

SPRING COACHES' MEETING
Mora Vasaloppet Center
April 16, 2016

- I. Meeting called to order at 9:30 by President Brian Abery
- II. Doug Boonstra formally introduced as the incoming Association President.
- III. Bob O'Hara reviewed the 2016 State Meet and presented information on upcoming state Meets:
 - The MSHSL has signed a new contract with Giant's Ridge through the 2019 Championships.
 - Every effort will be made to insure that scores are posted as soon as possible at the end of the first pursuit race.
 - If another event is added to the Championship, the current pursuit format needs to be reviewed in order to account for less time available to run the entire meet.
 - AD's and coaches need to review eligibility rules for skiing: Schools must be MSHSL members; the varsity coach must be certified with the MSHSL; skiers must be registered with the MSHSL through the school and must comply with pertinent MSHSL rules and sanctions; Season's start and end dates are determined by the MSHSL; skiers must compete in three competitions for their school team; all high school meets must be with MSHSL-registered teams or with teams registered with their state scholastic body (co-sponsored meets such as the Mesabi Invitational) are allowed.
 - Alpine and Nordic skiers are allowed to participate on both a school team and with a club team during the high school season. However, school skiers must compete in outside meets as individuals and not for their school.
- IV. Brian Abery presented a proposed format for changes to the Section and State Meets. Discussion of this material followed but no resolution was offered due to the lack of a quorum. In sum, the pursuit format remains but with five rather than seven skiers entered in the pursuit, with four being scored and the fifth allowed to "push." A two-person relay, or sprint relay, would be added and scored by a method to be determined. The relay would be contested among skiers not involved in the pursuit race. The technique for the relay would change each year.

The top two pursuit and relay teams from each Section would advance to State, where they would be scored separately. The "next six fastest" individuals provision would be retained as well. The "N6F's" would not count toward team scoring, as per current practice.

Discussion followed. A 1 ½ day State Meet was discussed. Sections would remain at one day. A show of hands gave unanimous support for this possibility and a "visioning" committee with at least one representative from each Section was formed and is charged with exploring a long-range plan for our sport. This can include the inclusion of another event. A tentative June meeting is to be scheduled. Committee members include Brian Abery, Doug Boonstra, Peter Larsen, Denny Green, Larry Meyer, Rob Fuhr, Paula Anderson, and Mike Meehlhause.
- V. Treasurer's Report by Rich Heilman. The Association has a balance of \$8094.04.

VI. Regular Season Waxing: Larry Meyer proposed that only CH waxes be used for both techniques. It is something that is now done in the Anchorage schools and is done in many Wisconsin schools and on the East Coast. Fluoros could be used at Section and State. Discussion followed and Conference-wide voluntary agreements can be used for implementation. Many individual coaches are already following this practice.

VII. Dave Johnson presented a new method for voting on Association awards.

VIII. Discussion of making the Charlie Banks Relays co-ed followed, with most coaches, both present and by e-mail, favoring the idea. Schools could enter two relay squads. No individual splits will be taken at next year's Banks event. Discussion of the CBR's being used as a tryout for the proposed relay event ensued. No action was taken, though that idea may be pursued by the "Futures" committee.

IX. Persistently low attendance at Association was discussed, with several ideas forwarded on how to increase attendance/involvement. These included having clinicians/ on-site technique sessions, no scheduling the Spring meeting during the spring sports season and not being on a date conflicting with CXC events.

X. A rousing round of applause was tendered to Brian Aberly for his hard and persistent work on our behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

Denny Nelson, Secretary