

2022 Spring Meeting  
April 30  
Mora Vasaloppet Center

Meeting called to order, 9:30 by Rich Heilman  
Welcome by Jon Larson, Vasaloppet Board

Treasurer's report: Rich Heilman. No income this year from the Banks Relays, as they were not held. No State Banquet expenses. No current plans for any funds to be spent. Current balance is \$5601.00.

Secretary's Report: Denny Nelson. Fall 2021 Minutes were approved as read.

Victor C. Dunder Program: Denny Nelson (Denny Green) Eight skiers applied for either a skate or a classic package of equipment. All eight are approved. Coaches are reminded to be sure to get applications in to Denny Green by April 1 each year. Check Association minutes and skinnyski for details. The Home Place in Bemidji, Gear West, Finn Sisu and Pioneer Midwest are our sponsoring shops. Joe's in St. Paul has sponsored in the past but their suppliers are unable to fulfill their orders.

Membership Discussion: Ideas about increasing membership and active participation were brought forth. Communication within the Association and with the MSHSL is paramount. A "President's Box" needs to be maintained and passed on to the incoming President in order to keep that President up to date with past the past business of the Association. The term "Institutional Memory" was used.

By Laws Amendments: Past Presidents Paula Anderson, Dan Josephson and Denny Nelson worked on proposing amendments. Paula presented the recommended changes to the current By Laws. The proposed changes will be published on the Association's web site and be presented for a members' vote at the Fall Meeting on Saturday, October 8th in Mora.

Discussion of determining what constitutes a quorum with hybrid attendees followed. A motion by Nick Snavely to include online attendees and that the quorum be set at 25% of Association members was not seconded.

Nick Snavely, Dave Paulson and Chrissy Snider will meet to formulate a Proposal that will ask the League to consider a change to our ski season start and end dates. This Proposal will be presented to the membership at our annual Fall meeting on Saturday, October 8th. Members present must first approve moving this Proposal forward to a vote; it would then be voted on by all high school coaches in the state (or as many as possible) by electronic voting. If passed, it would then be presented to the MSHSL by Association President.

All-State Awards: Members are reminded that this honor is not administered by the MSHSL but is an Association function. Rich Heilman will clarify the number of Awards for pursuit and sprints. This will be presented at the Fall Meeting. The number of medals to be awarded by the MSHSL was discussed and an increase will be sought. Bonnie Fuller-Kask (Duluth East) and Jacob Polland (Washburn) will put together a Proposal seeking additional medals at the State Meet for presentation at the Fall meeting.

Discussion of the current tie-breaking procedures ensued. This is a MSHSL regulation and it will require a Proposal from the Association to the MSHSL for consideration. Several members volunteered to discuss this issue. A reminder to all coaches from Dan Josephson: Any Proposal for the League's

consideration must be forwarded to him or to Paula Anderson by August 1, 2022. Andrew Hanson will create a Proposal requesting a change in the current tie-breaking rule. This will be presented at the Fall meeting.

Mike Hecker, Pete Tremaine and Jack Jeffrey presented the changes proposed for the stadium at Giant's Ridge. This will principally center on the Sprint competitions. A new sprint course will allow spectators to view the entire event from one central location.

State meet schedule was discussed. Mike and Pete are asking the League to consider moving the Alpine State Meet to Tuesday, which would allow Nordic to start at 10 am on Wednesday. Rich is in favor and is presenting it to his superiors at the MSHSL. However, regardless of whether they move, the managers are planning to hold the team sprint relay all on Day 1, and the Pursuit event all on Day 2. Alpine moving would make life easier for us with weather delays, and officials and lodging, but isn't a deal breaker. Managers have a plan in place to guarantee that prelims and finals will be held, regardless of temps, etc. Holding the two events on separate days eliminates all of the stadium set-up conflicts.

Discussion of how to balance gender equity in the team relay with the current starting positions/techniques on alternating years was discussed. In a subsequent to Denny Nelson: Mike Hecker will examine this issue as it is impacted by Title IX.

Depth of awards at State. In addition to Rich Heilman's "startup" on determining this number, Bonnie-Fuller Kask and Jacob Fuller volunteered to examine three issues: Increasing the number of individual Pursuit qualifiers to six, changing the substitution rule and increasing the medal numbers. Because these topics are governed by the MSHSL, any changes to be proposed must follow the Association's procedure for those Proposals to be written, discussed (including a members' poll) and voted on by the members. Dan Josephson and Dave Johnson both submitted templates to expedite the Proposal process. These templates will be published on the Association's web site. Dave and Dan can be contacted directly if need be.

Election of Officers. A President and a President Elect must be elected at the Fall Meeting. The Executive Committee and two at-large members will advance candidates' names. Denny Nelson moved that Dave Johnson (Past-President), Paula Anderson (President) and Dan Josephson (President-elect) be named as Interim officers, to be replaced at the Fall Meeting. Motion carried. Any coach can nominate someone for these positions by contacting Dave, Paula or Dan.

Two at-large Advisory Committee members were elected: Nicholas Snavely (Sauk Rapids) and Doug Cran (White Bear Lake).

CXC Coaches' Certification<: Dave Paulson presented information on a new program for coaches' education through CXC..Contact yuriy.gusev@cxcskiing if interested.

Charlie Banks Relays: Dave Paulson presented the possibility that the Relays be held at Mora. The Vasaloppet Board is considering the matter.

Duluth December 8th Invitational Race: This will be held at the Grand Avenue site and will be limited to 32 squads. Two boys and two girls will be guaranteed two races on a 1.4 km loop. The Section/State format will be followed.

High School Canoe Race: Contact Emily Broderson at Maple Grove. Details will be placed on the web site. Event is June 12th in Coon Rapids. All equipment will be provided.

Our next meeting is Saturday, October 8, 2022 at the Mora Vasaloppet Chalet. Mark your calendar!