



2005 Annual Congress

November 18-20, 2005
Sheraton Cavalier
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

MINUTES

Present:

Chris Bourne, ON (Adaptive Ctte)
Scott McKinley, BC
Ilka Schutte, BC
Jo-Anne Moore, AB (Executive)
Jim McClintock, ON
Karen McClintock ON
Mike Spence, ON
Paul MacDonald, ON (Barefoot Ctte)
Chad Falk, MB
Pat Carroll (Executive)
Dan Velcic, AB
Shawn Gratzfeld, AB
Ardeth Smith, PEI
Caroline O'Neill, NS
Peter Person, BC (Past President)
Gwen Prillo (Sport Canada)
Dan Wolfenden (WSWC Office)

Richard Gray (Executive)
Matt Gosse, AB
Steve Gosse, AB (Executive)
Russ Dickson, AB
Glenn Bowie NS (President)
Chris Flood, ON
Barb March-Burwell, SK
Mike Liefers, SK (Wakeboard Ctte)
Rick Dancey, SK
Stewart Smith, PEI
Suzanne Velcic, AB
Michelle Grant, MB
Jim Desjardins, MB
Keith O'Neill, NS
Sheri Seiferling, SK
Nathalie Müller (WSWC office)
Chris Henry (WSWC office)

Regrets:

Louis Simard, QC

Stephen Grimes, NL

1. President's Opening Remarks

Glenn Bowie opened the congress session with a welcome, introductions and review of the weekend. Host Chair, Mike Liefers, extended Saskatchewan's welcome.

Following the introductions, a 2005 year-in-review video was shown.

2. Confirmation of Voting Rights

The number and allocation of votes were confirmed as follows:

<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Province</i>	<i>Votes</i>
Scott McKinley	BC	2.5
Ilka Schuett	BC	2.5
Russ Dickson	AB	2.5
J-Anne Moore	AB	2
Barb March-Burwell	SK	1.5
Rick Dancey	SK	1.5
Jim Desjardins	MB	1.5
Michelle Grant	MB	1
Karen McClintock	ON	2
Mike Spence	ON	2
Jim McClintock	ON	2.5 (carrying proxies from QC)
Keith O'Neill	NS	1
Carolyn O'Neill	NS	1
Stewart Smith	PEI	1
Ardeth Smith	PEI	1

TOTAL ELIGIBLE VOTES 25.5

Accordingly, a majority vote was determined to be 13 votes and a 2/3 majority to be 17 votes.

3. Agenda

Motion Moved by Russ Dickson, seconded by Karen McClintock to approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

4. Minutes

Motion Moved by Jim McClintock, seconded by Scott McKinley to approve the minutes of the 2004 Annual Congress, November 26-28, 2004 as presented.

CARRIED

5. Reports

The various reports were received.

Motion Moved by Karen McClintock, seconded by Mike Spence to receive the Executive Board, Committee and Provincial reports as presented.

CARRIED

6. Audited Financial Statements 2004 - 2005

Motion Moved by Jim Desjardins, seconded by Keith O'Neill to accept the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2005 as presented.

CARRIED

7. Appointment of Auditors 2005 – 2006

Glenn Bowie reported on the positive performance and pricing of the current auditors, and the recommendation of the Executive Board that they be re-appointed for this fiscal year.

Motion Moved by Jo-Anne Moore, seconded by Russ Dickson to appoint the firm of Ousley Hanvey Clipsham Deep to conduct the Water Ski and Wakeboard Canada audit for the year ending March 31, 2006.

CARRIED

8. Recognition

Glenn Bowie took a moment to thank the hosts of major 2005 events. Water Ski and Wakeboard Saskatchewan and event chairs were presented with a token of appreciation.

He also recognized the work of Richard Gray for hosting the Canadian Barefoot Championships, who put in a lot of hard work and achieved excellent results.

Special thank you also went out to Michelle Grant and Linda Carroll who were co-chairs for the Canadian Water Ski National Championships this past August in Winnipeg.

Philippe Joyal was recognized for the work that went into hosting the Canadian Wakeboard Championships.

9. Executive Board Summary

Glenn Bowie reported a summary of the Executive Board meeting that took place earlier that day.

- Financially, the association is in a stable position.
- The Hall of Fame inductees for 2006 were approved.
- Summary of the programs discussed: LTAD, NCCP-CBET, Rip n' Ride, Ski Ability, as well as the Leadership Summit
- Directors' reports

- Discussion of the international event, which seems to be building interest and is showing some future potential.

10. Sport Canada Update

Gwen Prillo presented to the Congress a report from Sport Canada as to the current SFAF III, and how it affected our association/sport. The report is included in the Congress manual.

Through the SFAF III, which is in effect for the next quadrennial, Sport Canada has received an increased budget on a permanent basis. The SFAF III targeted the area of Excellence with some attention to participation, which includes Ski Ability and Rip n' Ride. The Excellence Strategy includes Olympic podium and excellence targets.

Through the SFAF III, 56 sports will be funded.

The report refers to the hosting strategy which will be approved shortly, and will offer funding support for sport organizations wishing to host an international sporting event.

According to Gwen, WSWC is doing very well in the eyes of Sport Canada. Although there are a couple of areas in need of attention, action is being taken, therefore progress is being seen, which is looked upon favourably. Gwen also congratulated WSWC on their work and progress.

According to the calculations for the SFAF, WSWC's reference level decreased from 501 to 433. This is a relative ranking or evaluation, meaning that the number is not solely due to changes in WSWC, but also in relation to increases or decreases of other associations.

Gwen explained what the SFAF is, using diagrams included in the Congress manual. Sport Canada is working with PSOs to align programs, specifically so their assessment methods are aligned.

The SFAF evaluates High Performance (worth 60%) as well as the participation stream (worth 40%). She went on to explain the evaluation and weighting grid of the SFAF. For Athletes with a disability (AWAD), there is no excellence stream as it is not eligible in our sport. If we feel ready, we can, at any time, begin the process of being approved by Sport Canada.

WSWC decreased from 26 to 28th in the Excellence stream, and increased from 40th to 37 in the Participation stream, and 21st in the AWAD – Participation stream. The overall effect is a \$75,000 funding, this year and each of the next 4 years.

Gwen discussed the SFAF assessment report scorecard. Does the size or numbers affect the numbers and percentages? The answer is yes. She also went over the changes that we experienced in the results of the World Championships, which affected the SFAF calculations negatively. Basically, the most recent results from the World Championships had the greatest weighting, with the oldest results the least

amount of weighting. This would be referred to as a "Regressive Scale". The results in this area had the most impact on the changes in our funding.

In the participation stream WSWC did well, however one point to keep in mind is that if PSOs hold provincial championships, they must report the results and submit them to WSWC for inclusion in the SFAF. A comment from Congress delegates from BC regarding communicating results from their provincial championships was made and it was made clear to everyone that communicating results and other relevant statistics between PSOs and WSWC is important.

Overall, WSWC does well in programs, but there is a cut in funding that is a real issue to face.

Gwen addressed the question regarding funding: Sport Canada only evaluates water ski as that is the only sport within WSWC that is recognized. The High Performance stream is based solely on water ski, but the participation stream statistics include all disciplines. Funding therefore, will only go to the water ski high performance programs, and participation level programs can be distributed among all disciplines under WSWC.

Areas to work on to increase funding for the next quadrennial are:

- International results
- Membership – increasing the membership is significant
- Coaching – Sport Canada always emphasizes and prioritizes coaching

11. LTADM

Glenn Bowie introduced Russ Dickson who spoke about the Long Term Athlete Development Model (LTADM).

Russ discussed the LTADM and expressed that it is one of the priorities Sport Canada is pushing at this time. It is very important for the future of sport in Canada and the direction we take at an international level.

Russ explained to the Congress the basic principles of the LTADM and the project WSWC has accepted to take on, beginning in April 2006. Currently WSWC is working on a leadership conference or summit to be held in early April. Russ requested that provinces discuss and contemplate sending delegates to the summit and due to the current status with Sport Canada where funding has not yet been confirmed, provinces were asked to look for grants and other funding to help with the expenses.

Delegates were asked to return on Sunday with some ideas as to who they would want to send.

12. Membership Re-structuring

Peter introduced the concept of the membership restructuring project, and addressed the membership aspect of the SFAF Gwen had discussed earlier, and the impact of the increase in the eyes of Sport Canada. The provinces were asked to identify one delegate who would join the group to discuss the topic on Saturday to resolve some issues and come up with solutions which would then be brought forth to Congress on Sunday.

13. Executive Board Election Preview

Glenn Bowie reviewed the Executive Board positions that were up for election, elections scheduled for Sunday.

High Performance Director – Jim McClintock, sole nomination

Technical Director – Jo-Anne Moore, sole nomination

Director-At-Large – Paul Roberts and Steve Gosse nominated. Each candidate was given the opportunity to address delegates. Jim McClintock introduced Paul Roberts (Paul was not present at congress). Steve Gosse made some comments.

Glenn thanked Jo-Anne and Steve for their work and contributions so far with the Executive Board and the committees.

The meeting broke into the Regional Groups.

14. Regional Meeting Summaries

A representative from each Region was asked to present the highlights from their meetings.

Eastern Region: Nationals being hosted in Montreal on August 17 -20
Barefoot Nationals hosted in Ontario on August 10-13
Easterns will be in Ontario, possibly at Destiny Lake August 4-6
Atlantics will be hosted in Halifax August 4-6 also
Reviewed the events hosted in 2005, including the disappointing combination of Easterns/Atlantics which resulted in no Atlantic skier competing.

Western Region: Westerns are looking at offering a new format for the tournament.
The Wizard Cup will be celebrating its 40th anniversary and therefore are planning many special activities.
BC Games
Discussions also included LTAD summit and membership restructuring project.

15. National Coaching Certification Program – Transition to CBET Approach

Chris Henry presented the current status and plans for the NCCP. Key developments include:

- Learning materials for the Learn To Instruct level have been drafted and will be validated within the next two weeks;
- Two pilots are planned over the winter
- Learning Facilitator (previously called course conductors) training is scheduled for April, in conjunction with the planned Leadership Conference
- Training of instructors 'licensed' to deliver Rip 'n Ride will be done via the NCCP Learn To Instruct course/training
- Provinces are therefore advised to:
 - Begin identifying who it wishes to have trained as a Learning Facilitator
 - Begin scheduling Learn To Instruct courses beginning late April, early May 2006

16. SkiAbility Program

Chris Bourne discussed the SkiAbility Program, reviewing the successes of 2005. This was the second year that this program was being funded, with the facilitator clinic being successful, including 20 facilitators trained at the Québec clinic. Bill and Denise Bowness from the USA have been helpful in developing and delivering the program. They are working on creating a training template. The program also successfully developed partnerships with external organizations.

Provincial review showed that in Nova Scotia, the clinics and interest were not at the expected level, the program was extremely successful in Québec, the program was primarily based in Ottawa for the province of Ontario, and needs to expand to the rest of the province. In Manitoba, three or four clinics were held, with one clinic training 50 skiers (great start!). Troy Monz and LeRoss Calnek offered several clinics in Saskatchewan, but more interest needs to be created and more traveling to expand across the province. Alberta experienced a good start as well, and BC was disappointing as only 1 or 2 clinics were held. A good foundation was built, and the hope is that word of mouth will spread, increasing interest for the program.

The program needs the PSOs' involvement through promotion and delivery of the program. There are also many opportunities for sponsorship.

Overall there has been a very good response from the community and those involved are excited about the future.

17. Rip n' Ride

Suzanne Velcic and Chris Henry addressed the delegates regarding the Rip n' Ride program through a Powerpoint presentation. The program is in need of one contact person in each province for the committee to communicate with for the program.

The benefit of this program is that it should increase the membership numbers for everyone. The program will be launched in 2006, and a website is being created for the program. Tracking charts will be developed to allow organizers to manage participant levels.

The cost of the program is being developed, but at this time, it looks like an individual package will cost approximately 10\$.

18. Intro to Competition Series Model

Matt Gosse presented a model for skiers being introduced to competition. This model is different from traditional competition in that it uses evaluation markers that are based on the athlete's improvement. It recognizes athletes who aren't necessarily gold medallists and is based on participation and personal achievement.

At tournaments, athletes and judges pay attention to personal bests, which is the benchmark for evaluation for the athletes. The model requires athletes to attend at least 3 tournaments a year.

Prizes include a variety of items such as backpacks, towels, vests, water bottles, hats, gloves and stickers. The sponsors buy the prizes (products), up to 50\$ per item. Prizes are given to athletes who break their personal best scores.

The model encourages individual athletes, increasing support of all athletes by athletes and spectators, and therefore increases spectatorship at tournaments.

19. WSWC Leadership Conference

A draft of the concept was circulated. Two dates in April were being considered: April 6 to 9, or April 20 to 22. It was explained that there will likely be funding, but it isn't confirmed yet. Sport Canada is urging us to forge ahead with the key session, LTADM, since we are well positioned to receive funding. The Leadership Conference is a priority with the association, and provinces were asked to begin planning financially and personnel-wise for their participation.

20. Officiating

An update was provided to delegates on officials training and certification programs within each discipline.

Barefoot

Terry Jones presented a DVD now available for barefoot judges. The DVD is available through the OWSA, or him directly. The DVD is comprehensive and not costly. Anyone interested in the DVD is asked to contact Terry directly.

Wakeboarding

Chris Henry and Shawn Gratzfeld discussed officiating in the wakeboard area, and expressed the need to update the manuals and certifications. There is a lot happening at the international level, and somebody from the association should be there at the international workshops. Since there isn't much of a budget for wakeboarding, it was proposed to use the resources already available from the IWSF.

BC expressed the need for qualified facilitators to offer officiating clinics to keep a standardized level of officials.

Water Ski

Nathalie Muller discussed the need for provincial officials coordinators who are familiar with the officials in their province. Also, a strong effort was made last summer to update and manage the posting of officials and their levels on the website for tournament organizers looking for officials. The Rules Exam, and the guidelines for certification for officials were also discussed.

21. Wakesurfing Status

Delegates were advised that Wakesurfing is now a recognized activity encompassed within WSWC, and therefore included under the liability coverage through our insurance coverages.

22. Confirmation of Event Locations and Dates

The slate of 2006 events was confirmed as follows:

Westerns:	Calgary, Predator Bay	August 3-6, 2006
Easterns:	Ontario	August 3-6, 2006
Atlantics:	Halifax, NS	August 3-6, 2006
Barefoot Nationals:	Newmarket, ON	August 11-13, 2006
Adaptive Nationals:	Ottawa, ON	August 12-13; 2006
Water Ski Nationals:	Montreal, QC	August 17-20, 2006
Wakeboard Nationals:	Edmonton, AB	August 25-27, 2006

** A possible conflict has been identified between the water ski nationals and a world cup stop. This is to be investigated further.

The barefoot group is looking at offering a westerns championships, which would be a collaborative effort between BC and AB, as well as an Easterns Championships.

23. Future Congress Hosting

BC expressed its desire to host the 2006 WSWC Congress in the city of Victoria. Although Alberta was also contemplating a bid, it withdrew during the discussions.

Motion Moved by Karen McClintock, seconded by Scott McKinley to award the 2006 Annual Congress, to WSWBC as hosted in Victoria on November 17-19, 2006, authorizing the Executive Board to work out further details.

CARRIED

Manitoba expressed interest in hosting the congress in 2007. After a discussion, it was learned that other provinces might also be interested but had not yet confirmed details. It was therefore resolved that a vote on the awarding of the 2007 Congress should occur at the 2006 Congress.

24. Executive Board Elections

Glenn Bowie confirmed that there were only single nominations for two of the positions scheduled for election this year, and that the candidates are therefore ACCLAIMED.

Technical Director Jo-Anne Moore

High Performance Director Jim McClintock

An election between Paul Roberts and Steve Gosse was conducted for the position of Director-At-Large. Peter Person and Pat Carroll were appointed as scrutineers. Glenn Bowie reported the outcome, that Steve Gosse is declared elected as Director at Large.

Motion Moved by Russ Dickson, seconded by Karen McClintock to destroy the ballots.

CARRIED

25. Other Business

Glenn reported that the Congress Silent Auction raised \$2800.

Delegates were advised that, due to issues experienced at its current building, the national office will be moving at the end of November. November 29 and 30th are the confirmed moving dates.

A new sponsor has been secured. BoaterExam is an online service provider for boat operator cards. WSWC members receive a \$5.00 discount. Provinces are encouraged to promote this as another benefit of membership

Due to funding cuts, only one issue of *WakeSports Canada Magazine* will be produced annually (Summer). An E-zine is being planned to supplement the magazine. It is a more financially viable and timely way to communicate news and results to the membership.

Richard Gray addressed the congress and invited everyone to come out to watch the World Barefoot Championships, which will be held in the Seattle, Washington area from September 11 to 17, 2006. It will be a great event with the Junior, Senior and Open categories competing.

26. Membership Re-structuring

Peter Person reported the recommendations of the ad hoc Membership restructuring group that had met on Saturday: Three levels of membership were identified and labeled:

Active Membership

Associate Membership (i.e. boat shows)

Event Membership (encompassing camps, clinics, schools, etc.)

A fee structure was established based on these three membership levels:

Active membership:	fee to stay as is (\$9.00 per individual, \$20 per family)
Associate membership:	1\$
Event Membership:	no charge

Insurance issue – to be a mandatory requirement of membership. In special cases, members can get their own insurance.

Voting structure allocation for provinces should include recognition of the Associate group membership.

Motion	Moved by Jim McClintock, seconded by Russ Dickson to give the Executive Board authority to review the recommendations of the ad-hoc membership group, and to implement changes for 2006.
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CARRIED

27. Adjournment

Glenn Bowie concluded the Congress with a warm thank you to all award winners, WSWC staff, Hall of Fame inductees and presenters. Sherri Seiferling and Mike Liefers were thanked as well for their hard work, resulting in a successful congressional weekend. Glenn expressed his hope that everyone would leave the weekend with something to bring back to their provinces.

Motion	Moved by Jim McClintock, seconded by Scott McKinley to adjourn the 2005 Congress.
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CARRIED