

PARA Annual Spring Meeting – Saturday May 3, 2014

Ski Roundtop Mountain Resort, Ski Patrol Building

John McGregor, President, called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

Roll call was taken and the following Board Members were present:

John McGregor, Kurt Zwally, Jonathan Tate, Chris Klebe, Curt Schramm, Eric Updegrove, Jay Zwally, Dan Chayes, Bruce Bedell, Bruce Wickersham, Patrick Wende, Bruce Newman, Gus Picariello, Dave Bond, Rob Lipton, Scott Book, Mattie DePaulo, Tom Yen, Jim Davenport, Jim DiBiase, Ralph Blasey, Jamie Joyce, Fred Wright, Matt Stuckey

Absent: Bill Filling, Jon Corchnoy, George Drummond

OLD BUSINESS

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the 2013 PARA Spring meeting were approved by voice vote.

Motion: To waive the reading of reports was approved by voice vote.

1. Presidents Report – Accepted.
2. Treasurers Report – Accepted.
3. Membership and Quotas Report – two new membership categories being introduced by USSA. Club Participant and Club Volunteer. PARA fee associated with these memberships will be \$5. USSA will deposit state dues on a monthly basis. Accepted.
4. Alpine Officials Report – 12 TDs active and 2 in pipeline. Accepted.
5. Coaching Report – Accepted.
6. ACC Report – Preliminary Post Season Schedule:
 - a. March 6-10, 2015 Jr FIS Finals – U18+
 - b. March 6-8, 2015 Eastern High School Championships – Cannon Mt, NH
 - c. March 12-16, 2015 U16 Finals
 - d. March 16-20, 2015 U16 Championships – Whiteface, NY
 - e. March 13-15, 2015 U14 Championships – Stowe, VT ?
 - f. March 14-17, 2015 USSA Finals U18+ – Gore, NYU14 & U16 Mid-Atlantic Championships are a future possibility. Accepted.
7. Age Chair Reports – Accepted.
8. Web Site report – Waiting to see what USSA does with their website. Need to modernize PARA site.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Age Group combinations for Derby

2. Scoring
3. Derby schedule/location

New Business items 1, 2, and 3 were discussed in a motion presented by Jim BiBiase.

U18-U21 Finals:

A PA Cup Series of eight races would be used to fill quota spots for U18 and U21 Eastern Regional USSA events. This series would include a 3-day Finals weekend consisting of two GS races and one slalom to be held February 20-22, 2015. State Team & post-season event selection would be based on total World Cup points for the entire eight race series. World Cup points would be assigned based on combined result for each completed race as has been done in the past. Tie breaks will be done as described in the PARA Guide "Inside / Out Method" - the same method that has been used for the past 15+ years (excluding last year). Two awards per gender would be given for two PA Cup Champions - a U18 and an overall (U18 and U21 combined). The trophies for each Champion, U18 and Overall, would be identical. The PA Cup series would be open to all U18s and U21s.

1st year U16s that qualified for the U16 PARA Championships and all 2nd year U16 may compete in the PA Cup finals with head coach approval. These athletes are not eligible for PA Cup points.

PARA would request bids for the PA Cup Finals every two years with one year advance notice. Currently this event is held at Elk.

Motion: To accept. Bruce Bedell/Bruce Wickersham/Voice vote approved.

U16 Derby/Championship:

A separate U16 Derby would be used to select athletes to fill quota slots for U16 Eastern Regional USSA events. Athletes would qualify for this event via regional events and procedures as in the past. The U16 Derby would consist of 1 SG run on Friday, 1 slalom race on Saturday, and GS held on Sunday.

Motion: To accept. Bruce Bedell/Bruce Wickersham/ Voice vote approved.

Each event will be a Scored USSA race (SG pending USSA approval) with the event result deciding the discipline champion. The overall champions and state team selection will be decided by the cumulative total of each run (5) using New World Cup points. Seeding will be by Council ranking - East, West, Central, and Northeast for 2015 and redrawn every spring meeting (based on USSA approval). Individual Council ranking will be based on Council qualification order. Tie Breaker will be the Inside/out method.

This event would be held February 27-March 1nd. PARA would request bids for the U16 Derby every two years, with one year advance notice. Bear in mind that a SG homologation is needed to hold a sanctioned SG or SG/Speed Training. (proposed venue @ Blue Mtn)

Motion: To accept Blue Mountains proposal for U16 Derby \$175 including banquet. Lift ticket - \$103 for a three day ticket. Dave Bond/Jim Dibiase/ Voice vote approved.

U14 Derby/Championship:

A 3-day U14 Derby will be used to select athletes to fill quota slots for the U14 Eastern Regional USSA events and the Piche's Invitational. Athletes would qualify for this event via regional events and procedures as in the past. The U14 Derby would consist of 3 runs of slalom and 3 runs of GS, and an optional SG skills day on Friday. New World Cup points would be assigned for each run and State Team & post-season event selection would be based on total New World Cup Points from the six runs. Tie breaks will be done as described in the PARA Guide "Inside / Out Method" - the same method that has been used for the past 15+ years (excluding last year). Discipline awards would also be given for slalom and GS champions based on total New World Cup Points from all three runs of each discipline. This event would be held February 20-22, 2015. PARA would request bids for the U14 Derby every two years, with one year advance notice. Bear in mind that a SG homologation is needed to hold a sanctioned SG or SG/Speed Training. Currently this event is held at Seven Springs. Start orders will rotate within the sub- seed groups in such fashion – run1 A,B,C; run2 B,C,A; run3 C,A,B etc. and random within the sub-seed.

Tie Breaker will be the Inside/out method.

Motion: To accept. Dave Bond/Jay Zwally/ Voice vote approved.

Motion: To accept Seven Springs proposal for U14 Derby Jim Dibiase/Bruce Bedell/ Voice vote approved.

U12 Derby/Championship:

The U12 Derby would be used to select athletes to fill quota slots for the Piche's Invitational and select athletes for the State Team. It would consist of 3 runs of slalom, 3 runs of GS, plus an optional skills challenge day on Friday. Athletes would qualify for this event via regional events and procedures as in the past. New World Cup points would be assigned for each run and State Team & post-season event selection would be based on total New World Cup Points from the six runs. Tie breaks will be done as described in the PARA Guide "Inside / Out

Method" - the same method that has been used for the past 15+ years (excluding last year). Discipline awards would also be given for slalom and GS champions based on total New World Cup Points from all three runs of each discipline. This event would be held February 27-March 2nd. PARA would request bids for the U12 Derby every two 2 years, with one year advance notice. This event has been held at Round Top for the most recent years - PARA is seeking proposals to host this event.

Start orders will rotate within the sub- seed groups in such fashion – run1 A,B,C; run2 B,C,A; run3 C,A,B etc. and random within the sub-seed.

Tie Breaker will be the Inside/out method.

Motion: To accept. Dave Bond/Jay Zwally/ Voice vote approved.

Motion: Executive Committee will decide on the venue. Bids will be due June 1, 2015. Executive Committee will make their decision by July 1, 2015 Rob Lipton/Jay Zwally/Voice vote approved.

Championship Event profit and losses were discussion. The topic was tabled.

4. Derby Quotas:

Quota for U12/14/16 will be based on competitors that have raced at least 1 USSA sanctioned race start in the current season by the first Monday in February. Regional Chairs will provide the number of starting racers to the membership chair by the first Monday in February.

Motion: To accept. Bruce Wickersham/Rob Lipton/ Voice vote approved.

5. Field Size:

The following guidance is being established to provide a means of adjusting the final PARA Derby Championship field sizes based on membership age class population.

In the event that the actual value calculated from the percentage of the population falls below the minimum number or above the maximum number designated, that minimum or maximum number shall be used for the field size.

U16s:

The total number of athletes invited to the U16 Derby would be 50% percent of the PARA membership in the U16 age class, with a minimum of 65 athletes plus 5 discretionary and a maximum 85 plus 5 discretionary.

U14s:

The total number of athletes invited to the U14 Derby would be 35% percent of the PARA membership in the U14 age class, with a

minimum of 65 athletes plus 5 discretionary and a maximum 85 plus 5 discretionary.

U12s:

The total number of athletes invited to the U12 Derby would be 35% percent of the PARA membership in the U12 age class, with a minimum of 65 athletes plus 5 discretionary and a maximum 85 plus 5 discretionary.

Motion: To accept. Dave Bond/Jay Zwally/ Voice vote approved.

6. PA Cup/ State Championship –
PA Cup Awards - U18 winner and PA Cup (U18/U21) winner should receive equivalent awards for the Series. Motion: To accept. Jim DiBiase/Rob Lipton/
Voice vote approved.

PA Cup participation - 2nd year U16s with coach's approval are permitted to race in PA Cup races 1-5. 1st year U16 who were on the previous year's U14 State Team with coach's approval are permitted to race in PA Cup races 1-5. The racer will not be able to accumulate PA Cup points. Motion: To accept. Jim DiBiase/Bruce Bedell/ Voice vote approved.

PA Cup Dates:

January 10-11, 2015 Seven Springs Cup 1&2

January 30,31 February 1, 2015 Blue Mountain Cup 3,4,&5

February 20, 21 & 22, 2015 Elk 6,7,&8

Motion: To accept. Bruce Wickersham/Jim DiBiase/Voice vote approved.

7. Speed Camp - U16 Speed Camp will be in run with USSA on February 5 & 6, 2015 for PARA members. There will be timed training runs. It is not a scored race.

8. By-law Amendment -

Current:

Article III, Section 4.

All Officers and Directors of PARA shall be members of PARA and of USSA prior to commencement of office.

Proposed:

Amend Article III, section 4 as follows:

All Officers, Directors and Chairs must be active members of both USSA and PARA as of Dec 1, each year. Any member who is not shown as Active on the membership roles of both organizations (unless able to show proof that he is not shown in error) as of this date shall immediately be relieved of his position and be replaced within 10 days by the organization empowered to make the selection for such position. The PARA Secretary shall provide Notice to non conforming individuals no later than 5 business days after the deadline.

Motion: To accept. Dan Chayes/Jim DiBiase/Voice vote approved.

9. USSA Affiliation Agreement –

The PARA Board of Directors supports the USSA Affiliation Agreement and intends to the adopt said agreement upon approval by the USSA Board of Directors so long as the finalized version is changed for purposes of clarification only. PARA will review its by-laws and present the revisions necessary to be in compliance with the Affiliation Agreement by-laws template at the next annual meeting.

Motion: To accept. Dan Chayes/Dave Bond/Voice vote approved.

10. Regional Breakout Sessions

11. Coach of the Year – No nominations were received.

12. Alpine Official of the Year – John McGregor. Voice vote approved.

13. Other New Business – PARA B-Netting

58 rolls of B-Netting have been purchased from World Cup Supply since 2008.

Motion: Each club is to conduct an inventory PARA netting with the intention of redistribute it regionally. Also each club will forward their expected B-Netting expense for use in a matching funds grant. Jim DiBiase/Bruce Newman/Voice vote approved.

14. Budget – The proposed budget reflect increases in the coaching and awards line items and a decrease in the USSA meeting travel line.

Motion: Approve the proposed budget with the following changes:

- Increase fencing budget to \$6,000
- Increase U14 coaching budget by \$2,000 for a total \$15,000
- Increase USSA travel from \$1,500 to \$4,000

Dan Chayes/Jim DiBiase/Voice vote approved.

15. Election of Officers

- a. President – The search committee nominated Bill Dunstan. Motion: Chris Klebe/Dave Bond/Voice vote approved.

- b. Treasurer – Chris Klebe nominated by Dave Bond/Kurt Zwally/Voice vote approved.

Meeting adjourned at: 3:23 pm.

Submitted by,

Jonathan Tate

Secretary