

# Eastern Freestyle Spring Meeting Minutes

Eastern Freestyle Competitions Committee  
May 31 ~ 9am to 4pm  
Waterville, NH  
WVBBTS Club House  
Top of the Waterville Access Road

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair .....	Deb Newson
Vice-Chair.....	Larry Titus
Coaches.....	Glenn Eddy
Judges.....	John Spottiswoode
Rules and Technical.....	Leon Bodzioch
Athlete Representative.....	Michael Macomber
Selections/Appeals.....	Dick Holmes
Technology/Scoring.....	Dick Stone
Programs/ECS.....	Jeff Yingling
Development/EQS.....	Suzi Preston
Scheduling.....	Joan Dolan
Free Ride.....	Nate McKenzie
Event Organizers.....	Jordan Ginsberg
Member-at-Large.....	Steve Kenney
Member-at-Large.....	Matt Gnoza
Member-at-Large.....	Nick Preston

## Minutes

All motions and comments are noted in agenda in bold type.

Meeting was called to order at 9:20am. A quorum was established. All committee members present except:

**Michael Macomber, Jeff Yingling, Jordan Ginsberg and Matt Gnoza.**

The Chair announced that Michael Macomber had granted his proxy to Tim Preston.

**Motion: (Kenney) To approve the Minutes of the 2002 EFCC Fall Meeting. Titus seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.**

Chair Report - Deb Newson

- Presentation of newly appointed positions on the EFCC Committee
- USSA Spring Meeting report – see sub-committee Reports
- **USSA Freestyle Club of the Year – CVA**
- **USSA Domestic Freestyle Coach of the Year – Matt Gnoza**
- Wrap-up of the competition season
- Reminder – Items that are not published on the agenda may not be voted on at this meeting.
- Presentation of *The Responsibilities of the EFCC Members*.
- Presentation of *The By-Laws of the EFCC*
- Presentation of *The Eastern Newsletter: What is it; when is it published; who are the recipients.*
- Presentation of *The USSA Freestyle Competition Guide: The Eastern Section ~ updated May, 2003.*

- Presentation of *The EFCC Annual Meetings: When are the meetings; what is necessary for a successful meeting; what can be voted on at the meetings; Who can vote at the meetings; What meeting procedure is used.*

#### 4. Vice-Chair Report - Larry Titus

- Presentation of *Eastern regular season registration procedures: on-line, faxing, US Postal Service.*
- Presentation of *ECS/EQS Championship and Regional Finals season: registration procedures.*
- Presentation of *Eastern Freestyle Refund Policy: who may request; how to request.*

**Working Committee designated to poll event organizers to see if there is a common policy for refunding competitors once event has started. (Ginsberg)**

**Motion (Titus): Discontinue building online registration fee into meet pricing, competitors would be charged processing fee when signing up online (non refundable). Bodzioch seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.**

Alternative Motion #1A (Titus): Actual online costs are factored into each meet's pricing and event gets the actual amount from active.com minus registration costs. **WITHDRAWN**

#### 5. Office Manager's Report - Heather Moody

- Presentation of *The Responsibilities of the Eastern Division's Office Manager*
- Financial Report – Committee requested a more detailed report.
- Office Report – Office Hours
- Presentation of *Eastern Head Taxes: What are head taxes; who files them; when are they due?*
  - No outstanding head taxes from the 2002-2003 season.

#### 6. Rules & Technical - Leon Bodzioch

- **Bob Kasper from Western NY will be helping Leon with scheduling in Western NY.**
- Presentation of *The EQS TD versus the ECS TD: How to become certified; what is the compensation; restrictions on assignments.*
- **Results from TD Report Card for 2002-2003 season: Report card was not utilized this year as much as it had been intended to be used. Leon will rework it for next season.**
- Electronic Posting of TD Reports – **Leon working on this.**
- Discuss TD Situation for next season – **Looks good.**
- USSA Rule Changes for 2003-2004 season – **Eddy went over USSA rule changes.**
- Spring Clinic, Fall Clinic
- Mid-Season Introductory Clinic at EQS Level
- End of Season Introductory Clinic at EQS Level

#### 7. Judges - John Spottiswoode

- Presentation of *The EQS Judge versus the ECS Judge: How to become certified; how to stay certified; what is the compensation; How are the assignments for regional, national and international events determined.*
- 2002-2003 Report.
  - Result of increase in judges' pay scale.
  - Result of increase in judges' mileage.
- Proposed FIS Degree of Difficulty Rule Changes.
- Spring Clinic, Fall Clinic
- Mid-Season Clinic at EQS Level
- End of Season Clinic at EQS Level

#### 8. Coaches - Glenn Eddy

- **Eddy to keep track of athletes' aerial qualification list. All Eastern coaches should e-mail the appropriate information to him.**
- USSA Domestic Coach of the Year. **We need more input from Eastern coaches.**
- Presentation of *USSA Coaches Association: How to become a member.*
- Presentation of the *Responsibilities of Eastern Coaches: EQS and ECS.*

- Report on the Education Department of USSA
  - Summary of national coaches clinics
  - Eastern coaches clinics for fall

9. Athlete Representative – Tim Preston

- **Mike Macomber has concerns with venues not being safe for the half pipe and big air events this season. Working committee established to create better specs: Bodzioch, Preston, Hopkins, Eddy.**

10. Selection /Appeals - Dick Holmes

- Current Appeals Sub-Committee – Dick Holmes, Steve Kenney and Leon Bodzioch
- Presentation of *Appeals to the EFCC Appeals Sub-Committee: What is the process for an athlete/coach to File; how and when will appeals be decided upon.*
- Is It Necessary for End of the Season Move-Ups for EQS Level? **We will publish move-ups in a more inviting way.**
- Presentation of *EQS End of the Season Move-Ups: how are they determined; process for publishing.*

11. Technology/Scoring - Dick Stone

- Presentation of *Scoring: How to become certified; what is the compensation; restrictions on assignments.*
- **The Eastern Office will schedule all scoring officials for meets this year. Dick will provide office with a list all qualified scorers.**
- Date of National Scoring Clinic
- Date of Eastern Scoring Clinic
- Presentation of *Winfree Scoring Program: What is it; who may use it; what are the costs associated with use.*
- Presentation of *The Eastern Freestyle Web Site: What is it; what is the process for posting something on it; who is the Web Master.*

12. Programs/ECS - Jeff Yingling

- The Eastern Web Site will be posting program information for both ECS and EQS programs. If you wish to have your program included, then please send the link to your web site including contact name and phone number to Deb at [mg1bndt@adelphia.net](mailto:mg1bndt@adelphia.net) by June 15<sup>th</sup>. If you do not have a web site, please provide Deb with your program's contact name and contact number.
- Presentation of *Mission Statement for ECS*
- Presentation of *The Eastern Recruiting Policy: What is it.*
- Presentation of *Eastern Championship Series: Who is eligible, how to join.*
- Presentation of *ECS Divisional Championships: Quotas; notification process; acceptance process; alternate process.*
- Should we raise ECS divisional dues \$15 (payable at first meet) to be able to provide eastern sweatshirts (like Rocky did) for Junior Olympics? **No, but Deb should collect monies from athletes and order sweatshirts for the East.**
- USSA: US Qualifiers no longer exists, the FSC voted to extend quotas and fill from the FSP.
- USSA: Working committee established to produce a "How to Run Junior Olympics" pamphlet.

**Motion: (Kenney) To raise the late fee to \$30 for athletes that register after noon on the day before the event. Stone seconded. Favor – 4, Opposed – 5, abstentions – 3. Motion fails.**

**Motion: (Stone) To change the placement of the morning of the event registrants from the start of the run order to the end of the run order. Holmes Seconded. In Favor – 6, Opposed – 4, Abstentions – 2. Motion carries.**

13. EQS/Development - Suzi Preston

- Result of Suzi contacting all EQS organizers prior to event this season
- USSA has refused to score youth licenses based upon company policy.
- EQS Big Air events will be scored at 100 points this season, as they were scored incorrectly last season.

**Motion (Newson): Discontinue the use of the Eastern Points List and use USSA's FSP list . Titus seconded. In Favor – 2, Opposed – 9. Motion fails.**

This was our plan last spring.

Motion (Newson): EQS competitors wishing to be ranked on the FSP for the purposes of qualifying to Regional finals and EQS Championships must have a USSA competitor's license. **Motion withdrawn.**

Motion (Newson): The EQS Regional Finals' invitations will be determined from List #3 which closes Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004. **Motion withdrawn.** This will take Regionals and the last couple of EQS events of the regular season out of the equation when determining Regional Finals invitations, but all of these events will, in fact, be utilized by using List #4 for figuring EQS Championship invitations.

Motion (Newson): The EQS Championship invitations will be determined from List #4 which closes on Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004 and will include the Regional Finals wild card recipients. **Motion withdrawn.**  
Wild Card definition: A wild card is just that – it is an extra spot awarded to the qualifying athlete above and beyond any regular invitation to EQS Championships. This athlete need not have the minimum number of events (three) in order to qualify for this wild card spot.

Motion (Newson): EQS skiers must declare their own individual regional association at their first meet for the purposes of determining invitations to the Regional Finals. This regional association may be altered by notifying the EFCC Chair. (See Deb's Report #2 attached.) **Motion withdrawn.**

The Eastern office will continuously update their database with regional declarations, thereby making it easy to generate the Regional invitations from the FSP.

**Motion: (Preston) For the purposes of Regional Finals, mountains/programs/athletes will only be invited to their respective Regional Finals:**

**Central Region: Vermont - Stowe, Sugarbush, Killington, Okemo, Mt. Snow, Stratton, and Bromley.**

**Eastern Region: Maine, NH, MA, CT, RI - Sugarloaf, Sunday River, Waterville Valley, Loon, Attitash Bear Peak, Mt. Sunapee Resort, Wachusett Mt.**

**Western Region: Bristol, Buffalo Ski Club, Holimont, Hunter, Lake Placid, Holiday Valley, Ski Windham.**

**Nick seconded. 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention. Motion carries.**

- Presentation of *Mission Statement for EQS.*
- Presentation of *Eastern Qualification Series: Who is eligible, how to join.*
- Presentation of *EQS Divisional Championships: Quotas; notification process; acceptance process; alternate process.*
- Presentation of *EQS Regional Finals: Quotas and acceptance procedure.*
  1. East Region Report ~ Suzy Preston  
-Finals Rotation Schedule
  2. Central Region Report ~ Steve Kenney  
-Finals Rotation Schedule
  3. West Region Report ~ Mark DePeters  
-Finals Rotation Schedule  
-Suggested change in Big Air scoring format for EQS

14. Scheduling - Joan Dolan

- Presentation of *Eastern Freestyle: How to schedule an event.*

**Motion (Newson): Event organizers must pay a \$50 fine to the Eastern Freestyle Office if their sanction forms are not filed with the Scheduling Chair prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> of the upcoming competition. On-line registration monies will be held until this fine is received. By the Eastern office. Kenney seconded. All in favor – 9, Opposed – 2, Abstentions – 1. Motion carries.**

- ECS/EQS Championship Rotation Schedule
  - Bid packets.
- 2003-2004 Proposed Calendar.

15. Free Ride – Nate McKenzie

- Discussion Regarding Discipline of Slope Style
- Discussion Regarding Judging Format for Half Pipe
- Explain all of the appeals that had to be filed this year on behalf of free ride athletes that were unable to qualify for USSA events as “other” free ride events were attended

16. Promotion/Sponsorship - Deb Newson

- Presentation of *Sponsorship for Eastern Freestyle: How to become a sponsor; compensation for finding a sponsor.*

17. Event Organizers - Jordan Ginsberg

- Presentation of *How to Run A Freestyle Meet including championship level events~ updated May, 2003.*
- Presentation of *Meet Pricing: What are the limitations on cost; what is the effect of on-line registration on your meet pricing?*

**Motion (Newson): Rule changes that affect the athlete or the budget of organizers may only be voted upon in the spring meetings of the EFCC. Motion withdrawn.**

18. Old Business

19. New Business

- Set Fall Meeting Date ~ suggested September 27<sup>th</sup> or October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Sugarbush has requested to host the EFCC fall meeting, but will host the spring meeting instead. Jean Wry will be able to provide good lodging prices.
- Fall Meeting will be a conference call on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003 at 7:00pm. Numbers and more information will be published at a later date.

20. Good, Welfare & Adjournment

**WE WILL PROCEED THROUGH THE AGENDA ITEMS AS LISTED - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA WILL BE LIMITED TO DISCUSSION UNDER NEW BUSINESS AS TIME ALLOWS AND WILL NOT BE IN ORDER FOR VOTING UNTIL OUR FALL MEETING IF APPROPRIATE.**

**PREVIOUS MEETING**

EFCC Fall Meeting  
Killington, VT  
September 28, 2002

Committee members in attendance – Suzi Preston, John Spottiswoode, Steve Kenney, Glenn Eddy, Larry Titus, Deb Newson, Joan Dolan, Jay Lauder, Dick Holmes, Michael Macomber.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. A quorum was established.

Motion: Deb Newson and seconded by Glenn Eddy to accept the Spring EFCC minutes.

Vote: All in Favor. Motion passes unanimously.

**CHAIR REPORT:** (Deb Newson)

**National Meeting Report** – Deb Newson/Rich Hilliman – There is an on-going freestyle community symposium to improve number of members in USSA. There’s a move to really build the base of freestyle through multi-sporting – so that athletes won’t need to choose so early on. Specifically for freestyle we have clarified what “Development” means to us as a community by breaking this word into two. We will refer to any competitive mogul skiers as the *performance* side of “Development”, and we will refer to younger members or members who do not wish to attempt to move up the traditional competitive pipeline

as the *participant* side. A Club survey and a Member survey will be coming out from USSA in the middle of November to determine how USSA can better serve clubs and members. There was some discussion at the EFCC meeting about adding a mogul series in the east for eastern participants not on the performance track. We will continue to investigate this possibility until USSA provides us with more information.

#### **USSA Rules and Technical Sub-Committee Report:**

1. At the FSC meeting we put into effect "Big Air" event which includes aeriels (jump must be called prior to start, inverted aeriels and events where degree of difficulty is factored in ) and big air 4600 (no degree of difficulty factored in) besides our inverted aerial events, we will only host big air events in the East.
2. Adopted the FIS rule that no more than 2 twisters will be allowed during a mogul jump.
3. Increased the aerial quota to 60 per sex at the Junior Olympics which will allow seniors to be included at the Jr. Olympics.
4. All mogul skiers are required to wear helmets during official training and competitions at USSA events.

New EQS radios have not been purchased but will be purchased soon.

There are several outstanding head taxes.

Motion: Deb Newson and seconded by Jay Lauder: That we collect funds prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> from these areas. If funds are not collected by then, ski areas competitions will be cancelled.

Motion was withdrawn. However, the eastern office will look to collect all funds ASAP.

Promotion and sponsorship is no longer a board position. The chair will be taking care of it. Nate McKenzie, CVA Head Freeride coach is working hard on getting sponsorship for the big air events. Deb will dust off the sponsorship sheets and e.mail them to people.

#### **VICE-CHAIR REPORT:** (Larry Titus)

USSA Eastern Online Registration will change to a single form per event. Registration for each event will automatically close on Monday night before event instead of Friday one week prior. Downloads will be available for events without any need for edit. Schedule changes only affect single form. There will be a required entry for each day (must pick an event or none). Multi event days prevent duplicate entry. Payments to event sent with registration list. There will be a link from the eastfree schedule to a registration form for each event. Larry has been working primarily with active.com to try to implement these changes for the upcoming season.

Motion: Glenn Eddy seconded by Larry Titus. The selection committee will determine whether an athlete that cannot compete in the divisional championships remains on the points list. (Selection Committee – Chairman: Dick Holmes, Steve Kenney and Jay Lauder) 7 approve, 2 abstentions. Motion carries.

#### **RULES AND TECHNICAL REPORT:** (Jay Lauder)

The new TD Report Card was passed out at the meeting which needs to be discussed with the TD's prior to adoption. We will use the report card as a working document this year.

At a meeting on Friday, 9/27/02 there was a small TD meeting where various TD concerns and how to run a meet issues were discussed:

- a. TD's were recommended to take digital photos of good courses and bad courses to share with meet organizers
- b. At B level events it was suggested that awards should be trophies rather than ribbons.
- c. Not having 2 runs at B events is a big problem – we should try to figure out how to fix this.

Motion: Jay Lauder seconded by Steve Kenney. At "B" events all award ceremonies will begin 15 minutes after the scores are certified.

Motion withdrawn.

TD clinic here at Killington tomorrow. Expecting a good turnout.

Motion: Jay Lauder, Seconded by Steve Kenney. Pay TD's at "B" meets in accordance with our current official pay scale. 4 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstaining. Motion carries.

**SELECTION REPORT:** (Dick Holmes)

End of season move-ups were distributed at the spring meeting. They are available at eastfree.org. "B" meet scores must be submitted by Monday morning at 8am.

Motion: Dick Holmes seconded by Suzi Preston. Eliminate the automatic mid-season move-up and replace it with an appeal process to the selection committee by the athlete or the coach for J4's.

Vote: All in favor. Motion passes unanimously.

The national points list parallels the eastern points list very closely.

**CALENDAR REPORT:** (Joan Dolan)

The schedule is fairly complete. A couple of "B" events and an A/B meet at Bristol TBD. Sanction agreements were sent out 2 weeks ago to meet organizers, which are due back to me by October 15<sup>th</sup>, to allow time for corrections and to be sent to USSA. Deb will provide the Nor/Am and National Competition Schedule after lunch.

Long time freestyle competitor and coach Greg Francoeur passed away unexpectedly in late August. He leaves behind his wife, Sue and 2 small children, ages 2 and 4. His family has established a memorial scholarship to be given to a weekend freestyle competitor who aspires to attend Carrabassett Valley Academy. Donations to the scholarship fund may be made to the Greg Francoeur Memorial Scholarship Fund, 179 Bruce Hill Rd. Cumberland, ME.

Sugarloaf's December mogul competition will now be called the Greg Francoeur Memorial.

Presentation of Bristol A/B event proposal discussion. The committee approved that Bristol hold an A meet on the same weekend as their B meet.

The central (Chairman - Steve Kenney) and western regions (Chairman - Mark DePeters) will create and provide to Joan a regional championship rotation through 2009 prior to the spring meeting. The Eastern Regional Championship rotation is already established.

**COACHES REPORT:** (Glenn Eddy)

Coaches education developments – this spring beginning on May 2 at Mt. Bachelor in Oregon there will be a level 3 freestyle coaches academy in conjunction with the Alpine Coaches Academy. Fall clinics in the East – Level I clinics are now generic for all disciplines programs with ACEP and on snow parts. October for off snow clinics and throughout the winter for on snow clinics. There is no level 2 clinic scheduled in the east this winter, perhaps there can be one organized for either November at Sunday River or somewhere in the spring. There is an acute freestyle coaching shortage, not sure what to do about it. Nick Preston has been nominated as USSA's USOC Development Coach of the Year. He is one of 5 finalists, and the decision will be made on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**EQS REPORT:** (Suzi Preston)

Regional championships worked well last year – provided more opportunities for competitors to participate in championship level events. Communicated changes in numbers that were approved in the spring for EQS Championships– 90 in the moguls – 72 from the points list and 6 from each of the 3 regions, 2 girls and 4 boys, 70 in big air – 52 from the points list and 6 from each of the 3 regions, 2 girls and 4 boys.

Motion: Joan Dolan seconded by Jay Lauder. All J3's may choose to ski at the A or the B level. 6 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion carries.

Motion: Steve Kenney seconded by Dick Holmes. All competition programs or individual athletes must elect their associated region before February 1st and notify the Eastern Chairperson in order to qualify for regional championships. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Steve Kenney seconded by Suzi Preston. The list for the EQS divisional championships will be run after the regional championships so as to include regional championships. Motion passes unanimously.

**NEW SCHOOL REPORT:** (Suzi Preston for Nick Preston)

There are 44 athletes training at Lake Placid this weekend on the water ramps. They will keep the ramps open as much as possible

A half-pipe event will be fielded at the Junior Olympics – we need to host at least 2 half pipe events prior to the selection event. Please contact Joan Dolan if you're interested in hosting an event.

Rich Hilliman provided some 2001-2002 US SKI TEAM mogul tapes from the World Cup Events.

**OPERATIONS REPORT:** (Deb Newson for Dick Stone)

Dick held a scoring clinic in Utah last weekend, and has made some good changes to the winfree program for the upcoming year. Larry Titus will be taking over Dick's duties in relationship to the registration program.

**JUDGES REPORT:** (John Spottiswoode)

There will be an October 27<sup>th</sup> judges clinic in Lake Placid, New York in conjunction with the FIS clinic.

Motion: Deb Newson seconded by Larry Titus. People who participate in a 1 day judges clinic may judge a B level event as a volunteer provided there is at least one certified judge at the event.

8 in favor, 1 abstention. Motion carries.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Motion: Larry Titus seconded by Jay Lauder. For championship events, selection will be made from competitors meeting the minimum event participation requirement unless the quota is not met at which time selection to championships may include single event participants. 9 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Jay Lauder seconded by Mike Macomber. A mountain hosting a "B" level event can elect to use a volunteer TD if the volunteer TD is from outside of the hosting mountain/clubs and is qualified by the present policies and rules. All mountains/clubs using this option must contact the R&T Chairman, Jay Lauder, with the name of the individual by December 1<sup>st</sup> of the competition year. Mountains/clubs that do not provide a volunteer TD will incur an additional \$2.00 to their existing Eastern Head Tax to cover the paid TD.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

USSA Membership Renewal	Due by October 15, 2002	Location
Event	Date	Location
Event	Date	Location
Event	Date	Location

