

## **Minutes of the OISRA Alpine Division Steering /General meeting of May 12th<sup>th</sup>. (E)**

### **Location:**

JD Fulwiler premises  
5727 Macadam Ave  
Portland, OR 97239.  
Commenced 9:45.

### **Attendance:**

Gary King, Division Director  
Ryan Rooper, Assistant Director. Elect  
Todd McNabb Commissioner; Elect  
David Moulton, Commissioner emeritus  
Laura Gentry, Metro League  
Dane Klindt, Mount Hood League  
Willy Scroggins, Three Rivers League-subbing for Spencer Raymond  
Richard Sellens, Division secretary/treasurer  
Randy Hewitt.-Representing Memorial race and Sportsmanship.

### **Announcement of Elected Officers.**

As required in the Division Policies the Assistant Director & Commissioner are voted for in even years. Eligible coaches were issued with Ballots and the returns elected Ryan Rooper as Assistant Director, and Todd McNabb as Commissioner.

### **Director's report:**

OISRA Alpine Directors report for 2018 spring meeting .  
Since we have inducted a newly elected State Commissioner, Todd McNabb, an Alpine Division Assistant Director, Ryan Rooper, and a new League representative from the Mt. Hood League, Dane Klindt, I believe it to be of great importance to discuss what is our stated mission of the OISRA .  
Stay Current with National and International skiing competitions.  
Stress team participation, while including individual recognition.  
Stress fun and adventure, within boundaries of safety and fairness.  
Have flexibility for participation that builds inclusiveness.  
History of the OISRA:  
1961 OISRA begins  
2000 Nordic Added  
2011 Freestyle added  
Currently:  
Alpine: 52 Schools, 76 Coaches, 520 Athletes  
Nordic: 14 Schools, 39 Coaches, 268 Athletes

The OISRA participation is continuously growing while USSA is steadily declining. In my opinion it has to do more with the positive team aspects involved in our organization as compared to the heavily weighted favoritism to the already highly accomplished elite athletes, such as points earning and seeding. Other factors may include cost of travelling, coaches and entry fees.

I also want to stress that OISRA has continued to be the prestigious Oregon High School ski racing organization. We must prioritize taking care of our own skiers  
Historic efforts in the past six years to bring back the Central Oregon and Emerald league teams have constantly been put in effect, including a Statewide meeting with Oregon Athletic Directors, which led to the meeting with OSSA coaches back in

2015. Then we made policy changes to allow participation of non OISRA members, leading to invitations being sent out without replies. Finally personal discussions with OSSA coaches, families ,and athletes in 2017 led to the guest participation of a few of their athletes.

This past year, at great expense, the TRL hosted the State Championships at Mt. Bachelor to help garner interest in participation by the Non OISRA teams and individuals.

The League hosting of State Championships:

Past Challenges and solutions:

Costly to host League, sometimes losing money

Fix: Raising entrance fees to cover costs of actual race

Timing Systems, dependability and operator expertise

Fix: Pay for qualified timers and systems

Finding qualified Officials

Fix: Pay for qualified TD's, Registration, etc

New Challenges

Sponsorships: How should it be spent, accountability, decision making, budgeting

Effort put on bringing in guest racers:

Are they qualified? Are we bringing them in at the expense of our own racers?

Race Rules:

Some wanting to go to a switch 30 second run benefiting individuals rather than

Following team prioritization.

Race Venue:

Try as best we can to make sure it is up to a higher standard for the State

Championships

### **Outgoing Commissioner report recap**

Great race at Mt Bachelor

Cost to put on state race was much more expensive due to many officials and workers had to be compensated for their travel and lodging

Appalled at the money that was spent on all the unnecessary things that had nothing to do with the actual race itself. Cost of the whole event was over double the cost of last year's race

Looking forward to working closely with the new commissioner ,willing to travel next winter to help train him also willing to help any league with training or officiating including State 2019

### **Suggestions for the future**

Possibly changing bib rule

Make spring/fall meetings a set date Nov. and April

All expenses to be paid by end of the season April 15 th

Hard to be leaving after 24 years with OISRA

Thanks for a good ride

David Moulton past Commissioner

### **Treasurers Report:**

Alpine Division is financially sound, Funds on hand available by request to Treasurer. Final status awaiting payment from State entries t/fer from OISRA.

Budget Recommendation: Racer registration to be at \$80.00 as per last year. Final apportioning between OISRA and Division to be approved by board. Post script: The Board have budgeted on \$65.00 for OISRA and \$15.00 per student for the Division.

Division State Budget to cover the cost of the actual races. Host League duties to be shown in State event SOP's revised in Policies for upcoming season.

### **Registration Report:**

520 registered in Alpine. No issues with general registration.

State registration for OISRA member teams went well, For the non-OISRA teams, those coaches/teams who followed web site & Registrar instructions had no issues.

Working with Philomath parent was able to make provision for Philomath and West Albany, to participate as OISRA teams of the Emerald League. Working with Southern league were able to have qualifying races.

Presuming that the recommended Bylaw changes will be adopted, the next State event will include skiers who are coached by OISRA coaches or by Guest Coaches. The Temporary membership status for schools, coaches, and students will no longer exist. This will be addressed before the fall meeting following the writing of the new OISRA and Division policies.

### **Sportsmanship & Hewitt Memorial Report:**

This report prepared by Program Director Randy Hewitt

#### **Introduction**

Although the 2017-18 season was the inaugural season for the Sportsmanship Program as an Alpine Division program, little or no change was noticed by coaches or racers. Racers continued to model excellent behavior, coaches and league leaders recognized those exemplary actions, and t-shirts and plaques were awarded to the upper tier of Alpine Division skiers at league and state awards ceremonies.

#### **Program Functions**

The Sportsmanship program has two fundamental roles:

Acknowledgement of exemplary racer sportsmanship

Implementation of the season opening Kelsey Hewitt Memorial Race

The *racer acknowledgement role* of the program was improved this season in two ways. First, League Leaders were chosen by Metro, Three Rivers, and Mt. Hood in advance of the beginning of the season. Blue Mountain has such a small league that Eric Gooderham assumed the league leader position. Southern did not confirm a league leader.

Second, face-to-face meetings were held between Director Hewitt and the League Leaders for Metro (Woodring), Three Rivers (Bauer), and Mt. Hood (Mick and Norkitis). Blue Mountain and Southern Leagues were copied on all correspondence. These pre-season communications allowed for smoother, more coordinated functioning throughout the season.

#### **Program Changes**

The 2017-18 Sportsmanship Program changed significantly in three ways since program implementation in 2011:

Funding. At the Fall 2017 Alpine Division meeting it was agreed that the Alpine Division would fund the program at an estimated level of \$1350 per season. Prior to this, the program was funded through benevolent donations garnered by program director Hewitt. This funding was specified to fund the racer acknowledgement function (above).

Realignment. The Sportsmanship program was shifted from an OISRA Board program that applied to Alpine and Nordic, to being an Alpine Division program that only applied to alpine racing. Nordic was free to administer its own sportsmanship program.

Kelsey Hewitt Memorial Race. This marquee race was confirmed at the Fall 2017 meeting to be the season opener alpine race open to all OISRA Alpine Division competitors, also including guest category, non-alpine division racers from OSSA. Funding for this race was agreed to be split evenly by Metro, TRL, and Mt. Hood leagues.

### Season Highlights

The North Lodge at Mt. Hood Meadows on Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> was a very crowded place. Approximately 385 racers, some in costumes, gathered around their coaches for the fun-filled first of the season race. The sportsmanship coordinators organized a costume contest and souvenir bracelets were distributed. The race was limited to one-run dual GS due to low snow conditions creating minimal hill space.

A couple of OSSA racers participated as guests, paying a \$10 participation (indemnity insurance) fee. Thank you to Jinny Martin for astutely organizing the online race registration.

Approximately 84 Alpine competitors received light blue t-shirts acknowledging their exemplary sportsmanship. Naturally, the sportsmanship program occupies a lower importance in the race day priority list than simply holding a race, so owing to the truncated, last-minute, stress-filled, low-snow and bad weather season, racer nominations (votes) were limited in all leagues. Hopefully next season will see fewer last-minute race venue and schedule changes, allowing more thoughtful focus to be applied to the sportsmanship program.

Fourteen plaques were presented at the Alpine State Championships awards banquet to the top boy and girl sportspersons in each league (league winners). Three racers were not present to receive their plaques, which were subsequently mailed to them.

A shortcoming of the program in previous years was that implementation of the protocols varied from league to league. This issue was largely corrected by the aforementioned selection and organization of league leaders. Further improvement can be achieved with better integration of Southern league participation.

### Financial Report

Approximately \$962 was spent of the allocated \$1350 for the sportsmanship program. Currently the sportsmanship program has a positive bank balance of approximately \$441 which is a balance remaining from personal donations and from the OISRA Board pertaining to Alpine **Division agreement to funding.**

#### Plans and Requests

For 2018-19, the fundamental goals for program improvement are:

Host more racers from around the state – Southern League and OSSA racers – at Kelsey's Race. This race could easily be *the tie that binds*, in a good way.

**REQUEST: Receive authorization to promote participation of OSSA racers at Kelsey's Race.**

Confirm perpetual program funding through Alpine Division

**REQUEST: Leave the previously donated money in the account for use on non-budgeted items for the betterment of the program. E.g. Kelsey's Race tents or flags.**

**REQUEST: Alpine Division fund raising committee obtain about \$2000 in sponsorship for beanies to give to the participants.**

Establish that the sportsmanship program definition, duties, protocols, program director position, and funding be appropriately written into the Alpine Division policies.

**REQUEST: That a steering sub-committee be formed to compose the aforementioned sportsmanship program policies.**

**Summary**

Participants and their parents love the program – both Kelsey's Race and the racer acknowledgement awards – for promoting fun and good sportsmanship among skiers who aren't necessarily the fastest or most talented athletes. As program director I receive heartfelt appreciation from numerous racers and parents. Thank you to the Alpine Division Steering Committee for allowing me to be the program director. For the 2018-19 season, I renew my commitment to be the program director if so confirmed.

**General Discussion:**

Following the formal business, there was a discussion regarding the Central Oregon and Willamette Valley, schools who used to be the Central & Emerald Leagues, returning to the OISRA. While there were observations regarding personalities involved, the meeting was reminded that, it is not the Policy of the OISRA to pursue a reunification as such, but to extend an invitation to non OISRA member students and coaches to enroll in accord with conditions as will be posted on the OISRA web site for consideration to be eligible to participate in State 2019.

Meeting closed at 3:00 PM.