

Minutes – USACK Wildwater Committee

March 2, 2008

Attendees: Doug Ritchie, Seth Eisner, John Pinyerd, David Jones, Chuck Brabec, Chrissy Zeltner

Old Business

December 12, 2007 minutes were introduced by Pinyerd. The minutes are on www.usawildwater.com.

Treasurers Report:

Jones reports that the Wildwater current account balance is \$4,047.08. Eisner points out that the balance is not net of recent contributions. Immediate anticipated total expected to be \$9,047.08.

Upcoming Event Review

Discussion by all of upcoming events and opportunities/challenges ahead for the Committee.

Discussion of Team Trials site and organization, Eisner volunteers to coordinate with race sponsor and be WW Committee operations manager for Team Trials. Ritchie discusses possible promotion for Fibark. Discussion of funding challenges for Senior and Junior international teams.

Adjusted Calendar below:

- April 5-6. US Team Trials. Cheat River, WV
- June 5-8. The Worlds are in ITA, Masters Worlds are to be included with race dates of May 31 and June 1
- June 13-15. Fibark Wildwater Series
- June 14-15. World Cups 1 & 2 will be in Karlovy Vary CZE
- June 21-22. World Cups - 3 & 4 will be in Lofer AUS
- July 12-13. 08 Jr Pre-Worlds & 09 Worlds will be in SUI
- August 1-3. US Nationals. Deerfield River, MA

New Business

Comments from incoming Chair

Doug Ritchie acknowledged past Board Members, and welcomed new members and proposed a 2008 Budget. The budget contains funding for local and regional development as well as Nationals festival.

Proposed 2008 Budget ([click here to view the budget](#))

- \$1500 for Team Uniforms added to budget (shown on the revised budget as Level II)
 - Tiered section of budget (above the line) voted upon and unanimously accepted.
 - Apportioned section of budget (below the line) tabled until next meeting.
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- Specific tabled components of 2008 proposed budget: The proposed 2008 budget contained funding for "local and Regional growth" and "U.S. Nationals Festival". Discussion by Ritchie, Pinyerd, Eisner, Jones and others regarding the funding levels and implementation. Defined in proposed budget as:

"In 2008, we would like to re-emphasize the importance of local and regional Wildwater presence. This is the grass-roots level where the sport has been built in the past, and we would like to be aggressive in this area this year. Funds here could be used for:

- procurement of boats (both composite and plastic). This equipment would become assets of the Team, and would be regionally distributed.
- small stipend (\$500?) to key local "anchor" contributors. We all know that making stuff happen locally takes both time and money. We can help offset the real cash expenses of our key volunteers
- local race subsidies
- In 2008, 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. These include: US Team tee-shirts and caps, promotion materials, social events (like dinners, BBQs), and informal training sessions. This funding might also be used to cover travel expenses for special appearance athletes, like Brent Reitz."

Fundraising

Target fundraising for 2008 will be \$10k. Doug, Seth, John, David, and Chrissy will each attempt to procure \$2k. Seth will provide a "talking point" document, and coordinate fundraising team activities. All fundraising activities targeted to complete by July 1st.

Budget proposals

Ritchie and others discuss budget proposals in excess of \$19,000 or approximately \$10,000 in excess of our current account balance. Discussion by Jones, Pinyerd and others of anticipated funding.

Training Camps

Ritchie discusses amount budget for training camps, \$2,500 and whether the amount is too high/low, asks for input regarding expected number of camps.

Uniforms

Pinyerd discusses the importance of fielding a U.S. Jr. and Sr. team where all members have uniforms. All board members in agreement.

Line item for funding added to budget. John/Seth to start lining up uniforms for 2008 Teams.

Jr Team

Jr. Team Manager has been selected but no other discussion of Jr. Team Funding or events took place (time constrained).

Promotion of Events

Ritchie discusses working with Ed Loeffel to help promote FiBARK. Some continued discussion of funding for Nationals Festival and what that would entail.

Sr Team Manager

Pinyerd and others point out the lack of a Sr. Team Manager. Eisner suggests sending a message on the WildwaterUSA.org chat site.

At Large Board Members

Eisner and others discuss at large board members. Usually at large members are chosen relatively early in the year, however an effort is being coordinated to select at large members who might also be key players in "Local and Regional Growth". Several names put forth. No specific recommendations made. Follow-up conversation slated for next meeting.

Separate Account

Ritchie discusses the concept of Wildwater having a separate account under USACK's 501c3. The discussion revolves around past accounting issues and the "visibility" of funds in a separate account. Continued discussion with USACK necessary, may be more work than it is worth.

Next Meeting

Scheduled during Team Trials on April 5th at 7PM.
