New York State Ski Racing Association - Nordic, Inc.
FALL MEETING MINUTES
Siena College, Newtonville, Sunday, September 22, 2013

President David Paarlberg-Kvam called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and welcomed those present.

Voting club representatives from active clubs (NYSSRA-sanctioned for 2013-2014) included the following: Adirondack Vauhti reprsented by Eric Brower; Blue Streaks Nordic by Sean Halligan; Hudson United Racing Team by Tim Huneck; Peru Nordic Masters Pool by Jim Kobak; Rochester Cross Country Ski Foundation by Kevin Walter; Saratoga Biathlon Club by Tom Moffett; and Wolverine Ski Club by Larry Wilkinson. Also present was Darwin Roosa, Immediate Past President; Chris Frielinghaus, Ski Orienteering Chair; Darrell Rikert, Saratoga Biathlon; and Eric Hamilton, Shenendehowa Nordic Club, Steve Wilson, and Eric Seyse (VP).

Minutes of the spring meeting were accepted as posted and distributed on a motion by Jim Kobak; second by Eric Seyse; carried.

Treasurer's Report - See attachment #1.

Committee Reports

Biathlon - Tom Moffett announced that the committee is working on an on-snow clinic December 7 and 8 with lodging at the OTC. They are also recommending that local clubs host events grouping classes with 5 second interval starts.

Cross Country - David Paarlberg-Kvam announced that the big change this season will be the Larry Wilkinson Cup weekends on three successive January weekends: Jan 4 and 5 in Old Forge; January 11 and 12 in Lake Placid; and Jan 18 at Bristol Mountain in Canandaigua. These will be championship quality events which are also Junior National qualifiers. The final 2 weekends of this series will be Empire State Games and NYSSRA Championships.

Ski Orienteering - Chris Frielinghaus reminded those present that we would like to have ski orienteering events “calendared” by NYSSRA, but our events are sanctioned by OUSA. It is our intent to collect a head tax of $2 for each ski orienteering NYSSRA Championship qualifier start to support the Championship. He also proposed a half point credit on the ski O season points list for a ski orienteer who completed a XC or biathlon event, and asked for reciprocity.

Jim Kobak moved, Tom Moffet second that the cross country points list ad participation points for those who completed ski orienteering events, carried.

Bill Koch Youth League - Eric Hamilton noted that the on-line list of local clubs has been updated. Club names are shown in bold type for those viable clubs that have an active memberships. Others on the list have agreed to be a contact and adviser if there were sufficient local interest. Eric proposed that the 2014 Mid Atlantic Bill Koch Festival is proposed for Mar 8 and 9 at Lapland Lake Resort. Discussion followed on the acceptability of the date. Consensus was that this March weekend is the best fit for the calendar.

Mid-Atlantic Junior Committee - David Paarlberg-Kvam summarized the committee report that endorsed the JN qualifier calendar. Dave reported on the USSA's revised age group designations for juniors by birth year that are now also adopted by NYSSRA Nordic. The former J4, J3,

J2, J1 are now respectively U12, U14, U16, U18. There will be a high school camp at the OTC and ORDA December 26 to 30 for $260 per person. Dave announced that Jeff Moore will run the U16 trip to the Eastern High School Championships.

CRNA - Steve Wilson announced that the Capital Region Nordic Alliance (not yet NYSSRA affiliated club for 2014) with host a pre-season tune-up in North Creek on September 29 including a rollerski race, paintball biathlon, and disabled racer events. A roller ski time trial will be held at the Harriman Office Campus, Albany on October 20. November 9 is another event. Consult the club's website for details.

Saratoga Biathlon - Tom Moffet announced a running biathlon on October 20 at Saratoga Biathlon.

National Governing Bodies - David Paarlberg-Kvam reminded all committees that we should be consistently using the new labels for age group classes and events: Junior Nationals, U-14 for BKYSL, U-16 for juniors, etc.

Membership - Jim Kobak reported that about 149 have renewed their membership. He noted the incentive of the NYSSRA Plus being offered between now and December 1. He asked those present to encourage grass-roots, nordic skiers to join to support the cross country ski community.

Liability Insurance - Sean Halligan reported that our cost of liability and secondary medical insurance went down this year, because we eliminated coverage for some of the more risky activities that we no longer do as an organization. There is still no business auto policy add-on. He also asked that we get our requests for Certificates of insurance early.

Old Business

Coles Woods Investment Project - David Paarlberg-Kvam outlined the proposal for a multi level project to improve skiing at Crandall Park, Glens Falls. The basic project includes snow making and improved lighting for a 2 k loop. Issues with parking and rest rooms are being worked on. More snow shoe trails are also being added to broaden use and appeal of the park. If this model is successful we will provide a model for other municipalities such as Syracuse and Rochester. Suggestions for grant sources and partnerships are welcome.

Adirondack Sports and Fitness Winter Expo - The Expo is November 9 and 10 in Saratoga City Center. Discussion followed. Jim Kobak moved that we advertise the Wilkinson Series in the Adk Sports and Fitness newsletter rather than pay for a booth at the Expo. Discussion on the motion included the reality that past years of participation at the Expo has resulted in few or no new memberships. Getting people to staff a NYSSRA Nordic table at the Expo has been difficult. Darwin Roosa second, carried.

New Business

Website Issues - David Paarlberg-Kvam reported on the progress made on news feeds to the NYSSRA - Nordic web site. He demonstrated how the feeds worked. There was a distinct delay as the sight checked over two dozen local club sites. This delay is attributed to the slow processor that our web site host uses. Work to correct the problem was beyond the scope of work assigned to the web site consultant. Dave will explore the potential that a change of web servers could bring to remedy the speed issue.

David encouraged clubs to update their blog posts often.

Board of Director's Role Designations - David Paarlberg-Kvam graphically outlined the structure of the Board and the role of each officer. To view this graphic go to NYSSRA's membership page and click on the "View Our Organization." Each of the officers and committee chairs have a description of their responsibilities. Jim Kobak moved we adopt the organization and structure as outlined in the model for the next two years, Dawin Roosa second, carried.

Empire State Winter Games and Tour-nado - Darwin Roosa summarized the schedule of X C events at the ESWG scheduled for February 7 through 9, 2014. They are similar to those for last year (but didn't all happen).

"Try It" Series - David Paarlberg-Kvam and the cross country ski committee want to encourage a series of competitive events for those who are intimidated by fast, elite skiers. This year we will try one event as part of the NYSSRA Championship weekend. The proceeds from the race will benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

NYSSRA Championships - David Paarlberg-Kvam announced that HURT will host the March 1 & 2, 2013 weekend at Mt VanHovenburg. The calendar will include a single team relay comprised of biathlon and cross country relay legs. Format details will be worked out. There will also be a discount for those who participate in more than one event or more than one discipline.

NYSSRA Calendar and Sanctioning Changes - There's a financial incentive to get your club's event sanctioned before November 1. Further, if sanctioned before November 15 the club can have it's sanction fee refunded. After December 1 the sanction fee is $100 and not refundable. Discussion followed on the wording of "sanction" vs. "approval"; validity of waiver forms; and minors. Race organizers should look for a "accident report" form on the Race Organizers page of the website in the unlucky event that there should be an incident in which a participant, volunteer or spectator is injured.

Membership Survey - Jim Kobak reported that there were 16 responses to the questionnaire. Distance to the venue is the most important factor in the decision process. Look for more surveys.

Spring Meeting - David Paarlberg-Kvam announced that the spring meeting will be a conference call format as in past years and will be held on April 6, 2014.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric J. Hamilton, Secretary

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

NYSSRA NORDIC				
Fall Meeting 2013				
Treasurer's Report				
Balance 9/21/13		$16,212.13		
Balance 4/8/13		$ 16,582.98		
Brian McDonald Fund		$297.00		
Biathlon fund		$1,507.91		
Mid A		$5,358.70		
Eastern High School/U18		$1,900.89		
Youth Devel-opment		$1,703.65		
General Fund		$3,739.18		
Special Fund		$1,704.80		

Insurance bills paid through 10/1. November and December payments will be $1,229.96 each for a total of $2,459.92.

Membership checks received up to 9/3.

This leaves an unencumbered balance in the general fund of $1,154.26.