



**2010 COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
 Compiled and submitted by Kris Edlund

*This document contains the annual reports for Central Division committees and subcommittees, including a general overview by the Central Division chairman.*

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## **TREASURER'S REPORT: Keith Perry**

*Note: The treasury report is distributed under separate cover.*

## **RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT: Kris Edlund**

The Minutes from the March 2009 Panel Meeting and Committee Meeting were sent out via email after the conclusion of the meetings last spring. *(Note: Only Committee members received the Minutes from Friday night's Committee Meeting. Panel Meeting Minutes were available to the entire Division and posted on the Central Ski Jumping website.)*

The distribution included: Panel Meeting Minutes document, Club Reports, Club Statistics spreadsheet, Committee Chairpersons' Reports and under separate cover the Treasurer's Report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Edlund, Central Division Recording Secretary

## **OFFICIALS' REPORT: Matt Laue**

### **YEAR IN REVIEW**

This past winter long time member and past president who also represented Central Officials for many years at the USSA Convention, Leroy Martinson, retired from active officiating. Our active membership remained at 16 with the addition of Paul Jastrow who completed his Trial Judging in 2008-2009 and was approved by the Quality Control Committee at our annual Fall Meeting. In 2009-2010 we added one additional Candidate to our group. Matt Kueler completed his Trial Judging during this past winter's competition schedule. Upon a positive review by the Quality Control committee he will become an active judge for the 2010-2011 season. Throughout the season the officials filled 166 positions over 50 event days. The officials sent four different Officials to four National events outside of the Central Division region. Dan Mattoon (J) represented us at the 2010 US Nationals held in Lake Placid last October. John Keck (J) represented Central Officials at the US Nordic Combined Olympic Trials. Jay Martin (TD) had his first National assignment as a Technical Delegate representing us at the North American Championships in Lake Placid. Steve Sydow (J) represented Central at JO's in Steamboat during the 2010 JO's held in March. Dan Mattoon and Matt Laue are the two FIS representatives from Central. Dan and Matt represented the US as Judges for the Nordic Combined COC in Park City in early December. Matt traveled on to the NC COC in Lake Placid as the TDA. In mid January Dan was a judge for the Ski Jumping World Cup in Sapporo, Japan. Matt was Judge for the men's COC in Iron Mountain that was headed by our new member Eric Hiatt as the Chief of Competitions. In March Matt was TD at the Nordic Combined COC in Hoydalsmo, Norway.

### **SCHEDULING**

Again during this past season we were scheduled to have a Super Tour event and a JOQ scheduled for the same weekend. That takes 13 of our 16 active officials to cover those two events. Not including officials from the home clubs who are actively working the event as a member of their club. With a field of only 16 to choose from that makes for some very tight scheduling. For the both the sake of officiating and in the general interest of seeing clubs grow and prosper I hope the junior and senior schedule will have fewer overlaps. I would encourage clubs to maximize their exposure and potential growth by not only show casing their large hills but combining those weekends with junior events to help encourage recruiting / new skiers and also allow the junior skiers time to observe the large hill competitions.

## TRAVEL

In the past few years it has become increasingly hard to recruit new members to the officiating ranks. Much discussion has ensued and one of the resounding hurdles is the expense associated with such an endeavor. While we understand and sympathize with financial hardships throughout the sport we also need to be professional in our jobs as are all other officials in other sports. One of struggles comes from the fact not only do we spend a lot of time on site we also often need to travel long distances to fulfill our assignments. With much consternation it has been decided that we need to be very deliberate in recovering traveling expenses while also instituting a per day officiating fee per official. This fee will be charged for competition days by all officials and is also charge able for days of official training where officials are required to be in attendance. Both the TD and TDA should expect payment for one day of onsite work prior to the start of the official schedule (training or competition). We will follow the USSA guidelines for travel and food expense as outlined by the USSA expense sheet additional we will collect the daily fee. While payment by host clubs of a all expenses and fees is required, collection of fees and expenses is at the discretion of each individual official. (A sample expense report is attached. Expenses and fees will be confirmed prior to the 2010-2011 competition season.)

## FIS SEMINARS

This fall pending the location of the North American FIS update we will either have our convention in conjunction with that or we will continue to have our traditional Central Officials Seminar in Eau Claire. Of course, all dates are pending until a definitive location is set.

## USSA MEMBERSHIP & CENTRAL OFFICIAL SEMINARS

A continuing concern is having qualified people in official capacities. Sites holding Nationals, JO's and Super Tours are required to have the Chief of Competition attend a National Officials seminar at a minimum every other year all though it is recommended every year. I also think this should be required of Chief of Competition for sites hosting JOQ's. There are many rule changes each and every year that need to be learned. Each year generally in October we hold our National Level Officials Seminar in Eau Claire. All Officials including Chief of Competition are required to hold a current USSA Membership.

## NEW OFFICIALS CANIDATES NEEDED

We are always searching for new Officials Candidates. With an average of nearly 10 assignments per current member we are being stretched too thin. As mentioned above Chief's of Competition need to be Officials as well. However, being an Official is not just for TD's, Judges and Chief's. There are numerous other avenues for to becoming a certified official in many aspects of the competition. Please see the attached Pipeline.

## **DISCIPLINE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT: Matt Laue**

### YEAR IN REVIEW

I was not notified of any disciplinary items during the 2009-2010 season that required action or that required making an official report. Congratulations to all!!!

### CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

As of last season we updated the Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Guidelines. I encourage continued review of this document to see if there are areas we need to address. (Please see attached) I also encourage further exploration for a consistent and fair way all skiers within Central are bound by these guidelines. Thus we need to implement a process whereby all skiers / skiers parents have signed these documents and we can maintain these records accurately in the skier database.

Also please Note there are two seats up for election this year on the Disciplinary Committee:

--Tom Ricchio

--Ray Barrans

### **COACHING REPORT: Chris Broz**

Well, I'd like to congratulate all Central Ski Jumpers and Nordic Combiners on an impressive year! Just a few highlights would be one athlete just missing the Olympic Team, one on the Junior World Team, Many skiers on the NC and Special Jumping FIS Cup and World Cup B Level Circuits, and give it up for all the Juniors who rocked it in Steamboat for the Junior Olympics! Being an Olympic year I was impressed with all the mini Jr's that were coming up through the ranks in nearly every club. My hat goes off to all the club coaches who are doing such a great job promoting the sport without much support. We know that it's a huge individual effort to keep things running and we really appreciate it!!!

There is a Devo Program that is undergoing development and may be ready to deploy come the spring panel meeting. Numerous Conference calls and emails have been flying around to make sure all bases are covered and try to reintroduce the Devo program to the division to re-unify the region. Emphasis has been put on communication and coaches education and accountability. Goals of the program is to keep everyone working on the same page with one another not just relying on individual efforts. Highlights would include making better use of the annual training results, training programs, unified equipment ordering routines/deadlines, defined athlete schedules and possibly even an international tour! Stay tuned!

As a personal aside, I'd just like to apologize to everyone for a problem I had one weekend in particular this winter. I have spoken with many about it, but just wanted to also go on record as saying that I certainly made a mistake and made the necessary changes immediately and indefinitely. It certainly won't happen again!

### **NORDIC COMBINED REPORT: Paul Loomis**

What a year for Nordic combined! On the World Cup and Olympic level, the stage was set for our future combiners to reach for the stars and be inspired to achieve their goals. On the Divisional level, we also had a great year, with a record number of participants and enthusiasm growing in the sport.

The 2009-2010 winter season featured 125 skiers overall (26 more than the previous season) at Itasca (10), Ishpeming (10), Blackhawk (20), Iola (37), Eau Claire (34), and Minneapolis (14). Westby also featured a fun community xc ski race and expressed interest in hosting a Nordic combined event next year. Three Junior Olympic qualifiers were held in Itasca, Blackhawk, and Iola. The Blackhawk JOQ featured a team relay format similar to that used at the JO's- 2-person teams doing 3 x 1 km each. This was well received by racers and fans, and will be included in future JOQ's.

Six Central athletes qualifying for JO's were Tyler Hutchins, Stig Fjeldheim, Ben Loomis, Somer Schrock, Casey Larson, and Henry Kavanagh-Beltman. Tyler Hutchins was the top finisher overall, placing 8<sup>th</sup> in the Individual 5 K race, with Stig Fjeldheim posting the fastest race time for 9<sup>th</sup> place in the J1 Class. In J2 class, Somer Schrock was the top Central finisher in 11<sup>th</sup>, Ben Loomis 15<sup>th</sup>, Casey Larson 17<sup>th</sup>, and Henry K-B 21<sup>st</sup>. Also participating in the very challenging snowy Team 2x3x1k relay races were **ten** Central athletes including Tyler/Stig (4<sup>th</sup>, J1B), Ben/Somer (8<sup>th</sup>, J2B), Emilee Anderson/ Jesse Taylor (5<sup>th</sup>, J2G), Kevin Bickner/Christian Friberg (12<sup>th</sup>, J2B), Nick Mattoon/Tyler Baran (13<sup>th</sup>, J2B).

Using the NC fund, we have started a small wax and equipment inventory for future racing. No equipment was purchased this year. We are looking into uniforms/race suits for JO's.

I have been communicating with the US Ski Team coaches and staff in hopes of continuing to improve the NC Development program. Currently, any young Combiners showing promise in national competitions are being invited to train at regional camps and use the expertise and resources of the Ski Team to further their training

efforts. We hope to contribute to this program with input as well as providing skiers in the future! On the Divisional level, we plan to be involved in CXC camps and summer/fall dry land clinics for interested athletes. Central Division continues to face significant struggles with a truly integrated Nordic Combined program. Our geographic area is large, our clubs diverse, and interest level/support variable. Having a Divisional program that offers year-round training, coaching, and support does not seem realistic, so it appears that club-level NC programs will introduce kids to the sport, with Divisional support periodically in the form of competitions, off-season training opportunities, and creation of a Central "Team" at the J1 and J2 levels. We still lack a Nordic Combined Coach with National experience, but I have accepted my "interim" role as "Coach" and will continue to contribute to the best of my ability. I am always open and interested in assistance and suggestions on improving our program.

In sum, it is inspiring to witness the success of the US Nordic Combined Team who won 4 Olympic medals in historic fashion; hopefully that will translate regionally to even more engagement and enthusiasm in the sport. Regardless of whether they aspire to the highest level of competition, this year should give our younger Nordic combined athletes tremendous motivation to keep training, stay with this healthy lifelong sport, and have fun on skinny skis!

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Loomis

### **WOMEN'S COMMITTEE REPORT: Karla Keck**

The performance and Development of Women ski jumpers this year was very encouraging. This is the first time in many years that The Central Division has sent 4 girls, Jessie Taylor, Emilee Anderson, Elyse Hoffman, Elizabeth Wallace to JOs, Plus 1 forejumper, Brenna Hilgers, and two Central Women, Karin Friberg and Nita Englund, to Europe for Continental Cups plus one woman, Nita Englund, to Junior Worlds this season. Way to go jumpers and coaches!!

As I look forward to next year I am really hoping that we are able to have 7 Women qualify for JOs. I also hope that those 7 women will qualify to compete in the Nordic Combined as well. Hopefully the silver medals by Johnny Spillane and the USA Nordic Combined Team at the Vancouver Olympics will inspire all of our jumpers to get out on their cross country skis as often as possible this next season. The more time spent on skis will help all of our Central Athletes to become better ski jumpers.

We had some great opportunities for our Female athletes this year as far as Madison Girls Camp where US Women's Coach Kjell joined Lindsey Van, Jessica Jerome, Abby Hughs, Alissa Johnson worked with the central girls who attended this past June. A steamboat camp and Park City and Lake Placid camps allowed for additional training opportunities for Nita Englund and Karin Friberg to train with the top ranked Women in the US. Brian Nelson took 5 girls Jessie Taylor, Elizabeth Wallace, Brenna Hilgers, Elyse Hoffman, Emilee Anderson to Steamboat for first snow training camp which got all of our JO girls off to a great start!! Kjell returned to Madison in October and worked with girls and boys and at the fall camp.

I think it is very important that our athletes keep participating in these training opportunities. The camp dates are not yet set for the Summer Girls camp. There is a Russian Friendship camp that will be held the last week in June, although we are awaiting confirmation on the date from the Russian Team. This means our Spring Girls camp may take place out West this year. I would like to try to get Lindsey Van and perhaps Kjell to fly back to Central for a short 3-4 day training camp later this summer to work with the girls.

Thank you all for an outstanding season!

## **CENTRAL DIVISION BOOKLET & WEBSITE REPORT: Mark Nalbach**

### Website

Space - \$47.40

Domain - \$9.88

**Total - \$57.28**

### Central Book

Book Covers - \$1438

Inside pages - \$1284.09

**Total - \$2722.09**

10 Clubs participated in the book - \$4300

Profit - \$1577.94

## **MASTERS REPORT: Tom Ricchio**

2010 was once again a great year for Masters jumping in the Central. Masters were represented at almost every competition throughout Central, including Joe Berens and Patrick Krugel jumping at Westby on the big hill.

For the first time in quite a few years no Master from the U.S. was participating in the International Masters Championships that were held in Slovenia. Having this event much earlier in the season, along with an injury, prevented us from participating. Next year the IMC will be in Harrachov, the home of the huge ski flying hill. We hope to once again have a team USA jumping there.

The Masters National Championships were held on February 27th and 28th in Coleraine, MN. This was the first time the event was held in Coleraine, and we hope that we will be invited back sometime in the near future. We want to thank the entire Itasca Ski Club for providing beautiful hill conditions, and a great banquet, that saw their own Doug and Jim Maki inducted into the Masters Hall of Fame. The weather was perfect all weekend with sunshine and blue sky and temps in the mid 30's. It is my hope that we will continue holding NMC in Central for many years to come.

## **ENGINEERING REPORT: P.T. ("Doc") Bland**

Of note is that we [Westby] lowered the take-off on the big hill here from 10.6 degrees to 11.5 degrees and I think it improved the flight curve by lowering it.

We [Westby] plan to lower and extend the take-off on the 65 meter hill in the spring.

I have had no other request for advice on hill changes or new hills in the past year.

Submitted by  
P.T. Doc Bland

## LARGE HILL COORDINATOR REPORT: Kathy Wallace

2009/2010 was a very busy year. More and more skiers are traveling out of state.

Lake Placid 4<sup>th</sup> of July Competition - 11 skiers

Lake Placid Flaming Leaves/US Nationals – 14 skiers

Lake Placid New Years/NorAms – 13 skiers

Park City SpringerTournee – 16 skiers

Early Snow – Park City – 8 skiers

Steamboat – 13 skiers!!

Junior Olympics – 23 skiers, 2 forejumpers

Number of in-division tournaments – 23

Number of out-of-division tournaments – 6

Total Junior Skiers – 31 skiers

Central Skiers going to World Junior Championships – 3

Central skiers with FIS cup points:	5
Central skiers skiing super tour:	11
Central skiers skiing in Continental Cups:	3
Central skiers skiing in World Cups:	2

Thank you to Norge, Minneapolis, Eau Claire, Ishpeming, and Westby for putting on great events for the 5-hill tour skiers. The 5-hill tournament was a great success this year.

Overall, the season was very, very busy, with the culmination of the Junior Olympics and 23 skiers in the J1 and J2 classes qualifying this year.

Issues to be addressed:

More help is needed from parents for out out-of-town events in shuttling skiers around and managing the skiers for the Junior Olympics. Other than that, there were no major issues this past season.

Kathy Wallace

Central Division Large Hill Coordinator