

## **Minutes- USACK Wildwater Committee**

*June 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. MST*

### **Attendees:**

*In person:* John Pinyerd, Tom O'Sullivan, Jeremy Rodgers, Chris Norbury, Denny Adams, Tom Wier

*By phone:* Chuck Brabec, David Jones, Chris Osment

**Approval of the minutes:** The minutes for the meeting on April 19 were approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report:** David Jones

As of 6/2/09, the wildwater committee has a balance of \$10,098. Expected expenses include \$4,500 for Junior Team expenses in Europe, \$300 to KEEN for prizes, and \$100 to Gary Lacey for hosting the USA Wildwater barbeque on 6/18.

### **FiBark Update:** Denny Adams and Jeremy Rodgers

Denny Adams reported on preparations for the open head to head sprint.

It will require 6 volunteers to run well. The course is set, and all is prepared.

Jeremy Rodgers reported on coordination with the FiBark organization.

To ease the process of race organization, a list of requirements for race directors should be included with all bid requests in the future. This list should include safety requirements, timing, and awards. J. Rodgers and J. Pinyerd will work on the bid package for 2010 national events.

### **Junior Team Update:** Chris Osment, Junior Team Manager

12 athletes are expected to travel to Switzerland for the Junior World Championships, including 4 K1M, 4 K1W, 2 C-1M, and 1 C-2. Rental boats have been procured for almost all athletes, and there may be a way to ship boats home for little or no cost. Chris Osment will continue to work on this. Junior Team Uniforms will not be available. Nike will provide team shirts, which will be worn as official team apparel.

### **Training Camp Updates:**

Chris Norbury reported on the performance training camps being held in the Mid-Atlantic region. Several athletes regularly gather for coaching and video sessions on a variety of rivers in the area.

John Pinyerd reported plans to hold a training camp in the Southeast in conjunction with Southeasterns (the race will be held in September).

Tom Wier reported that a training camp is being planned for the first weekend of October in Bellingham, WA.

Discussion was held about requirements for a training camp to qualify for funding from the USA Wildwater Committee. A training camp must be open to all, be advertised, have coaching, and have a minimum number of participants. The number was not established. Training camps may be performance based or development based, and the focus of the camp should be made clear in the advertising.

### **Tasmania World Cup Update:** Tom Wier

Housing for the world cup has been arranged; we need to send the Tasmanian organizing committee our final team numbers in order to confirm reservations.

Boat transport from Europe to Tasmania has been arranged, but transport from the US to Tasmania and from Tasmania to the US have not been resolved. Tom Wier will continue to work on this.

**Development:** Tabled due to the absence of Chris Hipgrave

**Sponsorship Update:** Jeremy Rodgers

Blogs from team members participating in the sponsorship program have good content. Some team members need to start blogging.

A corporate sponsorship plan will be developed by Jeremy Rodgers so that athletes who fulfill all sponsorship requirements will receive funding. Requirements will include: branding of boats and equipment, and maintaining a blog with monthly updates.

**Budget Updates and Changes:**

The Junior Team Budget was increased from \$3,000 to \$4,500 due to a donation of \$1,500 for Junior Team use. Unanimous approval.

The budget for the Nationals festival was reduced from \$1,500 to \$500 to reflect actual expenses at Nationals this year. Unanimous approval.

Performance funding was increased by \$250 to a total of \$2,500. Passed with one dissenting vote (D. Jones).

(Note: attached is a copy of the updated 2009 budget with the above changes.)

**2010 National Events:**

Team trials needs to occur during the last week in March or first week in April.

Team trials and nationals need to be split east and west.

No known race organizers have stepped forward to host nationals or team trials.

John Pinyerd will be putting together the 2010 bid package for Team Trials and Nationals for board review by the End of July.

**US Team Qualification:**

Currently, athletes must meet minimum percentage requirements to qualify for the US Team. A discussion regarding tightening the percentages for 2010 selections was held. Agreement was reached that the percentages should be tightened, by approximately 5% across the board. John Pinyerd will draft a proposal for the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:** End of September, 2009.

# **USACK Wildwater Committee Budget Summary – 2009**

## **APPROVED 1/17/09, AMENDED 6/16/09**

For purposes of crafting some type of expense-side budget for 2009, I am making the following assumptions:

- for 2009, the US Wildwater Team state is in a “rebuilding” state
- for 2009, I am assuming a ballpark revenue of \$12,750
- this is a barebones spending budget for 2009. Fundraising will be critical for success

Our 2009 priorities, in order, are as follows:

- get a skeletal team to International Events
- recruiting
- coaches and training camps
- support for domestic races

Proposed tactical targets for 2009:

- 1) >50 entrants at US Nationals
- 2) bring >20 new wildwater paddlers onto the domestic racing circuit
- 3) bring >10 new Jr wildwater paddlers into the wildwater community (these DO count toward the 20 above)
- 4) attract and secure another race host/organizer to the sport

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### **1) Banked Reserve. \$1,000**

Fund raising is always a challenge, and our success at it sometimes can be unpredictable.

### **2) Administrative Expenses. \$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 charges, etc.

### **3) Junior Team Funding. \$4,500 (increased from \$3,000 on 6/16/09)**

The allocation would be used to defray individual athlete expenses for Jr Team members attending international events. The purpose of this funding is to relieve some financial pressure from the athletes. Re-imbursement for housing, travel, boat transport, etc would be covered here.

### **4) Performance Funding. \$2,500 (increased from \$2,250 on 6/16/09)**

This incentive program is based on the performance of the athlete at the World Championships and the World Cups. Each finish within a certain 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)

### **5) Team Uniforms. \$250 (decreased from \$500 on 6/16/09)**

For Sr and Jr Teams.

### **6) US Nationals Festival. \$500 (decreased from \$1,500 on 6/16/09)**

In 2009, it's a high priority to bring new paddlers into the sport. US Nationals provides us the greatest opportunity to make progress on this. This funding will offset a variety of expenses during Nationals week. Funds will also be applied toward activities and incentives designed to draw new paddlers into wildwater racing. This funding might also be used to cover travel expenses for special appearance athletes.

### **7) Training Camps & Team Coaching. \$1,500**

Cash made available to offset the expenses of local and regional training camps. Would also address coaching expenses. Anticipated expenses would include food, lodging, video supplies, etc. Any shortfall in this category will have to be made up by modest fees charged to participants.

### **8) Equipment Procurement. \$1,500**

We have a severe boat shortage, and this deeply encumbers our ability to recruit. I would like to see the Team get involved in solving this problem. Specifically, I would like to see the Team develop some type of business relationship with a distributor and/or manufacturer. Furthermore, for 2009, I recommend that (almost) all monies spent in this category go toward plastic wildwater boats.

**9) Other Domestic Races. \$1000**

We need to make a concerted effort to improve race attendance. This can be dramatically affected by local race marketing, and juicier prizes. Subsidies in this category here will also positively attract new race organizers. This is a high-priority line item.

**10) Senior Team Funding. \$0**

The allocation would be used largely to defray individual athlete expenses for Sr Team members attending international events. The purpose of this funding is to relieve some financial pressure from the athletes. Re-imbusement for housing, travel, boat transport, etc would be covered here.

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**NOTE:** The Wildwater Committee has set April 1st and June 15th as budget review/course-correction dates for making additional changes based on newer information.