New York State Ski Racing Association - Nordic, Inc.
FALL MEETING MINUTES
SUNY Institute of Technology, Utica, Sunday, September 23, 2012

President Darwin Roosa called the meeting to order at 12:39 PM and welcomed those present with good news: we are a 501(c)(3) with a letter from the I R S confirming dated August 14. The next step will be to obtain a N Y State sales and use tax exemption and file with the N Y State Charities Registration Bureau.

Voting club representatives from active clubs (NYSSRA-sanctioned for 2012-2013) included the following: Glenville Hills Nordic represented by Eric Seyse; Hudson United Racing Team by David Paarlberg-Kvam and Tim Huneck; Peru Nordic Masters Pool by Jim Kobak; Polar Bear Ski Club by Janine Phaneuf; Saratoga Biathlon Club by Tom Moffett and Darwin Roosa; Syracuse Biathlon by Nick Gretzinger; and Wolverine Ski Club by Larry Wilkinson. Tom Moffett moved that inactive clubs who were members last year and had not renewed could also vote. There was no second, proposal dropped. Also present was Eric Hamilton, Shenendehowa Nordic; Russ Myer, Capital Region Nordic Alliance; Jamie Wilson, WFRA; and Steve Wilson CRNA.

Minutes of the spring meeting were accepted as posted and distributed on a motion by David Paarlberg-Kvam; second by Tom Moffet; carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - See attachment #1.

Committee Reports

Biathlon - Nick Gretzinger reported that the committee has calendared a 10 race schedule. This season they will have adaptive biathlon at ESWG and possibly other venues.

Cross Country - Larry Wilkinson announced that the schedule is posted on the web site. Action on a seeding proposal has been tabled. The ESWG competition will include a 2.5 k free technique prologue Friday night; a 20 k freestyle on Saturday; and a 7.5 k classic event on Sunday. Race organizers this season are encouraged to have a free "try it" event at their races. These citizen-level events are intended to have a non-intimidating approach to motivate parents and first-time races to try a race on a shorter course. Larry sited Shenendehowa, Polar Bears, and HURT as clubs who have hosted successful citizens races.

Ski Orienteering - Eric Hamilton reported that there would be little change from last season. The season kick off will be at Lapland Lake on December 15. Qualification for ski orienteering at ESWG would require minimal orienteering experience. NYSSRA Championships, however, would require two qualifiers and participants would accumulate double points for both ESWG and the Championship.

Point Series Committee - Jim Kobak reported that all is in place for the coming season.

Bill Koch Youth League - Eric Hamilton announced that this year's Mid Atlantic Bill Koch Festival will be hosted by Genesee Valley and RXCSF on March 2 and 3, 2013, at Bristol Mountain. Classic Technique race on Saturday. Both Syracuse and Southern Adirondack have expressed interest in hosting the 2014 Festival at Highland Forest or Lapland Lake respectively. There is a new BKYSL club in North Creek.

Mid-Atlantic Junior Committee - The Committee met before Sept. 23 but no one was present to present a full report. Their committee minutes will be posted on the Mid-A Junior page. The Jun-

ior Nationals will be in Fairbanks, AK this year. There will be 4 qualifiers. To qualify a skier must complete at least two of the four.

Other Committees
Racer Camps - HURT had a successful weeklong camp during the summer with 10 athletes participating. There was a USBA Camp in July. Rochester Nordic Racing also held a summer camp. No camps or clinics have been scheduled for the fall.

Officials & Coaches - A North American Biathlon Officials Course is scheduled October 12-14 in Lake Placid.

Website and NY high school racing web page - Dave Kvam reported that the high school web site is a success, but not all sections are participating.

Membership - Jim Kobak reported that membership renewal has been open since early May at SkiReg.com. He said that about 195 have renewed their membership. He will send out another e-mail blast to encourage renewals.

Liability Insurance - Darwin Roosa reported that the liability insurance premiums are being paid by installments to help with the cash flow problems.

Old Business
501(c)(3) - Darwin Roosa thanked Eric Seyse for his successful efforts and the work to obtain the 501(c)(3).

Winter Schedule - is posted live on the NYSSRA - Nordic web site.

Club Issues - Discussion followed about encouraging orienteering clubs to be NYSSRA clubs. Eric Hamilton noted that all NY orienteering clubs are focused on conventional orienteering on foot. Only a small percentage of each club's membership ski. Benefits to local clubs include grants for ski O maps, a unified calendar on the NYSSRA site, and posting on the NYSSRA site. Local clubs should be collecting a $2 head tax at ski orienteering events to help support the NYSSRA Championships.

CRNA Winter Tune-up - Steve Wilson and Russ Myer distributed information about the upcoming fall festival that includes roller skiing/biathlon/orienteering/snowshoe/adaptive biathlon at Garnet Hill on September 29 & 30. Additionally, Russ described other activities and events that CRNA has conducted and is planning for the 2012-2013 season. Among them is holding the Bill Thayer Memorial Citizen Race as a set of weekend races. Last season's Thayer race designation and $500 grant had been awarded to CRNA. However, their planned cross country race was rescheduled and eventually cancelled.

Presidential Citation - President Darwin Roosa noted that no nominations for presidential citation had been received probably due to the poor season. Criteria for presidential citation is posted on line in the club pages.

New Business
Adirondack Sports and Fitness Winter Expo - Sat. & Sun. October 27 & 28 at the City Center in Saratoga. Darwin encouraged members to volunteer in shifts to staff a NYSSRA Nordic booth at this outreach event. A special $5 off for NYSSRA memberships will be offered at the Expo for new member sign ups. Active 2012-2013 sanctioned clubs are invited to participate at the NYSSRA booth to provide information that promotes their club activities and membership.

Fiscal Issues and Membership Retention and Recruitment - Darwin Roosa noted that now that we have our 501(c)(3) we could kick off a major fund raising effort. Discussion followed. Darwin used Lee's treasurer's report on the blackboard to explain the current fiscal situation of last season's ambitious commitments of expenditures (awards of 25 racer grants, 5 club promotion grants, Bill Thayer Memorial Race grant, Championships, and others) and very low racer fee income revenue due to nearly no races held. During good winters of full schedules of races usually result in end-of-season revenue of $4,000+ that carries over to the next season. This carry over is used mostly to pay the liability insurance bill for the next season by July 1. However, the disappointing 2011-2012 season brought in only approx. $900 to carry over. Thus, NYSSRA was fortunate to be allowed to pay 2012-2013 insurance in six monthly installments. The current general fund balance is low. Consensus was that with more people we could meet our financial goals and offer better benefits. Our local clubs should be the entry point for this including a source for ideas for fundraisers. A major gift campaine could tap into club structure to feed the enthusiasm. David Paarlberg-Kvam suggested that the 501(3)(c) status can qualify NYSSRA to solicit business and corporate support for a "Kickstarter Project" as a funding platform for something really creative and ambitious for NYSSRA to undertake. He encouraged everyone to be thinking of some big ideas to develop and shape into a proposal.

Nominating Committee - The committee consisting of Chris Rose, Russ Houck and Darwin Roosa came up with the following slate of officers:

- David Kvam, President
- Tim Huneck, Vice President
- Eric Seyse, 2nd Vice President
- Eric Hamilton, Secretary
- Lee Mahood, Treasurer

Darwin Roosa opened the floor for other nominations. Jim Kobak moved that nominations be closed and the secretary cast one ballot for all unopposed candidates, Larry Wilkinson second, carried unanimously. Vote so cast.

Spring Meeting Format - Darwin Roosa noted that last spring's meeting cost was about $48 through Verizon. It was consensus that we do it again on April 7, 2013.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jim Kobak; second by Larry Wilkinson; carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric J. Hamilton, Secretary

---------- Attachment 1 ----------

NYSSRA NORDIC			
Fall Meeting 2012			
Treasurer's Report			
Balance 9/23/12	$10,530.54		
Balance 5/5/12	$ 12,007.30		
Brian McDonald Fund	$297.00		
Bill Thayer Fund	$0.00		
Biathlon fund	$1,323.91		
Mid A	$4,348.20		
Eastern High School/JII	$1,488.82		
Youth Development	$1,683.63		
General Fund	$1,388.96		