

North Carolina Water Ski Association
2022 Winter General Membership Meeting
December 3rd, 2022
Coble Ski School, Lillington, NC
Minutes

- I. **Call to Order 9:32 am**
a. Attendance Sheet

Ari Grode

Ari Grode	Erica Bleier	Gregg Stokes	Darnell Almond	Matt Bishop
Shirley Coble	Ann Harrington	Tommy Harrington	Gail Case	Jeff Gilbert
Eddie Carrick	Jerry Howard	Pat Bloodworth	Brenda Hargis	Donnie Lindsey
Dave Harris	Alan Long	Johnny Thomas	Jeff Mitchell	Donnie Doster

Addendums Attached:

2021 – 2022 NCWSA Treasurer's Report

Old Business

- I. **Presentation of Minutes**

Erica Bleier

- b. Winter Meeting – Main topics

- i. Rotating Tournament Schedule/More than 1 tournament in same weekend

PROPOSAL	ACCEPTED?	Accepted?
For the 2022 season only: Two tournaments may occur on the same weekend as long as only one of the tournaments is 3-event. The club with the primary date has the choice of the type of tournament as well as access to the radios.	Motion to accept: Eddie Carrick Second: Johnny Thomas 13 in favor 2 opposed	Yes

- ii. Membership

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
Any NC resident must be a member of NCWSA in order to ski in a North Carolina tournament. Proof of membership is the skier's responsibility.	Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas Second – Gregg Stokes All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- iii. Webmaster

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
Increase webmaster payment to \$750	Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas Second – Alan Long All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- iv. Radios

PROPOSAL	Motion	ACCEPTED?
Chris Eller will have up to \$1,000 to purchase each site ten (10) radios.	Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas Second – Keith Burris All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- v. Promo Boat Overview/State Boat draw

1. Boat draw may be difficult due to lack of boats
2. USA Water Ski Tow Boat Committee has recommended reimbursing boat owner \$35 per hour
 - a. Other suggestions have talked about \$400 for the weekend

3. The host site of the State tournament will try as much as possible to coincide with the boat draws for Regionals. There may not be enough available. Will let the skiers know as soon as possible for any boat changes.

vi. Jump driving safety

1. A lot of discussion regarding importance of skier safety. Suggested of having driver always go back to check on skier in the event of a fall, regardless of where that skier waved hand or not
 - a. Stressed importance of each host site assigning primary safety and making sure that this comes from the boat if that is what is preferred.
2. Good discussion to stress importance of safety. No changes have been made.

vii. Radios for officials

PROPOSAL	Motion	ACCEPTED?
NCWSA will purchase a radio for any official who achieves a regular rating or above.	Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas Second – Shirley Coble All in favor; none opposed	Yes

viii. Safe Sport Certification

Ari Grode

1. As of January 1st 2022, AWSA members 18 and over are required to take the Safe Sport certification.
2. Judges will also be required to complete a background check

ix. Officials

PROPOSAL	Motion	ACCEPTED?
As of January 1 st , NCWSA will pay for all membership obligations for non-skiing officials	Motion to accept – Jack Bond Second – Donnie Doster All in favor; none opposed	Yes

x. NCWSA Non-profit Status

1. We have created a 501c3 – NC Water Ski Foundation
 - a. Still working on the financial logistics

a. Summer Meeting – Main Topics

- i. North Carolina State Tournament 2023 - Will be hosted by Clear Lake

ii. New Board

1. President: Ari Grode
2. Vice President: Donnie Doster
3. Secretary/Treasurer: Erica Bleier
4. Council Seat 1: Alan Long
5. Council Seat 2: Gail Case

iii. Awards Presented

1. Garry Pressley Jr Scholarship Award: Will Blair
2. North Carolina Award of Distinction: Pat Eaton, Debbie Bradley
3. North Carolina Hall of Fame: Karen Truelove, Dana Reed

Motion to accept 2020 Winter & Summer meeting minutes – Johnny Thomas
Second – Alan Long

II. Treasurer's Report

Erica Bleier

- a. General account: \$10,446.03 (net loss \$506.49)
- b. Junior Account: \$7,749.34 (net loss \$638.14)
- c. Combined: \$18,195.37 (net loss \$1,144.63)

Motion to accept 2020 Treasurer Report – Shirley Coble

Second – Jeff Mitchell

III. Committee Reports

a. Regional Council

Alan Long

- i. Regionals will be at Lymanland
- ii. Nationals in West Palm Beach
- iii. April Coble Eller – AWSA International Activities Committee member
- iv. Chris Eller – National Driver Chairperson
 - 1. 2022 Fred Wiley Outstanding Driver Award recipient
 - 2. 2023 Southern Regionals Chief Driver
- v. Regional rule changes are posted. Southern Regional Meeting will be January 7th in Kennesaw, GA
 - 1. Alan Long and Gail Case will be attending. Please contact them with any concerns regarding rule changes

b. Junior Development

Hope Phillips/Ari Grode

- i. Junior Development Clinic will be May 20th – 21st @ Clear Lake. May be 1 or 2 days.

Motion to accept committee reports – Alan Long

Second – Eddie Carrick

New Business

I. Adjustment to meeting agenda

- a. Motion to move HOF Bylaw discussion to beginning of meeting – Alan Long
 - i. Second – Johnny Thomas (all in favor; none opposed)

II. Hall of Fame Bylaws

Darnell Almond

- a. Have not changed anything on the HOF bylaws since it became effective 18 years ago
 - i. In 2009 change allowed members of the HOF/inductees to have a vote
- b. Last year, the HOF committee grew to 15 people
 - i. Generated a lot of conversation about making changes
 - 1. 15 people is way more than USA Water Ski has and way more than any other HOF group
- c. Recommended everyone talk about amongst ourselves over the summer, at tournaments, etc and then compile a draft of comments/suggestions
 - i. Darnell has compiled all suggestions and came up with a rough draft of potential changes which was sent out prior to meeting
 - ii. Darnell stressed that this is not his thoughts but rather the groups input
 - 1. Whatever changes need to be made we will discuss as we need to do whatever it takes for the good of the association because this needs to be the best

- d. Categories, eligibility, officials, award of distinction – all that has stayed the same
 - i. No one wanted to change anything with this
- e. HOF Committee
 - i. Draft proposal: Will consist of three NCWSA board members (council persons, officers or a combination of the two) and four current members of the North Carolina Waterski Hall of Fame. The three NCWSA board members will all serve a one-year term and will be appointed by the NCWSA president. The five current members of the Hall of Fame will serve a two-year term. (Exception, the two most senior inductees will only serve a one-year term in 2023 to ensure committee continuity). Hall of Fame committee members will be selected starting with the most senior candidates and then moving forward through the list as new committee members are needed. Inductees can waive their right to serve on the committee during their turn at which time the chairperson will move forward through the list.
 - 1. Examples given. There are some people that wish not to serve.
 - 2. Discussion of why the four and three was picked
 - a) Thought you would be able to get three NCWSA board members to serve but more difficult to get all five
 - 3. Shirley Coble suggested 5 HOF members and 3 NCWSA
 - a) There is a lot of good knowledge and history from the HOF members and if you limit that, you will have less back knowledge of the nominees

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.04 The Hall of Fame Committee</i> (a) Will consist of three NCWSA board members (council persons, officers or a combination of the two) and five current members of the North Carolina Waterski Hall of Fame	Motion to accept – Alan Long Second – Eddie Carrick All in favor; none opposed	Yes

4. Reviewed committee terms and rotation utilizing the current HOF members
 - a) Darnell will be in charge of contacting list to discuss commitment and find who will serve
 - b) Discussed committee terms beginning January 1st and ending December 31st; there was no opposition of this
 - c) Darnell reminded everyone that any NCWSA member is welcome at the meeting or have the opportunity to address the committee via the process listed below

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<p><i>Section 2.04 The Hall of Fame Committee</i></p> <p>(a) Will consist of three NCWSA board members (council persons, officers or a combination of the two) and five current members of the North Carolina Waterski Hall of Fame</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>The three NCWSA board members will all serve a one-year term and will be appointed by the NCWSA president.</i> ii) <i>The five current members of the Hall of Fame will serve a two-year term. (Exception, the two most senior inductees will only serve a one-year term in 2023 to ensure committee continuity). Hall of Fame committee members will be selected starting with the most senior candidates and then moving forward through the list as new committee members are needed. Inductees can waive their right to serve on the committee during their turn at which time the chairperson will move forward through the list.</i> <p>(b) Can consist of 3 more volunteers of the general membership as non-voting members (This was not changed)</p> <p>(c) <i>All committee terms will begin on January 1st and end on December 31st</i></p> <p>(d) <i>Any NCWSA member may request to address the Hall of Fame committee by notifying the chairperson in writing prior to their next meeting. If there are multiple NCWSA members addressing the committee the chairperson may impose time limits on those presentations</i></p>	<p><i>Italics were agreed upon during discussion</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>

f. Nominations

- i. Darnell spoke with Chris and discussed nominations can be a single person, a couple, a family, or a club
 1. This would mean that one award may be multiple peoples
 2. There was no opposition

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (a) Nominations <i>i) Nominations may be a single person, a couple, a family, or a club</i>	Italics agreed upon during discussion	Yes

- ii. Draft proposal: Nominations for induction into the North Carolina Hall of Fame and Award of Distinction must be submitted in writing to the Hall of Fame Committee chairperson no later than December 31st at 11:59:59 pm.
 1. Discussed importance of a deadline for submission
 2. Situation this past year where many had already had discussions and thoughts in his/her mind when a late submission was accepted
 - a) Some felt like they had to start his/her though process over
 - b) Just throws off the system

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (a) Nominations ii) Nominations for induction into the North Carolina Hall of Fame and Award of Distinction must be submitted in writing to the Hall of Fame Committee chairperson no later than December 31 st at 11:59:59 pm.	Motion to accept – Jeff Mitchell Second – Johnny Thomas All in favor; none opposed	Yes

g. Voting

- i. Draft proposal: The HOF Chairperson, with input from the committee, will set a time and place for an in-person meeting to be held January of each year
- ii. Draft proposal: Ballots for the Hall of Fame and Award of Distinction will be sent out to the committee by the chairperson no later than March 1st @ 5:00 pm. This paragraph does not limit the committee from having multiple internal votes prior to the official ballots going out March 1st.
- iii. Draft proposal: Official ballots must be returned to the chairperson no later than 5:00 pm on March 15th
 1. Discussed the difficulty with large number on committee and all being able to be on the phone calls
 - a) This is a challenge as some things are discussed one phone call but different the next
 - b) A lot of information has to be repeated for those that were not on previous calls
 - c) Having a smaller group will help
 2. Suggestion of having an in-person meeting to help alleviate this issue
 - a) Thought that committee members should be able to commit to 1 day for an in-person meeting
 3. Discussed when this meeting should be held
 - a) In January as the nominations have already been submitted and can all be on the same page with discussion

- i. The cons of this would be the need for multiple phone calls which could be more difficult for consistency as discussed above
- b) In March, discussed this would be the final vote
 - i. Brenda suggested that by the time you leave the in-person meeting, everything should be set; all final votes cast and award recipients decided
 - ii. Discussed how to handle if someone might not be able to make the meeting last minute; can they still vote? Can they call into the meeting?
 - 1. Whoever is selected to the committee should and will get to cast vote

PROPOSAL	Motion	ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (b) Voting i) The Hall of Fame Chairperson, with input from the committee will arrange for an in-person meeting prior to March 15 th . At this meeting the committee will have final discussions on nominations and will cast their final votes for that year's Hall of Fame and Award of Distinction candidates	Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas Second – Donnie Doster All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- iv. Draft proposal: Candidates must receive 5 votes from the committee in order to be inducted in to the HOF or receive the Award of Distinction
 - 1. Discussed other HOF thresholds. Most HOF require more than the majority with the threshold being 70-80% most of the time. No one could quote specific numbers (NC sports HOF, basketball HOF), but all agreed that it was more than the majority
 - 2. Back and forth discussion between 6/8 versus 7/8
 - 3. Alan brought up the integrity of the HOF and when someone is inducted, there should be no question that the person or persons should be there
 - 4. Discussed if no candidate received the number of votes, then there would be no award given and would we be ok with that
 - 5. Discussed that if there were multiple candidates, there should be some straw votes and narrowing down the list so that the final votes are not skewed over a larger group

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (b) Voting (iii) Candidates must receive seven votes from the committee to be inducted into the Hall of Fame or receive the Award of Distinction. If no candidate receives the required six votes, then there will be no induction for that year.	Motion to accept – Alan Long Second – Eddie Carrick All in favor; none opposed (This proposal was soon changed. Please see below)	Yes but updated proposal below official

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (b) Voting (iii) Candidates must receive six votes from the committee to be inducted into the Hall of Fame or receive the Award of Distinction. If no candidate receives the required six votes, then there will be no induction for that year.	Motion to accept – Shirley Coble Second – Jeff Mitchell All in favor; none opposed	Yes

h. Induction

- i. Draft proposal: Will induct no more than 2 persons per year (HOF)
- ii. Draft proposal: Award of Distinction recipients shall be no more than 4 per year
 1. We need to put a cap on it or else everyone can just get an award
 2. Many suggested 2
 3. Alan suggested 1. It should be an extreme honor to receive the award. Brenda agreed.
 4. Discussed need to celebrate recipients and some getting more attention than others; want all to be just as special of a night
 5. Discussed that you can go in as Award of Distinction and then move up later to Hall of Fame (we have done this already)
 6. Discussed need to define number of awards – this still allow for multiple people to be considered as one award of recipient – see nomination definition above

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (c) Induction i) There shall be no more than one Hall of Fame award recipient and no more than two Award of Distinction recipients per year	Motion to accept – Jeff Mitchell Second – Johnny Thomas All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- iii. Alan brought up the discussion of celebrating both HOF and Award of Distinction at the same time. Don't want to take the spotlight/attention away for someone's special night
- iv. Ann Harrington suggested presenting the Award of Distinction at a different time
 - 1. We have done this before at Clear Lake and Skyview
 - 2. Johnny suggested using 30-minute lunch to present Award of Distinction
 - 3. Many agreed that this would make both awards more special

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
<i>Section 2.05 Nominations, Voting, and Induction</i> (c) Induction iii) Plaques for the Hall of Fame will be presented at an induction ceremony held during the banquet at the North Carolina State Waterski Championships and Summer meeting. Award of Distinction candidates will be recognized and receive their plaques during the tournament at a time determined by the host club and the Hall of Fame chairperson.	Motion to accept – Ann Harrington Second – Johnny Thomas All in favor; none opposed	Yes

- i. Chairperson
 - i. Shirley Coble: Darnell has done a fantastic job and has dedicated a lot of time. We appreciate his patience and hard work
 - ii. Overall discussion/suggestion to just allow Darnell to keep serving as chairperson
 - iii. He would like to keep serving although knows that if/when it is time, he is ok with that too
 - iv. Discussed need for someone to take over roll in the future; someone who knows the process and make an easy transition; a successor
 - v. Hardest part would be finding someone who can remain as unbiased as Darnell has been
 - vi. Did not feel a need to put in an official selection process and would allow Darnell to keep serving. Can always change this in the future

Meeting Break 10:52 am

Re-Start Meeting 11:04 am

III. 2023 Tournament Schedule

- a. In order to keep your primary date, you must pay dues as well as attend meeting
- b. State tournament date always protected; it is 2 weeks before Regionals
 - i. Location: Clear Lake
- c. 2023 Tournament Schedule

PROTECTED PRIMARY DATES	
June 3 rd – 4 th	Skyview -- primary
June 10 th – 11 th	Magnolia – primary
June 17 th – 18 th	Beaver Lake – primary
June 24 th – 25 th	Clear Lake – primary
September 9 th – 10 th	Little Mountain – primary

2023 Tournament Schedule		
Date	Club	
MAY		
April 29 th – 30 th		
May 6 th – 7 th		
May 13 th – 14 th		Mother's Day
May 20 th – 21 st	Junior Development – Clear Lake Driver's Clinic – Darnell Almond	
May 27 th – 28 th		Memorial Day
JUNE		
June 3 rd – 4 th	Skyview – primary	3-event class 2CLR
June 10 th – 11 th	Magnolia – primary	3-event class 2C night slalom
June 17 th – 18 th	Beaver Lake – primary	3-event; slalom 3C, trick 2C, jump 2C P&C
June 24 th – 25 th	Clear Lake – primary	3-event; slalom 3C, trick 2C, jump 2C P&C
JULY		
July 1 st – 2 nd	Lake Magnolia	3-event class 2C night slalom
July 8 th – 9 th	NC State Tournament – Clear Lake	Lexington, NC 3-event class C
July 15 th – 16 th		
July 19 th – 23 rd	Southern Regionals – Lymanland	Tuscaloosa, AL
July 29 th – 30 th		
AUGUST		
August 5 th	Beaver Lake	Slalom 3C
August 8 th – 12 th	81 st Goode National Championships – Okechee Park	West Palm Beach, FL
August 19 th	Clear Lake	3-event class C
August 26 th – 27 th	West 55 Tour - Little Mountain	Slalom 4R
SEPTEMBER		
September 2 nd – 3 rd		Labor Day
September 9 th – 10 th	Little Mountain – primary	Slalom 4CLRF
September 15 th – 16 th	Malibu Open – Lynmanland	Tuscaloosa, AL
September 20 th – 24 th	Senior Pan Am – Skyview	Harmony, NC
September 30 th – October 1 st		
OCTOBER		
October 7 th – 8 th		
October 8 th – 15 th	IWWF World Water Ski Championships – Jack Travers Water Ski School	Groveland, FL
October 14 th – 15 th		
October 21 st – 22 nd		
October 28 th – 29 th		

Motion to accept tournament schedule – Johnny Thomas

Second – Alan Long (all in favor; none opposed)

- IV. 2023 North Carolina State Tournament** **Eddie Carrick**
- a. Friday evening: Move at hotdog supper starting @ 8:30 pm
 - b. Entry Fee: \$80 (1-3 events)
 - i. Includes t-shirt and banquet
 - c. Accommodations
 - i. Camping
 - 1. No charge; first come first serve
 - 2. Officials will have first choice
 - ii. New Hampton Inn 10 miles from site
 - d. Sponsorship
 - i. Available starting at \$50
 - ii. Need information by June 1st
 - iii. Name on back of t-shirt and listed in program
 - e. New Accu-float slalom course to include jump course
 - f. Banquet theme: Roaring Twenties: Get you best Great Gatsby outfit (Amazon is your friend)
- V. Officials Clinics/Driver Clinic**
- a. Driver's Clinic
 - i. The last one was 2 years ago
 - ii. Planning on May 20th @ Clear Lake
 - b. Safety Clinic
 - i. Bob Achambeau is only one who can teach
 - ii. Contact Ari Grode if needed and he will coordinate
 - iii. Did a winter one which worked well
 - c. Officials Clinic
 - i. Can do online
- VI. Junior Development Committee** **Hope Phillips/Ari Grode**
- a. May 20th – 21st @ Clear Lake
- VII. Treasurer** **Erica Bleier**
- a. Continue to pay for MoneyMinder (\$159/year)?
 - i. Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas, Second – Jeff Mitchell
 - b. Winter and Summer Meeting Minutes will be posted on the website. All members will have until the winter meeting of the following year to bring up any discrepancies or opposition. Minutes will be accepted at beginning of meeting without any review or discussion unless otherwise noted prior to the meeting. Any official changes will need to be brought up during "New Business".
 - i. Motion to accept – Johnny Thomas, Second – Eddie Carrick
 - c. Membership
 - i. Accounted for income of \$1,684.01
 - 1. Number of Memberships
 - a) Club: 5
 - b) Individual/Family: 57 (up from 51 in 2021)
 - c) 89 total members
 - d) 14 NC skiers who did not pay but still skied this season
 - d. Creation of a permanent address for NCWSA?
 - i. Will continue discussion with this in future; possible PO Box and forward mail to current board member

VIII. Webmaster**Tommy Harrington**

- a. Tommy does a fantastic job and puts a lot of work into website and social media
- b. Higher number of website visits and hits compared to Florida
- c. Tommy would like to recognize
 - i. Pat Bloodworth
 - 1. Drove 2021 Malibu Open where all 4 women ran into 41 off. This is the first time in history this has happened. Presented with wood ski with skier autographs
 - ii. Chris Eller – will be chief driver Nationals 2023 in West Palm Beach
 - iii. Shirley Coble – 2022 NC State, Southern Region, US National, and World Champion

PROPOSAL		ACCEPTED?
Increase webmaster payment to \$1,000	Motion to accept – Jeff Gilbert Second – Darnell Almond All in favor; none opposed	Yes

IX. Call for other New Business

- a. More than 1 tournament in a weekend
 - i. We trialed this in 2022 however ended up not having any conflicts
 - ii. Discussion to make permanent
 - iii. Talked about new 3-event lake on the horizon in Mooresville that may be added to rotation in the future
 - iv. Challenges getting officials/judges/drivers to tournaments
 - v. Talked about a 2nd tournament taking away some of the skiers from the 1st one versus provided more opportunities for NC skiers to participate
 - vi. Discussed there should not be as much of an issue if only 1 was a 3-event
 - vii. There is still a lot of debate on this

PROPOSAL	ACCEPTED?	Accepted?
Two tournaments may occur on the same weekend as long as only one of the tournaments is 3-event. The club with the primary date has the choice of the type of tournament.	Motion to accept: Alan Long Second: Jeff Gilbert 9 in favor 1 opposed	Yes

Motion to adjourn 11:52 am – Alan LongSecond – Jeff Gilbert
