

 **Rocky Mountain Nordic**

**September 29, 2017 Fall Meeting Minutes**

**Frisco, Colorado**

Attending:

Mike Elliott, Quincee Cotton (RMN)

August Teague. Shannon Sweeney, (Aspen)

Adam St.Pierre, Beth Egan, (Boulder)

Molly Susla, Isaiah St.Pierre, Jen Oberling (Crested Butte)

Evan Elliott (Durango)

Ingrid Butts, Michelle Bivens (Gunnison)

Dan Wieland, Eric Pepper, Shelly Shanley (Vail)

Olof Hedberg, Hannah Taylor, Peter Haynes, Ksusha Shambarger, Jon Kreamelmeyer (Summit)

Brian Tate, Josh Smullin, Greta Anderson (Steamboat Springs)

1. RMN Fall Meeting called to order 11am
2. Rocky Mountain Nordic Voting. Mike Elliott reminded everyone that RMN has had a policy that each RMN Club has two votes. One is the designated coach and one is the designated parent representative. There is not any absentee or proxy voting. To be an RMN Club, there has to be at a minimum of three junior RMN members.
3. RMN Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2017 were presented. August Teague made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Adam St.Pierre. Motion Passed.
4. Mike Elliott announced for those that did not know, Walt Evans who had been working for Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club in charge of Excellence that included overseeing and managing all the AVSC coaches for three years has been selected to be inducted into the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame on Saturday October 14, 2017 at the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort.
5. Financial Review. RMN has $56,920.56 in their bank account at Alpine Bank. Rocky Mountain Nordic Angel has $21,719.69 in their bank account. RMN Angel has also helped in reimbursement of expenses for the 2016-2007 year for Noah Hoffman, and Tad Elliott as they competed in National and International events including the World Championships in Lahti, Finland 2017. Both athletes are currently in Vermont and New Hampshire training in hopes of qualifying for the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea in February 2018.

RMN Financials for 2016-2017 were presented. RMN Budget for 2017-2018 was presented.

1. RMN Schedule was reviewed. Clarification on events was discussed.
	1. **Dec 16 Frisco, CO**. Freestyle Interval start. U16 and older in both genders will race together and be seeded using U.S. Ski & Snowboard points. Those without points will be scrambled and randomized as one group. Order of seed groups and number of skiers in each seed groups will be determined by Race Jury. Results turned into U.S. Ski & Snowboard for scoring will be one race. Results for RMN will be separated by class and gender.
	2. U14 and younger seeding will be randomized within each gender and class.
	3. **Dec 17 Frisco, CO**. Classic Mass Start. U16 and older will race separately by class and gender. Seeding will be by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points. Those without a point profile will be seeded by previous day’s results.
	4. U14 and younger classes will race separately by class and gender. Seeding will be off the previous day’s results.

* 1. **Jan 14 Crested Butte, CO**. Classic Sprint Qualifier. U16 and older in both genders will race together in qualifier and be seeded using U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, then RMN points. Those without points will be scrambled and randomized and randomized as one group. Heats will be separated by age classes within genders. Results turned into U.S. Ski & Snowboard for scoring are based on the qualifier and will be one race. Results for RMN will be separated by class and gender.
	2. U14 will use a shorter course and depending on the size of the field, they will race the qualifier. and then race the heats Quarters, Semis, Finals by gender. Seeding in qualifier will be based off RMN points. Those without points would be scrambled and randomized.
	3. U12 and younger will race qualifier then be seeded by class and gender for a mass start. Start order for mass start will be off the results of the qualifier.
	4. **Jan 15 Crested Butte, CO**. Freestyle Mass Start. U16 and older will race separately by class and gender and be seeded by using U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, then RMN points. Those skiers without either point profile will be scrambled and randomized as one group.
	5. U14 and younger will race separately by class and gender. Seeding will be done by RMN points. Those without a point profile with be scrambled and randomized.

* 1. **Feb 10 Minturn, CO**. Freestyle interval start. U16 and older females will race together and with college skiers and be seeded by FIS points, then U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, then RMN Points. U16 males will race as one class, and seeded by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points. U18/U20 males will race with college and seeded by FIS points, then U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, then RMN Points. Number of seed groups and number of skiers in each seed will be determined by race jury.
	2. U14 and younger will race by gender and be seeded by RMN Points.
	3. **Feb 11 Minturn, CO**. Classic Mass Start. U16 and older will race by class and gender and will be seeded by FIS points, then U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, then RMN Points.
	4. U14 and younger will race by class and gender and be seeded by RMN points.

Discussions were held on the U14 and younger RMN Championships in Aspen, Colorado March 17-18, 2018. August Teague is planning on a XCX event on one of the days. There was a lot of discussion regarding how the scoring for this event would be conducted. Final decision based on a democratic vote was to score one event from this event. Consequently the overall RMN class Champions for U14 and younger will be determined by the best five events out of the nine races to determine the RMN champion by class and gender.

RMN coaches would like to have one RMN club coach on the race jury. Names of the respective designated coaches would be placed in a hat and one name would be drawn. An RMN coach would only serve once on the race jury. Starting the 2018-2019 season, the designated coach from each club would be expected to attend a regional Technical Delegate course. Quincee Cotton is checking with the Chairman of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Official’s Committee to determine if this policy is acceptable.

Eric Pepper requested that at the RMN JNQs, that there be a standard time for the Team Captain’s meeting. Eric’s recommendation was 5pm. Those clubs hosting JNQ races this coming year, Summit, Crested Butte, and Vail agreed that would work for them.

Motion was made by Adam St.Pierre to approve the clarification of the RMN races. Motion was seconded by Brian Tate. Motion passed.

1. RMN Membership Dues for 2017-18 are due no later than December 11, 2017 and RMN dues will remain the same.
	1. $40 U20, U18, U16
	2. $20 U14, U12
	3. $10 U10, U8

An individual RMN membership form is attached as a part of the minutes to show the exact year of birth for the respective classes. It is also on the RMN web site. It is assumed all RMN members have read and understand the RMN Code of Conduct. The RMN Code of Conduct is attached as a part of these minutes and is on the RMN web site.

1. U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership rates remain the same for 2017-2018 as they were last year. They are attached as a part of these minutes. For U.S. Ski & Snowboard members from last year, membership is due not later than October 15, 2017. A penalty fee after that date for returning members. New U.S. Ski & Snowboard members do not have to pay a penalty if they become members after October 15, 2017.
	1. Dan Weiland is on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Coach’s Committee
	2. Adam St.Pierre is the Chairman of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Junior Committee.
	3. Quincee Cotton is on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Official’s Committee and is TD Coordinator for portions of the western region.
	4. August Teague is on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Sport Committee, and is on their executive committee.
2. Mike Elliott gave a short presentation on the U.S Ski & Snowboard Club Liability Insurance Program (CLIP)
3. All members must be USSA members. $15 membership works.
4. $200 fee to U.S. Ski & Snowboard for 25 Members or less
5. $350 fee to U.S. Ski & Snowboard for 25 Members or more
6. $6/person who are members of the respective club
7. $1,500 Cap on the total insurance
8. Directors and Board Members Insurance $575
9. After a very short discussion was held on the RMN Waxing Protocol. A motion was made by Dan Weiland to keep the same RMN Waxing Protocol as the same as last season (2017). Brian Tate Seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. RMN Waxing Protocol is attached as a part of these minutes.
10. Update of 2018 JNs in Soldier Hollow. RMN has a contract to stay at Zermatt Resort, Midway, UT. New England and Intermountain will also be staying at the Zermatt Resort. Currently the RMN Team is scheduled to arrive on Sunday March 4, 2018 and depart on Sunday March 11, 2018. Discussion was held regarding six coaches on the RMN wax team to arrive on Saturday March 3, 2018 in order to set up the wax trailer and to start testing wax for the events. They possibly would also transport all race skis for the RMN JN Team.

JN race schedule is attached as a part of these minutes. The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Junior Committee wanted to shorten the schedule for the JNs, and to possibly freshen the JNs up a bit.

RMN has had the same RMN JN uniform for the last 13 years. Previously RMN had decided to change the RMN JN uniform when the JNs returned to Soldier Hollow. Three possible designs by Podiumwear had been viewed at the Spring RMN meeting. One suit was voted on, but it looked like an existing RMN club race suit. The coach of that club requested that RMN not use that suit. Adam St.Pierre will send out three different suits to RMN clubs so a new decision can be made. RMN will not carry an inventory in JN uniforms and RMN JN skiers will order the race suit directly through Podiumwear. Instructions on how to order the RMN JN race suit will be sent out later. Only the race suit would be new for 2018. Warm up jacket would remain the same for 2018 but it is not necessary for a JN athlete to purchase an RMN warm up jacket. They can use their own personal warm up jacket. The race suit will be the gold model and will cost $195 plus freight.

August Teague made a motion to have Hannah Taylor be the Trip Leader for RMN JN Team. Dan Weiland seconded the motion. Motion passed.

1. RMN JN Selection Criteria 2018. A proposal to change paragraph 8B to read, Second year U20 skiers must qualify in the top six of the combined U20/U18 classes in the final RMN points list to not include prequalified athletes in order to be eligible for the 2018 RMN Junior National Team. Brian Tate made the motion Adam St.Pierre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Another change was proposed for paragraph 8E. For RMN there is an exception for college skiers who prequalified for the JNs but who did not meet the requirement of Paragraph 3. RMN is happy to include those college skiers to the RMN JN Team as longs as they meet the criteria of rule 76.4.1. However they will not be included in the alternating policy explained the first paragraph 8E of the RMN Selection Criteria. Motion was made by Dan Weiland and seconded by Brian Tate. Motion passed.

1. Senior Nationals are scheduled for Anchorage, Alaska January 3 – 8. 2018. All RMN Clubs are making the own arrangements for sending their respective athletes to the Senior Nationals.
2. Jon “Zeke” Zedechlik Memorial Award. To help memorialize Zeke, by establishing (and funding between the Zdechliks and Jortbergs) an annual award to recognize Zeke’s contribution to the Rocky Mountain Nordic skiing.  This proposed award will be conferred upon the most deserving RMN U18-U20 skier at the RMN Junior National Team naming event. This award is to be conferred by the RMN Executive Director to the selected skier who has demonstrated leadership and excellence regarding the key criteria discussed below:

***Award Criteria:***   To recognize RMN’s top U20/U18 male and female skiers who best exemplify the following criteria:

1. Best positive attitude;
2. Most inspirational;
3. Best sportsmanship;
4. Best teammate;
5. And finally, best love for / commitment to the sport!

                Notes:  This is not a “best skier” or “most improved” award but is more foundational and cumulative regarding character development and sportsmanship.  Other items like above can be proposed / clarified by RMN.

Two weeks prior to the last RMN JNQ qualifier race weekend, each RMN club coach will nominate to the RMN Executive Committee one skier most deserving U18-U20 candidates. They do not have to be from their respective club.   The nomination process will be through a written document submitted by the Head Coach of each RMN club to the RMN Executive Director.  The submission highlights the reasons for the nomination.  The Executive Committee will be responsible for selecting the top athlete award winner.  A Plaques will be prepared and delivered to the Executive Director prior to the JN team-naming event.

Mike Elliott will check with Rich Jortberg to verify final criteria for this award.

1. Mike Elliott talked about financially helping RMN Junior Skiers who qualify for the Nation’s Cup and/ or the World Junior Championships (WJC). He also talked about helping RMN Junior Skiers who qualify and attend the Western Regional Elite Group Camp and the U16 National Camp. Concern was expressed at how such a program would be financed. Mike will formulate details on the program and how it might be financed.
2. RMN Meeting Adjourn at 2:30pm

Also Attached are:

1. RMN Schedule of Events 2017-2018
2. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Membership pricing 2017-2018
3. RMN Membership Form Individual
4. RMN Club Membership Form
5. RMN Code of Conduct 2018
6. RMN Waxing Protocol 2017-2018
7. Swix/Toko Prices on Waxing Protocol Waxes
8. U.S. Ski & Snowboard JN Schedule
9. RMN JN Selection Criteria 2018