A meeting of the MPA Ski Committee was held on Monday, October 30 at 9:30 a.m. at the MPA Office.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair TJ Plourde called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chad Brackett, Nichole Goodspeed (GTM), Ted Hall (GTM), Thomas Plourde, Brant Remington, and Eric Werntgen (GTM).

**LIAISONS PRESENT:** Ron Gifford and Dustin Williamson.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Bisson.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR:** On a MOTION from Hall/Werntgen, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, TJ Plourde was elected to be the chair of the Ski Committee for 2019-2020.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a MOTION by Hall/Plourde, the minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A number of emails were shared with the committee and were reviewed and placed on file at the MPA. No official action was taken on any of the correspondence.

**2019 RACE DATES, SITES, AND SCHEDULE:**

The committee discussed the challenge with Black Mountain not being able to host Class A on a day that Class B is competing at another site due to many event workers being parents of Class B participants. The committee looked at all of the available options.

Nordic Ski will be held on February 17 and 18 at Titcomb Mountain in Farmington for all three classes. Mike Bisson will see if Titcomb can host the Nordic on Thursday and Friday.

Ronn suggested Class A on Wednesday at Titcomb for Slalom and Thursday at Black for Giant Slalom.

Eric asked about running Slalom for Class B at night to accommodate the overlap of Alpine and Nordic on Class B.

**TD Coverage:** Mike Bisson is arranging coverage.

**COACHES’ REPORT:** The coaches submitted the following report following the state coach’s meeting:

**Alpine (Ron Gifford):**
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- The ski coaches would like to go back to the old scoring system or change to a system that better aligns to the number of participants involved in the race. Ronn Gifford did a study of multiple models to look at 1 or 2 member teams and their impact to the overall results by beating a 3- or 4-member team. The committee took no action and will continue for year two of the scoring system.
- Course setting was a concern. Shawnee Peak allowed coaches to work with the course setter. Black set the morning course and coaches did the second run. There is still a desire that the coaches would like to set the course at the state meet.
- Coaches had input regarding the disqualification for sportsmanship issues. They would like clarification of how the jury would enforce this.
- The coach’s association would like video to be permitted only in defense of an athlete that is disqualified, but not for reason for disqualification.

On a MOTION by Hall/Bracket, it was VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the coaches request that a video is to be permitted only in defense of an athlete that is disqualified, but not for reason for disqualification.

- The coach’s voted at their meeting to have a toboggan and ski patrol person at the start of the race to provide faster service to any injured athlete. Ted Hall would like this to be a procedure instead of a rule. Mike Bisson will address this with each venue.
- The Class A coaches voted 8-1 to not require Class A to go to Aroostook County for the 2021 State Championships.
- The Class B coaches did not take any action regarding the 2021 championships. The coaches commented that Fort Kent has good length for Slalom, but the concern is that the terrain is too flat for a State Championship. Eric Werntgen will get information regarding Lonesome Pines. The coaches were positive in holding the B/C championships in Aroostook County. Concerns at Big Rock regarding extra fees and the lack of B netting.
- A number of coaches commented on competing outside of the vacation week due to kids and coaches missing school.
- Alpine coaches concerned about Northern schools traveling more than the Southern schools on our current rotation.
- The coaches want to ensure that the gate keepers remain on site until released due to appeals.

Nordic (Dustin Williamson):

- No issues with last year’s state meets.
- Coaches would like separate awards ceremony for each discipline. Mt. Blue’s gymnasium is a possibility for the awards.
- An electronic bid process to host State Championship events.
- Concern with all classes competing in the state meets in Aroostook County.
- Having the state meet being the qualifier for the Maine Nordic team.
- A list of Elite Events was brainstormed. Ronn will compile an Alpine race.
- Waxing was a hot topic issue. The coaches would like to use nothing higher than low floral glide wax at the state meet. This includes no topcoats or anything higher than low floral.
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On a MOTION by Remington/Brackett, it was VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to restrict wax from being no higher than low floral glide wax. Enforcement would fall on the coaches, TD, and the jury. The coach’s association will develop a contract for athletes and coaches to sign off as abiding by the rules.

2019-20 BULLETIN: The 2019 Ski Bulletin was reviewed and updated with times and order of events at the four championship venues. Discussion regarding fees as a per gender or per team, per school, as well as Alpine and Nordic.

2019-20 RULEBOOK: The Alpine and Nordic Rule Books were updated.

On a MOTION from Brackett/Remington, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the Nordic jury would be changed to three members including the TD, the Chief of Competition, and the MPA representative.

Dustin Williamson will develop an appeals form.

On a MOTION from Brackett/Remington, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, committee changed the protest period from 15-minutes to 30-minutes.

COOPERATIVE TEAM APPROVAL: The following cooperative teams were presented to the committee for a vote.

- On a MOTION by Remington/Brackett, the cooperative team of Freeport/Brunswick Boys and Girls Alpine ski was defeated 0-3.
- On a MOTION by Remington/Brackett, the cooperative team of Gorham/Massabessic Boys Alpine ski was defeated 0-3.
- On a MOTION by Brackett/Remington, the cooperative team of Falmouth/Waynflete Boys and Girls Alpine ski was defeated 0-3.
- On a MOTION by Brackett/Remington, the cooperative team of Deering/Portland/Cheverus Girls’ Nordic ski was defeated 0-3.

OTHER: None

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting will be held in Monday, December 9, 2019 at the MPA office at 9:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING ITEMS:

- Glide wax no higher than CH.
- Fees for Alpine and Nordic.
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ADJOURNMENT: On a MOTION by Brackett/Remington, it was VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bisson
Assistant Executive Director

/tjm
11/14/19