

PARA Annual Spring Meeting – Saturday May 5, 2018 - 9:30a.m.

Ski Roundtop Mountain Resort, Ski Patrol Building

1. Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Dave Bond, President.
2. Introductions and the following Directors were in attendance:
 - a. The following members were present: David Bond (President), Kurt Zwally (Vice President), Jon Tate (Secretary), Chris Klebe (Treasurer), Curt Schramm (Central Chair/SSRC), Eric Updegrave (Central/TMART), Diann Roffe (Central/SRRC), Liz Dailey (Central/SRRC), Rudi Riet (Central/LMRT), Dan Chayes (Central/WTSEF), John DeLong (East Chair/JFRT), Rob Lipton (East/BMSC), Scott Book (East/Montage), Amato DePaulo (East/BMSC), Tom Yen (East/BMSC), Erik Backlund (East/JFRT), Patrick Wende (NE Chair/EMSC), , Gus Picariello (NE/PASEF), Kristin Cook (NE/PASEF), Jim DiBiase (West Chair/WPRC), Charles Donnellan (West/WPRC), TJ Greenier (West/WPRC), Derek Berger (West/DCWST),
 - b. Absent: Pam Kolba (NE/SMRT), Bruce Newman (NE/EMSC), Matthew Riggi (NE/EMSC/Athlete Rep), Eric Hessinger (West/HVRC), Richard Fiore (West/BKST).
3. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Review and Approval of Minutes – Chayes/Picariello – Approved voice vote.
 - b. President’s Report – Accepted
 - i. Rebranded PARA logo
 - ii. Continue to improve Civility and respect
 - iii. Focus on U12s and innovative ways to keep participation
 - c. Treasurer’s Report – Accepted
 - i. Expenses were over budget Alpine Officials clinics and post season coaching
 - d. Membership and Quotas Report – Linda Finnelly – Presented by Dave Bond. Accepted
 - i. Continued growth in Alpine General category and U10 age group.
 - e. Alpine Officials Report – Rob Lipton – Accepted.
 - i. Reviewed certifications needed for sanctioned events.
 - ii. TD recruitment.
 - f. Gate Judge Report – Carrie Scheetz – Update given by Rob Lipton.
 - i. Certified gate judge list is being maintained on the PARA website.
 - g. Coaching Report – Bruce Newman – Presented by Dave Bond.
 - i. Post Season assignments were filled early.
 - ii. New coaches are becoming involved and from all regions.
 - iii. 2019 needs are: coaching and course setting education.
 - h. ACC & ECC Report – Diann Roffe – Accepted
 - i. Integrating Skill Quest events and skills into Championships
 - ii. Focus on U10 & U12 skill development.
 - iii. Paneled events allow focus on technique.
 - i. Age Chair Reports – Curt Schramm, Tom Yen, Kristen Ehringer, Tim Brown – Accepted.
 - i. U19 highlights – Eastern Finals and HS Championships are good low point events. Post season dates contributed to difficulty filling quota spots. U16 participation in PA Cup events was strong.
 - ii. U16 highlights – Blue Mt. is exploring hosting a FIS GS race. Speed camp was well attended.
 - iii. U14 highlights – Weather caused the cancellation of the SG at the Championship event. Strong showings at the post season events, Eastern Championships, CAN-AMs, and Piches

- iv. U12 highlights – Weather caused the cancellation of the Skills Quest event at the Championship. Francis Piche Invitational and the Future Stars Festival are the available post season events. The Future Stars Festival continues to receive positive feedback.
- j. PARA B-Netting Grant – Kurt Zwally – Accepted.
 - i. Kelly Bush Foundation grant deadline was moved up to June 30th.
- k. Web Site Report – Carrie Scheetz – Presented by Dave Bond. Accepted.
 - i. Discussion around the purpose of the website.
 - ii. Could be source of information, but information needs to be sent to Carrie for posting.
- l. Committee Reports are posted on the PARA website (paracing.org) under Membership/Committee Reports.

4. NEW BUSINESS & Discussion:

	Suggestion to form a Coaching Education and Scheduling Committee to help with the administrative tasks associated with the PARA Alpine Coaches Chairman position. The goal is to formalize the process of how coaches apply for post season events and when they apply to make sure we have adequate coverage for post season events. The committee members are: Charles Donnellan, Derek Berger, Curt Schramm, Scott Stewart and Rob Lipton.		Accepted, voice vote.
	<p>USSA update by Dan Chayes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs need to be certified by USSA to host events. Certification process can be time consuming. • Homologation recertification need to be submitted as soon as possible so they can be scheduled. 		
a.	First Regional Qualifying Race for quota calculation		Tabled.
b.	<p>PA Cup participation for U16 Athlete Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current criteria – All U16 athlete can participate in PA Cups 1-5 with head coach approval. • Proposals for 1st year U16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Option 1: Must have been prior season U14 State Team member: 5 males/5 females ○ Option 2: Prior season U14 Top 10 male/ Top 10 female • Proposal for 2nd year U16: Coaches approval (unchanged from the last 2 seasons) 	Tom Yen & Bruce Newman	After discussion the motion was withdrawn.
c.	<p>U16 Championship Qualifying Berths based on PA Cup results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current criteria - Top 3 U16 men and women from all completed PA Cup races before U16 Championships will receive automatic bids to the U16 Championships. The automatic qualifiers will not count against regional quotas. The field size of the Championships will need to increase by 6 to accommodate this process. • Motion: Remove the automatic top 3 male and female qualifying bids to U16 Championships 	Tom Yen	Yen/Lipton – Motion passed, voice vote.
d.	<p>Championship field sizes – current wording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 70 athletes and a maximum 90. This includes 5 discretionary athletes. • U14s: The total number of athletes invited to the U14 Derby would be 40% percent of the PARA membership 		Donnellan/Roffe - Motion passed, voice vote.

	<p>in the U14 age class, with a minimum of 70 athletes and a maximum 90. This includes 5 discretionary athletes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U12s: The total number of athletes invited to the U12 Derby would be 40% percent of the PARA membership in the U12 age class, with a minimum of 70 athletes and a maximum 90. This includes 5 discretionary athletes. • Proposal - Clarify the wording to say that the percentage may be increased or decreased to meet the minimum and maximum agreed upon field sizes. • Motion: The Championship field size is a minimum of 70 athletes and a maximum of 85 athletes. In addition there are up to 5 discretionary berths available. The discretionary berths are limited to athletes experiencing extenuating circumstances. The percentage for each age class remains the same. The percentage may be lowered to accommodate the field size. 		
e.	<p>State Championship site selection for 2019 & 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U12 Championships (tentative dates Mar 1, 2, 3) • U14 Championships (tentative dates Feb 22, 23, 24) • U16 Championships (tentative dates Feb 22, 23, 24) • PA Cup Finals (tentative dates Mar 1, 2, 3) 		Championship bids from SRRC – U12; WPRC – U14; & BMRT – U16. Bids were accepted by voice vote.
	Championship venue status review will occur 2 weeks before the event and 1 week before the event to discuss any issues with event. ROC, Age Group Chair, and Executive Board will be on the conference call.		
	Open U16 Championship Committee formed. Tom Yen and Patrick Wende will chair.		
f.	<p>Informational - U16 Championship seeding – “Collegiate Seeding”</p> <p>Split Second timing software easily accommodates this method. Using the athlete rankings from each region, athletes would be placed into seed groups and randomized within their seed group for each run. “Group A” would always run first, “Group B” would always run 2nd, “Group C” would always run third, etc. The first four athletes from each region would be placed in Group A. The second four athletes from each region would be in Group B. The third four athletes from each region would go in Group C, etc. (While regional quota sizes will differ, the regions with larger quotas will just have more athletes in the bottom seed group.)</p> <p>To accomplish the randomization in Split Second, the athlete “Nation” field would be populated with the athlete’s seeding group (e.g. Group A, etc.). Split Second allows one to first list athlete by “Nation” (e.g. Group A athletes first, Group B second, etc.). From there, Split Second also allows one to randomize athletes of the same “Nationality.”</p> <p>The second run in GS and SL will use standard scored USSA flip 30.</p>		
g.	U12 Post Season Selection Process – explore a sign-up process for interest in the Future Stars event in advance of the U12	Tim Brown	

	Championships. Continue with current process where State Team members may attend both Future Stars and Piches. State Team members will have first choice for attending Future Stars.		
h.	U19 Post Season Quota increase –Discussion around the possibility of PARA quotas may be increasing for U19. Motion: If the Eastern Region increases the quotas for any post events, the Age Group Chair is allowed to modify the number of State Team members with approval from the Executive Board.	Curt Schramm	Chayes/Roffe – Motion passed, voice vote.
i.	A parent’s page on the website will be explored. Topics may include: importance of skills development, post season events and guidance on which events to attend. Derek Berger volunteered to start this initiative.		
j.	Proposed - Blue Mountain Speed Camp for U14/U16 – Feb 4,5		Accepted, voice vote.
k.	Proposed PA Cup Schedule – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race 1 & 2 – SL(2) at Seven Springs on Jan 19, 20 • Race 3, 4, & 5 – SL(1), GS(2) at Blue Mt on Feb 8, 9, 10 • Finals, Race 6, 7, & 8 – SL(1), GS(2) at Elk Mt on Mar 1, 2, 3 		Accepted, voice vote.
l.	Charles Donnellan was nominated to calculate the PARA Championships quotas.		
m.	Coach of the Year – Eric Updegrove		Lipton/Cook. Passed, voice vote.
n.	Alpine Official of the Year – no nominations received		
o.	Budget – Reviewed and discussed. Motion 1 to raise USSA Meeting budget to \$8,000. Camelback is exploring partnering with EASEF for coaches educational training this coming season. PARA will contribute. Motion 2 to increase Educational training budget by \$750.		Motion 1 Wende/Riet. Passed, voice vote. Motion 2. Wende/Cook. Passed voice vote.
	Youth Development Committee was formed. Kristin Cook and Diann Roffe will chair. Please contact them if you are interested in participating.		
p.	Election of Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President – Dave Bond • Treasurer – Chris Klebe 		Nominations accepted and passed by voice vote.
	Meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm		
	Regional Breakout Sessions occurred after the meeting.		