



AFSA BOARD MEETING Minutes

Saturday May 15, 2010 8:00am – 12:00pm
Jump Tower Board Room Canada Olympic Park

1. Chair Al Ulsifer called the meeting to order at 8:05AM. In attendance were Larry Bilton, Maureen Calder, Rhonda Oczkowski (Castle Mountain Freestyle), Neil Orr, Trisha Drake (Winsport), Linda Hunter, Kathy Waddell (COP), Dan Bowman, Rex Kary, Al Ulsifer, Donna Hateley, and by conference call: Cam Jenkins (Jasper Freeride), Dan Jefferies (Central AB Freestyle), and Toni Siegle (Tawatinaw).

2. The agenda was amended to include HR Committee in the Chairman's Report and to move the Treasurer's Report after the Chairman's Report. Moved by Larry to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Dan Bowman; motion carried.

3. Dan B. moved to approve the Minutes of the April 2, 2010 board meeting as circulated. Seconded by Rhonda; carried. It was noted that who is eligible for Can West passes needs to be clarified for next season.

4. Chairman's Report

Al explained the staffing changes for AFSA with reduced grants forcing a reduction in our staff. Gord Cambell's release is completed. We would hope to contract him for technical direction at future events but we are unable to promise that at this time. Gord's exit communication is being prepared. HR Committee Chair Larry Bilton explained the committee is in preliminary discussions with candidate Wanda Rozwadowska, creating a new executive director job description, and hoping to have an Executive Director in place for July 1. Larry moved that the Board approve a specific annual salary range for negotiation plus the current benefit package for the executive director position. Seconded by Dan B.; carried unanimously. Board member Ron Horrigan (Northern Extreme) has resigned and he was a member of the HR Committee. Al asked if another board member would like to take his place and Cam Jenkins agreed to become a member of the HR Committee. Other members are Bob German and Maureen Calder. In the interim, you may contact AFSA for administration questions using email info@abfreestyle.com which will go to Wanda who is continuing part-time and financial questions should go to Lisa Hauser or Neil Orr.

Season review comments included a very busy season with several clubs and programs rebuilding, and many hours committed to hosting events.

For next season Al reported that the Can West/Alberta mogul team program is underway with a camp at Whistler. The coaches are looking for the top 12 ranked Alberta mogul athletes and 11 spots are filled with one being determined by coaches considering minimum skill requirements. BC funding for their coach is at risk with a government grant freeze till July, but our program is progressing with coach Elisa Kurylowicz-Huggins (Cookie). Should BC funding fail, then Cookie would continue and bring in coaching assistance on a part time basis to serve our athletes, reducing the overall mogul program cost.

Al mentioned that half pipe rankings were not yet posted on the website. A possible omission in the ADC November minutes impacting half pipe RPA's eligible events would be dealt with at the ADC meeting later that day and would involve consulting with our coaches.

The pressing question was how do we best serve our high performance park and pipe athletes who do not have a national D-team program to advance to in 2010/11 and also serve our provincial development level half pipe athletes next year. Once half pipe is approved as a 2014 Olympic freestyle discipline the CFSA will provide a national program and D-Team support but that is one year out. In this transition year, can we provide some support to our elite athletes and our developing core on our park and pipe ranking list, most of who train at COP Club? Maureen proposed a model for discussion using \$30,000 split so a maximum of \$8000 would go to COP coach expenses at Canadian Series, NorAm, Nationals, or a training camp session with our top half pipe skiers who are registered with COP Club (and a provision to include Garrett Northey and Colin Jefferies if their club coach doesn't attend). A further \$2000 would be available to other club coaches of our top 12 ranked athletes going to those events. The remaining \$20,000 would be allocated to coaching costs for the elite group of half pipe skiers (potentially Noah Bowman, Chris Atkinson, Luke Kary, Megan Gunning, Keltie Hansen, Rob Huele, Garrett Northey? , couple BC athletes at this level?) who would form a semi-private team spearheaded by Dan Bowman and Rex Kary. AFSA would not contract the coach; they would; and perhaps use different coaches for different events. We could specify the funds be used for a couple North American training camps, a major FIS competition, plus Senior Nationals, and a suitable pro event as funds allow. Prior approval from the Executive Director and Board Executive, sanctioning, and complete records would be required for each of these fund requests. No AB team fees would be collected from these athletes. COP Club would be expected to host a provincial half pipe event; the athletes' families would be expected to assist with our Nor Am, World Cup, and casino shifts. The proposal document that Maureen circulated at the meeting is amended to these minutes. A lengthy discussion followed considering equitable levels of funding for mogul and half pipe athletes, frustration with the lack of national programming, and a belief that training camps be less segregated to include all the top 12 athletes learning and mentoring together. Larry moved and Kathy seconded the motion to approve in principle this half pipe proposal subject to budget constraints. Motion carried.

The World Cup we hosted was rated one of the best according to the CFSA, sponsors, and teams. Larry Bilton reported it was not successful financially for AFSA as our funds were consumed by our staff hours and negotiated profit sharing with CFSA netted nil. Planning for next year's World Cup Jan. 27-30 has begun with mogul qualifications Thursday, aeriels qualifications Friday, and then Finals Festival on Saturday. Half pipe is yet to be decided and sponsored, possibly held earlier in that week to accommodate athletes attending X Games which conflicts with our dates. Larry stated that we need to engage the rest of the province to assist and participate. How do we do this? Toni suggested that if dates are out earlier clubs could plan to attend and build it into their training schedule. Billeting for volunteers might occur with families reciprocating at other competitions in the province. When we hosted Senior Nationals this March there was no staff contracted through AFSA and we received \$8000 for our volunteer efforts. Going forward for next year's World Cup we are asking \$15,000 for our support plus a profit share, and there is potential for the festival Saturday partnering dollars.

Linda provided an update on coaching clinics with 12 athletes participating in a May Club Coach (Level 1) course conducted by Mike Richards and Patty Breault at Sunshine. A Level 2 Water Ramp course is being planned in July with Jeremy Bachelor at the Red Deer ramp. The Level 2 course on snow or the new Technical Skiing Skills Modules are a priority to offer next fall preferably around the November ADC date. There have been several Level 1 Club Coach courses offered in the past two seasons but no Level 2 courses or modules that are needed for offering the new CFSA Freestylerz program. Jasper Club noted it has committed funds in its budget to assist coaches attending courses. Coaches Chip Milner and Mike Richards attended the Level 3 Competition Development Coach pilot course in Whistler this spring. Head Judge Donna Hateley indicated that the FIS A judges clinic would be in Utah and the FIS B judges clinic would be held in BC next fall. Donna would like to hold regional clinics in Jasper, Grande Prairie, and Red Deer next season to continue developing our judging expertise.

5. Treasurer's Report

Neil's financial report reviewed the past year with an April 30 yearend still to close. We did not receive the CIP grant from the province that we have been hoping and waiting for all season. The report shows actual net income at \$44,283 compared to our 2009/10 budget figure of \$10,000. The increase is mostly the Canada Winter Games grant for next season which was received early in April and the \$8000 revenue from hosting Senior Nationals. Dan Jefferies asked if other clubs can use the donation fund as the Canadian Half Pipe Team does to obtain charitable receipts with funds passing through the AFSA. Yes. It could be helpful for donations to their water ramp or the semi-private Alberta half pipe team. The SIP aeriels initiative grant was not available to AFSA because the activity occurred in Whistler, BC rather than Alberta. Neil reviewed how casino dollars can be spent requiring preapproval for coaches salary costs and how ASRPWF grants are usually intended to be spent in Alberta. Outstanding accounts receivable were reviewed by Neil. Motion to receive the Treasurer's financial report made by Maureen; seconded by Dan B.; carried.

Discussion moved to the 2010/11 AFSA budget proposal. ASRPWF funding reduces to \$52,236 receiving half of that amount in May. Celina Hledik will look at obtaining a

hosting grant for the World Cup and NorAm. \$5000 DIP grant will be applied for and the final piece of Canada Winter Games funds is expected. Mogul program fee revenue is \$60,000 with 12 athletes at \$5000 each. No half pipe program fees would be collected. The casino is confirmed for Dec. 23-24, 2010 with revenue to arrive in Feb 2011. We are budgeting for \$70,000. Membership revenue is pegged at \$19000 similar to this season. World Cup revenue is shown as \$15,000 and \$10,000 for the NorAm. Other revenue expected includes CFSA funds for provincials from Canada Post sponsorship and for Jenn Heil's girls camp, and some revenue from running coaching courses. Total revenue would be approximately \$243,000 as we added and deleted from the revenue columns aligning expectations for next season. Under expenses, the total moguls expenses rise to accommodate the coaches in a 12 month program for \$116,700 total, whereas the initial year contracts started later lasting 10 months. Half pipe coaching expenses were set at \$24000 as that was seen as affordable rather than the \$30,000 proposed. Payroll expense total is shown at \$74,750 for the Executive Director, bookkeeper, Gord's release, and payroll/benefit costs for the ED and mogul coach. This is a reduction of \$25,000 from last year. Total administrative expenses decrease to \$11,900. Donna asked to maintain the judges, officials and volunteer development expense at \$3500. Provincial awards increase to \$2000 as we order new medals. Adjusting this expense column the total comes close to \$239,000. We end up with less than ten thousand dollars net for 2010/11.

Even with some of 2009/10 net gain to carry forward, there will be significant cash flow concerns going into 2011/12 because there is no casino for us in 2011/12. We would need to ensure more profit falls from this 2010/11 budget. How much is needed? How do we get there?? To be equitable for mogul and half pipe skiers do we need to make mogul athlete fees higher? Neil concluded he would need to fill in the revised numbers from these discussions and show an added column for 2011/12, calculate cash flow expectations, and send the budget back out to the Board in the next couple days. Another Board meeting would be set up by conference call within the next month to formally approve a budget and hiring of the ED.

6. New Business items followed.

- Linda has spoken with the Calgary Ski Swap coordinator and they are wanting us to work the swap and do the rail jam again this fall. The board concluded that the 3 day effort did not justify the \$5000 we receive when we will also be going to those volunteers for casino, World Cup, and NorAm assistance. The rail jam was the best part of the event for us last year. The Ski Swap could contract Gord to produce the rail jam and with sanctioning our skiers could participate, ideally with our AFSA booth right there. Would a freestyle club like to take on the swap?
- Nor-AM at COP Feb 2-6, 2011 will follow the World Cup week and should attract sufficient numbers of athletes and have reduced costs because the mogul and aerial courses are already constructed. It conflicts with the World Championships in Utah but that is for a very limited field of athletes. We will need to recruit our volunteers early.
- Cam indicated that Marmot cannot move sufficient dirt in the National Park to build a traditional aerials site for Junior Nationals. Otherwise they would bid for Juniors in March and then two weeks later host AB Champs with courses basically in place. The executive encouraged Cam to speak with Bruce Robinson

as traditional aerials are sometimes held at Seniors instead, and have involved very few athletes at the Juniors event recently. Aerials might not be a bid stopper. Perhaps AFSA could host a national half pipe/slopestyle event around Juniors accommodating athletes en route to Jasper.

- Maureen directed members to the PSO Team notes circulated regarding the grass roots long term athlete development Can Freestyle initiative from CFSA. Clubs need to indicate if they would like to initiate Freestylerz for next season and can have qualified coaches ready. We will plan to run Advanced Club Coach modules and to bring Meredith Gardner to Alberta next fall. The CFSA would like to set consistent consolidated Fundamentals and Freestylerz membership fees across Canada for next season, sharing membership revenue 50/50 with the PSO less a \$5 service fee portion. This would be a modest increase in our fees but help fund a new program. It would not change any competitor membership fees. Moved by Maureen, seconded by Dan B. that Fundamentals Athlete membership fees be \$40 and Club Level Athlete (Freestylerz) fees be \$55, utilizing the CFSA and PSO revenue share. Info for clubs from Meredith at CFSA is circulating through Maureen till an ED is in place.
- CFSA Presidents Council conference call involving PSO chairpersons occurred in April. The Vice Chair represented AFSA. Bruce Robinson spoke about strategic planning for the next four years that is beginning with the PSO Team meeting for operations and the CFSA Board planning this weekend. A Presidents Council meeting will be set for the fall to gain strategic input leading into the next Winter Olympic period.
- Our AGM date will be set for September and fall ADC will occur in November. Dates to be determined at the upcoming Board meeting call.
- Donna's judging season report was circulated by email. She reminded clubs each season they need to have two judges attending training clinics.
- AFSA has an old collection of outdated books (Joe Fitzgerald's Library) in the COP warehouse that we will be discarding. The World Cup storage trailer ("Man Cave") we would prefer to leave where it is and asked Winsport if they would like to brand it. Trish will inquire. We do not need additional storage for AFSA in the Jump Tower Complex once the books are gone.

7. Round Table/Club Updates

Castle Mountain is doing more mogul site work and has acquired ATCO trailers for judge stand, storage, and athletes warm up purposes. Their athletes are preparing for water ramp and tramp activities. Freestylerz is being considered for next season.

Jasper is expecting about 20 new athletes next season and considering Freestylerz also. Marmot Ski Resort is excited about freestyle and dedicating a 23 degree pitch for training.

Fernie's program is growing significantly and they are now allowed to jump at their hill. Tawatinaw is pressing their county to proceed with a half pipe. They hear rumblings for new athletes next year and have kids suited to Freestylerz programming. The AB Winter Games experience engaged their athletes to try competing next season at club comps. COP will be running with Freestylerz. They believe Can West passes should be made available to competitive coaches supporting our top athletes. A new Norquay freestyle club may form impacting some current COP members.

Treasurer Neil indicated that the signing authorities for our bank account have changed with Maureen Calder replacing Gord Campbell. Neil would like to set up more electronic transfers and chequeing which reduces to a single signature but can still require two approvals and a paper record process. Moved by Neil, seconded by Dan that AFSA electronic transfers and cheques require the two approvals, which may be through email with paper record, and then one signing authority's signature. Motion carried.

Trisha Drake spoke about the Winsport Sport Advisory Committee being established to meet four times yearly prior to Winsport Board meetings. The Mountain Sport Group would include two reps from alpine, snowboard, skier cross, and freestyle and focus on venues and resources. The freestyle reps would be one from CFSA and one from AFSA. We will need to assign someone. Trish is the facilitator for the Mountain Sport committee. The four different Sport Groups then send one rep to join four Board members to recommend actions at Winsport. This new committee structure should be running in the fall.

NEXT Board Meeting by conference call or email TBD in June.

8. Motion to adjourn at 12:27PM. Rhonda/ Neil. Carried.

Minutes prepared by Maureen.

Half pipe proposal appended.

A Half Pipe Proposal for AFSA for 2010-11

Because AFSA cannot adequately serve the needs of our top 10 ranking half pipe skiers with the status quo, because half pipe training is facility specific, and because I am not prepared to raid a successful club program and coach that serves a typical provincial level program, \$30,000 should be budgeted to support coaching and coaches' expenses at half pipe camps or competitions in 2010-2011 in the following way:

1. Maximum of \$8000 toward the COP coach (Brett Mc Clelland) expenses to attend Canadian Series, NorAms, Nationals, or a North American training session with our top half pipe skiers who are registered with COP Club. Provision to include Garrett Northey, Colin Jefferies as non COP athletes (ranked in top twelve AB 2009-10 RPA) if their club coach doesn't attend those events; extra \$2000 funds discretionary with Board approval for other club coach expenses at this level of events serving typical provincial level athletes. For COP expenses prior approval is needed from the AFSA Executive Director before each activity (assuming approximately four events X \$2000). Record keeping and receipts required and funds to be allocated following each competition or camp. The AFSA would expect COP Club to host a provincial half pipe competition during the season.
2. Maximum of \$20,000 toward coaching costs for elite group of Alberta half pipe skiers (potentially Noah Bowman, Chris Atkinson, Luke Kary, Rob Huele, Megan Gunning, Keltie

- Hansen, ?Garett Northey, ?couple BC athletes) who would form a semi private team spearheaded by Dan Bowman and Rex Kary. We would not contract the coach; they would; and they might use different coaches for different events. These dollars would be earmarked for two North American training camps, and two to four competitions as \$20,000 in funds allows. We would specify that the competitions include at least one FIS event (such as a World Cup in North America or World Champs in Utah), plus Canadian Senior Nationals, and one pro event suitable for this level of high performance athlete. The team of athletes must be coached and their trip sanctioned to receive this AFSA assistance with coaching costs. A formal camp/comp plan would need to be brought to the AFSA Executive Director and Board Executive for approval before funds are allocated. Record keeping and accounting of funds is required. Families would be required to assist the AFSA with a NorAm and a World Cup Half Pipe, if Calgary hosts those events in 2010-2011, as well as an AFSA casino shift.
3. AFSA would use the 2009/10 AB Half Pipe Ranking List to allocate CAN West passes to the top twelve men and top four females who register to ski in AB clubs or commit to this semi private team program for the 2010/11 season. AFSA does not collect park & pipe team member fees.
 4. If Dan and Rex do not obtain the sponsors they hope to put together this semi private team, AFSA still provides \$20,000 exclusively for coaching costs for the elite AB athletes listed above at two training camps and competitions specified above. FIS license memberships and proper sanctions are required.

In the 2011/12 season following half pipe inclusion in the 2014 Olympics, with a CFSA supported national team in place and D-team support, Alberta could review this model and perhaps return to a hired provincial coach with a typical provincial athlete development program. In the meantime the camp based funding support for coaching for our best developing half pipe skiers makes sense and complies with our grants.