

 **Rocky Mountain Nordic**

**Oct 4, 2014 Spring Meeting Minutes**

**Aspen, Colorado**

Attending:

Mike Elliott (RMN)

Walt Evans, Shannon Sweeney, Maria Stuber (Aspen)

Adam St. Pierre, Evan Elliott, Eliska Hajkova, Rich Jortberg, Quincee Cotton (Boulder)

Molly Susla, Jen Oberling (Crested Butte)

Christina Stark (Grand Mesa Nordic Council)

Dan Wieland, Eric Pepper, Lenka Sterling, Shelly Shanley (Vail)

Olof Hedberg, Hannah Taylor, Peter Haynes (Summit)

Brian Tate, Josh Smullin (Steamboat Springs)

1. Financial Review. RMN has $55,250 in their bank account. $1,000 has been spent on a deposit for lodging for the Junior Nationals at the Hampton Inn in Truckee, CA. Since Mike Elliott has been the Executive Director, RMN has not seen any financial growth but has maintained the current financial level thanks to the efforts of Ruthie Brown when she was the Executive Director of RMN. Rocky Mountain Nordic Angel has $28,975 in their bank account.
2. RMN Membership Dues for 2014-15 are due no later than December 12, 2014 and RMN dues will remain the same as this past winter.
	* $40 U20, U18, U16
	* $20 U14, U12
	* $10 U10, U8
3. USSA & FIS Membership is due by October 15, 2014. After that date there is a penalty for skiers who were members the previous year. That is not the case for new members. The same is true for FIS membership. Skiers anticipating participation in the U18 Scando Trip. The World Junior Championships, or the U23 World Championships, they will need an FIS license.

1. USSA has initiated a strategic planning process for each discipline within the USSA. Cross Country had their first conference call on October 2. If anyone is interested in participating on the National USSA strategic planning process for cross country skiing contact Mike Elliott.
2. Discussion was held on the RMN JNQ race schedule. Distances and race technique were discussed. The approved schedule is a part of these minutes dated October 4, 2014.
3. All RMN JNQ races should be NRL races. FIS points will only be used in seeding RMN JNQ races if they are combined with College races. Otherwise USSA points will be used for seeding then RMN points.
4. Eric Pepper proposed at the Spring RMN meeting that RMN keep the race courses open for spectators and coaches. This proposal would not include Sprint races. There was a lot of support for this proposal. It was approved on a trial basis for the 2014-15 winter. Education with spectators, team members, and course marshals would need to be done and is the responsibility of each clubs head coach and the chief of comptition for each JNQ. An RMN policy will be disbursed at a later date for distribution. NENSA has this policy and it seems to work well. Research with NENSA would be advisable.
5. Eric Pepper had also proposed at the Spring RMN meeting that RMN have a glide wax standardizing for RMN JNQ races. Purpose was to have coaches concentrate on coaching and not so much on finding the fastest glide wax. This proposal was unanimously approved.

There was a lengthy discussion. A list of possible waxes from various companies was listed on a white board in the three temperature ranges, cold, mid, and warm. A democratic process followed and the following waxes were selected:

1. Cold HWK P1
2. Mid Holmenkol Matrix Blue
3. Warm Holmenkol Matrix Red

The Race Director for each RMN JNQ would notify RMN head coaches of what they thought the under layer or paraffin would be by noon two days prior to the first race of a JNQ.

It is up to the head coaches of the respective clubs to control adherence to the waxing standardizing with their assistant coaches and parents.

The waxing standardization would not be in effect for the Super Qualifier in Soldier Hollow, Utah January 30 & 31, 2015

Pure Flouro waxes are still banned for all RMN JNQ races with the exception of the Super Qualifier in Soldier Hollow, Utah.

1. RMN Head Tax for all RMN JNQ races in Colorado per skier is $5 for U16 and older and $3 for U14 and younger. Mike Elliott will calculate an invoice from RMN for each race and submit it to the Chief of Competition at each RMN JNQ.

1. RMN JN Selection Criteria for the Junior Nationals was reviewed. It remains the same except for the designated races in paragraph 8E. RMN has a policy to take the fastest skiers to the JNs. The purpose of paragraph 8E allows U16 skiers to compete head to head with U18 and U20 skiers for the extra JN Team slots, beyond RMN’s quota of 21 males and 21 females, created by skiers who pre-qualified for the RMN JN team and will attend the JNs.
2. A review of next year’s Junior National Champions that will be held in Truckee, CA March 6-15, 2015. New England and RMN will both be staying at the Hampton Inn in Truckee, CA. The Hampton Inn will provide breakfast and a caterer is being hired to provide box lunches and dinner for both divisions.

RMN is requesting some teams to drive to Truckee in order to save money for the individual skiers. Durango and Aspen have said they probably will be driving Sprinter vans. RMN will pay those clubs for the gas while at the JNs plus $600 dollars. RMN may need to rent an additional four 12 passenger vans in Reno if other clubs do not drive a van. Individual cost are estimated to be $2,150 per skiers based on double occupancy at the hotel without a uniform and if they fly. $1,550 per skier based on triple occupancy at the hotel without a uniform and they drive to Truckee with a club. RMN is working on finalizing the expected expense. RMN will not be organizing round trip travel to Truckee, CA.

1. Mike Elliott recommended that RMN take a full contingent (15) to the JNs especially if clubs are driving out. Team Leader will be covered by RMN and the JN Team would cover the other expenses of 14 coaches. It was the consensus of the people attending the meeting that Mike Elliott recommend to the RMN Executive Committee the selected coaches from the respective clubs. It would be preferred that coaches be named prior to the first JNQ race.

1. Senior Nationals are scheduled for Houghton, MI Jan 3-9, 2015. If clubs have not made reservations, they need to do so ASAP because lodging is very tight. This is where junior skiers ranked in the first 20 men or the first 20 women on the final ranking list at the Junior World Championships Team trials are automatically qualified to enter the JNs as a part of the RMN JN Team and are not counted against the RMN quota (USSA Rule 70.1.2). RMN skiers who qualify for and attend the USSA Nations Cup Trip (formerly Scandinavian Cup) with the U.S. Ski Team are automatically qualified to enter the JNs as a part of the RMN JN Team and are not counted against the RMN quota (USSA Rule 70.1.3).
2. Coaches interested in coaching at the USSA U18 Scando Trip scheduled for Ornskoldsvik, Sweden and the World Junior Championships Scheduled for Almaty, Kazakhstan need to make application with Bryan Fish with USSA by no later than November 1, 2015.
	* U18 Trip Feb 1 – Feb 11, 2015, USSA looking for a trip leader and two service staff people.
	* WJC Jan 30 – Feb 9, 2015 looking for two coaches and five service people joining Bryan Fish.

Contact Mike Elliott for more details. He did forward information from USSA earlier on September 23, 2014. This information is also posted on the USSA Web Site.

1. Discussion was held regarding the dates for the fall RMN meeting and training camp. It was recommended to find a date that did not conflict with high school mountain bike races and cross country running races.