

USA Canoe/Kayak Team – Wildwater Committee – Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2010, 4:00 PM EST (NOC Conference Room & Skype)

Attendees: John Pinyerd, Chris Hipgrave, Tom O’Sullivan, Chris Osment, Chris Norbury, Chuck Brabec, Tom Wier, Peter Lutter

By Skype: Seth Eisner

Others in attendance: Lane Errickson, Ben Sandiford, Mike Harris, David Jones, Tierney O’Sullivan

2010 US Races/Events:

Chris Osment will put together four dates for the Southeastern Cup which will be focused on introduction to the sport for juniors and younger paddlers. Dates will be in May, June, July, and early August. A one-day format with a teaching session and small race to follow. Chris Osment and Chris Hipgrave will talk with Pyrahna about getting 6 to 8 plastic boats. The USA Wildwater Website will be used to advertise this. Chris Osment to have this info on the website by mid-April.

CO Cup update / FIBARK – Denny Adams unable to attend the meeting.

Tom Wier Nationals. The website is: <http://2010wildwaternational.wordpress.com/>

There is solid support from Washington Kayak Clubs for safety. With the energetic support from local clubs, there will be a recreational class race included on Saturday, to encourage participation by the rec boaters in the area.

Campground and lodging at the put-in is already arranged. Camping is Free with a capacity for 40+ people. Indoor housing is available \$30 per night and includes kitchenette. There is a small grocery. The nearest community is 12 miles away. Contact Jennie Goldberg for camping/housing information and reservations. Jenny will put a link on the USAWW website. Seattle City Electric Utility is supporting this event. Local support is solid.

Tom Wier is collecting boats to loan. A list will be posted on the Nationals website. Some boats may be for free, others will include a rental fee.

Some shuttle transportation is available. Contact Jennie Goldberg to arrange and confirm transportation if you are planning to arrive in Seattle with a boat.

John Pinyerd will send a reminder email to encourage the Colorado clubs to attend Nationals. Send email to Denny Adams, Jeremy Rodgers, Nate Lord, Chris Wiegand and Fibark Club.

Seth offered to keep boat wrapping at his house for people who travel with boats, and need to keep the wrapping somewhere during that week.

There will be a Training Camp on April 24-25 on the Nationals course. Contact Tom Wier if interested in this camp. Another camp at the Skagit will be conducted during the week leading up to Nationals.

Mid-Atlantic training camps. Chris Norbury

A camp was scheduled this spring on the Tohickon, but no paddlers showed for that camp. There is a camp scheduled on Potomac, near Bloomington Maryland which will have a beginner focus. Dates will be in May and will be placed on the USA WW website.

International Races Schedules:

- World Cup Races are at the Soča River, Slovenia; Adda River, Italy; Lofer River, Austria.
 - Mike Harris indicated he will attend the race at Lofer

 - Competitors going to World Championships:
 - K1M – Jeremy Rodgers, Mark Wendolowski, Maurizio Tognacci in Masters K1
 - K1W – Jennie Goldberg, Haley Popp
 - C1 – Tom Wier, Mike Harris, Tyler Hinton
 - C2 – Colton & Bryson Popp
- In addition to paddlers, the Popp family, and several family members may attend.

Jeremy Rodgers, Application for Bye. Jeremy Rodgers bye request is approved, and will be allocated a K1 slot on the team.

Ben Sandiford will attend and represent the USA as an ICF WW Official. All countries are required to submit at least one ICF Official, whom the World Championships organizers can include in race administration and judging if needed.

Uniforms

\$500 from the WW budget is allocated to uniforms. Chris Osment will give Chris Hipgrave a headcount and size list within 3 days of the end of Trials. Chris Hipgrave will order uniforms, and have a US logo put on them.

Finances:

Tom O'Sullivan – Treasurer's Report – [Updated Budget list from this meeting is on the last page of this report, and is included in separate email to the committee.](#)

Budget Discussion and decisions:

Entry Fees for the Worlds are 30Euros per Athlete. This will be paid from the USA WW budget line for Sr. Team Funding.

Tom O'Sullivan will review & report variances to the budget income and spending within next few weeks.

John Pinyerd – Donations - USACK has reneged on their support.

ALL – Sponsorship ideas/programs we can implement

John Pinyerd suggested that we review the \$3000 we have budgeted on Development. Chris Hipgrave commented that we do not have a targeted plan for this funding, and therefore will not be used effectively this year to make a difference in program or team this year. After further discussion it was decided to leave the \$3000 budgeted for development in tact knowing that we do not have the programs in place at this time to utilize the funding.

John commented that ideas are important but we must develop these ideas into processes that are repeatable and sustainable and that are going to give us value.

2010 Line item Budget Review Approved budget for now is....

Banked Reserve - \$1000 – remain in budget

Administrative \$500 – remain in budget

Development \$3000 - remain in budget.

Uniforms \$500

Sr. Team Funding - reduced to \$3000

- World Championships participant fees \$400-\$450
- Car Rental for team \$600
- Manager funding \$2000

Performance Funding

- Reduce Performance funding to \$2500

Remainder of budget stays in place.

Fund Raising discussion:

Suggestions:

- Auction a paddling day with team members, or other committee and team involvement in local clubs or events that could be used to raise donations via ‘auction’.
- Solicit boat and equipment donations, to sell or auction on USA WW website.

Development/Recruiting:

Peter Lutter – Update on Sprint/Slalom Jrs recruiting.

Peter indicated that he is coordinating with USACK for a tentative camp in June for Slalom and WW. Four days of instruction and training.

Peter commented that he would like to see events include SL and WW and encourage Slalom athletes to participate.....then opened the floor to suggestions on how that can that be promoted.

Seth commented that committee members should attend local low key events, participate and encourage others in recreational boats, then show them WW boats. It can be a sneaky way to get people started on a track to paddle fast, then to learn to paddle WW boats.

Seth – Proposes 7-10 day training camp in Seattle, including local rivers. This item did not receive additional conversation. Seth and Northwest paddlers should organize and communicate their plans through the website.

Chris Norbury – Development, Trials, and Calendar discussion.

- We’re doing okay introducing people to WW, but we are not doing well retaining people.
- Chris N suggests altering the US WW calendar to put Trials in the fall, AND hold training camps subsequent to team selection, before going to World Cups’ or Championships.
- One factor he is emphasizing is setting higher goals, objectives, standards, to raise the level of performance and motivation through collaboration among team members.

- Question and discussion from Tom O’Sullivan. Do camps like Chute the Hooch work. Chute the Hooch is a low key, instructional camp. Others responded that the idea is good, but the mid winter dates are not good. There were multiple comments that camps should be in summer and fall when weather is good.
- John Pinyerd and Tom Wier are conducting a review of whether Team Trials and Nationals support the sport in US. One suggestion includes split Trials with one event in the east, and one in the west. Another point of discussion is: What is the right amount of time between TT and travel to Europe? Should we re-think scheduling of TT.
- Tom Wier – Commented on using a split trials, but there does not appear to be a fair method for Split Trials.
- Jeremy Rodgers suggested (via written input to the meeting notes) that split team trial senior slots can be allotted annually by board appointment based upon the boards judgment on how many viable paddlers in each region would qualify i.e. some years it would be 2 and 2, others 1 and 3 K1’s (...east /west etc).
- A proposal to move Team Trials to the fall was moved and passed. **Team Trials for 2011 World Cup team is now moved to Nationals at the Skagit, on July 31-August 1 2010.** Additional team program planning and guidelines are to be published by the time Nationals occurs on July 31. Additional Program guidelines suggested include: requirement to attend one or two regional training camps between the Fall and departure for World Cups in the spring. Other requirements may be debated and added. The objective is to ‘motivate’ or enhance team members to train together and improve their racing between team selection and competition in World Championships and World Cup.
- The next steps include communication to the Wildwater community that a Fall team trials will be accompanied with requirements for athletes that include: 1-must attend regional training camp; 2-communicate and check in with a National Team Coach whom is TBD, regarding your training, progress, and preparations for ICF level competitions;
- Chris Norbury added that currently, training camps are slanted toward instructional purposes; therefore if the best paddlers get together, it might help build the team through association.
 - o Peter Lutter – supports the idea.
 - o Tierney O’Sullivan likes the idea. Would like to see some emphasis in a high level training camp.
- John Pinyerd – Proposed to change our Team Trails to a summer/fall schedule now.
 - o Passed by committee vote. Skagit will be 2011 Team Trials.
- Additional process work TBD to be chaired by John Pinyerd and Tom Wier.
- Juniors Team Selections will remain separate, to be held in the spring. Junior team selection to be discussed in next committee meeting.
- Chris Norbury and Chris Hipgrave will work on a National Coaching structure.

Next Meeting July 31 at Nationals. Jennie to organize a meeting place.

End of Meeting.

USACK Wildwater Committee Budget Summary – 2010
Revised Budget - Approved 3/27/10

Assumptions:

The US Wildwater Team will need to balance team support with development

Funding for each Level/Category is by Priority

Revenue assumption: \$17.5k

Priority/Category		%	Cumulative	Description
1 Banked Reserve	\$ 1,000	6%	\$ 1,000	Fund raising is always a challenge and funds deplete by the end of the season. It is key for us to be able to start each year with basic funding. At a bare minimum we should never let our balance go below this level.
2 Administrative	\$ 500	3%	\$ 1,500	To be used for trivial, but un-avoidable administrative expenses of the Board itself. This would include website hosting, long distance phone calls, faxes, business cards, and other unallocated expenses.
3 Training Camps, Coaching & Development	\$ 3,000	17%	\$ 4,500	Training Camps Funding should be used to offset the expenses of board approved and open local and regional training camps. This would include development/recruiting camps as well as camps designed for Team Members. Coaching stipends should be the primary expense for TC's and can include travel expenses (for coaches). Other anticipated expenses would include food, lodging, video supplies, etc. Shortfall in this category should be made up by modest fees charged to participants. Funds from this area should also be used to fund coaching at WWC international, regional, and development events, and for team members.
4 Uniforms	\$ 500	3%	\$ 5,000	Uniform and related expenses
5.a Sr. Team Funding	\$ 3,000	17%	\$ 8,000	To defray athlete expenses for Sr. Team members attending international events in such areas as TEAM housing, travel, boat transport, etc. Wherever possible these funds will be channeled to TEAM group functions (example: the athlete must stay with TEAM housing to receive this funding)
5.b Performance Funding	\$ 2,500	14%	\$ 10,500	Special allocation to Team Members for outstanding performance at international events. This incentive program is based on the performance of the athlete at the World Championships and the World Cups. Each finish within the performance range buys the athlete a share of the "pie". No one athlete can receive more than half of the fund. Overview: A finish within 5% of the winner of a World Cup buys 3 shares (6 for Worlds); A finish within 9% of the winner of a World Cup buys 2 shares (4 for Worlds), A finish within 13% of the winner of a World Cup buys 1 share (2 for Worlds)
6 Banked Reserve 2	\$ 1,000	6%	\$ 11,500	With fund raising always being a challenge, it is necessary for us to have a second level of reserves after we get past funding our critical items for the year in order to insure we can start the next year with basic funding.
7 US Nationals Festival	\$ 500	3%	\$ 12,000	This funding will offset a variety of expenses during Nationals week. These include: promotion materials, social events (like dinners, BBQs), and training sessions and coaching or could be designated as prize money to boost turnout.
8 Regional Races	\$ 250	1%	\$ 12,250	Funding to be used to stimulate development of local race series such as the CO & SE Cups and the Mid-Atlantic Series. Funding in this area should be for race marketing, and juicier prizes, etc., and to help underwrite race organizers.
9 Jr Team Funding	\$ 250	1%	\$ 12,500	In 2010, since there is not international event for Jrs, this funding would be used to defray individual athlete expenses for Jr Team members attending US Nationals. These funds should be distributed in the form of PRIZE money for Jrs based on performance (WWC will define this prior to 5/1 and it may be include U-23)