



## **CENTRAL DIVISION**

### **Central Alpine Sports Committee**

April 24 - 25, 2009

O'Hare Marriott Courtyard

2950 South River Road

Des Plaines, IL 60018

### **Committee Meetings – April 24, 2009 (Friday)**

**Financial Committee** .....6:00 p.m..... Waller's Room

1. Budget review
2. Athlete support payment method
3. Endowment funds

**Coaches' Meeting**.....6:00 p.m.....Meeting Room B

**Board Meeting – April 25, 2009 (Saturday) 8:00 to 4:00**

Those in attendance included:

**Region 1**

Tom Barnes  
Casey Charlson  
Darryl Landstrom  
Mike Quinlivan  
Gretchen Ransom  
Joe Paul  
Mark Magney  
Tasha McCrank  
David Samuels

**Region 2**

Brian Henderson  
Craig Spidle  
Bob Vial  
Carmella Glover  
Ron Lawrence  
John Manderfield  
Gary Hutchins  
David Levey  
Vern Barber

**Region 3**

Mark Janssen  
Jeff Bruggeman  
Joseph Kosik  
Cathy Janowiak  
Dan Janowiak

**Region 4**

Dave Waller  
Duffy Carto  
Mike Robben  
Tino Pucci  
Forrest Gibson  
Mikey Robben  
Mark Coventry

**USSA**

Terry DelliQuadri  
Brewster McVicker

- |           |                            |               |                     |
|-----------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Call to order</b>       | <b>Waller</b> | <b>8:00 to 8:15</b> |
|           | <b>a. Introductions</b>    |               |                     |
|           | <b>b. Attendance sheet</b> |               |                     |
|           | <b>c. Lunch menu</b>       |               |                     |

The meeting was called to order at 7:59 by David Waller.

Introductions were held for meeting attendees.

Attendance list and the lunch menu were passed around.



**b. Region 2 report and SGSEF Century Ride – given by John Manderfield and Carmella Glover**

John said the regional membership was a little off. He reported that their region held 5 races this past season, which was one less than the year prior. He said the Mid-Am that they held went very well and was well attended.

Carmella Glover discussed the SGSEF Century Ride. (See attached Power Point Presentation) Highlights of the Century Ride include seminars with Dr. Jim Taylor, a 100 or 50 mile bike ride (rider's choice), a silent auction, and a dinner/reception with scholarships/awards. Carmella asked the group for team participation, and also has room for folks who would like to volunteer to help rather than ride. The event is a fundraiser for the SGSEF. Carmella said that she and her husband, Rich, are starting an endowment fund and will match funds (up to a point) with donors. For more information, check out their website at [shelleygloverfoundation.com](http://shelleygloverfoundation.com).

**c. Region 3 report – given by Mark Janssen**

Mark reported that the region had a great race season, especially from the standpoint of snow. They had ten weekends of racing, and three were limited to age class participants only. Mark said they are trying to build momentum in the lower age groups, and the numbers seemed to be reflecting success. The regional officials' roster continues to grow, and Mark reported that they are still looking for certified people at the CR and REF levels.

**d. Region 4 report – given by Duffy Carto**

Duffy said that the regional membership numbers were about the same as the year before, with the regular members plus a few extra. He said that a new venue at Mad River had been used, and that two good races had taken place there.

Duffy said that although their region isn't huge, their athletes are competitive at the Mid-Am level. One of the regional athletes, Reilly Harris was been a winner at the Mid-Am level.

Duffy also reported that their region also raised money last year by hosting a golf event. He also had some success throughout the year with sponsors for race related things, such as bibs, banners, etc. Duffy informed the group that Forrest Gibson is working on year-round activities for athletes so that skiing can be more of a focal point and the kids will be in better shape for the season. It's also hoped that the extra activities and physical training will help reduce attrition by injury in the upper ranks of athletes.

## 5. USSA Update

### a. National Competition Services and Rocky/Central Reports

DelliQuadri

9:00 to 9:30

Terry DelliQuadri thanked the group for their work throughout the year and for their attendance at the meeting. He said that it's especially meaningful as so many in the Central region volunteer their time.

Terry reported that the USSA staff all suffered pay cuts due to the budget restrictions at USSA. The cuts came in mid-season and also affected travel budgets. Expenses are being devoted to core budget items for USSA.

Although Brewster suffered too in the cuts, Terry complimented him on his out-of-the-box approach to issues and his desire to grow the sport rather than just continue business as usual.

Terry reported that Regional coaches have been laid off, as the National Development and Competition Services budgets got whacked by \$180,000. Rob Worrell was lost in the process and will be missed for his development, work with the coaches, and consistent approach to training athletes. Other divisions are similarly challenged and are finding ways to remedy the situation, including the Western Region, who hired the USSA regional coach out of their own budget. That plan, however, didn't work for the Eastern folks.

Budget cuts also included comp guides (ACR) and they will only be going to coaches and officials. Some of the National Development Camps have also been cut, and other projects (such as Topolino) will go on but with less funding and more athlete financial responsibility. The US Ski Team has also cut staff, and the National Team is going to a two-tier structure, with athletes training with either a world cup oriented group or the development team. Some athletes would train more consistently with one group or the other, and others would train with whichever group is more appropriate at the time.

Terry assured the group that USSA is still financially sound, but making some adjustments to ensure that they remain that way. Their plan is to restore the budget to its former levels during the next fiscal year.

Dave Waller asked about the new USSA facility in park city and whether the move into the new accommodations facility was affecting the budget. Terry said that the money involved in the Center of Excellence came from a program separate from race fees and membership fees. He added that the administration felt positive that the monies involved were not being denied athletes. Terry also added that

depending on the level of athletes within the US Ski Team, many are self-funding and that also helps reduce financial dependence on the organization.

Terry also said that he is happy to see Central athletes having so much success, whether it's on the national circuit, collegiate level, or JO level. He also said that he hopes Central is well represented when the national teams are named.

**b. NDS, Regional Development DelliQuadri 9:30 to 9:45  
Education Reports**

Terry discussed Central coaches working together at projects, similar to the way they did a couple of years ago with success. With the loss of Rob Worrell and the decrease in the travel budgets, Terry foresees utilizing more regional coaches on camps and projects.

Terry's travel to the central division this year was affected by the budget cuts, but will work on attendance in the division for next year when the budget will be reinstated to nearly what it was originally for this year.

Rob Worrell's report is also posted on the Central website.

**c. Central Division Report McVicker 9:00 to 10:00**

Brewster welcomed the group and thanked everyone for coming. He said that the coaches' meeting on Friday went well with some good ideas coming forth. Brewster feels good about the Central representation at both the national level and FIS. He praised the group for their team effort and embracing the central nation and said that he enjoys being part of it

Brewster discussed the mission for the central division, which is providing a system which promotes the sport of alpine ski racing by offering quality competition and developmental opportunities. He also talked about utilizing similar points of focus as the US Team, with emphasis on team, respect, accountability, integrity, loyalty, and perseverance.

Brewster discussed goals that were set forth in 2007. Some of the goals have been achieved, and others are still in progress.

Goals still working on:

- 1) Calendaring a R/C series with the SL events in Central and the SG/GS events in Rocky.
- 2) Create age class teams.
- 3) Develop multi-event skiers.
- 4) Put into place consistent selection criteria that is simple.
- 5) Improve outreach to WIJARA, High School, developmental teams, etc.

Brewster also reviewed the projects which included central athletes

- 1) R/C Hintertux Glacier Project
- 2) November GS camp at Loveland
- 3) November SG/GS Camp in copper
- 4) January Topolino time trials at WP
- 5) February speed camp at Indianhead

Brewster feels the camps are good for Central athletes, and one of his goals is to get some high level coaches to attend. In addition to racer education, Brewster is also committed to doing coaches clinics and other opportunities for coaches' education.

Brewster considers our success factors for the future to include:

- 1) Fundamentals and skiing technique – getting kids to be all-around skiers as well as racers
- 2) Continuing to challenge athletes with terrain and variable snow conditions
- 3) Improve ongoing projects – for both technique and speed
- 4) Work on new development projects – speed and terrain
- 5) Grants for project costs
- 6) Maintain good partnerships with current venues
- 7) Keep key volunteers involved
- 8) Improved publicity for events and athletes. Several group members contributed ideas and spoke of their solutions including Casey Charlson and Joe Paul from Region 1, where they now have a media chair on the board.
- 9) Development of sponsorship opportunities
- 10) Run quality events – helps attract more athletes and coaches
- 11) FIS events, including a R/C Jr. FIS series, Mid-Am series, and Can-Am Superior Cup

Brewster's keys for leadership success include:

- 1) Promote and help develop local leadership
- 2) Club leadership
- 3) Coaches education
- 4) Mentoring
- 5) Alpine officials education
- 6) Parent education
- 7) Athlete education

Other issues to address:

- 1) Reach out to non-USSA clubs
- 2) Partnerships with schools
- 3) Redesign regional boundaries
- 4) Charge regional membership fee
- 5) Continue to rethink calendar
- 6) Better system for out of division intents and entries
- 7) Develop partnerships with new venues and cross region racing

Brewster described his ideas for a fee structure. It would include athletes paying a fee to the region to join, and then athletes would pay less on race days.

Discussion was held and Brewster advised each region to do a what-if study and use different scenarios in the calculation of results to see whether it would be feasible or not from a regional and race organizing committee standpoint.

Dave Waller advised the group that someone should take charge of the analysis and present a proposal to the board.

Brewster is working on cultivating small areas for potential venues in places like Omaha (Dubuque IA), Chestnut in Illinois, and a site outside of Kansas City, Missouri.

He also announced champions from 2008-09 for the Central Nation, including:

- 1) Jake Braun
- 2) Carly McDowell
- 3) Ben Brown
- 4) Sterling Grant
- 5) Reilly Harris
- 6) Billy Wong
- 7) Peter Albertson
- 8) Maisie Ide
- 9) Mark Massie
- 10) Paula Moltzan

Brewster also had break downs on J3J4 Championships in Marquette, J3 JOs, J4 JOs, Topolino, Central kids at US Nationals, and the J2 National Team.

Brewster also talked briefly about redesigning boundary lines for the regions and once again thanked the group for their support throughout the season on his behalf.

**Break**

**10:00 to 10:15**

After the break, Brewster continued his discussion, with the focus on the preliminary schedule for the upcoming season. Terry also discussed the Nor-Am schedule and the potential dropping of a couple of Nor-Ams in late November/early December and the reformatting of the Lake Louise/Panorama series. Brewster discussed the Mid-Am schedule and reminded the group that the entire schedule was in the draft stages and event dates could be subject to change.

Several comments were forwarded from the group regarding scheduling conflicts, and Brewster will take it all under advisement and reminded the group that the schedule is a work in progress.

The coaches and the board support having the J3 JOs at the end of March/early April and the final determination on event dates will be made during the May USSA Congress at the Rocky/Central Board Meeting.

**6. Working Groups/Sub-committees**

**a. Alpine Officials**

**G. Ransom**

**10:15 to 10:30**

Our region is fortunate to have such quality volunteers. Unfortunately, we tend to lose people after their kids are finished racing. The group was invited to continue officiating and volunteering even after their kids are through.

Inasmuch as a CR has a vital role in a competition and also serves as a jury member, there will be a recommendation at the USSA Congress to have Chief of Race added to the group of officials who must update at an official clinic at least biannually. The current group includes Referees, TDs, and Jury Advisors.

The officials' clinics were discussed briefly, and there will be three clinics in the fall for officials' education. No firm dates were set, but will be coordinated and announced.



Tom showed some graphical depictions of membership in given categories across the entire region. Overall, membership of men is slightly down across the region, and women are holding their own. He said the biggest drop was in J2 men. He is working on splitting the age groups into birth years, as that would allow for better tracking of the age groups over the course of several years.

Tom also had figures showing how money was spent throughout the year. He reported that Mid-Am pace costs were down, which helped the bottom line. The races were still of very good quality, so it was a bonus.

Tom also reported that CUSSA used money to support athletes at the copper GS and SG camp, J2 Nationals, US Nationals, Topolino, Whistler Cup, and the National Development Series.

## 8. Old Business

### a. Trust

Waller

11:30 to 12:00

Dave Waller talked about the trust that was proposed at last year's fall CASC Board Meeting. The board accepted the concept and asked Dave to put together information regarding the trust.

The purpose of the trust is to support Central athletes named to the USST D team. Assets would be moved into a legal trust fund, with 50 percent of the annual income going to athlete support and the remainder returned to the trust.

The assets would be managed by five trustees named by the CASC board. Each trustee would serve a five year term. The trust would spell out how the trustees could invest the assets, the responsibilities of the trustees, and how assets are introduced into the trust. The trust would be also be available for people to donate assets, funds, etc. for a designated purpose in perpetuity. The trust would not allow for funds to be earmarked for a particular athlete – they would go to the group of Central athletes on the D Team.

Discussion was introduced concerning the terminology for D Team athletes and the possibility of changing it to “non-funded or self-funded athletes on a national level.”

The trust proposal will be distributed to the CASC Board Members and will be voted on in the fall meeting for CASC. Dave W. and Tom B. recommended \$200,000 for the initial start-up of the trust.

Dave will send out a reminder to each region this summer so that a trustee can be determined from each region.

**9. Lunch** **12:00 to 1:00**  
Meeting was reconvened at 12:45 pm

**10. New Business** **1:00 to 2:30**

**a. USSA Congress**

**Waller**

Dave took attendance for who was going to the USSA congress in May. Terry DelliQuadri reminded the group that there will be a coaches' symposium two days before the congress begins.

**b. Vail motion to change date for J3 JOs** **McVicker**

The topic was covered earlier in the meeting and will be determined at the R/C meeting during the USSA congress.

**c. JIV JOs Event schedule**

**McVicker**

Brewster discussed both the current plan (4 days) and the proposed plan which would add a day to the event to split the GS between two days – one per gender. The proposed schedule would change the schedule of events to SG Training/SG/GSM/GSW/SL and would take the event from 4 days to 5.

The venue is open to the idea, but the R/C board will determine the outcome. It was felt that a proposal needs to come forth from Central to take to the R/C Board at the USSA Congress in May.

It was moved by Casey Charlson and seconded by Vern Barber to work on the proposal and present it to the R/C Board at the congress. Casey said he'd talk to Josh Blum (who came up with the idea) and clarify the proposal and then present it at the congress.

**d. Funding for SG Camp**

**Barnes**

Tom said he is happy to help fund the SG camp, but had concerns on attendance in that only 12 athletes participated in last year's camp. Brewster said there were actually 20 athletes, as some from Win Alpine joined the project. They helped defray costs by paying for lane space and Brewster waived the camp fee in return.

Terry D. commented that although the numbers appear to be low, in all actuality more than 24 athletes wasn't effective because of the time constraints involved. The courses and other materials have to be pulled 9 am, and more than 30 athletes causes a backup. At that point the athletes aren't maximizing their time – they're standing around.

The SG camp is a next step beyond Indianhead, as it provides something that our region cannot offer. By design, the camp is limited to 25 participants for productivity purposes— attendance was 30 in 2007 and 20 in 2008.

Brewster shared a list of past camp participants and many were successful at the JO and higher levels.

The group agreed that the camp is a great idea, and Dave W suggested it fall with the coaches to help promote the camp. Ron Lawrence said that in addition to camp and project promotion, education of available resources for athletes is also important and help is needed from coaches, parents, and clubs to help get the word out.

The comment also came forward that all camps and projects suffer to some extent because of athlete non-knowledge and non-awareness.

Lodging and supervisory needs are also obstacles, as the current camp structure doesn't cover lodging, and the coaches don't baby-sit the kids. Once training and the team meetings are over, the coach/athlete interface is over for the day and the kids are on their own.

With the loss of Rob Worrell, Terry's staff will be thinner this year for coaching at camps, so other regional coaches may be hired to fill in and help with projects

**e. Allocation of Extra Quotas for Nationals**

Dave Waller talked about the available quota spots for Nationals and how slots are awarded to athletes when an opening occurs. Last year four spots came up at the last minute, and two were given to RMD and two to Central.

Dave wanted to discuss how things are handled in anticipation of discussion for the R/C Board Meeting at the May USSA Congress. Discussion included allotting the spots to the best FIS point holders regardless of region.

Darryl L. moved and Jeff B. seconded to support the proposal at the R/C meeting to allow for open spots for the Nationals to be awarded to the best point holders, regardless of regional affiliation. The motion passed unanimously.

Dave W explained the current process for selection, which allots Central a quota of 3 men and 2 women. Rocky athletes get selected based on their own system of ranking.

Brewster discussed Nationals selection in general and possible modifications that could change the criteria and process.

**11. Election of Officers**

**Waller**

**2:30 to 2:45**

a. At-Large Representative

Dave Waller talked about amending the by-laws (after the elections last year) and allowing for an at-large representative position for Bill Slattery. It was felt that he was a vital resource for the CASC Board, and that he had a wealth of information and knowledge.

Jeff B. moved and John M. seconded to allow for an at-large position for Bill.

After further discussion, it was decided that an exclusive position would be created on the CASC Board for an “exclusive honorary representative member” to be filled by Bill and only Bill.

The motion was modified by Darryl Landstrom and seconded by Jeff Bruggeman. The motion passed unanimously, and the CASC Board recognizes Bill Slattery as a lifetime honorary representative member.

The board also discussed nominating and supporting Bill Slattery for induction in the Ski Hall of Fame. Brewster will take action and get with a contact for the nomination.

**12. Fall Meeting**

**Waller**

**2:45 to 3:00**

- a. October 9-10, 2009
- b. Marriott Courtyard, Chicago, IL

Jeff B moved and John M seconded to keep the dates for the fall meeting as suggested. The motion passed with one nay from Ron Lawrence.

The meeting adjourned at 2 pm.