials to be certified at an appropriate level."

38.7. Officials subcommittee elected not to address FIS homologated venue requirement. Discussion to "Encourage homologation with at least one venue in each division to be FIS homologated. It would be preferable to host at least some of the division's JNQs on a homologated course so athletes are prepared for National competitions.

38.8. Unanimously agree to attempt to annually grow memberships, including the competition members.

38.9. Discussion to host a website and to post race schedules and selection criteria. Further discussion about what the specific selection criteria are. Alan: Add "Make all policies and procedures as clear and transparent as possible." Cami: It would be really useful if

there was a central repository to divisional website links. Cami: Need to update the divisions listed on the website.

38.10. Struck the requirements as connected to Junior National Team Selection.

38.11. Motion to recommend the divisional goals to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and the divisions.

38.12. Continued discussion about the number of NRL races. Justin: Can we go back to three? Joe: That is too many. Amie, Joey: Setting the number at three is a goal, only achieving two has no negative consequence to the division. Alan: Change the number of NRL races to 3 given that this is a goal.

Motion – Alan / Second – Amie / Vote passes: 2 against (Joe and Wilson)

38.13. NNF report from Reid Lutter.

38.14. Joey: Discussion of awards nomination committee to encourage broader recognition.

38.14.1. Motion – Joey / Second – Cami / Passes unanimously

38.14.2. Follow-up – Rosie: There are multiple awards (i.e. 10k individual award) that are awarded to athletes who are never alerted that they received the award.

38.15. Executive Committee nominations: Thompson, Lazzaroni, Teague, Serrano, Brennan

38.15.1. Motion – Robert / Second – Joey / Passes unanimously

38.16. Judicial Committee nominations: Serrano, Smith, Blackhorse-von Jess

38.16.1. Rick: Please confirm with Al Serrano that he will be available in a timely fashion for Committee business.

38.16.2. Motion called to vote and passed unanimously.

38.17. Renew all terms for divisional representatives

38.18. Motion to adjourn – Cami / Second – Bryan / Passed unanimously

**U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Sport Committee**  
**Divisional Goals & Expectations**

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Sport Committee suggests that each division annually meet the goals below, as a minimum (between May 1 and April 30):

- *Each division should elect or appoint a representative to communicate with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and to serve on the Cross Country Sport Committee.*
- Plan to host a *minimum* of 3 NRL races within the divisional territory (can be one weekend with 3 races, 2 weekends with 2 races each day or three one-day weekends), including a mix of classic and skate races with mass start and individual start events.
- Recognize awards categories to encourage maximum participation.
- Host appropriate race distances for the age groups as per U.S. Ski & Snowboard pathway chart.
- Provide coaching education opportunities within the division and encourage all coaches to be certified at an appropriate level.
- Provide officials education opportunities within the division and encourage all officials to be certified at an appropriate level.
- Encourage homologation with at least one venue in each division to be FIS homologated. It would be preferable to host at least some of the division's JNQs on a homologated course so athletes are prepared for National competitions.
- Attempt to annually grow memberships, including the number of competition members.
- Host a website and post race schedules and various selection criteria. Make all policies and procedures clear and transparent.