



## Alpine Sport Committee

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Online Meeting via Zoom  
 Tuesday, October 19, 2021, 9-11:00 a.m. MDT

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### Agenda

Meeting Chair: Darryl Landstrom

#### Alpine Sport Committee

Darryl Landstrom, Wayzata, MN (Chair and Alpine BOD Representative)	Present
Paul Van Slyke, Lake Placid, NY (Vice Chair and FIS Subcommittee Chair)	Present
Mike Bowman, Winter Park, CO (Rocky Central Region Representative)	Present
Bill Brooks, Spokane, WA (Regional Subcommittee Chair)	Present
Karen Ghent, Edwards, CO (Development Subcommittee Chair)	Present
Doug Hall, Maryland, NY (Technical Subcommittee Chair)	Present
Tim Hinderman, MT (Western Region Representative)	Present
Jesse Hunt, Park City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Director)	Present
Beat Hupfer, Mammoth Lakes, CA (At-Large)	Present
James Jensen, Hart, MI (Rocky Central Region Representative)	Present
Breezy Johnson, WY (Athlete Representative)	Present
Jess Kelley, Park City, UT (Athlete Representative)	Present
Chip Knight, Park City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Development Director)	Present
Karen Korfanta, Heber, UT (At-Large)	Present
Dan Marshall, Manchester, NH (Eastern Region Representative)	Present
Warner Nickerson, Tilton, NH (Athlete and Alpine Athlete Rep to the BOD)	Present
Jon Nolting, Steamboat Springs, CO (Education Subcommittee Chair)	Present
John Norton, Lake Placid, NY (Eastern Region Representative)	Present
Bill Slattery, Buffalo Grove, IL (Immediate Past Chair) - not attending	Excused
Jim Tschabrun, Park City, UT (Western Region Representative)	Present
Andrew Weibrecht, Lake Placid, NY (Athlete Representative)	Present

#### U.S. Ski & Snowboard Staff

Tiger Shaw, Park City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard President/CEO)	Present
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#### Honorary (non-voting)

Tom Winters, Tucson, AZ	Present
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Guests: Jeff Weinman, Jim Hudson, Sheryl Barnes, Fletcher McDonald, Angie Brown, Karen Korfanta, Ian Dunlop, Jeff Pickering, Patrick Mich, Ali Spencer, Todd Brickson, Jess Kelley, Bill Gunesch, Paige Roberts, Kathy O, Dan Henry, Gar Trayner, Jay Moyer, Peter Dodge, Kristina Revello, Andrew Weibrecht, Colleen Jamieson, Joe Paul, Sam Damon, Arnie Huftalen, Ellen Adams, Lucy Schram, Thelma Hoessler

1. Welcome  
 Darryl Landstrom called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM MST.
2. ASC roll call  
 Darlene Nolting made the roll call.
3. Review and approval of agenda  
 The agenda was approved without any objection.
4. Review and approval of the May 20, 2021 minutes

The minutes were approved without any objection.

5. Review of the 2022 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress schedule

5.1 Monday, May 9 – Friday, May 13, 2022 Park City, UT

5.2 ASC Executive Committee on Friday, May 6, 2022

5.3 Deadline for proposals: Monday, April 25, 2022

5.4 Working groups may meet virtually prior to Congress

6. Reports

6.1 CEO Update – Tiger Shaw

Tiger announced the CEO transition. Sophie Goldschmidt just started, and he has now become the CEO emeritus.

He reported on the Beijing Olympics. Only the national delegation can attend. Only Chinese spectators will be allowed. The Alpine venue is untested due to COVID cancelations last year.

Luke Bodensteiner and Abbi Nyberg are on contract to help us plan for the Olympics, working with Charlotte Moats and the sport directors.

The World Cup season is proceeding according to schedule, with COVID protocols in place and spectators allowed. Everything is looking great for all venues.

6.2 Board of Directors – Darryl Landstrom

The last board meeting was focused on the new CEO hiring.

New BOD sport representatives will be mentored for 6 months by former sport representatives.

Sport committees previously had jurisdiction over managing judicial issues.

Moving forward, any Alpine judicial issues that require attention will be moved from the BOD Judicial Committee to the Alpine Judicial Committee.

6.3 FIS Reports

Fall FIS meetings were quiet. Great athlete engagement on the Alpine and Alpine Executive committees.

At the World Cup subcommittee, COVID rules were discussed for the coming season. The 2021-22 calendar was approved. World Cup quotas for Alpine Combined were approved. The fixed World Cup spot for ANC and SAC series will be given to the lowest point holder.

At the NorAm subcommittee, the NorAm Start List proposal was approved. These rules are the exact same as the Europa Cup Start List rules.

At the Youth and Children subcommittee, speed development continues to be a huge concern. Chip Knight presented about the work we have been doing with our development speed projects at Copper in recent years. There was also discussion about the impact of COVID on youth development, since many U16 and U14 athletes have had limited programming since the spring of 2020.

At the TD subcommittee, it was decided that assignment of TD's will return to the previous assignment policy from season 2019-20.

At the University Racers subcommittee, primary discussion was about the World University Games in December 2021. Richard Rokos will be head coach for Team USA, leading 8 women and 8 men who have been selected to attend. The 2022 World University Games will take place in Lake Placid, and John Norton will play an important leadership role in that event. Additionally, there will be a task force created to examine the future direction of the University Racers subcommittee. Darryl Landstrom has been asked to participate.

6.4 Alpine Director – Jesse Hunt

Thank you to Darryl for all the great work he's done as ASC Chair. He's had an impressive connection to the community, with the volunteer base, the athletes and the elite level of the program.

Due to COVID we were not able to access our Southern Hemisphere training sites, but we were able to utilize our partnerships with other nations and obtain great training in Switzerland and Austria.

Tommy Ford will not compete in Soelden. His return to snow is in November. 2022 Beijing Olympic criteria has been posted.

USST and World Junior criteria will be posted this week.

#### 6.5 Alpine Development Director – Chip Knight

Thanked Tiger and Darryl for their leadership. Also thanked the community for working together through the COVID pandemic, and especially to Gillian Bower, High Performance Director, for all her guidance with policies and procedures in support over the last 18 months.

Reflected on the great results at every level last year: breakthrough performances by numerous athletes at the World Cup and Europa Cup levels, two World Junior medals, and 25% growth in the size of our National Development Group.

Reported on development level activity throughout the preparation period, as well as key projects and competitions for the winter ahead.

#### 6.6 Regional Directors

##### 6.6.1 Western Region – Bill Gunesch

Thanked Tiger and Darryl for their time, availability, and responsiveness.

Reported on Western Region activity through the preparation period. Staff was in Mt. Hood during the summer, engaging with clubs on the hill. The Region hosted its first project since COVID this fall in Schnalstal, ITA. Planning competition period projects in Sun Valley, Big Sky, Rotorun, and Palisades Tahoe.

The FIS calendar is finalized with two layers of competition – Devo and Elite. More races are available for athletes this year. SkillsQuest Fitness testing has been going on throughout the West. Many athletes have met the overall point standard.

##### 6.6.2 Rocky/Central Region – Darlene Nolting

Thanked Darryl for his leadership. Also thanked the Rocky/Central regional staff, coaches, and volunteers for all of their hard work and dedication through COVID last year.

Reported on RC regional activity through the preparation period, including SL projects at Mt. Hood in July, a joint European project with the East this fall, SkillsQuest Fitness testing, and the Central GS camp next weekend in Colorado.

Race calendars are in place and officials meetings are being scheduled.

##### 6.6.3 Eastern Region – Sam Damon

Kathy Okoniewski has transitioned to the Sport Education department. Thanked Kathy for her work on behalf of the East over the last four years. Scott Graham has been hired as the new Eastern Region Youth Coach. Rich Smith has decided to move on from the Eastern Region Coach position. Thanked Rich for his work on behalf of the East over the last two years.

Race calendar is in place with about 210 FIS events scheduled, and great opportunities for athletes to advance in the Region. TD coverage continues to be a challenge. Thanks to Paul Van Slyke and Jill Firstbrook for their support and coordination. Reported on changes to the U16 calendar, including three Regional Performance Series events through the winter.

Scott will lead U14 regional projects and work with the divisions at a more granular level.

#### 6.7 Membership – Sheryl Barnes

Membership is up by over 71% compared to last year. Clubs are up over last year, but still behind FY20. Comparisons between FY22 and FY21 are off due to COVID and the later membership deadline of 11/1 last year.

For next season, we are looking at changes to our Club Liability Insurance Program (CLIP). There have been cost increases for all NGBs in the wake of Larry Nasser and other SafeSport cases.

We had a good SafeSport audit. There will be a new MAAP coming out in January, including some exemptions for uniquely structured clubs.

#### 6.8 Sport Education – Gareth Trayner

Thanked Darryl and Tiger: it's been inspiring to work with both of you.

We are progressing towards our goal of getting all coaches certified at level 100 by the end of the season. We have 65 coach developers in place to deliver L100 clinics and help us reach this goal.

We have been working to upgrade our Learning Management System, our education center, to automate as much processing as possible. Thanks to IT and Membership for their assistance.

Thanks to Lucy Schram, Laura Sullivan, Thelma Hoessler and the Alpine Officials Education Working Group for their help in developing the new online Referee 1 clinic for coaches who are newly taking their level 100 certification. Kathy Okoniewski has already made a huge impact and we are excited to have her working with our Sport Education staff and liaising with Alpine Development.

#### 6.9 Athletes – Warner Nickerson

Thanked Tiger and Darryl. Also Leann Smith for joining the ASC and to Jess Kelley for her years of service.

New governance rule is that 33% of ASC and ASCEC members must be athlete representatives, approved by the Athletes Advisory Council (AAC). Athletes who have raced in a World Cup are eligible. At least 20% must be athletes who raced in a World Cup within the last 10 years.

#### 6.10 ASC Subcommittee Chairs

##### 6.10.1 Jon Nolting – Education Subcommittee

The level 100 requirement is our primary focus. Gar has made some great strides to make the clinics more accessible for coaches. The online format looks much better and is easier for attendees to use. Our work over the winter will be detailing how the policies and procedures will be followed, with regard to existing coaches compared to new coaches and within certified clubs.

Gar and the Sport Education staff are currently hosting a great Fall Club Excellence Summit, with the third session on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion scheduled for tomorrow evening. There have been over 300 participants in the Summit so far.

##### 6.10.2 Karen Ghent – Development Subcommittee

Thanked Tiger for his leadership and engagement with Alpine. Karen reviewed the working groups that comprise the Development Subcommittee.

The U14 and Younger WG has been discussing a U14 periodization plan that can inspire and influence clubs. They have also been discussing the L100 requirement, and their concerns with how that will impact the younger ages where we have more part-time coaches.

The U16 and Older WG has been discussing field sizes, out of region travel, start dates for different ages, and the FIS two-tiered racing system. A lot of this direction has come from the Health of Sport Task Force. The regions are requested to run 1-2 test events in which they flip the entire field for the second run to see if it has an impact on athlete experience, and on reducing the impact of points at the younger ages.

The Quotas and Selections WG did not meet this summer.

We are looking forward to the World University Games in Lucerne, Switzerland this December.

#### 6.10.2.1 Health of Sport Task Force

The HOS TF continues to meet periodically to discuss important issues that concern accessibility, cost, retention, systems, and the experience of alpine ski racing. The role of the TF has shifted to become an advisory group, providing guidance to the working groups and subcommittees as they examine pertinent topics and work to improve our sport. The TF encourages Working Groups to develop standards and guidelines that create change. Our recommendations have thus far had a limited impact, so we are working hard on providing clear guidance to the WG and SC where the topics apply.

#### 6.10.3 Doug Hall – Alpine Technical Subcommittee

From the US TD WG, working with the AOEWG the TD annual update was developed this summer.

From the Timing WG, no activity.

From the AOEWG, Thelma Hoessler, Lucy Schram, and Laura Sullivan have written all the new study guides. They also worked closely with Sport Education to develop the Referee 1 online exam for newly certified Level 100 coaches, which will be released in the coming days.

#### 6.10.4 Paul Van Slyke – FIS Subcommittee

Thanked Tiger and Darryl. He is looking forward to continuing to work with Darryl as Immediate Past Chair. Also thanked Jeff Weinman and JJ Ehlers for keeping track of all the FIS event changes due to COVID last year.

From the Rules WG, reminder to all officials to attend an annual AO update this fall to stay on top of rule changes.

From Courses WG, thanks to Doug Hall and all of our inspectors. All requests for inspection and re-inspection are assigned and in process.

From the FIS TD WG, there is a significant increase in the volume of races, which will require more TD coverage, so we are actively recruiting new TDs. Thanks to Carl Gunzel and the regional coordinators for their ongoing help with TD scheduling. FIS TD Update will be October 23 at 11am EDT.

Thanks to John Jett and Roger Perricone for their summer review preparing our TD candidates. We have Ron Rupert, James Jensen, and Darlene Nolting taking their written exams this fall. Andrew Gannon should be completing his FIS TD requirements before the upcoming season.

Major event TD assignments are: Randy Abplanalp and Steve Burgart at Lake Louise WC, Paul Van Slyke at 2021 Lucerne World University Games, Laura Sullivan at 2022 Beijing OWG, Ted Lockwood at 2023 Courchevel/Meribel World Ski

Championships, and Karen Ghent at 2022 Panorama World Junior Ski Championships.

6.10.5 Bill Brooks – Regional Subcommittee

Regional ACC leaders sit on this committee, along with the Masters ACC Chair. Reviewed the cost of ski racing across the country. Thanked Darryl and the COVID Commission for providing guidance for the coming season. Thanked Tiger for the change he brought about in the operation of the organization and his willingness to talk to everybody in the community.

6.11 Old Business

6.11.1 COVID Commission – Knight and Landstrom

We are heading into the second year of the COVID pandemic. Travel, quota, and field size and start date restrictions have been removed for the coming season. We now understand that the risk of outdoor infection is minimal. However the risk still remains considerable indoors, so we are requiring proof of vaccination, masks, and social distancing for all indoor meetings. Last year was very successful in spite of all the restrictions. As an example, all team captains' meetings were held online. We know that we can operate in a similar fashion going forward.

6.11.2 Review of proposals approved at 2021 Congress – Landstrom

U18 Nationals will return in place of Junior Nationals. The U18 age group will replace the U19 age group. Create two tiers of FIS racing in each region. OCs do not need to use gate judges for DH, GS, or SG as long as the jury has visible coverage of the whole course. Virtual team captains' meetings can continue. The UVM minimum penalty was reduced from 75 to 60 points.

6.11.3 Fluorinated Wax Ban – Knight

Fluorinated waxes are not allowed in domestic or international competition. FIS is still working on developing an enforcement mechanism that they hope to roll out in season 2022-23.

6.12 New Business

6.12.1 2020-21 Precisions

[Precisions](#) will be published in November.

6.12.2 Proposals (Deadline Tuesday, October 5, 2021)

**6.12.2.1 Development SC PROPOSAL**

Quotas to out-of-region U16 and older NAT and FIS races will be 10 women and 10 men per region, without the possibility of expansion. Additional athletes will need to be considered under the National Development quota of 10 women and 10 men.

**Discussion:** This is an effort to allow sufficient out-of-region access for deserving athletes, while holding the line against easy quota expansion to encourage athletes to stay in their region and keep costs down.

**Motion – Karen Ghent; Second – Chip Knight**  
**Motion carried**

7. Terms and Elections – Landstrom and Subcommittee Chairs

7.1 ASC Chair

7.1.1 Nominations will be Karen Ghent and Paul Van Slyke

7.2 BOD Representative

7.2.1 Nominations will be Karen Ghent and Paul Van Slyke

Karen Ghent can be reached at:

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Paul Van Slyke can be reached at:  
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8. Discussion

There were no additional comments.

9. Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 10, 2022

10. Adjournment

**Motion – Warner Nickerson; Second – Paul Van Slyke**

**Motion carried**