

## USA Canoe/Kayak Team – Wildwater Committee – Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2010, 8:00 PM EST

Attendees: John Pinyerd, Chris Hipgrave, Tom O'Sullivan, Chris Osment

By Skype: Chuck Brabec, Chris Norbury, Tom Wier, Peter Lutter, Denny Adams, and Seth Eisner

The 11/15/09 Minutes were introduced. The link is:

[http://www.usawildwater.com/Committee\\_Minutes/WWC\\_Meeting\\_Minutes\\_111509.pdf](http://www.usawildwater.com/Committee_Minutes/WWC_Meeting_Minutes_111509.pdf)

### Welcome:

John – Welcomed the new board and thanked everyone for their dedication. John also covered the ground rules of no flaming, and provided a brief overview of his vision and our challenges.

### Finances:

Tom O – we have a current balance of approximately \$8750 not counting the USACK stipend this year. Tom will submit a detailed Treasurer's Report to the board after he digs into the details. David Jones and John can help provide additional support in this area.

### Editors Update, Website, Rankings:

Chuck gave an update on how the new Donation function works on our website. He has gotten no feedback on Rankings and the assumption of the board is that there are no questions.

### Sponsorship/Revenue Development:

Jeremy (who was unable to attend) will need to give us any updates on 2010 corporate sponsorship.

John – discussed his thoughts on fund raising efforts & expectations

### 2010 US Races/Events:

- Chuck – covered the Junior Olympic Qualifiers. They are:

- 2010 Glacier Breaker (NC) - February 27-28
- 2010 Cedar River Race (WA) - March 13
- 2010 Red Moshannon Downriver Race (PA) - March 27
- 2010 US Open & Eastern Wildwater Junior Team Trials (NC) - March 28-29
- 2010 Salmon River Wildwater Race (NY) - April 10-11
- 2010 Webster Weekend Downriver Race - April 10
- 2010 Western Junior Team Trials (CO) - April 24-25
- 2010 Golden Race (CO) - April 30 & May 1
- 2010 FIBArk Wildwater Series (CO) - June 17-20

- Chris H gave an overview of Team Trails. There are no pressing needs that the board needs to address. Chris will give an additional press release.

- We agreed to set the % to qualify for team at the level used in the example in our bylaws of 18% + class handicap since the previous minimum was 23%. We will review this annually after the venue has been set. It was the consensus of several folks that we may likely need to continue to tighten this down to the 15% range in future years.

- Chris O – reviewed the SE Cup. He will have more details in the next few weeks.

- Denny – will update us on the CO Cup dates as they are set by the organizers. He appreciates any funds we can provide for prizes, etc, and will request them as appropriate.

- Tom W – gave an overview of Nationals. The website is: <http://2010wildwaternationals.wordpress.com/>

- Training Camps and Other Races - We need to do more!!!!

- John - Chute the Hooch – had 27 participants. Funding was approved at \$300. Note: the revised total will be about \$150 to cover expenses incurred by John and Tom. \$100 in cash was given to head Coach Maurizio Tognacci from individual cash donations and the other coaches declined their stipends.
- Chris N discussed the mid Atlantic training camps. We need to do more!!!!

#### Development/Recruiting:

- Peter – Discussed his efforts in Sprint/Slalom Jrs recruiting and will advise us of any needs.
- A workgroup headed by Chris H, with other members of Denny, Chris N and Tom O will develop and present to the WWC their ideas on a long term and short term strategy/plan for Regional/National Recruitment and Regional/National Development.
- Chris H – gave an update on the “Mono Class”. It looks like it’s officially dead at the ICF level. However, we are revisiting an earlier idea we had on potentially working with a domestic boat manufacturer to produce plastic wildwater boats.

#### 2011 Venue Selection Process:

- John and Tom W formed a Workgroup to evaluate our Nationals and Team Trials location selection procedure and structure. The open questions are: Does the process, and the current dates/venues for TT’s and Nationals best support the sport? How much time do we need between Team Trails and international events? Should we consider Split Trials? If so, how can we do this and be fair (i.e. six weeks in between events, etc)? What is the best way to balance the lack of long term ICF calendar that lists the Word Cups vs. our need to award events as much as a year in advance to organizers?

#### International Races:

- Chris N – gave an overview of the Worlds Schedule (masters sprint and classic, open sprint/classic, team sprint/classic will fall within the week of June 7-13 but we do not know the specific dates of these events at this time.
- Tom W- the World Cups are 3 following W/Es (June 19-20, 26-27, and July 3-4) and are n very tough rivers (Socca, Adda, Loeffler) Note: we need to get them on our USAWW Calendar.
- John’s estimate for travel is 10-12+ days for Worlds although top athletes will want to do more. The travel days for the Worlds + WC’s are 31-33 days.
- Chris H believes that the Team size at Worlds will be more in the range of 7-8 versus John’s original guess of 12-14 and 3-4 for the World Cups. He also reported that a huge obstacle is that the airlines are continuing to reject boats or charge big fees. Chris H reported that the slalom team is having to pay \$500+ each way for boat transport.

#### Uniforms

Chris H – updated us that the USACK deal with Nike is dead. We will have to buy them on our on. Chris will look at a few sources he has and advise us.

#### 2010 Preliminary Budget Discussion/Approval

- John/Tom O walked us through our initial budget for the year. It was approved with modifications. See: [www.usawildwater.com/Committee\\_Minutes/Budget\\_2010-01-23.pdf](http://www.usawildwater.com/Committee_Minutes/Budget_2010-01-23.pdf)
- Tom O and Chris H will work to set a Team Budget that helps support with coaching, management, and perhaps transport within the confines of \$3500 for base funding.

#### Other:

- 2009 Volunteers of the Year: Ed Loeffel and Tom Calhoun. John will work with Jeremy to see if we can come up with anything to help recognize their efforts. .
- Chuck Lyda has stage 4 cancer. He is in our prayers.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Team Trials, 7:30 Saturday PM March 27<sup>th</sup>