

# U.S. Telemark

## DRAFT - 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

Location: Crotched Mountain, New Hampshire

Date: March 5, 2016

Meeting started at 5:26 PM ET

Opening with season recaps

1. Ken Gay – Western recap
  - a. Vail
    - i. Vail was a great event in which we team with Vail Mountain School to put it on.
    - ii. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the event
    - iii. The Vail race crew loves help with this event and we have a really good relationship there.
    - iv. The event will continue
    - v. This is a really good hill, the same hill was the Alpine World Championships Dual Slalom.
  - b. Alta
    - i. Put on by Joel Nylander
    - ii. A causal event
    - iii. It will continue
  - c. Sunlight
    - i. USTSA has a good relationship with the mountain
    - ii. Too few competitors
    - iii. Standing offer from area for hosting Nationals
    - iv. Had a clinic the day before the race with Ty donating time
    - v. Need to have more clinics like Sunlight
2. Garrett Long – East recap
  - a. Bromely
    - i. 55 people
    - ii. It is important to have team members there – it gives us numbers
    - iii. Visibility is important as people seeing it, might try it next time
3. Goals for future events
  - a. 6 in west and 6 in east
  - b. 250-mile requirement for east and west needs adjustment
  - c. Cannon is the final event in the east this year – next week.
4. Al Rosenthal – Financial Report
  - a. Last year approx. \$16,000 in the bank, this year it is down to \$8,000; however, this is largely due to uniform purchase which will not be as large of a factor in 2016
  - b. Loosing Big Sky financial backing which has been near \$30,000 total.
  - c. Need more financial sponsors
  - d. Treading water
5. Garrett Long – General Items
  - a. This year was the most highly attended Nationals since 2009 – a good trend
  - b. Members asked to look for sponsors, look for series sponsors, more people, more events, more sponsors.

- c. Need to spread the word – a lot of people (even telemarkers) don't know about tele racing
  - d. \$5000 sponsorship is not a big deal for a company, but it is huge for USTSA
  - e. Rick Hirsh, Tabi Freeman, and Joel Nylander are engaged members helping out with sponsorships, if you have a name (potential sponsor) pass it on and we will try and make it a win-win situation.
  - f. Thank you to sponsors – companies need something in return – exposure.
  - g. Instagram up to 700 followers, need more posts, which = more exposure – volume of posts on social media is important
  - h. With more funding it would be great to be able to offer a travel stipend for WC races
  - i. USTSA members need to go out to local ski programs to help show technique and spread word
  - j. Birk Larson – you meet people on the hill give them something to get them interested – a business card. Birk can get them made for members.
  - k. Melinda Long – Need to keep up spring and summer posts – any outdoor activities
  - l. Mike Foote – Culture is important – at Kory's race citizens and youth right behind, need to embrace each other.
6. Points list
- a. No GS's this year so National point calculated on Sprint and Classic. GS is still in guide.
7. Free Ride (Garrett Long)
- a. Grand Targee free ride competition – 150 people to pull into USTSA if we merged
  - b. Ask for comments or questions
  - c. Joint competitions
    - i. Looking at Grand Targee for USTSA Nationals in 2016
  - d. Favorable membership response
  - e. Josh Madsen would help with exposure of the groups were merged
  - f. Better sponsors
  - g. Would race be swallowed up? Right now Freeride is just an event looking for an organization
  - h. What's a freeride competition – Garrett explains
  - i. Wouldn't affect race team
  - j. Bring in a bumps competition?
  - k. Ken Gay – USTSA needs numbers, with Freeride USTSA would be more attractive to VMS and CRMS – a source of athletes
  - l. Cory Snyder – Telemark is growing – percentage-wise more than any other snow sport.
8. Other Items
- a. Board election and volunteers for other positions
  - b. Board positions up are VP, Treasurer and Event Director
  - c. Keith Rodney, Birk Larson, Cory Snyder, Melinda Long, Tabi Freeman, and Robert Feinberg expressed interest
9. Break for Dinner
10. Vote for BOD
- a. Cory running for Event Director – unopposed – no nay votes – elected
  - b. Robert running for Treasurer – unopposed – no nay votes – elected
  - c. Keith Rodney for VP – unopposed – no nay votes – re-elected
  - d. Ken Gay will stay on as FIS rep and mentor Cory.
  - e. Melinda, Tabi and Birk will have other volunteer positions

Meeting Adjourned at about 8:10 PM