



Alpine Sport Committee – Fall Meeting

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. MDT

Meeting via Zoom video-conference

Meeting Chair: Karen Ghent

Alpine Sport Committee

Karen Ghent, Edwards, CO (Chair and Alpine BOD Representative)
Warner Nickerson, Tilton, NH (Vice Chair, Athlete Representative, and Alpine Athlete BOD Rep)
Darryl Landstrom, Wayzata, MN (Immediate Past Chair)
Mike Bowman, Winter Park, CO (Rocky Central Region Representative)
Bill Brooks, Spokane, WA (Regional Subcommittee Chair)
Charles Christianson, Anchorage, AK (Athlete Representative)
Julia Ford, Canaan, NH (Athlete Representative) – Absent
Aldo Radamus, Edwards, CO (Development Subcommittee Chair)
Doug Hall, Maryland, NY (Technical Subcommittee Chair)
Dan Henry, Spokane, WA (Western Region Representative)
James Jensen, Hart, MI (Rocky/Central Region Representative)
Breezy Johnson, WY (Athlete Representative) – Absent
Chip Knight, Park City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Development Director)
Karen Korfanta, Heber, UT (At-Large)
Ted Ligety, Park City, UT (Athlete Representative) – Absent
Dan Marshall, Manchester, NH (Eastern Region Representative)
Jon Nolting, Steamboat Springs, CO (Education Subcommittee Chair)
John Norton, Lake Placid, NY (Eastern Region Representative)
Patrick Riml, Heber City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Director)
Laurenne Ross, Bend, OR (Athlete Representative)
Leanne Smith, North Conway, NH (Athlete Representative)
Jim Tschabrun, Park City, UT (Western Region Representative) – Absent
Paul Van Slyke, Lake Placid, NY (FIS Subcommittee Chair)
Andrew Weibrecht, Lake Placid, NY (Athlete Representative) – Absent

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Staff

Anouk Patty, Park City, UT (U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport)

Honorary (non-voting)

Bill Slattery, Buffalo Grove, IL – Absent
Tom Winters, Tucson, AZ – Absent

Guests

Jeff Weinman, Bill Gunesch, Darlene Nolting, Sam Damon, Kristina Revello, Roger Kimball, Jeff Pickering, Paige Roberts, Scott Graham, Sheryl Barnes, Gar Trayner, Carl Guenzel, Dan Chayes, Arnie Huftalen, Fred Turton, Beat Hupfer, Laura Sullivan, Thelma Hoessler

1. Welcome and call to order – 9:01am MDT
Welcome and introductory remarks. Karen Ghent welcomed everyone, introduced herself and provided her background experience. Expressed she is looking forward to continued work with Subcommittees, Working Groups and staff, evolving with the sport and changing environment. Encouraged by contributions from athletes recognizing their perspectives helps bring relevance to our work.
2. ASC roll call (indicate above with ASC membership)
3. Review and approval of agenda
Motion by Karen Ghent to approve agenda; **Second** by James Jenson; **Vote:** Unanimous
4. Review and approval of minutes
Motion by Karen Ghent to approve minutes from May 6, 2022; **Second** by Mike Bowman; **Vote:** Unanimous
5. Review of 2023 U. S. Ski and Snowboard Congress schedule
Congress will likely be mid-late May in hybrid format (in-person and online). Deadline for proposals is two weeks prior to Congress.
6. Staff Reports
 - 6.1 Chief of Sport – Anouk Patty
 - Reporting from Europe. Thank you to Darryl for time and effort he has put into the sport. Thanks to Karen. Appreciates her experience and pragmatic approach. Started 6 months ago and has been learning so much over this time. Impressed with all the human power that makes everything fit and work. Appreciates everyone that is part of the process. Not simple.
 - Staffing - Spends time with other 4 sports but has spent a lot of time hiring for alpine over the summer and feels really good about the coaching staff and leadership put in place.
 - Athletes - Has been able to meet most of our athletes. Impressed by how hard they all work. Soelden was magical. Lots of potential at the elite level. Development has had great camps over the summer - well received. Lots of talent on the development level.
 - Criteria - made major changes to the criteria: 1) Simplified - easier for parents, coaches and athletes to understand 2) Provided alternative pathways, made it clearer that there are alternative channels at all ages 3) Higher level of objective nominations (USOPC has also been pushing for this), target is 75% objective selections 4) Consider cost of competition, looked at where athletes need to race to meet criteria while keeping costs in mind and holding athletes accountable for the series they race.
 - Goals for each team (helped guide criteria): A Team - competing for the podium at WC. B Team - High level WC and Europa Cup. C Team - Knocking on WC door. Strong domestically. D Team - Demonstrate success at the Regional level. Also building speed program. Consideration for speed specialists. All posted on web site. Inclusive projects with lots of input from the athletes, field.
 - 6.2 Board of Directors – Karen Ghent
Last meeting was Aug. 31, next meeting Nov. 16, 2022 at 1pm MDT. Gold Medal Gala this Thursday. Online auction link: <https://one.bidpal.net/nygmg22/browse/all>
 - 6.3 Alpine Director – Patrick Riml
 - Had a solid preparation period with all teams in Mammoth. Athletes of all groups spent a lot of time in Park City over the summer. Two conditioning camps - Men in San Diego and Women in Yellowstone, then to NZ for tech and Chile for speed. Had all levels together in NZ for tech. Lot of crossover and side by side skiing. One Team philosophy. Lot of new staff. Much better training in Southern Hemisphere as opposed to glaciers in

Saas Fee and Zermatt. Cost of travel challenging. Five of six WC races canceled so far this year. Not sure what FIS will be doing moving forward. Looking forward to good final prep in Copper, Lake Louise, Killington, etc.

- Opened up the available spots for Soelden to all qualified athletes based on FIS rules. Time trial for men. Only one woman accepted the invitation (invited Women: Nellie Rose Talbot, Ainsley Proffit, Tricia Mangan, Stella Johansson; Men: Patrick Kenney, George Steffey, Brian McLaughlin). Didn't matter if on National Team; opened the door to all qualified athletes. Will continue to follow this precedent based on NorAm and Europa Cup results for WC starts.
- Comment from Karen Ghent: One Team philosophy - applause for making the effort. When you have to teach/mentor you also learn.

6.4 Alpine Development Director - Chip Knight

Congratulations to Karen and thanks to Warner for engagement with all aspects of his leadership. Also thanks to Darryl for continued engagement.

- FIS: there is a lot moving at WC level with calendar. Excited to have Aspen and Palisades. Season 23-24 in flux. Two interesting proposals:
 - US proposal: Allow SG skis in DH for U18, but SRS (equipment managers) were concerned with safety. Doing a study on risks and will report back in the spring. Will continue to lobby for it.
 - 2-run SG proposal failed. Philosophy of SG would be undermined.
- Thanks to Anouk for her report about summer activity. It has been a really good prep period. Engaged with over 40 athletes from 20 clubs in NDG programming.
- Mammoth Men's camp was truly an integrated camp. Young NDG athletes trained with older athletes and gave presentations, who they looked up to and why to the older athletes. Great learning opportunity and information sharing.
- Mt. Hood in June and July. Shaun Goodwin joined in May for Women's development. Started in Mt. Hood with NDG and then NorAm team. Fundamentals focus. Shaun and Graham then continued to NZ to focus on National Team.
- Copper should be ready to go for NDG. Men's NA team there now and Women will follow. Focused on moving athletes up levels. Domestic Staff doing a lot of work on Copper speed projects. We are trying to resuscitate speed since numbers have declined. 12 days planned at Copper Nov. 6 start with SG progression. Overwhelming interest in these camps. Had to turn some away. Will work regionally to offer good speed opportunities especially for those who couldn't participate in Copper.
- Thanks to Mittersill for hosting U18 Nationals (2 run DH) and they are also a great speed development training site in the East.

6.5 Regional Directors

6.5.1 Western Region – Bill Gunesch

- Excited to be back to project based development after COVID years. Had two major projects. July SL camps on Mt. Hood had 44 U16 and FIS athletes and 11 coaches representing 8 clubs. Had 5-6 environments; high volume; great camp. The next week had 18 U14s and 4 coaches with the same set up all the way down the Palmer snowfield. Very successful camp. Second project in Chile last two weeks of Sept. One week at Valle Nevado; 2nd week at La Parva. 19 athletes 5 staff. Great conditions - didn't lose a day to weather everyone healthy and no issues with gear. Were able to use the DH track at La Parva. Jump progression in La Parva. Thanks to Jeff Pickering for designing the progression of slalom camps and Dave Kerwin for leading the FIS SL group and the Chile project.
- Staff note: Lost Fletcher MacDonald to the Womens WC Speed Team and Angie Brown Western Region manager. Thanks to both. As of last week, fully staffed. New Regional Program Manager - Heidi Voelker. Former USST athlete and Olympian. Dave Kerwin taking the Regional FIS coach position.

- Regional FIS calendar finalized. 44 days of FIS racing (4 DH + 6 SG). Western region home to US National Championships at Sun Valley and U16 National Champs at Mission Ridge.
- Dan Henry new ACC Chair. Thanks to him and also to past chair, Tim Hinderman. Will Brandenburg replacing Jim Tschabrun on ASC beginning now.

6.5.2 Rocky/Central Region – Darlene Nolting

- Thanks to Regional Staff: Patrick Mich, Central Manager and Kristina Revello, Regional Coach. Thanks to Development staff. Thanks to Divisional and Regional ACC's.
- Calendars mostly in place. Siting races is getting harder. Expenses are up, resorts are charging more. Makes it difficult to site races. Thank you to all the clubs and resorts that are hosting.
- No summer regional projects. Clubs did their own projects. U16 Men's and Women's camp this Nov. at Copper with a FIS/NorAm prep camp following. There's a lot of interest.
- R/C Regional ACC is this Thursday. New chair, Don Stellan.

6.5.3 Eastern Region – Sam Damon

- Eastern Region is at full staff. Roger Kimball is regional FIS coach. Running the Men's NDG camp at Copper. Doing a great job. Scott Graham is the youth development coordinator. Lots of programming this fall. Lots of Skills Quest fitness and connecting with many clubs. Paige Roberts is organizing races and has streamlined the calendar. Went from over 200 FIS races last year to 140 this year (historically 100-110). Simplifies for athletes and easier to staff. Some consternation from the field - nervous there will be enough opportunity. Focused on cohort building. 100's of clubs and 8 divisions - challenging to get our best athletes to ski and work together, but working hard on it. U16 Regional performance series scheduled this year - should be good.
 - Size and diversity of the Region is the main challenge. Divisional base runs a wide swath of abilities and interest levels. Trying to stay focused and provide all that is needed.
 - Costs are rising. Big jump in cost from COVID. Started a little "club" of clubs who are combining entry fee and lift = \$75 or less (Stratton, Sugarloaf, West Mt., Burke, Whiteface, Waterville Valley). Messaging that everyone knows. There's a myth that everyone is charging full rack rate for lift tickets. Trying to dispel the myth and trying to bring costs down.
 - Access issues in East too. Some resorts are quick to respond and some leave us hanging for a while.
 - Regional ACC. Lot of discussion surrounding the U16 seeding issue. Good support for the random seeding. Will be in effect in their RPS events as well as VT for a six race series, and in NH. Good conversation to reframe thinking. Positive discussion. Not a lot of arguments against it.
 - FIS Start limit - nerves around the number 30. But if you look at a sample calendar, you see you have around 30 or even 28 starts. Gives them a good mix of NAC, Eastern Cup, Divisional racing, time for training and speed.

6.6 Membership - Sheryl Barnes

- Staffing - rebuilding. Matt Lemon is new Members Service Manager and Sharka Fabian has joined as Events Administrative Coordinator.
- SafeSport - dominates what we do on a daily basis, will be audited December 1. Document deadline coming up.
- Club Renewal deadline is December 31. We will be enforcing this deadline. After December 31 there will be a \$50 fee. Will be sending out a reminder soon.
- Club Roster tool has moved and is now under the public facing site where club directory is. Instructions went out in the last newsletter. Questions can be directed to

membership. Making a couple changes based on feedback. Adding membership categories.

- In the process of putting a SafeSport temporary hold list on the website. Will be announced in upcoming newsletter. Will affect quality control system. Legal is working on it. Hope it will make things easier since the Center can make an automated list available.
- Numbers are flat across the board (up about 5.5% in all sports). Alpine is up except for a small drop in U16 and older competitors and also in general (noncompetitor) membership. But increase in U12 category by almost 7.6%.

6.7 Sport Education - Gareth Trayner

- Thanks to everyone who works with Education. Operating with full staff.
- Club Development - Has grown over the last 9 years. FY23 - 9 new bronze cert; 6 advancing from bronze to silver; 2 advancing from silver to Gold (Gould and Proctor). Many Gold Clubs recertifying. In the midst of club excellence symposium. 500 people registered. Great vehicle to get sessions out to community. Thanks to staff and guest speakers. Looking into a blended model (in personal and virtual) dovetailing with congress. Supported by 5 club development consultants (distinguished experienced business leaders) who give their time free to identify and support clubs. Will be adding one more.
- Coach Development (Chris). Leanne Nunez - instructional designer. Billy Witcher - new alpine education coordinator. Kathy Okenewski consulting.
- Expanding coaches workshop role to a regional model (workshop in Big Sky Montana and Ski Club Vail in late Nov. and early Dec.) in addition to Bretton Woods workshop in Dec. Updating courses to be more engaging and utilizing more multi media. Upgrading Alpine level 100, into to Course setting, Alpine level 200 and 300. Upgrading the user experience in the learning center to provide entire curriculum for all sports to all. Expanding continuing ed course development too.

7. Athletes – Warner Nickerson

- Thanks to Karen and Darryl. Happy to see many athlete reps' engagement. Been working on criteria. Thanks to Anouk and Patrick and Chip for allowing athlete input = transparency is important. Happy for the time trials to top 350.

8. ASC Subcommittees

8.1 Alpine Education Subcommittee – Jon Nolting

- Task Force - Forest Service fees. Some clubs have recently been asked to pay user fees. Task Force was formed to research and determine if there was something to be done. Found it is not prevalent - at the discretion of the Forest District managers. Clubs should be aware there may be a fee, but there are resources available through the Club WG to support club. TF didn't feel there was a need to address this. Clubs should only be aware there is support. Will be included in Club Certification moving forward.
- Task Force - Education for USST athletes. Two things are happening to address this. 1) Education department is working to provide access to Level 100 curriculum concluding with an on-snow clinic in the spring to current national team athletes with the goal that when they leave the team, they have received Level 100 certification. 2) For alumni, education will be free, and will need to go through the clinics (online and on snow). We need the pipeline of our team athletes. We recognize they have valuable experience and the coaching side of things must be learned. Access must be available. Dialogue at clinics with coaches and experienced athletes is important to maintain. Certification requirements of other countries is more stringent than this.
 - Q from Ghent: What level athlete does this apply to?
 - Answer by Gar: This applies to any named A, B, C, or D team athletes.
 - Q from Laurenne Ross: Were athletes involved in the discussion?
 - Answer by Nolting: Staff has to have direction on this since it has budget implications. Discussion falls between committee and staff since it involves

fees. The athlete voices were brought to the task force and will be ratified at Congress. So advantage to athletes is that there will be no fees for any of the education for these athletes.

- Q from Doug Hall: Notes that the Level 100 online education has large emphasis on running and developing programs. There are a lot of weekend coaches who will be lost unless they pass the level 100 soon. Information and process has been daunting in the past - discouraging to coaches. Agrees that coaches on a “professional” track should have the full education, but is there a pared down version for local weekend coaches and young athletes who want to coach?
 - Answer by Gar: Happy to get feedback from the field and through forums. In the process of reformatting, a lot of the content of Level 100 was revised to be appropriate for phase 1 and 2 athletes to support coaches on their journey to be best served to look after our kids. Nolting: Compared to where we were in the past, there is more time on line now, so it can be spread out to manage time. On Snow component is reduced to only a single day now. Much more accessible than in the past. Still rigorous because it is an important job even for weekend kids.
- Q from Dan Henry: Reformatting online content? Timeline?
 - Answer: Chris has submitted the new material and should be available in the next two weeks. They want to upgrade the user experience and update the material on line. Bulk of the content will remain the same to support the on snow and training systems. Modernizing the experience.

Motion by Bill Brooks to approve Education Subcommittee report; **Second** by James Jensen; **Vote**: Unanimous

8.2 Development Subcommittee – Aldo Radamus

Looking forward to serving and working with governance aspect of our sport.

- Task Force - Fee Structure
 - Task force formed in spring to consider two items
 - Discounted or complimentary entry fees based on need - will be meeting again to determine viability based on test events (initiative by volunteer individual clubs in each of 3 regions)
 - Expense of championship events - cap on entry fees, lift tix and lodging costs.
- **Motion** by Aldo Radamus to amend the start limitation for U18 (proposal approved at Congress limiting tech FIS race starts for U18 athletes to 30), to exclude National Championship events, including U18 Nationals, and major international events: OWG, World Championships, World Jr. Championships, Youth Olympic Games and World Cup
 - **Second** by Darryl Landstrom
 - Discussion
 - Proposal to amend the approved rule - Development received a proposal over the summer “to eliminate NAC from the 30 restriction”. Development met and amended this to exclude Natl champ events including U18 and major international events such as OWG, World Championships, World Jr. Championships, YOG, WC. Approved at SC to address the concern that the original proposal of 30, could potentially inadvertently negatively impact the high potential, high performing athletes from their ability to compete at a level that is appropriate for their skill.
 - Question by Mike Bowman - Why not just change it to 35? Aldo: There was a lot of discussion at both U16 WG and Development SC. Concern has been raised that high performing athletes would be limited in their ability to attend the races necessary to achieve USST nomination criteria and have an appropriate race calendar. Opening to all NAC would have an unintended consequence that loading up starts that were “free” and would ruin the intent of the start limitation. So alternative of not counting those event with a high qualification standard and weren’t discretionary as some NorAms are, would provide opportunity for those athletes that are achieving that high

qualification could race in those events. Also, didn't want those athletes opting out of those championship events because of a desire to preserve those starts for other events. Opens opportunity for high level athletes to not have an undue limitation for high level events. Karen: Not a lot of discussion of moving to 35. Most of the discussion was around how to manage top tier athletes who qualify for a high level event that they might not have had on their plan. Don't want them to be choosing between US Nationals and WJC. Most agreed that 30 is doable for the majority of that age group.

- Question by Doug Hall: Wants clarification. Are NorAms still included in the exception on this proposal? Aldo: To be clear - what was passed in spring has no exception. In the summer a proposal was brought to Development to exclude NorAm, from the count of 30. Then the SC amended this proposal to not exclude NorAms, but rather these high level championship events. So NorAm tech will be counted toward the 30. Jon Nolting: this is important. Still believes it is too restrictive, but a good compromise. Bill Brooks: Believed we are doing the right thing based on what Sam reported that 30 is doable. Also believes we don't want a high level athlete to save out starts just in case they qualify - not the spirit of the original proposal.
- **Vote:** Unanimous
- **Motion** by Aldo Radamus for the regions and divisions to adopt random seeding for U16 athletes for either all or selected U16 Races. Races may still be scored to the USSS Point List with a full field flip of the first run start order for second run start order, butterfly for 3rd and 4th runs in multi-event series.
- **Second:** Bill Brooks
 - Discussion
 - Developed as an outcome from a joint work session with Health of Sport TF and Development SC with reps from AUT, FRA, and NOR. All three of those nations had random seeding all the way into the U16 years. So from there, Aldo, Todd Brickson and Mike Morin drafted the proposal that in this season, regions have the opportunity to test random seeding at U16 level and no points would be applied. In discussion at U16 WG and Development SC, amended to approve region's ability to test drive random seeding. Wording was changed from "may" to "shall" providing direction that it be tested either by identifying a test event or series for random seeding. 2nd part to eliminate points was tabled for further discussion in the spring.
 - Doug Hall: We lose more numbers at the U18 level so many regions race U16 and U18s together because U16 only races would be too small to justify. How do you propose addressing these mixed aged races? Aldo: this came up in discussions. Legitimate concerns for U18s not racing FIS. One of the reasons for tabling the 2nd part of the original proposal. Quite a bit of latitude for how regions address this. Consider separating them and seeding U18s by points and U16s follow randomly seeded rule. Or could consider randomizing the entire field. Races will continue to be scored to the points list. Left intentionally broad so different alternatives could be tried which will inform the discussion in the spring. Doug: So the idea that U16s are not scoring to the points list is not until 23-24 season? Aldo: correct. Scoring question is tabled. What is being asked now is if we can randomize U16 for seeding only. Doug: So it is a requirement that each region do this but no clear way to do it? It is an experiment? Aldo: Correct. Different ways will help us consider it in the spring.

- Doug Hall: Please explain “butterfly”. Aldo: Common at U14 and under races. 1st run randomized. Flip that list for 2nd run. 3rd and 4th: split in the middle and each half is flipped and flipped in reverse for the 4th run.
- Bill Brooks: Interesting for different parts of the country that have enough for a U16-only race and other places in the country that don’t have the population. How do you envision we determine if this is a success or failure? How to measure? Particularly is it only run over one weekend? Aldo: Not sure if we will have enough data to do a statistical analysis. Can study the results to see if faster athletes continue to rise in a random seeding system to be ranked where their performance warrants. Most think that will transpire over time. May be impacted in an individual race but over the course of the season may be equalized. May get better information from regions that use this method over the season. Allows some meaningful time for coaches and committee members to gain information about how it impacts the experience for U16s. Karen: I think TRS is posted in study guides and educational materials. Thelma also confirms this.
- Bill Gunesch from chat log: I believe any modified/unique starting order for a race that gives athletes access to NAT points list must be approved by Classifications Committee. TRS is already approved.
- John Norton: Is there any thought to changing the wording from “U16” to “Scored” or “Nationally scored racing”. Would take care of Doug’s concern and concerns from NY. Supports the proposal. Chip: Likes John’s suggestion. Can Aldo explain how Rocky is going to handle it? Aldo: All races in the Sync series including qualifiers. All ages will be randomized.
- Doug Hall: When we run races like this, do U18s and older all get scored? And U16s will not be scored? Karen: No, everyone will still be scored. This just addresses how to seed the races.
- Dan Henry: In PNSA we have run TRS with scored racing for years. Originally at J3 level and now at U14s with no issues.
 - **Vote:** Unanimous
- Final item to report on - committee make up is evolving. Working on an athlete rep to replace Warner. Working with Bill Brooks to achieve regional balance. Hope for updates to membership in spring congress.
- **Motion** by James Jenson to approve Development Subcommittee report; **Second** by Jon Nolting; **Vote:** unanimous

8.2.1 Health of Sport Task Force – Karen Ghent

- Round table referenced in the Development SC report with other nations.
- Continue to work on ways to streamline and be effective with how to disseminate the ideas that the group feels will make our sport healthier. Meet several times per year and continue the conversation to try to help our sport be better.
- **Motion** by Karen Ghent to accept Health of Sport Task Force report; **Second** by Dan Marshall; **Vote:** unanimous

8.3 Alpine Technical Subcommittee – Doug Hall

- US TD’s WG - Nothing new to report
- Timing WG: Nothing new to report
- Classifications WG - put together a TF to look at possibly changing our national point system to alleviate exceptional races and bring athletes points more in line with their ability. No recommendations yet.
- Alpine Officials WG: Thanks to all the members of this WG who work very hard to get info out to all officials. TD update will be available after the Eastern FIS TD update has completed.

- Request to form a task force to research and communicate the concerns brought forward by AOEWG. Work with USSS to clarify and then communicate to the field.
 - Discussion
 - Tasks for RA's and LOC to clear anyone who is near the competition is daunting. Opens up the possibility of an LOC to not adhere to policy. Even gate judges need to be members of USSS or we are in violation of the sanction agreement and non-adherence nullifies the liability insurance for officials and puts in jeopardy the race clubs and ski areas where their insurance can be null and void. One of our eastern officials (Arnie Huftalen) has tried to obtain the insurance policy, but has not been given access to the insurance policy provided with the sanction agreement by USSS. We had been told to refer to the policy if we have questions, but it is not available. We feel USSS is not being transparent. Wonder if we can not get access because USSS knows it can be nullified. Understands that the Comp Admin document is being modified but hard to know which version because there is no date on version. Would like to see that as these types of documents are being drafted, that those working in the field help with wording. It is disconcerting when I look at this. It is as simple as saying all gate judges need to be members of USSS, and if not, then we are in violation of the sanction agreement. Knows that we can't guarantee this, so wonders if we should even be running slaloms that require gate judges because it can't be guaranteed to be a fair race for the athletes. Very disturbing. Arnie's memo is very detailed.
 - Karen Ghent: Document is going to all sports so some wording is applicable to other sports. Living document - Allison at USSS Legal welcomes feedback from us. Can add footnotes or clarify. Allison wrote to me and said "we are making a few changes that should assist with events. Specifically we are building out a banned suspended list on our website for event organizers to check rather than the Center's centralized disciplinary database, which will make it easier to check the list. We have less than 20 members on it," Suggestion that we put together a small group maybe comprised of someone from Club WG, AOEWG, Natl TD WG, and RegionalWG, so maybe 4 members with Doug's leadership? Would you Doug be able to put this group together that can summarize and bring specific direction to Allison that concerns us?
 - Doug Hall: Yes, Glad to hear that USSS is looking at making modifications. Concerned about the season going forward. If I can get a list of people interested in forming this TF. Would behoove us to include someone from each of the regions. Would be happy to put together a TF but would need help with this.
 - Dan Henry: Did you ask why the insurance policy is not available. Karen: Didn't ask this, but Allison felt it was unusual to ask for the policy but I didn't ask why. Could be part of what the TF asks for.
 - Laura Sullivan: Started about 2 years ago when AOEWG asked Arnie to do a presentation on the Sanction Agreement to bring info to TD's. Problem is when this "Living Document" changes, it negates the previous version. All of this is a concern as it lines up. Competition summary changing and sanction agreement is a contract. Not being able to see if the policy has some language in it that directed the competition administration summary. Making assumptions without all the facts. Karen: Summary is a document that was written to help - not the contract. It is confusing though, the "living" part of it is indicative of their willingness to respond to what is confusing people. Laura reiterates that changes = negating what was signed - big concern. Thinks it is important that Allison is on the committee as well as someone who represents the insurance company.
 - Karen Ghent: Doug, Can you please head up the Task Force. I will help after the meeting. Lots of good questions. We need to know what we are signing and that USSS is protecting us.
- **Motion** by Aldo Radamus to approve Technical Subcommittee report; **Second** by Jon Nolting; **Vote**: unanimous

8.4 FIS Subcommittee – Paul Van Slyke

Thanks to all the members of the WG's. Doing lots of work throughout the levels throughout the year.

- FIS TD WG - Carl Gunzel Chair. Recent western update last weekend in Denver. 80 participants. Eastern update next weekend. Website is open for registrations. Actively recruiting new TD's. Changes to certification matrix last year at Congress will be helpful to younger people who have experience in other areas - more accessible. Jill Firstbrook working hard on recruiting with Regional coordinators. WG has target list of 10 people for potential nomination.
- Courses WG - Doug Hall Chair. Ongoing work in progress. Active summer with lots of inspections completed and to be completed. Doug is doing a fantastic job and keeping it all organized. TF recruiting new inspectors - to be reported on in the Spring.
- Rules WG - Matt Howard chair. No new activity. However if the "no points rule" passes - will be busy changing the ACR. The word "points" is referenced 310 times in current ACR.
- **Motion** by Paul Van Slyke to approve FIS Subcommittee report; **Second** by James Jensen; **Vote**: unanimous

8.5 Regional Subcommittee – Bill Brooks

- Regional equity at Development SC - Open issue
- Winter4Kids NY, NJ issue. Has spoken with a few people and it is moving forward. W4K stays with NY for this year and we will revisit it in the Spring.
- **Motion** by Bill Brooks to approve Regional Subcommittee report; **Second** by Jon Norton; **Vote**: unanimous

9. Old Business

9.1 COVID - Chip Knight

Operating under CDC guidelines. If there are local restrictions that are tighter than that, organizers need to comply. World Cup TD's must be vaccinated for WC only.

9.2 Review of proposals approved at 2022 Congress (not all inclusive):

- VD for U14's raised to match U16 FIS ICR. Refer to 801.1.3 and 901.1.4
- Remove YOB protected quotas from Regional selections to U16 Nationals
- Each Region to have 5 spots per seed at U16 nationals.
- 1st-year FIS athletes may not race in FIS races prior to the start of the North American FIS competition season. Refer to Rules of Points 3.1. This year, 2nd weekend in Nov. This year the first NA race is in Canada Nov. 17. No athletes may race in Europe before this.
- U16 and younger begin racing 2nd weekend in Dec.
- U18 athletes who score NAC points will be included in their appropriate U18 NC regional quota. Regional quota is not expanded. Any discipline, excluding AC.
- FIS TD per diem increased from \$120 to \$180 per day

9.3 Fluorinated Wax Ban - Chip Knight

Fluorinated wax continues to be banned. No way to test yet, but still banned.

10. New Business

- 10.1 **Motion** by Chip Knight to allow two organizers to host two races in one day in all four events without extra approval; **Second** by Darryl Landstrom; **Vote**: unanimous

10.2 2022-23 Precisions

Comp guide is finished. There will be a few precisions. One specifically about intent process for foreign races. Will be posted on the website under Rules.

11. Terms and Elections

Ghent and SC Chairs - Karen to work with SC chairs on expiring terms.

12. Discussion

Guest comments and feedback via Zoom Chat

13. Next meeting – May 11, 2023

14. Adjournment – 11:30am MDT