

CENTRAL R1 BOARD MEETING

April 8, 2025

Video Conference

Board Members Present: Caryn Jones, Jimmy Beltz, Scott Burns, Pete Jones, Tony Olin, Mark Halvorson, Shawn Clairmont, Caden Burns, Ian Taylor, Trevor Davis, Savannah Nelson, Corey Danelski, Sean Nolan, Nick Clingman, Justin Voigt. Board Members Absent: Skip Wipson, Bill Titler, Nathan Springer, Bode Springer, Brent Moum, Kutter Moum. Guests present: Patrick Mich, Darlene Nolting, Teagan Olin, Matt Hoffman, Chuck Robb, Liesl Schultz, Robin Stinnett, David Ziemer.

Meeting called to order by President, J. Beltz, at 7:04pm.

M/S/P Beltz/Nolan Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2024 Meeting

Chairman Report: James Beltz - Pres

- Welcome

Administrator Report: Caryn Jones

- Conflict of Interest form

Equipment Report: Pete Jones

- No Report

Treasurer Report: Bill Titler

- No Report

Scored U21, 18, 16 Report: Shawn Clairmont

- No Report

Non-Scored (U14, 12, 10) Report: Scott Burns

- No Report

FIS Report: Nick Clingman

- No Report

Athlete Report: Sean Nolan

- No Report

Coaches Report: Tony Olin

- No Report

Training Coordinator (Officials) Report: Bill Titler

- AO Clinic

High School Report: Nathan Springer

- No Report

Staff Reports: Nolting / Mich

- Patrick
 - No Report

Old Business

- none

New Business

- CASC Prep
 - Tony opened the discussion with comments about officials training, challenges with setting the FIS Schedule,
 - Scott – continued with timely / no response from CASC Board members on issues, money that was promised to athletes for upper level involvement takes months to get. CR1 and Coaches in other CRs are also frustrated with how races are run
 - Pete – suggested a re-split of Central by population to make it even – Lower MN, Lower WI, Upper MN WI and UP, and Lower MI. Thinks the attitude of CR1 has changed in the last 15+ years to less cooperation with CR2 and CR3; we're going to fight to get what we want even if it isn't the best for all of Central and then CR1 whines about not getting what we want; Need more cooperation with rest of division and that's why the others push back. We need to find solutions that are best for the most athletes in Central, not just ours
 - Nick – ran several high races in Central as COR and struggled to get volunteers when CR1 certified people didn't help but were there.
 - Scott – Some officials had said that they won't work when certain people are in charge because they get yelled at or get put down.
 - Pete – Why is AO stuff so hard? We are running youth sports and the system isn't helpful. One weekend for testing or travel.
 - Jimmy – There isn't much communication except 1 day in the spring and 1 in the fall at CASC. Not enough time to work through issues and proposals. Don's input is that they are also frustrated with the AO stuff, 5 hours for grievances and solutions is not enough, perspectives aren't known until the meetings, transparency is low and that makes questions, but not enough time to go through thoroughly enough. Jimmy thinks that more communication with others in the division earlier so more time to think through and work on solutions.
 - Pete – suggested each CR put together a Quality Control committee to deal with issues during the winter, they will deal with their own CR then have meetings with all QC comms once a month to share what is going on.
 - Darlene – What is important to Central? Priorities: MidAms, Officials, funding and budgeting, Make sure a coach is involved in all committees, sub-committees. Lost the coaches summit and it was a great way to share communications.
 - Scott – great idea to work together, but the individuals in charge are not responding or don't share all the information (1/2 truths). People who didn't respond yesterday aren't going to start responding tomorrow.
 - Pete – the QCC should be coaches that are not necessarily on CASC now because they are in communication with athletes and parents everyday.

- Tony – the coaches gathering used to happen and discussions were productive.
- Nick – Is there a plan to get coaches from CR1 together going into CASC. Asked Tony to set up a meeting so coaches can talk.
- Caryn – do we just do CR1 or do we do CR1 then all of Central?
- Tony – do we just continue this meeting or do we set up another meeting later this week?

Proposal – M/S/P Clingman/P Jones Change quotas to U16 Junior Championships to a quota of 70, 35 W and 35 M. Reasonings: More people would rather be involved in the JCs than be involved in something else, drive that competitiveness better than splitting the group, more buy in.

- Darlene – We are very weak nationally right now, even compared to a year ago, so making this bigger doesn't mean that the athletes will do better. There is an immaturity in the athletes that wasn't there before COVID. Athletes at the end are not up to par.
- Tony – only getting 22 guys to travel this past year, erodes the field for years to follow. If it is so small, it lessens the motivation. Agrees with Dar that we are soft, but if you squeeze the top of the pyramid and the base falls apart
- Pete – the kids at the back of the pack are not going to win, but they want to be there so why not let them in. It is most likely the biggest race they will ever be in. Anything we can do to keep athletes in the sport.
- Dar – a smaller field is cheaper to put on because we can put more stuff on one day. This needs to be put forth with athlete development in mind. It will put the Showdown in jeopardy because not enough athletes would attend.
- Tony – the Showdown this year was great and if we keep doing it so “big” then it may become a carrot for the kids.
- Dar – Steamboat set the gold standard during this year's race and wants it to continue that way.
- Tony – we need to hear from BKH, STO, DUL
- Teagan – agrees with Dar on the depth of ski racing in Central. There is a decrease in quality and attention to detail in teaching ski racing. Communication and collaboration is very important. A few individuals have been a pillar in the wrong places and this has had an effect on athletes
- Sean – CR1 has had a lot of good ideas this past year that are just shot down by someone in Central with no discussion. Nagy schedule – spreading out FIS race to have younger kids get on Damnation. U16 Camp at LAX was not allowed because they heard that U18s might come. FIS break for 6 weeks.
- Dar – mentioned that the money from Central for this camp is specifically for U16 and younger. I nixed the FIS race in the beginning of March because Rocky/Central FIS Champs was being put on in Rocky 1 day later so it couldn't happen.
- Pete is going to put proposals together for Coaches Working Group and Coaches Summit.
- Justin – Average start is \$500/start. Is there anything we can do to get the FIS athletes a 2nd run post run if the DNF or DSQ. Justin and his daughters have had discussions with other athletes about this.
- Nick – FIS is a higher level and it is how it is done.
- Dar – FIS doesn't allow post running so the insurance would not be in place once the last racers finishes.

- Justin – big decline in numbers and talent so we need to think outside the box because we are losing lots of kids.
- Nick – it is important for athletes to support our Central races to help those coming up. Too many are looking for the next best place instead of coming home to race.
- Caryn – team travel and training at races for DNF/DSQ for help with money vs value
- Justin – we need to do things to get kids in and help new families and then we need to figure out how to keep them
- Dar – Fun is the reason that kids get into and out of sports, then do the feel competitive. Fundamentals are very important to learning the upper end of any sport
- Justin – high school is an option for all our kids in MN and WI that has
- Patrick – FIS gap was not on purpose, it is just the way the schedule worked out. Point improvement races from the old days: 4 runs in one day with everyone. Learning to hone your craft is important and it shouldn't matter what level so all kids U16 and up should be doing scored and FIS if they are able.
- Teagan – there are plenty of opportunities to do scored. The college USCSA has scored racing for Juniors along with the college races. Do love Caryn's point of team travel, however, the working group that needs to have extreme oversight on team travel.
- Pete – schedule less races so we have to opportunity to go other places or do other things, like college races. We have races every weekend and a weekend off would be great.
- Caryn – we had weekends off for the kids but coaches worked all the time with no training at home so we need to figure out how to get athletes at-home training time somewhere
- Pete and Teagan and Ian - collaboration with clubs is nice but official training set up on the schedule. Set up a telegram for training.
- Scott and Patrick – discussing the FIS Scheduling Committee and what it's purpose is.
- Nick – CR1 scheduled FIS races that interfered with MIDAMS in other CRs and dollars were being missed by others. Wondering why it didn't make it easier to work together and schedule.

Selection Future Meeting dates

- Next Region 1 BOD Meeting – virtual
 - April 21 or 22 of 2025

M/S/P Clingman/Taylor To Adjourn at 9:37