

## USAT SMW Region Council Meeting

Date: December 14, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM by Chair Boris Robinson

### Attendance:

Boris Robinson	Present	Dave Young	Present	Dave Wood	Absent
John Ricca	Present	Merry Prather	Present	Duke Gill	Present
Todd Terry	Present	Ben Elder	Absent	Shelley O'Brien	Present
René LaVergne	Absent	Doug Fairchild	Present		
Jane Hresko	Present	Frank Cortese	Absent		

A motion was made by Jane Hresko and seconded by John Ricca to approve the posted minutes from our November meeting. Motion carried.

### Chair's Report:

Boris stated that this was the last meeting of the regional council for 2011 and his last meeting as a member. He noted that the South Midwest region is involved in more activities compared to other regional councils. He expressed to the council that it has been an honor for him to serve and wished the future council well.

### Treasurer's Report:

Todd Terry reported that we had about \$3,000 in unspent funds and suggested that we use this amount to offset some expenses needed for the South Midwest Awards Banquet & Conference and Frost yer Fanny. He said that we have until December 23rd to get all check request in to him as this was his last official day of work on the council. He stated that all clubs that receive a ranking award check needed to complete a W9 form and submit this to the treasurer. Merry Prather requested that the air travel expenses in the amount of \$204 be paid for the coaching clinician and this was approved.

### Championship Committee:

Jane Hresko reported that Dave Wood has e-mailed all race directors to get the information needed to send awards to all of the region/state championship winners.

### Youth Committee:

#### Junior:

Shelly O'Brien reported that she had just returned from Boston and was currently working with a race director in New Orleans to possibly host an F1 draft legal youth race. She also reported that she is working on future youth event dates and will have the details of the Junior Talent ID series information available at our meeting at the South Midwest Conference and Frost yer Fanny.

**Collegiate:**

Shelly reported that the collegiate camp in New Orleans was a resounding success with student participants responding that the camp was extremely beneficial. There were 29 students who attended the camp from Louisiana State, Texas A & M, and the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She stated that they were working on adding a draft legal component to the camp next year. John Ricca asked her if the South Midwest Region Council would have any input in the selection process for the SMW Collegiate Commissioner position currently held by Liz Baugher. Shelly responded that the collegiate committee selects this position and that the SMW council has very little input.

**Youth:**

John Ricca gave a brief report on the status of youth awards for 2012. He reported that the youth wrist band awards were still available but that in lieu of the bands a race director may opt to receive a cash gift card in order to provide a finisher award of their choice. The gift cards will be in amounts determined by the number of participants at their event. John will send the final details of the youth awards program to Duke for him to post on the SMW website.

**Communication Committee:**

Duke reported that Merry was working on the current SMW newsletter and would try to have this out in the next week or so.

**Rankings:**

Dave Young discussed with the council a new award program for the regional rankings winners. He suggested that we change the awards from "3 deep" to "5 deep" so that the top five participants in each age group receive an award. One of several reasons for awarding the top five in each group (instead of just 3) include that fact that often the point split between 1st to 5th place is a few hundredths of a point. Dave also proposes that instead of awarding the certificates and frames (which are difficult to prepare) to the awardees that we present them with South Midwest bag tags. There was a discussion on the terminology on the awards concerning noting the difference between regional championship race winners and the South Midwest ranking system winners. It was suggested that we call the SMW region winners "All Region." Dave will take care of placing the order with the bag tag company.

**Clubs:**

Jane reported that December 15 was the final day to turn in club points for the club competition. She will tabulate the numbers over the weekend.

**Officials:**

No report

**Race Directors:**

No report

**OLD BUSINESS:****-Hall of Fame status update**

John reported that he and Merry had selected 3 recipients from the nominees and that we would be giving either a plaque or a trophy to the Hall of Fame winners and that Duke would be putting the awardees on the SMW website

**-FYF 2012 Banquet status**

Jane said that there will definitely be 2 race director clinics and a coaching clinic.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**- Consideration of an Aquathlon Regional Championship and bidding process**

Boris reported that USAT National may be considering an Aquathlon championship series and that we need to be sure to stay informed so as to offer input in possible locations in the South Midwest. We need to make sure we have input so that a race is not awarded to a race director with whom the region has had difficulty.

**-New members business cards, caps & shirts**

John announced that we would be ordering new caps, business cards, and a polo shirt for the new council members. Incumbent council members will not receive new items unless they need a replacement.

**-Assignment of council positions**

No decision was made on positions but Boris made the suggestion that each committee actually be a "committee" with more than one person (the committee chair) serving.

**Other:**

Dave asked Boris if he and the retiring council members would please attend and help at Frost yer Fanny. Boris responded that he would be there.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Minutes as submitted by Duke Gill on behalf of secretary, René LaVergne.