



BOARD MEETING

April 6, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Bouchard at 7:05 PM. Those in attendance were Wayne Bouchard, Ted Hofmann, Deann Shannon, Cindy Pryor, Tom & Patty Melton, Bob Nixon, Randy Davis, Ron Swanson, Randy Jarrell, Ron Tesarski.

SECRETARY

Ted Hofmann made a motion to approve the March 2004 meeting minutes. Seconded by Randy Jarrell and approved.

TREASURER

No report

Cheryl Ruston asked about the \$5500 listed on previous Treasurer Reports as office assets. It is unclear as to what this represents. Wayne deferred the question until the Treasurer is present.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Randy Jarrell stated that we (NWSRA) have been invited to attend a meeting with the Coast Guard who issue the permits for both Havasu and Parker. The meeting is next Tuesday. The Coast Guard was very supportive of the event at Lake Havasu in February. Randy is going to try and attend the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ron Swanson stated that the marathon hi-point trophies will be awarded on the Saturday night of the Lake Mead Marathons in September. Deann Shannon is working with Neil Shannon to secure a location in Boulder City to host the event.

A brief discussion was held regarding the 2004 National Championships. Nothing has yet been finalized. Region II may have San Diego penciled in for October. All proposals for the 2004 National Championships need to be addressed and approved at the May National Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ted Hofmann informed everyone that Sandy Schwartz's wife Melissa is very ill and it might be nice to send cards. Cheryl Ruston will distribute Sandy and Melissa's address.

REGION I

Cindy Pryor made a motion that Region I change the date of their June Marathon. The new date will be August 7 & 8. In addition, the Region I circle race originally scheduled for August 7 & 8 will be cancelled if the date change is approved. Seconded by Ted Hofmann. The marathon will be held at Pittsburg. Cindy stated that Pittsburg is a good race venue and profitable for Region I. Motion approved. Cheryl Ruston will update the schedule accordingly.

Cindy Pryor asked if any type of advertising allowance is in the NWSRA budget for 2004. Wayne Bouchard stated that there is no money budgeted for 2004.

REGION II

Randy Jarrell reported that Flemming Pedersen was injured at the Puddingstone Circle Race in March. He got tangled in a rope while skiing and broke his leg. Following surgery, he is home recovering.

Region II is looking for additional sponsors for the Lake Mead Circle Race.

Ron Swanson asked about the P & L for Puddingstone. Randy Jarrell stated that Puddingstone is a financial loss which may result in a location change or cancellation of the 4th Region II Circle. Cheryl Ruston suggested a decision be made soon to allow participants ample events to qualify for nationals. Region II will reevaluate after the Lake Mead Circle and provide an update at the next National Meeting. Further discussion was held regarding Region II expenses and possible ways to cut costs at circle race events. Deann Shannon reiterated the fact that we need to notify participants soon of any schedule changes. Randy Jarrell was confident Region II would host a 4th circle. Wayne Bouchard reminded everyone that we need to look now at next year on what options are available. We may need to restructure events. Ted Hofmann suggested doing a financial comparison from 2003 events to 2004 events.

INTERNATIONAL

The Lake Mead Marathons scheduled for Friday and Saturday September 9 & 10 will run a long course on Friday and a short course run on Saturday.

The Parker Marathons held in March was a good event. P & L is not yet complete. The Coast Guard was happy with the organization.

Barbara Cole will be stepping down as IWSRA Treasurer. Ron Swanson is working to find a replacement.

Ron Swanson reported that the IWSRA would like to keep their traditional 2nd weekend in March date for 2005. Wayne Bouchard reminded everyone that we need to start working on 2005 soon.

RACE

The subject of the 2004 National Championships was discussed under Old Business. A decision needs to be made soon. Ron Swanson suggested we may want to reevaluate who is allowed to participate at Nationals. Perhaps encourage more people to attend.

The merchandise from the 2003 Nationals is currently in the Region II trailer and being sold at events. Merchandise sales went well at Puddingstone. Sales will continue at all NWSRA events.

Wayne Bouchard has been contact by American Specialty who is our Insurance Carrier through USAWS. They will be attending one of our events later this summer. Wayne will coordinate.

SAFETY

Ron Tesarski expressed his concern regarding the handling of Howard Hoggins' boat at the Puddingstone Circle Race. It appeared that the spray from Howard's boat knocked Katelin Wendt off of her ski during the Women's Open Race. Ron Ayala has already had one conversation with Howard regarding the boat. Now that the board is aware there is a problem, Cheryl Ruston asked how the situation is going to be addressed. If something further happens and the board failed to act on a warning, there could be greater repercussions. Ted Hofmann suggested talking to Howard regarding the handling and turning of the boat. Randy Davis believes that the problem is with the way the boat is turning, not with the set up. Patty Melton said she also noticed a problem at Puddingstone with other boats were running wide to try and avoid Hoggins' boat. Ron Swanson suggested we may need to go back to the rookie program where the observers evaluate the driver's ability after each event. Randy Jarrell reminded everyone that Howard Hoggins is not a rookie, it is just a different boat than he ran in 2003 circle races. Deann Shannon made motion for Howard Hoggins to run from the outside pole position at the Lake Mead Circle Race, then be reevaluated after the event. Seconded by Cheryl Ruston. After further discussion, the motion failed. However, Ted Hofmann will speak with Howard prior to the Lake Mead Circle and voice the concerns of the board.

USAWS

No report.

PUBLICITY

Jeff Barrus hopes to have the Worlds DVD ready in April.

SPECIAL SANCTION

No report

BUSINESS MANAGER

Cheryl Ruston brought up the subject of photography at NWSRA events. Currently Memories Ink is available at most events and provides photos to the NWSRA free of charge when used for publicity purposes (web site, magazines, etc.). There was another person shooting pictures at Havasu. Cheryl wanted the board's opinion on how to handle. Wayne Bouchard suggested contacting Memories Ink and find out what their position is and what they expect from the NWSRA.

Cheryl Ruston asked the board to reconsider placing the explanation of the Business Manager position in the newsletter (as discussed at the last meeting). Cheryl has received some feedback from some members who do not feel it is a good idea. However, the board would like Cheryl to proceed with a scope of work.

Membership as of today is

I	=	32
II	=	210
Foreign	=	4
Total	=	246

This is down slightly from this point in time in 2003.

Sanction Event Application are all complete with exception of August events for Region I (pending outcome of this meeting).

Safety Reports have been submitted for Havasu and Parker

Memories Ink has donated a total of nearly \$300 to the NWSRA for allowing them to display their products at events. All money has been sent to Gayle Vesely.

The NWSRA had a full page ad in USAWS Western Regional Guide. The cost was \$150.

MARATHON

Wayne Bouchard has asked Cheryl Ruston to readdress the DNF situation for marathons. Several options were discussed at the last meeting. The general consensus of the group is provide DNF's with more points than 1. Perhaps a percentage based upon laps or time completed. Randy Jarrell stated that Gayle Vesely has recalculated the Region II circle points from 2003 based upon the structure presented last November. No changes will be made until the November Meeting.

Ron Swanson commented that the cost of the marathon hi-point trophies is up over \$125 each. We may need to consider an alternative for 2005.

SGT@ARMS

Ron Ayala is in the process of updating the driver physical and boat number list. He will be cross checking the results from Havasu and entries for Parker.

CORRESPONDANCE

None

NEXT MEETING

May 4, 2004

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie Ruston
NWSRA Secretary