

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Tri-State Council of Figure Skating Clubs
Saturday, June 17, 2017, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, Ohio

The Annual Meeting opened at 10:10am

President JoAnn Eastman gave a welcome and introductions were made around the room by delegates, officers and guests.

JoAnn distributed her Presidents Report (Attached page 6)

Report of Officers:

Secretary Report – Kendra Wright

Motion – Steve Wolkin, to accept 2016 annual meeting minutes. Second Doreen Young. Passed

- Minutes provided in advance for packet pages 4-7
- Will continue to keep Facebook page updates. The page can be found by searching, **Tri-State Council of Figure Skating Clubs**.
- This secretary will happily email announcements however they must be provided by the clubs. Secretary will not author club announcements. Announcements will also be posted on the Facebook page.
 - Secretary cannot commit to website maintenance. Calvin Carson will assume responsibility.
- Skater Recognition Awards (page 11 of packet). Dorothy Tank sends award money to skaters and officials who qualify. She uses Skating Magazine to obtain information. It would be helpful if clubs communicate with Dorothy if they have skaters and/or officials who should receive money so that no one is forgotten. Skating Magazine occasionally omits information.
- Membership Applications – Please write legibly so that club contact information is accurate.

Treasurer Report – Kendra Wright for Dorothy Tank

- Report provided in advance for packet pages 8-10
- **National Skating Month** participation was low. Only 6 clubs sent receipts for refund. In the past Tri-State has paid for up to 40 clubs.
 - Jeff Marshall – asked if Tri-State could pay for clubs on-line. Unfortunately the new registration process does not allow Tri-State to do this. This was new last year and communicated to the Tri-State clubs via email, Facebook and meeting minutes. Lainie DeMore recommended that multiple emails regarding reimbursement are sent monthly. Secretary agreed to do this in addition to posting on Facebook.
- **Snowplow Sam** – Sam was rented once this past year. What should we do with him? Conversation regarding the costumes being uncomfortable and hot was discussed. It was also noted that the costume is very large and difficult to transport/store.
 - Hannelore Murphy recommended that the suit go to every basic skill competition.
 - Steve Wolkin recommended increase of advertising rental opportunity. Secretary agreed to email clubs rental information.
 - Calvin Carson suggested that the suit be sent to both Tri-State competitions.
 - Side Note – the costume has been professionally cleaned.

Motion – Steve Wolkin, Beginning in 2018, clubs hosting the freeski and synchro competitions will receive Snowplow Sam to be used as they see fit. Second – Calvin Carson. Passed

- **Schools in Michigan and Ohio for new rules?** - New rule implementation date is November 2017. Lainie DeMore will communicate when the changes are ready to roll out. Jeff Marshall and Steve Wolkin recommended setting money aside for judges' schools in Michigan and Ohio. **Motion** – Steve Wolkin, Tri-State to set aside \$1000.00 (\$500 for Michigan and \$500 for Ohio) to host school for the new rules. Bill Goen second. Passed

Vice President of Ohio – Steve Wolkin, presented Lainie DeMore to lead report for Ohio.

- Terry Kollar passed away in June. His passing will be a great loss to the Cleveland area and to the Figure Skating Community.
- USFSA VP's report – Lainie DeMore
 - Coach Compliance happening now.
 - Partner Compliance – if partnering a minor child and over 18, a background check will be required for both dance and pair partners.
 - It is USFSA Membership renewal time.
 - Safe Sport compliance chair if not designated by the club will be assigned to the president of the club. Lainie suggests staying ahead of training and having leadership in place.
 - Lainie will send out via email the Combined Report of Action.
 - Task force to restructure Nationals. Due to cost and price, possible restructuring Juvenile and Intermediate out of Individual Nationals.
 - Learn to Skate – 1 year anniversary 125K goal will be surpassed!
 - Lore Murphy commented that the fee was increased from \$12 to \$16 late in the season. This is a hardship for clubs because most are absorbing the \$4 difference.
 - Fee determined by Governing Council. Feedback will be shared.
 - Clubs are not able to register all coaches at once on-line. This is creating additional fees.
 - Lainie recommended calling USFSA for assistance.
 - Governing Council will be in Orlando Florida in 2018
 - Steve Wolkin – Synchro change of Start/Stop rule 1404 has been slightly changed.
 - Club Ed Plus- Agenda being set by Patrick Oneil, Lainie & Steve – TBD. Some areas of coverage are:
 - Learn to Skate for beginners and established coaches. Input welcome to Steve.
 - Courses for clubs having problems with members and board members.
 - Safe Sport – legislation pending for minors who are athletes. Subcommittee of ethics now its own committee. Everyone should take the training. This helps to differentiate bullying levels.
 - Timing is September 30 which could conflict with Accounting School. Video training was recommended by Calvin Carson.
- **2018 – Olympic Year!**

Vice President of Michigan – Bill Ziegler, Absent

No report provided

Vice President of Indiana – Tracey Mulherin, Absent

No report provided

Vice President of Western Pennsylvania – Donna Cerami, Absent

No report provided

Awards - Jeff Marshall

- Medals were purchased three years ago. One-thousand medals were purchased at that time. The current inventory is approximately one-hundred medals. The same medal was used for Synchro and Freestyle for easy transportation. A sample of the medal was passed around the room. The cost per medal was \$2.00.

Jeff recommended purchasing one-thousand medals for the next three years. Medals were purchased from Champion Sports.

Motion – Bill Goen, To allocate up to ten-thousand dollars to purchase medals for the next three seasons. Second, Doreen Young. Passed

- Will also continue competition plaques with competition logo. Cost for plaques is approximately \$25.00 each.
- **Doroty Estey** – Betty Todd passed away and her name should be included on the memorial trophy. Bill Estey will provide a history for each person listed on the trophy which will be part of the Tri-State program ad. The trophy will be displayed at both completions.

Discussion regarding award (plaque) for club with most points. This is generally awarded to the host club.

Motion – Dorothy Estey, to discontinue the point award, Second Lainie DeMore. Passed

Music – Bill Goen

- Failed mixers need to be replaced.
- A lengthy conversation began about moving the music from CD's to downloads/uploads. Laptops would need to be purchased and training would be involved. Discussion about upload issues and distortion at Synchro Midwesterns. The approximated cost would be \$2400.00 for a pair of laptops. USFSA is in the process of developing an upload software. Steve Wolkin recommends waiting to purchase laptops based on Cleveland's experience. Cleveland could possibly rent to Tri-State.

Motion – Steve Wolkin, To wait to purchase laptops, Second Lainie, Passed

Annual meeting date discussion. Proposed that Steve Wolkin will draft a constitution change. The change will give language that the annual meeting will be held on the first weekend in June or as close thereto as possible. Once drafted, a 30 day notice will be sent and will be voted on by electronic ballot.

Midyear meeting discussion. Proposed to change language to have a mid year meeting when necessary as determined by the president. A 30 day notice will be sent out once drafted and will be voted on by electronic ballot.

Thank you notes from skaters and officials were shared around the room for recognition award money received.

Break – 11:58am

Return – 12:45pm

Freeskate Competition Bid.

The one competition bid received from the Dearborn Figure Skating Club was withdrawn.

Chelsea Figure Skating Club submitted a bid from the floor. No other clubs submitted bids from the floor. Chelsea was awarded the competition.

Synchro Competition Bid

Traverse City Figure Skating Club – Did not send a club representative to the meeting. The club asked Secretary, Kendra Wright to read the bid at the meeting. After much discussion, the bid was not allowed because the bid instruction states that the bid must be presented in person by the club. Kendra Wright is not a member of the Traverse City Figure Skating Club.

Synchro Competition Bids Presented by:

1. Dearborn Figure Skating Club – Doreen Young
2. Fraser Figure Skating Club – Hannelore Murphy
3. Midland Figure Skating Club – Steve Hartsell

Votes collected and counted by Bill Goen & Kendra Wright

Midland Figure Skating Club received the most votes and won the bid for the Synchro Competition.

Tri-State Freeskate – Lack of participation discussion.

Steve Hartsell would like the Freeskate Competition to be part of National Solo Dance to draw skaters. Tri-State supports approximately 50 clubs from 4 states. Steve will contact Cindy York from the Detroit Metro Council for guidance as to how to become part of National Solo Dance.

Jeff Marshall contributed that the date of the event should be consistent. After much conversation more research will be done to find a date that is consistent.

Tri-State Synchro – Adding a Tot event.

Jeff Marshall presented reasons to add a Tot event to the Tri-State Synchro Competition. There was much discussion for and against adding the event.

Motion – Bill Goen, Add Tot to and exhibition event with a minimum requirements that match beginner 1. Steve Hartsell Second. Passed.

Hannelore Murphy – Would like to see more communication between Basic Skill Competitions. Often competitions conflict and are financially hurting each other. Hannelore will pursue a way to coordinate these events.

Election Slate: Presidnet – Jeff Marshall
Treasurer – Doroty Tank
Secretary – Kendra Wright
VP Michigan – Bill Zielger
VP Ohio – Steve Wolkin
VP Indiana – Tracey Mulherin
VP W. Pennsylvania – Donna Cerami

No nominations were made from the floor.

Motion – Calvin Carson to close the vote. Hannelore Murphy Second. Passed

Announcements.

1. Accounting School – September 30 – October 1, 2017
2. Test Track Series has ended. Please remember to remove from competition announcement.
3. Kalamazoo Synchro Judges School November 6, 2017
4. Snowplow Sam Rental Agreement in Packet
5. 2017/2018 Tri-State Membership renewal for Clubs in packet
6. Encourage attendees to take extra packets back to club

Motion to adjourn meeting. All were in favor. Approximately 2pm.

Presidents Report

The Tri-State Council would like to “Thank” the two clubs that hosted our Tri-State competitions. First, the Mentor FSC, in Mentor, Ohio, hosted the Synchronized Skating Competition. Suzanne Clemente and her crew did a great job. Secondly, the Midland FSC in Midland, Michigan was the host of our Tri-State Free Skating competition. Although it wasn’t as large as they had hoped for, Karen Boswell and her team put their best foot forward and did an excellent job.

The Ice House Skating Academy, in Brighton, Michigan, which is home to the Harmony Theatre Company, hosted the 2017 Nation’s Cup Theatre on Ice International competition, in Ann Arbor, Michigan at Yost Arena. It was a huge success and was well attended. Their Novice team is the new 2017 Nation’s Cup Gold Medalists and their Adult, Junior and Senior teams placed and all came home with medals.

Snow Plow Sam has found a new home. We do need to decide what to do with him? It seems that he has not been used as much as we would have to have seen. That is one our goals in this meeting today, as to decide what we want to do with him.

This year we had a few more clubs join because of Kendra Wright’s amazing job on recruitment for membership. We do need to continue to spread the word and encourage more clubs to join.

One of the exciting things that came out of Governing Council is the new testing structure which will introduced sometime in 2017-2018. So that entails more education in the near future we might want to think about schools for judges, coaches, test chairs, etc.

I would like to give a special “THANKS” to Kendra Wright for keeping all of our Tri-State Council members well informed.