

World Waveski Surfing Association
Annual General Meeting – 6 September 2009
Seaview Tavern – Woolgoolga, NSW Australia

Minutes

Meeting commenced at 6.45 pm

Present – Member nation delegates, representatives and competitors from Australia, New Zealand, USA, Great Britain, South Africa, France – Reunion Island, Guadeloupe

Apologies – Karen and Bill Campbell – Aus, Neil Sutch – Great Britain, Brian Kuzmar USA, Morgan Sullivan – Ireland, Ziggy Gorozycynski – New Zealand, Marty McCann – Ireland, John Nowak – New Zealand

Acceptance of minutes from AGM of 2007 – All those present accepted the minutes from 2007 which has been readily available on the World Waveski Surfing Association Website

President's Report – Brett Cronin provided a comprehensive report outlining the dialogue that the WWSA had had with the International Surfing Association (ISA), the International Canoe Federation (ICF), and Va'a – Multiple paddle sports disciplines. While it was acknowledged by all present that Waveski surfing had an allegiance with surfing it was nonetheless apparent that for the future of waveski surfing the sport was more geared towards the canoe and paddle disciplines. Thus there was a recommendation that waveski surfing moves towards aligning itself with the International Canoe Federation of which the wheels have been set in motion.

Secretary's Report – correspondence in – includes letters to the ISA and ICF regarding affiliation and membership – see above. Correspondence out - The awarding of Australia to host the 2009 World Waveski Surfing Titles

Treasurer's Report – Bank balance – in the absence of the treasurer a report was presented showing debits and credits with a full auditors report available on request.

Contest Director's Report – Jackie Dillon described the changes to the flows and draw for the World Waveski Surfing Titles which had been introduced at the 2009 WWSA Titles – changes include – Top 32 in the Open division with all other entrants in the same division going through qualifying rounds – final 16 in the Open surfing off in man on man heats. First round reopcharge for all divisions. Changes to the rules on Code of Conduct - the banning of alcohol at the competition site during the competition.

General Business –

Removal of Core Board – A motion was put forward for the removal of the core board division from future WWSA events. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Affiliation to the International Canoe Federation – general discussion regarding the pros cons of staying as is or moving towards the ICF. A motion was put forward for membership of the ICF which was unanimously agreed to by all member nations.

There was discussion regarding the sanctioning by the ICF for future World Waveski Surfing Events. Currently the WWSA sanctions its own events, however a number of member nations are registered with their own country's canoe associations and thus require sanctioning by the ICF over and above the WWSA. Membership of the ICF will enable member countries to obtain funding, support and recognition by their own countries.

The new WWSA committee will continue to have dialogue with the ICF to enable membership/affiliation to occur.

Frequency of WWSA Titles - it was agreed by all member nations that the WWSA Titles would be held every two years.

Nominations received for future WWSA Titles – France was asked if they would consider hosting the 2011 WWSA Titles – however the lead in time for them is 4 years and thus would not be ready to do so. South Africa also had put in a tentative bid to host the 2011 titles. As the WWSA had not sought applications for WWSA 2011 prior to the AGM it was agreed that proposals would be asked for during the month of October with a close off date for applications to be received at time to be negotiated. Having said that it was likely that the close-off date would be end of January 2010.

National Representation – There were comments regarding this area particularly when attempting to represent the sport to other disciplines such as the International Canoe Federation. As member nation numbers vary from 1-2 upwards of 100 members it is very difficult to mandate national representation. Having said that it is paramount that member nations reconcile their national teams with respect to selection and grading of competitors. The WWSA doesn't have the jurisdiction to decide how competitors are selected from each country; however it was hoped that member nations set their own frameworks.

Waveski Surfer of the Year – Discussion was had regarding the awarding of Waveski Surfer of the Year (WSOY). Comments were raised and debated as to how one would select the WSOY. The Waveski Champion is awarded at the WWSA Titles for the best waveski surfer.

However there are other attributes for the WSOY which could include – promotion of the sport of waveski surfing, ambassador etc. It was then agreed that the WWSA would develop a set of criteria for the WSOY for further discussion with member nations.

Change in Age Divisions – robust discussion was held regarding the present age divisions with a motion put forward and accepted that the Grand Masters age division changes from the current 50-54 years to 50-59 years and that the Veterans age divisions changes from the current 55 years plus to 60 years plus. There was also acknowledgement that waveski surfing caters for all age divisions and not one division takes priority over another. There was agreement that countries need to continue to pro-actively support the youth of the sport and thus showcase the dynamism of the sport. This is achieved by short films and photography on a broader level.

As there was no other business, all committee members vacated their positions and Mr Steve Gibbs – New Zealand took over as Returning Officer.

Nominations of new WWSA committee – returning officer to ask for nominations for the following positions

- President – two nominations received Jan Brand – South Africa and Jackie Dillon – Australia. Jackie Dillon voted as new President
- Vice President(s) x 3 two nominations received Lyndon Storer and Fletcher Burton – Both voted as new Vice Presidents.
- Secretary – Nominations received Jan Brand – South Africa and Jim Riecks – USA. Jan Brand voted as new Secretary
- Treasurer – Nomination received Ziggy Gorzycynski – New Zealand. Ziggy Gorzycynski voted as new Treasurer
- International Technical Contest Director – nomination received Jim Riecks – USA. Jim Riecks voted as new International Technical Contest Director.
- Website Administration – Nomination received by John Nowak – New Zealand. John Nowak voted as continuing website administrator.

Jackie Dillon thanked the retiring President – Brett Cronin for his work during his tenure (President since 2004) and other retiring members for their commitment – Marty McCann – Vice President and John Nowak - Treasurer.

There being no other business, meeting concluded at 9.00 pm.

Jackie Dillon - President