

**USTSA
Officer's Conference Call
Sunday, September 10, 2006**

Attending: Christopher Ulm – President; Paul Lamb – Events Director; Eric Lamb – Secretary/Membership, Russ Hobbs – Treasurer; Jim Stein – Uniform/Equipment Committee; Tory Hauser – Competition Guide Committee; Linda Hobbs – Member/Meeting Note Taker

Note: Minutes are not in chronological order of discussion in an effort to make each topic clearer.

1. Race Calendar – Paul

- a. US National Championships are in Steamboat on March 2,3,4. 2007. Still working on which events will be held on which days.
- b. FIS call is coming up. Paul will contact Duncan to learn more about call and determine if Duncan wants to continue with this position. We know that Norway will have 2 races, Rjukan January 25-28 and the second race is not yet scheduled. World Cup Championships are in Switzerland, March 20-25 and other races are still being put together.

2. Articles of Incorporation – Russ

- a. Articles have been signed and Chris delivered them to the Utah Department of Commerce last week.

3. Bylaws – Review Sections XI – XXII - Russ

XI. Duties of Officers

Vice President

Russ – Do we want to add wording that the VP position is also to be the President Elect?

Chris – In a perfect world, yes, but in reality it might not work.

Paul – Would like to see an overlap and way to groom a president.

Tory – Is a big believer that there should be a progression planned, understanding that it won't always work.

Agreement that this is a management idea, not something to be added to the bylaws.

Treasurer

Agreement that the following wording will be added to Treasurer position: The Treasurer shall coordinate, oversee and administrate all USTSA fundraising and sponsorship activities.

Events Director

Russ - There is not currently a description for the Events Director. Proposes wording similar to: The Events Director shall supervise the organization, Administration and Sanctioning of all racing and educational events.

Chris – Oversee is key word, this may evolve into needing committees for various functions.

Paul – Also means person contacting the racers. He hasn't had to do anything with education yet.

Jim – Could FIS person be in charge of licenses?

Chris – He is fine working the education part for now since education is what he's involved in.

Tory – Would like to see us take another meeting to establish committees. It is a good way to bring in more people and get them involved.

Approved wording similar to: The Events Director shall supervise the organization, administration and sanctioning of all racing and educational events. Individual duties may be delegated with BOD notification and approval. Examples of duties are:

- **Race Team Contracts and Administration**
- **Points Lists and Calculations**
- **Race scheduling and Sanctioning**
- **FIS Representation**
- **Education Events Sanctioning, Coordination and Oversight**

Section G: Agreed to change the period of time that a vacancy on the BOD will be filled from 45 days to 90 days.

Section XII – Criteria for Election of International Athletes to the Board of Directors, Advisory Committee and Other Selected Committees – Approved

Section XIII – Representatives to National and International Sports Bodies – Approved

Section XIV – Committees – Approved

Section XV – Amendments to the Bylaws

Russ- This section has a major change. Previously, amendments to the bylaws had to be approved by 2/3 of the 20 person BOD. Now we are moving to a 5 person BOD. Note, that we should change from the 2/3 vote to a 3/5 vote due to the 5 person BOD. **Approved, with the 3/5-vote change.**

Section XVI – Eligibility and Disciplinary Procedures –

Paul – Do we want to Copyright “National Telemark Championships” so that it is not used for other events, i.e. free ski, that we do not sanction? Consensus was that yes, we probably do want to look into this.

Russ – Do we want to **change section A to add, “Telemark Ski Racing” to reference of the National Championship and National Team. Approved**

Section XVII – Opportunity to Participate in Protected International Competitions – **Approved**

Section XVIII – Rights of Grievance – **Approved**

Section XIX – Arbitration – **Approved**

Section XX – Indemnification – **Approved**

Russ – This section does beg the question, should we insure our officers?

Chris – He will look into officer insurance.

Tory – Can Chris also look into member insurance such as racers, trainers, coaches, etc?

Chris – Yes, he will set up a meeting in the next few weeks with insurance folks, If we think of other questions, email them to Chris.

Section XXII – Administrative, Fiscal and Legal Matters – **Approved**

Section XXII – Saving Clauses – **Approved**

Russ called for a vote to approve these bylaws – Unanimous Approval

Russ – Moving forward, he will make these final revisions to the bylaws and will draft a cover letter and proxy form for this group’s review. Then he will send the package, via US Mail, to each of the regional BOD members who were members of USTSA last season for their approval. The cover letter will include clear information about why the BOD/Management Committee structure is being changed as well as any other major changes. They will be asked if they want to be involved in the Advisory Committee or another committee as we move forward. Russ targets mid October for completion/approval of these bylaws.

4. Membership – Eric

Eric – He has various lists and is putting them into outlook and excel. He has also started to work on an email to solicit members, it is too complicated, **Eric will simplify and then run it past Chris to see if it will be web compatible. He and Chris will work to verify the list of members from last season.**

Chris – Types of members needs to be clarified.

Russ, Based on these bylaws membership should be:

Voting Member = \$20

Voting Member plus Competitive License = \$40

Russ – We also might want to set up a place for Donations

Chris – There is a place, but he will look at it and see if it can be made simpler.

Tory – We don't have a "give away" for membership....a sticker with a new logo might be appropriate.

We will look at Tory's proposed logo at a later meeting and then decide about stickers for membership. Tory will email current draft of new logo.

5. **Uniforms/Equipment Sponsors – Jim**

Jim has a new technique. Go straight to the CEO of each company, not the Reps.

- a. Scarpa – Jim had a good call with Kim Miller, CEO of Scarpa. He is very sympathetic to USTSA and while not in writing yet, will sponsor athletes in return for:
 - i. Advertising on our website
 - ii. Space on his website with input from our racers (Jim, I think I understood this, Linda)
 - iii. Attendance by our racers at clinics that Scarpa is doing in their region.
- b. Ski Racing Magazine – Jim is working with this magazine and they are looking for 10-12 topics from us. Send Jim ideas.
- c. Karbon – Jim finished with a graphic artist for design work on the speed suits. He will forward pictures to us.

6. **Competition Guide – Tory** **“Sanctioning” – What does it mean?**

Chris – Insurance

Tory – Points

Chris – They have to follow our rules.

Tory – Comp guide and organizers guide needs to be followed, and then they have the right to market/advertise as USTSA. What do they get and what does it cost them in addition to insurance.

Paul – There needs to be a USTSA presence at the race that will sign off that the competition guide was followed.

Chris – For our personal liability, we need to be involved and we need a presence.

Tory – We need to grow to having USTSA certified TD's to sign off on races.

Paul – Do they need to be a USTSA member?

Chris – Yes, there needs to be a TD fee to cover their presence, to cover their costs. Maybe we include a membership for this person?

Tory – We should try to follow the FIS procedures for TD and sanctioning and adapt them to our use.

Russ – What about a day/race license?

Tory – Suggested \$10 per weekend.

Russ – What is the motivation to become a member? Maybe \$10 per race is better?

Linda – What about a head tax paid by the hosting organization, based on number of racers to help cover our costs? It was done in the past.

Tory – USSA has a head tax.

Tory – Would like to get copies of FIS and USSA forms so that we can model after them and not have to recreate our own.

Paul – If we model after FIS, then it will be an easier transition for a venue to transition from a USTSA race to a FIS race.

Tory – Will contact Maureen and see if he can get FIS information.

Tory – We still need to determine what, besides points and insurance, does the organizer get? Why would they want to sanction the race? Can we get a sponsor that would help with promotion and advertising costs?

Russ – Another benefit might be the use of our membership/contact list.

7. Next Meeting – Sunday, October 8 at 8:30 am MDT

Topics include Sanctioning Forms and the Competition Guide. Use the Internet to exchange information in the meantime.

Adjourned at 10:24 am MDT