

**Minutes of Annual Meeting Part 1**  
**USSA Masters National Working Group**  
**Sun Valley Lodge, Sun Valley, ID**  
**March 16, 2015**

Call to order 3:45PM

**Attendance**

Intermountain: Stew Marsh

Rocky: Lauren Beckos

Far West: Dan Simmons

PNSA: Jim Doudna

Northern: Lisa Densmore Ballard

Alaska: Gary Randall

Central: Ryan Fuller

Eastern: Pepi Neubauer

Chairman: Steve Slivinski

Masters Coordinator: Bill Skinner

**I. USSA Updates/Discussion**

**a. Dues**

- Bill Skinner reported that Tiger Shaw is implementing some changes for Masters - possible reduction of dues from \$110 to \$85.
- This may necessitate reduced budget for Masters.
- Discussion about what is important - Comp Guide, Newsletter, Posters. Suggestion was made that we look into merging Master's Comp Guide with the Alpine Comp guide. Newsletter digital vs printed and mailed, or just printed but not mailed.
- Discussion about Coach license not being good for Master racing (need to get addl license). Competitor license is good for Masters, up to age 25.

**b. Courses**

Discussion re vertical and distance course-setting requirements. Consensus was that the goal is to have a safe and enjoyable race. If it becomes necessary to go outside the parameters in order to reach this goal, then the jury must keep clear minutes of their reasons.

**c. National Scoring**

Bill addressed comp guide error. How to score National Championships: SC does count for both Spyder Team and Division Cup, but not for combined medals (SG, GS, SL only) Also need to update rules re temp licenses.

**d. FIS Helmet Rules**

Bill spoke about new FIS helmet rules due to be implemented in 2016. Master's have written a position statement which will be presented at USAA Congress.

- Option #1: We will ask that use of FIS compliant helmets for Masters be recommended rather than required.
- Option #2: That the implementation of the rule be delayed to give Masters time to be aware of new rules and purchase new helmets.

## II. Nationals

- a. 2016 National Championship venue: 2 bids received, from Big Sky, Mt., and Mammoth Mtn. CA.
- b. Jeremy Ueland from Big Sky gave presentation, as did Mike Braun from Far West for Mammoth.
- c. **STRAW VOTE was taken with following results: RM - Mammoth/ IM- Big Sky/ PNSA - Big Sky/ Alaska - Big Sky/ Northern - Big Sky/ Central - Big Sky/ FW - Mammoth/ East - Big Sky. 6 - 2 for Big Sky.**

Meeting adjourned at 5pm. To be continued Tuesday at 3:30.

**Minutes of Annual Meeting Part 2**  
**USSA Masters National Working Group**  
**Sun Valley Lodge, Sun Valley, ID**  
**March 17, 2015**

Call to order 3:45PM

**Working Group Attendance**

Steve Slivinski – National Committee Chairman

Bill Skinner – USSA Coordinator

Lisa Densmore Ballard – Northern

Stew Marsh - Intermountain

Ryan Fuller – Central

Dan Simmons – Far West

Gary Randall - Alaska

Jack Eisenschmid - Eastern

Jim Doudna - PNSA

Lauren Beckos - Rocky (Minutes)

**Others in Attendance**

Meri Stratton

Fran Knoll

Tony Nunnikhoven

Deb Lewis

Bill Tomcich

**I. FIS Masters Cup**

Even if it is considered an Eastern or Western regionals racers from any division could be eligible to win awards.

If Nationals is in the West, we likely won't have a Regionals in the West. However, if we have FIS Races in the West they could be Western Regionals.

**Aspen**

- Presentd a bid to match last year's entry fee prices and 45% discount on rooms.
- DH would have to be at the end of the event week.
- Thr – SL, Fri - GS, Sat - GS, Sun – SG (maybe 2), Mon – DHtr, Tues, 2DH Race
- Considering 2 SG runs on the same day
- Tech events moved to Aspen Highlands
- SG and DH on Racers Edge at Tiehack
- No extra weather day built in this schedule
- If we can find a sponsor, also make it Western Regional Championships

Another consideration would be Mammoth, but it wouldn't have as high attendance.

**II. Eastern Regionals**

- Need to find a sponsor for jackets is they want to have them for an Eastern Regionals.

### III. Molecule F Speed Series

- Okemo wants to host a DH.
- Stratton also will be interested again next year.
- Series is likely to continue with current sponsor.
- Venues already on the schedule typically remain the same for the next season.

### IV. Division Membership Status and Ideas – Ryan Fuller

- Looking for opportunities to attract beer league racers.
- Wants to look closer at membership numbers to keep us thinking about growth and understand how to break into the membership of those markets.
- At some town series, racers don't consider themselves serious racers. Others are much more competitive. Typically have much stronger sponsors and prizes.
- Beer league racers typically don't want to travel.
- Clinics have been successful at drawing new members.
- Battle of the beer leagues. USSA member has to bring non-USSA member.

### V. Rules for Eligibility of Spyder US National Team

- What is you have a dual citizenship?

**MOTION: If you live in the United States and buy a full USSA license you are eligible.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Stew Marsh**

**Voice Vote: All Approve**

- Temporary license should not be eligible.

### VI. Increase Membership with Younger Members

- USSA does not consider a temporary registration a License. They are not eligible for many of the membership benefits
- Temporary license will be tracked now through the online status.
- Many people are willing to commit to the full membership up front.
- Can we leverage USCSA schools that aren't eligible for USCSA Nationals?
  - o USCSA athletes are very enthusiastic about racing.
  - o Have to emphasize the level of racing and find ways to keep them coming back.
  - o Lauren to follow up with USCSA.
- Target weekends without college races.

### VII. Change Class System – Dan Simmons

**MOTION: Use the U- system that USSA uses now for the Junior racers.**

- Some divisions have used this system in the past.
- U (Under) format
- Would have to understand impact on Split Second

**MOTION TO TABLE: Find out the impact on Spilt Second etc.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Stew Marsh**

**Voice Vote: All Approve to Table Motion**

Place to review at a later date

### **VIII. Class Allocations for within A, B, and D groups for National Events**

**MOTION: Change class designations for Groups at Regional and National Events by changing M5 to A group and M8 to B group.**

- A and B groups have had to be combined to have enough racers for this season.

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Ryan Fuller**

**Voice Vote: All approve**

### **IX. National Chairman Election**

**MOTION: Nominate Lisa Densmore**

- Lisa goals – focus on recruitment and relationship and advocacy with USSA.

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Gary Randall**

**Voice Vote: All approve**

Meeting adjourned 5PM.