

Eastern Freestyle Competition Committee
Spring Meeting, May 2007

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am.

People at meeting and sub-committee will generate agendas. Motions that are determined at this morning's working sessions will be voted on in the afternoon session.

Three groups will be:

Joan will handle event organizers. New eastern website needs reviewing and suggestions. Everyone is encouraged to look at it and suggest changes.

Ed Albert will look at Chief of Comp issues and the A section of the eastern section of the rule book to look at rule changes: Revisions due to USSA office 7/1. Ed has R&T proposals that will be voted on at the USSA meeting.

Suzi Preston has a good agenda for EQS.

Reconvened at 9. We will be breaking into 2 groups. Rules & Tech and How to Run a Freestyle Event. This will be for 1 hour.

How to run a freestyle event: looked at staffing list; need contact info on web site; need to add parts about chop, bough, dye; staffing list for each meet in the 2007-2008 season will need to be forwarded to eastern chair at least one week prior to the event; check on USSA membership activation on day of comp; sanction agreements will be sent with copies of last year's info; Meet costs are hard to determine. We should have a recommended price for an event and send a sample budget sheet; #8 – should B meet price be raised; B team awards – can WINFREE get this figured out?; Radios – we need new ones; it is recommended that you give 1 coaches ticket for each 5 competitors; Championship rotation - Should the rotation go regionally in EQS champs schedule west-central-east? We need to create a bid package so that other mountains who want to can get into the rotation by submitting a bid package; we need a review process for championship events each season; We should add a procedure to submit bid packages for championships in the next season, A, B and regional; The TD should submit a report card after the event to the organizers and the eastern office so that there is some type of quality review; Meet feedback needs to be done to help improve quality of meets.

Discussion: How do organizers get information to run quality meets? Who ultimately determines how things happen? Do we need a race director? It was decided that we need one more year with the new website, a meet feedback form, a TD report card, a staffing requirement list, bid packages for championship events. Give it one more year with all these changes and education to see how it works out.

Freeride events should be held on weekends to attract more competitors. With the newly proposed schedule the schedule will have overlap for only two weekends. Can we recruit officials to work these events? We can put it on the schedule as tentative and then see if the officials can be found. Nate & Chris should get back to us and let us know who will attend the clinic at the end of Oct. The schedule is such that an athlete will be able to

Eastern Freestyle Competition Committee
Spring Meeting, May 2007

compete at enough events in all disciplines to qualify for Juniors. Our initiative with the mountains has to be that we can work with the mountain so that the park will not be closed to the public.

How many weekends should we try to run the dual format for A's. The Okemo and Stratton meet weekend will work. Try for the Japril Cup weekend and one at the end of Feb: given that we find new competitors. And when should we have divisionals for freeride? Determined to have divisional with moguls – a 4-day event.

Should we at the B level have a one run mogul event and then a one run big air event? Are we meeting the needs of the parks and pipes kids?

Eastern could follow sanction agreement and then post on eastern what type of event the slopestyle event will be.

Issues

Central region needs more slopestyle or aerial comps

Multi event day event may not work unless we limit registration

Mtns say they will run a slopestyle and instead have had big air. Did this happen because of the weather and would it still be an option.

We have to be aware of the quality of judges in terms of number of runs that we are judging. If we limit and do 2 events it would probably work.

B champs are scheduled for Easter Sunday. Should we move it? Move to the 15th and 16th and try to hold Spring B events at later in March.

Lunch break ~ Reconvened at 1:30.

Sponsorship program

Last year the Sawyer Foundation matched Eastern's \$2500 contribution so we had a \$5000 purse at championship. Solomon gave equipment to the freeride kids. This program should be in place again next year. The Sawyer foundation is a charitable foundation so one thought would be next year to use one meet to recognize the foundation and help raise money for the foundation.

EQS

Healthy, with many competitors. The three event format will train skiers really well.

Trying to improve quality of meets. Make them manageable to run and appeal to both mogul skiers and freeriders.

MOGULS

Moguls Events ran well. Issues, what airs are legal and what are age appropriate courses. No inverts. Off axis is allowed now as long as a qualified coach is present and the athlete is qualified, should this be addressed one more time? Is a B course suitable for off axis tricks and are the officials and coaches qualified to identify bad off axis.

Leon made a motion to eliminate off axis from B mogul comps. Motion was seconded and will be put on official meeting agenda

AERIALS

One jump hit is the best way to train aerials. One hit event is really valuable. Points list – it has been suggested that the points list be based on highest jump scored. Aerial events are open events, both A's & B's can compete. We have B slopestyle, moguls and aerials. Call it what it is and run it. A B list will be created to rank B skiers in the same way as EQS. Any one hit event should be scored as an aerial event. 2 hits would be slopestyle. This should be described on the website to eliminate confusion. No changes made from last year.

Everyone should name their event this year and make it fun.

Level II clinic will be held this summer; USSA determines this

SLOPESTYLE

Make double event Saturdays and single event days Sunday. EQS championships will be a 3 day event. Regional events will be 2 days. Need a quota for aerials for regional events. Need motion to change slopestyle quota to 50 and establish quota for aerials to 50.

Proposal to change EQS points calculation to 125 and 3 events. Will be made in meetings.

Official Meeting called to order at 3:20 and a quorum was established.

Chair Report – Comp guide revisions are due soon.

Eastern division won Division Cup at both Nationals and Juniors

New website www.easternfreestyle.com. Please look at it and update your email address.

Office Report

*Online Registrations

Eastern Freestyle Competition Committee
Spring Meeting, May 2007

Active.com had some major outages this year with major problems during our invitational events. There have been problems occasionally over the past several years but this was a significant issue due to the short turnaround times for invitational events. Active.com has apologized for the problems and has promised to resolve the issues; however the current explanations and resolutions are not sufficient. We will be looking for alternatives that also be more closely aligned to our needs. Primary focus will be reducing cost to competitors and how cancelations or adjustments are handled. Progress will be reported on the web site over the summer. The intent is to not increase cost to event organizers, so no resolution is required at this time.

*Head Tax

Timely payment of head taxes that the EFCC relies on to cover operational cost and primarily for payment to officials has been a consistent problem. While some events can turn around payments quickly many are slow or do not even realize they are due. We currently need to float \$10,000 to \$20,000 to cover these expenses as we need to pay our officials as soon as possible.

For next year the office will be instituting a change in handling online registration payments. Online registrations payments will be held at the EFCC office. After a meet is completed the organizers will go to the www.easternfreestyle.org web site to request online registration payment by entering the details from the event. The eastern division fees (head taxes), as well as any other costs due to EFCC will be deducted resulting in a check request to the event organizer for the balance. This will eliminate any head tax payment processing by event organizers and should result in faster reconciliation of finances. Event organizers should expect payment after submission to be 5 to 10 days (this should be faster than the current active.com timing)

Motion to purchase radios, and seconded. Expected cost around \$4000. Motion passed unanimously.

Scheduling

Staffing list will be supplied to Eastern chair, reviewed and amended "How To Run a Meet"

Looked at current championship rotation, decided it was pretty good, may be tweaked a bit.

It was determined that all areas having championships in the next year will present bid packets at the Eastern meeting in the spring before that event. Will include costs, swag, banquet etc.

Schedule at A level. 5 weekends will have both mogul and duals, and then freeride at another location. Contingent on finding officials to staff these meets.

Want to reinstitute the TD report card, to evaluate the meet. Also will start a feedback form for competitors to report on how they felt a mtn ran a meet

Eastern Freestyle Competition Committee
Spring Meeting, May 2007

EQS

Motions

#1 (EQS) -Eliminate off-axis maneuvers at the B mogul level. Made by Bodzioch and seconded by S Preston. Competitor will be DSQ'd if off-axis maneuvers are performed. Need to rewrite the rule for slopestyle since at this point it is included with moguls. Approved unanimously.

#3 (EQS) -Add aerials to same day as slopestyle Regional finals with a quota of 50 competitors. Proposed by S Preston, Seconded by Bodzioch carried unanimously.

#3A (EQS) - Change slopestyle quota from 70 to 50 made by Preston, seconded by Zemba, passed unanimously.

#4 (EQS) - Increase point value to for EQS regionals and championships to 125 points. Made by Titus, seconded by Zemba. Tabled to look at in the future.

#5 (EQS) - Increase # of meets to 3 in the EQS points calculation- tabled

Both 4 & 5 will be handled at a later date on a conference call.

EQS 2006-2007 addendum. Revisions will be posted on line. Please read and edit.

Will have an open discussion of B meet costs on line and make a suggestion.

Report of Chief of Comp meeting

Lots of questions. A recommendation can be made that there should be a chief of comp clinic or that they should be invited to the TD clinic. Chief of comps try to do too much, Jobs should be delegated.

R&T proposals have been posted on USSA. 30 proposed changes. Get comments to Deb or Glenn.

New Business - Set dates for:

Coaches clinic –TBD

Scoring clinic – TBD

TD clinic – TBD

Fall conference call – set for after clinic

Jan conference call – TBD

Eastern Freestyle Competition Committee
Spring Meeting, May 2007

Motion to adjourn made by Zemba, seconded by Glenn. Adjourned at 4:25.