

## **U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD ALPINE SPORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

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Monday, October 21, 2019, 9:00-11:00 a.m.  
Telephonic

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### **Meeting Chairman:**

Darryl Landstrom

### **Committee Members Present:**

John Buchar  
Karen Ghent  
Doug Hall  
Tim Hinderman  
Jesse Hunt  
Beat Hupfer  
Jessica Kelley  
Chip Knight  
Karen Korfanta  
Craig Krueger  
Dan Marshall  
Warner Nickerson  
Jon Nolting  
Joe Paul  
Bill Slattery  
Tao Smith

### **Committee Members Excused:**

Mike Bowman  
Breezy Johnson  
Tiger Shaw  
Paul Van Slyke  
Andrew Weibrecht

### **Management/Team Members Present:**

Sheryl Barnes  
Sam Damon  
Bill Gunesch  
Patrick Mich  
Charlotte Moats  
Darlene Nolting  
Gar Trayner  
Jeff Weinman

### **Additional Attendees:**

Lucy Schram

## **1. Chairman Calls the Meeting to Order**

Darryl Landstrom called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

## **2. Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum**

Darryl Landstrom made a roll call and noted that a quorum was present.

## **3. Approval of the Meeting Agenda**

Doug Hall moved, and Craig Krueger seconded the motion to approve the meeting agenda. There was no comment and the motion passed unanimously.

## **4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Doug Hall moved, and Craig Krueger seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 17, 2019. There was no comment and the motion passed unanimously.

## **5. 2020 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress**

Tuesday, May 5 – Friday May 8, 2020

Proposal submission deadline: Friday April 17, 2020

## **6. Introduction of Charlotte Moats – U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Staff**

## **7. Reports**

### **7.1. Alpine Staff**

Jesse Hunt – Alpine Director

1. Good preparation of the teams in New Zealand, Chile, and Europe this year.
2. Working on delivering items from the Athlete Project
  - a. Improving communication and interaction with the athletes
  - b. Implementation of the Athlete Barometer to increase feedback loops
  - c. Ongoing quarterly meetings with athlete liaisons
3. 2021 U.S. Ski Team nomination criteria published
  - a. Two-year nomination, grandfathering current objectively named athletes
  - b. C- and D-Team athletes must pass SkillsQuest Fitness standard

Chip Knight – Alpine Development Director

1. Introduction of new staff:
  - a. Patrick Mich – Central Division Manager
  - b. Nathan Bryant – Eastern Regional Coach
  - c. Kristina Revello – Rocky/Central Regional Coach
  - d. Fletcher McDonald – Western Regional Coach
2. Productive and well-attended development camps this preparation period in Mammoth, Mt. Hood, New Zealand, and Ushuaia
  - a. Webinars after each D-Team project are posted on the Sport Education website
3. Tri-regional indoor SL project this fall in Belgium
4. Validated SkillsQuest – Fitness testing held around the country this fall
5. Continued focus on speed development opportunities in Copper and at regional events through the winter

6. Ongoing discussion of moving the FIS eligibility age back to 15 years-old
  - a. USA considering making a proposal for FIS Congress 2020
7. Calendar confirmed for the 2020 season

Bill Gunesch – Western Regional Development Director

1. Review of regional projects through the preparation period
2. Validated SkillsQuest – Fitness testing in region has been productive and well-received
3. Fall divisional meetings are ongoing with good educational speakers included

Darlene Nolting – Rocky/Central Regional Development Director

1. Review of regional projects through the preparation period
2. Validated SkillsQuest – Fitness testing ongoing in region
3. Continued focus on aggregation of best athletes in region and on fundamental skill development for long-term success

Sam Damon – Eastern Regional Development Director

1. EACC and Eastern Coaches Education Conference in Okemo last weekend
  - a. Attendance up 30% from the previous year
  - b. Good interaction between coaches from all over the Eastern region
2. Review of regional projects through the preparation period
3. Numerous validated SkillsQuest – Fitness tests held throughout the region
4. Project-based coaches education opportunities planned for this winter

## **7.2. Board of Directors Report**

Darryl Landstrom – Alpine Representative

1. Updated Athlete Code of Conduct
  - a. No tobacco use of any type (vaping, chew, patches, etc) permitted
2. Approved acronym change from USOC to USOPC
3. Continued focus on gender equity
4. Athlete representation to increase from 20% to 30%
5. Quarterly BOD meetings going forward

## **7.3. Membership Report**

Sheryl Barnes – Member Services Director

1. Membership overall is up 4.5% so far this year
2. Background screening: 3,250 members completed, 800 still to be completed
3. SafeSport: 6,000 members completed training, 1,700 still to be trained

## **7.4. Sport Education Report**

Gar Trayner – Sport Education Director

1. Required Level 100 coaches certification by spring of 2022
  - a. Coaching Fundamentals course is a bridge to L100 certification
2. Two snow safety courses in development: mountain safety and avalanche awareness, working closely with BRASS and Utah Avalanche Institute
3. New coaching fundamentals pocket guide in production
4. Turn-shape analysis nearly completed
5. SkillsQuest assessment is being revised

6. Alpine L100 course has been re-designed and L200 is in review
7. 2019 World Cup winning runs is available
8. Stop the Bleed training included in all Regional Club Excellence conferences

## **7.5. Subcommittee Reports**

### **7.5.1. Education Subcommittee**

Jon Nolting – Chair

1. New Coaching Fundamentals Pocket Guide, with updated QR codes, will be delivered by December

### **7.5.2. FIS Subcommittee**

Darryl Landstrom for Paul Van Slyke – Chair

1. FIS TD updates ongoing
2. New July 1 expiration date for homologations
  - a. Doug Hall is new leader for homologation inspectors
  - b. Domestic homologations are in U.S. Ski & Snowboard online database
    - i. Website:  
[media.ussa.org/public/athletics/CompServices/homologation](http://media.ussa.org/public/athletics/CompServices/homologation)
      1. Username: homologation
      2. Password: allout2018!
3. Rules has updated the ACR for the 2020 season
  - a. Precisions will be updated and posted by November

### **7.5.3. Development Subcommittee**

Karen Ghent – Chair

1. New Junior National quota proposal submitted and approved over the summer
2. Health of Sport Task Force convened to examine the components that contribute to a healthy sport culture. Task Force will make recommendations for Congress 2020. Areas of focus are:
  - a. Creating a broad base of the development pyramid
  - b. Minimizing costs and missed days of school
  - c. Retaining athletes through their junior years
  - d. Contributing to long-term development and elite-level performance
3. Continuation of Parallel Task Force this summer

### **7.5.4. Alpine Technical Subcommittee**

Doug Hall – Chair

1. Officials update material is ready for fall clinics, pending FIS precisions

### **7.5.5. Regional Subcommittee**

Craig Krueger – Chair

1. Finalizing current regional and divisional handbooks by end of November

## **7.6. Athlete Representatives**

Warner Nickerson – Athletes BOD Representative

1. Federal discussion to increase board athlete representation from 20% to 30%, and also removing the requirement that the athlete has competed in the last 10-years

2. Athlete liaisons: Tommy Ford, Steven Nyman, Breezy Johnson, and Nina O'Brien
3. Cross-Country has started the Women's Ski Coaches Association. Kate Anderson from Proctor is looking to replicate this model in Alpine.
4. Alpine Athlete Board Representative election this coming year.

## **8. Old Business**

### **8.1. Rules**

#### **8.1.1. U12 and Under Rules**

Darryl Landstrom reminded the Committee about the new U12 and Under rules:

1. From the 2019 Congress: At U12 and under competitions, we recommend each division hold two races next season (2019-2020) that do not allow speed suits showing. This is a one-year test and look forward to feedback next season. Races will be decided in each division.
2. From 2019 Congress: U12 and under competitors are only allowed to use one (1) pair of skis per race (inspections & competition). Parents, coaches or technicians are not allowed to furnish additional pairs of skis for use during race day inspections or competition. Non-compliance may result in NPS or, depending on circumstance, DSQ (proven violation after start).
3. From 2019 Congress: U12 and under competitors should refrain from using fluorinated wax. In any case, application of any type of waxing solution must not be applied at U12 and under competition venues. Use of ski preparation benches at the U12 and under competition venue is not allowed.

Chip Knight commented on the importance of continued education in our community on these three rules.

#### **8.1.2. Female Officials**

Darryl Landstrom reminded the Committee about the new recommendations for female officials and course setters:

1. From 2019 Congress: ACR U601.4.2.3 The jury should when possible include a woman
2. From 2019 Congress: ACR U603.2.4 Course setter appointment should when possible include a woman

#### **8.1.3. Race Organization**

**8.1.3.1.** Organizing committees should amend their medical plans to include Stop the Bleed kits and an actual Ski Patrol person at the start

**8.1.3.2.** Where avalanches are preset, an avalanche report should be provided at the Team Captains Meeting

#### **8.1.4. Calendar Management**

Chip Knight reminded the Committee of the new national race registration and pull deadlines:

1. Registration will open on the first of the month preceding the event
2. Deadline for registration is 21 days prior to the first Team Captains meeting of the event

3. Deadline to pull registrations is 16 days prior to the first Team Captains meeting of the event
4. Race entries will be charged after the 16-day pull deadline

#### **8.1.5. Additional Reminders**

1. There is a November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to request to host two races in one day.
2. The 2020 Competition Guide has been published and is in the mail.
3. The [2020 Alpine Precisions](#) document has been posted.
4. Alpine Officials clinics are scheduled for the coming weeks.

### **9. New Business**

#### **9.1. Parallel Rules**

**9.1.1.** Parallel Task Force has edited Parallel rules to mirror FIS while maintaining appropriate National rules

**9.1.2.** New non-elimination Parallel format available to run as a test event. Procedures are published in the [Precisions](#).

#### **9.2. Extension of Merged Scoring between NASTAR and Local Race Series**

Chip Knight moved, and Doug Hall seconded the motion to approve a one-year extension of the merged scoring between NASTAR and local race series, such as the Tahoe League and Roaring Fork Series. There was no comment and the motion passed unanimously.

### **10. Future Committee Meeting Dates**

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress – Tuesday, May 5-8, 2020

### **11. Closing Comments and Adjournment**

There being no further business, Darryl Landstrom moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Chip Knight, Secretary