

## Utah Interclub Meeting

May 7, 2008, 5:30-8:00 pm

**Location:** Williams Northwest Pipeline Board Room – 295 Chipeta Way, SLC

*A proposed agenda was distributed by email with the March 5, 2008 meeting minutes on March 9. Meeting materials were distributed by email on May 6.*

**Attendees:** Strike Fongeallaz - FSCPC, Alan Devereaux – FSCPC, Mary Ann Wilcox - UFSC, Tiffani Shipley – UFSC, Bob Weston – SLFS, Joan Heninger – WFSC, Sandy Fishler – CHFSC, Kasey Black – CPFSC, Heather Morrow – CPFSC, Brenda Linch – CPFSC, Stephanie Gibson – MSBFSC

1. **Updated List of Club Representatives** – Updates to the list of Interclub Representatives will be forthcoming. Many Clubs are having elections in May.

**Action Item:**

Once determined, report new Interclub Representatives, Club President and Vice President for updating the list and prior to the next UIA meeting.

**Concerns regarding the management of bumped tests were expressed.**

Recently, Test Chairs did not receive a list of bumped skaters and bumped skaters did not submit test applications before the deadline. It was agreed that a process for managing bumped tests needs to be clearly defined and communicated to the Test Chairs.

- o Once the schedule is finalized, the Test Chair should notify skaters and coaches that they have been bumped.
- o Return the application and payment to the skater immediately with instructions to submit an application before the deadline for the next test session in order to receive priority scheduling.
- o Provide a list of bumped skaters to the Test Chair of the next scheduled test.
- o Bumped skaters receive priority scheduling at only the next scheduled test session.

Is that the correct process? Did we overlook anything?

**Action Item:**

Joan and Tiffany agreed to finalize a guideline to distribute to all Test Chairs.

2. **Revised Test Application - Additional updates proposed:**

- Add a space to indicate the USFS number for the coach in preparation for the USFS certification of education and background checks.
- Change MSBFSC Test Chair to Lori Holford, 801-560-9623.
- A proposal to remove names of Test Chairs since they change sometimes was rejected due to the importance of identifying the point of contact and individual designated as accountable to USFS.

**Action Item:**

Distribute the updated Test Application **attached**, dated May 10, 2008.

3. **Finalize the 2008-2009 Interclub Calendar** – Updated calendar with corrected dates and events attached (dated May 10, 2008) is ready for distribution. Some conflicting dates can not be avoided. A few test sessions were scheduled in conjunction with competitions when judges are available.

**Action Item:**

Distribute 2008-2009 Interclub Calendar (**attached**) and reference when scheduling additional events to avoid conflicts to the extent possible.

4. **Vote on acceptance of the Bylaws** with minor improvements as follows. Approval was unanimous among those present: Final version, dated May 10, 2008 (**attached**).
  - a. Enlarge font in Article I. to match the rest of the document.
  - b. In response to the request by SLFS, add to Article IV. Section 4. The UIA is based on the principle of the sovereignty of all its Member Clubs and nothing in these By-Laws shall be interpreted so as to:
    - c. **Reject a request by Member Clubs to be specifically identified either in favor or in opposition to any Request for Action to USFS originated by UIA.**
  - c. Restate section IX. 5. In the absence of a quorum, **voting** shall be postponed until a quorum is present.
  - d. Article X Section 3. New Member Clubs shall be required to pay an initiation fee, amount to be determined by this Association **and stated in accordance with** the standing rules, before being entitled to the rights and privileges of a Member Club.

**Action Item:**

Sandy will request that UIA be officially recognized by USFS. Strike will share the sample Articles of Incorporation recently adopted for FSCPC and help with development for UIA. A Nominating Committee will solicit nominations in accordance with Article VII for Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Nominating Committee: Alan Devereaux – FSCPC, Mary Ann Wilcox – UFSC, and Kasey Black – CPFSC.

Nominating Committee will request from each Club a list of UIA representatives and nominations for Officers by May 23, 2008 and then distribute the nominations by June 2, 2008, 30 days before the next UIA meeting, July 2, when the vote for Officers is planned.

5. **Discuss a proposal shared at a USFS Club Education seminar to organize skaters age 16 and over to judge at Basic Skills competitions.** This would establish a track for training skaters interested in becoming a judge and create a feeder pool to the diminishing number of judges in Utah. Utilization of “junior judges” must adhere to the guidelines of USFS and Basic Skills Program. An orientation on ethics and appropriate behavior would need to be provided by a Judge. Allow each Club the discretion to invite “junior judges” or not. WFSC has experience with this and advises to anticipate concerns by parents. A consideration is that if USFS allows parents to judge, a skater who has passed the appropriate test level is more qualified by comparison.

Questions needing research on the Basic Skills Program requirements: Is trial judge registration required? What test level is appropriate? Must this be specified in the announcement? Must this be sanctioned? Is a sign up sheet a good approach for organization? What is the required makeup of the panel? A 5 member panel was proposed, 3 officials + 2 "junior judges", is that the best arrangement?

**Action Item:** Tiffany, Joan, and Sandy will research this further and develop a more detailed proposal to share with UIA member Clubs for consideration in time for upcoming competitions.

6. **Discuss a proposal from coaches to standardize announcements for competitions.** The Skatefest and Copper Cup announcements for 2008 have been distributed. Program requirements are similar with the exception of the required duration of the Adult Free Skating. Both the complete competitive track and well balanced tracks are offered. Is this the best way to standardize the announcement, given the limited population of competitive skaters in Utah? Bob agreed to monitor entrants (based on the program) and placements (based on the postings) for all of the competitions and to formulate recommendations.

**ACTION ITEM:**

Bob will analyze results from the summer 2008 competitions and develop recommendations or rationale for standardizing the announcements for 2009-2010.

7. **Discuss a proposal to host a Judges Clinic in 2009-2010** Expenses include: 8-10 hours ice, travel expenses for Official trainers and demonstrators. Judges pay for hospitality. Applications are due in Jan. or Feb. 2009. A more detailed proposal is required for serious consideration.

**ACTION ITEM:**

Mary Ann will develop a more detailed proposal for consideration by either UIA or Member Clubs interested in organizing this as a cooperative effort.

8. **Discuss a request from Coaches that UIA host a gathering to review the Basic Skills curriculum and program elements.** There is a DVD provided by USFS that may be reviewed with senior ranking officials as facilitators. A meeting room at the Williams building that has large screen projection can be available at no cost. If a LTS skater is arranged for demonstration, the skater must be isolated from hearing critiques/comments and costs of ice time would be incurred. What is required to ensure that this would qualify for USFS education credits?

A more detailed proposal is required for consideration. Strike indicated that FSCPC may be hosting a PSA clinic. No further action was committed to at this time.

9. **What is our game plan?** Before we start new initiatives, such as education for coaches, is anything getting accomplished on our prior objectives (listed below)? Shouldn't we be doing more to market ice skating?
  1. Limited judges
  2. Combining competitions
  3. Limited number of participants at competitions

Sandy offered the following considerations in response:

1. In 2007, we tried to address the problems with limited judges by changing the schedule. That caused problems that have been corrected in the structure of the 2008-2009 calendar (e.g., frequency of dance tests, centralized test locations, timing of tests in advance of qualifying competitions). We believe that this improved format limits demands on judges and will monitor satisfaction.
2. Combining competitions was not accepted by the Clubs, opportunities may still develop between interested member Clubs, however, not by directive of UIA.
3. UIA explored establishing a "Passport" incentive program to increase participation in competitions and distributed a survey to coaches for guidance. The majority of coaches were not in favor, concerned that pressure to participate in every competition could present a distraction or interfere with training and may not be in the best interest of all skaters.
4. Yes, we should do more to market ice skating and grow the population of Utah skaters. That is a suitable role for UIA. Ideas are welcome.

**Next meeting date** – Wednesday, July 2, 2008, 5:30-7:30 pm at the Williams Northwest Pipeline office, Main level Board Room. 295 Chipeta Way in SLC.

**Proposed Agenda (suggestions are welcome)**

- Update list of Club Officers and Utah Interclub Representatives
- Update 2008-2009 Calendar
- Elect Officers
- Status with USFS
  - Requirements for Articles of Incorporation for 501(c)(3)
  - D&O Insurance
- Address Action Items
- Brain storm ideas for Marketing
- Other agenda items are welcome