

## IWWF Tournament Council Meeting

Nov. 15, Chapala, Mexico

Present:

Bob Corson USA TC Chairman  
Jeffry Armstrong USA Pan Am TC Chair  
Peter Person CAN Pan Am TC  
Larry Gisler ARG Pan Am TC alternate  
Esteban Siegert COL AAC representative  
Clementine Lucine FRA AAC representative  
Jim Grew USA IWWF Disabled Chairman (observer)  
Bruce Cockburn AUS AAO TC Chair  
Glen Williams NZL AAO TC  
Wayne Briant AUS AAO TC  
Nigel Talmo GBR E&A TC  
Marie-Anne Persoons BEL E&A TC  
Candido Moz E&A TC Chair

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am. Candido was delayed in travel and would join us at noon. Wayne Briant and Clementine Lucine would also join in the afternoon.

The topics are addressed by subject rather than the order addressed in the meeting.

### Slalom

1. The TC considered the concept of complete video judging for slalom as has been requested as an exception for some sites due to their physical configuration. The TC agreed to continue these exceptions except that a judge would also be required for direct observation of the runs to make judgments on situations that occurred outside the view of the camera and outside the course (i.e. rough water, obstructions, etc.)
2. The TC agrees to adopt the US rule that skiers can start at a reduced speed and a shortened line. However, the skier must proceed to the maximum speed before shortening the line further. If the skier misses before completing the shortened line pass at full speed his score will be at the starting speed and rope length.
3. A clarification was made in Rule 14.07. This is not intended to change the rule. The new wording is as follows:

1 point when the skier has crossed the line of the gate buoys (on a tight line under power of the boat and in skiing position) before passing the level of the next buoy (or the end gate in the case of the final buoy). This is a clarification, not a change of intent.

4. To clarify the application of Rule 9.02 the following has been added:

No protest shall ever be permitted on a judgment decision by the Judges except as noted in Rules 14.11 and 15.12.

5. The TC discussed a recommendation to optionally eliminate the review judge in slalom. This was not accepted.
6. The TC decided to make the slalom pre-gates mandatory rather than optional.
7. A recommendation was made to change the overall scoring in slalom. The last change was to eliminate the 24 base buoys in the slalom score for overall purposes. The new proposal is to add back in 12 buoys. This issue was tabled so that athlete input could be gathered.

#### TRICKS

8. The TC considered the recommendation that the number of allowed flips be changed but decided on no change at this point.
9. The TC accepted the recommendation that the allowed width percentage on trick skis be increased to 35% from 30%.
10. A recommendation to reduce the trick review time from 30 minutes to 15 minutes was not accepted.
11. Rule 15.12 was examined on two points. It was felt a general re-write was needed to clarify it and remove obsolete sections. Also it was decided that for L,R, and titled events, there should be two video timing officials. Currently this is optional but will now be mandatory.
12. The issue of ski line, line tricks and toe line tricks where the trick seems like it was going to be attempted but the ski or leg did not go over the rope. In this case, the trick is scored as the surface or wake turn that was actually performed.

Examples:

**LB, no stepover performed ->B**

SLB, ski not over the rope -> WB, not a SLB n/c

WLO, no stepover performed ->WO

SLO, ski not over the rope -> WO

SLBB, ski not over the rope -> WBB

**TWLB, ski not over the rope ->TWB**  
**TWLO, ski not over the rope ->TWO**

It should be noted that in stepover tricks, if the stepover is attempted (the free leg partially goes over the line but does not complete or then comes off the line) and fails then the trick is scored as 0 per the rule.

13. There was discussion about the rope in the water on ski line and toe line tricks. In 15.19f, it is clearly stated for ski line tricks "The line must be out of the water during the execution of the turn."

This sentence will be put in bold in the rule.

For toe line tricks the foot is required to be out of the water during the execution of the trick.

14. The TC considered the recommendation that a differentiation be made between a Front Flip done inside the line and a front flip done outside the line. As a result there will be two tricks under the same number, an inside Front Flip worth 700 points and an outside Front Flip worth 800 points each with its reverse. An inside flip can be done as a reverse of the outside flip and vice versa given that the other requirements for the reverses are met.
15. Rule 15.15 was discussed. The intent of the Rule is that trick judging be done in real time for titled and R tournaments. If there is a failure of the transmission equipment or it is not possible to use transmitters due to the site configuration, it is permissible to record the runs in the boat. However, the recording should be delivered to the judges for viewing without delay. For L tournaments, if transmission is not possible, it is permissible to record up to 3 skiers before delivering the recordings to the judges to view, but this is discouraged. The next round cannot be started until the current round is scored.
16. In the final of a titled event, the score of the skier should be announced before the next skier starts.
17. The TC noted the input from some judges that only the Master Sheets should be shown.
18. The AAC and the TC noted the recent development that allows the master sheets to be on-line for the skiers to review after their runs as an extremely important development and it is strongly encouraged.
19. A scoring issue was raised about scoring a trick that is judged TO,T5B,T5B,T5B n/c,T5B n/c. Under IWWF Rules, this is T5B n/c.

20. A suggestion was received from Alexi Zharnasek that trick scoring could be done by giving credit for each trick by judge. Essentially, if there were 5 judges, for each judge that gave credit to the trick, 20% of the trick's points would be added to the score. Another variation would be that further if 3 judges gave credit to the trick, 100% of the value would be added. The TC will examine the results of the World Tournament in progress and see how the scoring variations compare in placement and results to further examine the proposed technique.

## JUMP

21. A specification will be made for the minimum distance that jump measurement buoys may be installed to the jumper landing area to insure that the jumper cannot land or come near the buoys.
22. The video camera specifications were examined in light of input. New specifications will be made that accommodate the newer digital cameras and allow digital zoom as long as a minimum accuracy specification is met.
23. A document received from a group of Elite jumpers detailing jump specification requests and tolerance practices. While the TC accepted the recommendation that the jump surface deflection tolerance state that the ramp cannot be convex, it did not accept the recommendation that the ramp must be concave. The TC accepts that if a ramp's sub-structure is designed to be flat and that applying a heavy ramp surface to it may cause it to be slightly concave, this is what the tolerance is for. The current tolerance of 2.5 cm will be reduced to 2.0 cm effective May 1, 2016. In addition, the maximum deviation, if any, must occur in the center of the out of water surface +/- 50 cm. Example: If the jump surface out of the water is 6.8m, then the maximum measured deviation must be between 2.9m and 3.9m from the top of the jump.

Federations with ramps that have been used in L or R tournaments in the last 2 years that exceed the 2.0 cm tolerance will be notified of the venues with ramps that exceed the tolerance. In a recent study, there were a total of 14 ramps in this condition world-wide.

It was also noted that previous TC decision will require site/ramp owners to certify that their ramp has been designed according to the rules.

## GENERAL

24. The Pan Am TC recommended that the winners (top 3) of Juniors qualify for U21 World Championships and the winners (top 3) of U21 qualify for Open World Championships. This was approved.
25. The TC accepted a recommendation from the AAO TC that the team size of the U17 and U21 teams be increased from 4 to 6. However, the team scoring will still be the best 3 scores. It was

also approved that the Ranking List entries for these tournaments be increased to 12 for both men and women.

26. A discussion about practice resulted in the decision that practice time be allotted by skier/event rather than just skier. In example, if a team had 2 skiers skiing in all three events and 1 skier in one event, that team would be given 7 practice slots. The time for each slot would be the total practice time available divided by the total of skier rides scheduled in the tournament preliminary round. Each slot is to be used for its intended event and competitor.
  
27. It was noted that many multi-sport games required an overall competition as well as some modified rules. The overall competition that was removed from the rulebook will be added back in under a multi-sport games section. Other rules applying to multi sport games are that protests must be made immediately and resolved within 10 minutes. Trick sheet review time is reduced to 15 minutes.
  
28. A recommendation will be made to the Executive board to include in the LAO for World Championships that \$30 be added to the entry fee to be applied to Officials expenses. This is also recommended for other major tournaments.
  
29. A proposal to allow U17 records outside of the U17 World Championships was not accepted.
  
30. The World 35+ Championships Rules will be included as a new section in the rulebook.
  
31. For future World Championships, only one driver from the host country will be allowed.
  
32. The TC discussed the restrictions in the bylaws of officials working in consecutive World Championships. We will abide by the bylaws allowing the IWWF President have final approval.
  
33. Upon a technical input suggestion by AWSA, the rope specification will be modified to require a minimum of 12 strands and a minimum of 40 yarns per strand.

34. The TC discussed a letter from the WSWC (Canada) Technical committee raising questions about two recent events.

One event was a Ski Fly event with one competitor where a Ski Fly record was set. As Ski Fly is described as a promotional and experimental event, this was deemed acceptable, if not ideal. The event was duly sanctioned by AWSA and the IWWF Ski Fly rules were followed.

The second event was during the operation of the Pan Am Games where there was a question about awarded rerides. After a report by the Chief Judge, it was determined that all IWWF Rules and procedures were followed.

35. A request by a Federation to have a tournament that was conducted Oct.31-Nov.1 be included in the ranking list ending October 31 was considered. As standard procedure the software lists all of the results with the ending date of the tournament. It was deemed that the results would be on the ranking list starting November 1.
36. At the request of the IWWF President the TC approved the suggestion that the Open World Championships organizer be allowed to name 5 single event wild cards for promotional purposes. If one of these wildcards qualifies for the finals, the finals size will be increased so that no non-wild card qualifier would be cut from the finals.
37. The TC discussed a letter submitted by Alain Amade discussing aspects of competition and the development of our sport with regard to the current structure of the current performance based ranking lists. The recommendation is to go to a placement based ranking list. This is currently being used in Cable-Ski. The Elite Ranking list is also a placement based list. The TC was in favor of proceeding with the examination of this methodology. The TC realizes that this is a complex undertaking and it will initially only be tested with Open division results. If successful, the TC would switch over to a placement based list for all of the World Championship qualifying lists.

#### World Records

38. The World Record Application for Jacinta Carroll for 58.8m at the Sunset Cup - MLCQ at Sunset Lakes in Groveland, FL on May 16<sup>th</sup> was accepted.
39. The World Record Application for Jacinta Carroll for 59.1m at the Sunset Cup - MLCQ at Sunset Lakes in Groveland, FL on May 17<sup>th</sup> was accepted.
40. The Aliaksei Zharnasek record application of 12610 at the Sunset Fall Classic Groveland, FL on November 3<sup>rd</sup> was denied after the review panel reduced the score to below the current record.

#### Elite Tournament Issues

41. After discussion, the TC decided to change the Elite Tournament policy that dictates that only one Elite tournament will be allowed on a specific weekend. If more than one organizer specifies a certain date, Elite points can be awarded if the organizer meets the Elite criteria.

42. It was proposed that there be an Elite point ranking for Cash Prize Overall only tournaments. Even though there have not been any tournaments of this type organized, the TC was accepting of this proposal. There are efforts to organize two such tournaments. The Elite Rules will be modified to include this possibility.
43. There was an issue raised that an organizer could apply for an Elite sanction before being approved by their local Federation or Region. Any Elite tournament must be sanctioned by the appropriate local bodies before it can be held. The calendar is a listing of projected or proposed tournaments to assist in calendar planning for the upcoming season. It will be labeled as such.

#### Miscellaneous

44. It was noted that experimental speed control software was used in at least two L&R tournaments without prior approval. Although eventually approved, the proper procedure is to request approval from the IWWF TC and if the use is approved to inform the tournament contestants by at least posted notices. Records cannot be approved with equipment that has not been approved or alternatively allowed to be used with permission and notification to the skiers.
45. There can be seeding issues if a skier does not have performances on the two years of lists that are used for seeding according to the Rules, but has current performances that would allow an accurate seed. This will be resolved in the future by migrating to a seeding procedure that uses the current dynamic list.
46. Olaf Boettcher made a presentation to the TC suggesting that displayed average speed captures could be used instead of segment times to simplify the process and make it more understandable. The concept is that the average speed needs to be in a speed tolerance instead of a time tolerance. It is the same thing, but it would replace all of the segment time tolerances with one speed tolerance. The TC will ask Olaf for more information on this technique.
47. A recommendation will be made to the IWWF Executive Board that the cost of hosting the Executive Board meeting and Congress be shared among all disciplines World Championships rather than putting all of the cost on the organizer of the Open World Water Ski Championships. This is a method of reducing the burden on the most expensive and difficult to host tournament and fairly sharing the cost across the whole IWWF family.

#### Election

Bob Corson, USA, was re-elected as TC Chairman for a two year term.

Meeting Adjourned 11:30 am Nov 16

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Corson  
Chairman  
IWWF Tournament Council