

Eastern Region USA Roller Sports

SUBJECT: MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location: Palace Skating Center, Philadelphia, PA
Date/Time: October 18, 2004 @ 7:40 PM
Presiding Officers Steven Hinkle, President
John Heffner, Vice President, Artistic
Eforrest Allmond, Vice President, Speed *
John Patton, Secretary
Marie McGee, Treasurer
Officers In Attendance: 4
* Officers Not Present: 1
Members in Attendance: 14
Total Attendance: 18

- 1) The Secretary reads the minutes of the previous meeting. The report was approved as presented
- 2) The Treasurer's report was read reflecting activity since the last meeting, with a closing balance of \$7549.05. The report was approved as presented.
- 3) The issue of the regional letterhead was readdressed. Steve Hinkle answered the question by stating that the issue was explored and the cost of printing letterhead and envelopes was excessive. John Patton stated that we could print the letterhead from our own printers on an as-needed basis.
- 4) The issue of by-laws was readdressed. An existing set was last known to be in the possession of Mary Thomas. If the region is in existence for more than six (6) months then we will have to formulate written by-laws. The Northeast Region's by-laws were mentioned as a basis to start, and sections of the rulebook give a guideline also.
- 5) A discussion on the voting privileges of clubs. It was noted that for a club to have active membership need a minimum of (5) active members and needs to be registered with the national office. The only persons that can vote at a meeting will be the president of the active club or a person designated by the president by written letter submitted to the region.
- 6) A discussion was held regarding the merging of the Eastern Region with another region. The general discussion was on which region was better suited to merge with, and how the membership felt about such a merger. A general note was a merger was not mandatory at this time, but may become mandatory later.

7) John Heffer had attended the Board meeting prior to this meeting. The subject matter is in the addendum at the end of this report.

New Business:

8) Mary Allmond and David Paden held a discussion on bring back the annual banquet. Mary said the Speed membership wishes to see the return of the banquet. David stated his reasons why he would like to see the return of the banquet and suggested having the event in a hall that was catered by someone in the region. Steve Hinkle stated that the best way to have the banquet was to have it professionally catered. There will be a review and vote on this at the next meeting. If approved the region would be willing to give a deposit for this event. The proposed date would be at the end of April.

9) A report on the EOC was delivered. The profit from this event was \$2319.22. Income included 338 admissions, ads sold for the booklet and 50/50 profits. Expenditures included the fee for the rink, gratuities to Scott Cohen and the violinist. A thank you letter was received from Florham Park operators thanking the EOC for the Rink Operator of the Year Award. A letter from Josh Sutterlein was received thanking for a scholarship awarded and appreciation for the support.

10) Steve Hinkle addressed the need to review the budget and the need to explore ways to create income for the region. He stated that there are only 15-20 clubs in the region and that the club dues should not be raised. It was stated that the NJ Open has a split of 75% of the profit going to the operator and 25% going to the region.

11) A proposal was put forth that when a bid is placed for running the Regional Championships that the persons placing the bid can:

- a) Run the contest themselves, assuming all costs
- b) Allow the region to run the contest giving the operators 75% of the profit and the region getting 25% of the profit

Option (B) will allow the operator to run the event and not lose money in the process. Valley Skating Center and Holiday Skating Center will be approached about running the championships under these terms. Holiday has accepted the terms. Steve Hinkle made a motion to have these terms be made part of the bidding process. The motion was approved by the majority.

12) Bid were accepted for the 2007 Eastern Region Championship (providing no merger has taken place). Mary Allmond of Cornwells Skating Center made a bid for the 2007 Speed Championships. A bid for the 2007 Artistic Championships was made by Allen Bell of Fantasy Skating Center. The voting on this will be at the Spring 2005 Eastern Region meeting.

13) A discussion was held on sending someone from the region to the next board meeting in February 2005. Carey Elder volunteer to attend this meeting. A motion was made to send Carey to the February meeting, and was approved by the majority.

14) A vote on the site of the 2005 NJ Open was held. The only bid for this event was from Scooter's Skating Center in Marlton, NJ. A vote was held and the site approved by the majority.

15) A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion approved and the meeting was adjourned. A notice for the next meeting will be discussed in early February 2005.

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to Ted and Sue Rendfrey, owners of the Palace Skating Center, for hosting the Eastern Region Meeting.

Addendum

Topics covered by John Heffner in reference to Artistic issues at the last Board Meeting:

- Use of Olympic rings can longer be used by USARS
- Due to the World Meet, the Expo and Masters Games in December 2004 have been cancelled. The running of these events will be decided in a year by year study.
- Discussed the retirement of Gene Cox from USARS
- A plastic company offered to provide plastic for the National floor.
- No photo ID's will be issued at Nationals. A card on a lanyard will be issued.
- Update of the "Sticker Skills" program for developing new skaters
- World Class skaters must remain after their events to attend a mandatory meeting the next day.
- Discussion on a Junior World Class figure skater which did not have a proper US passport. A rule was passed requiring proper documentation...
- The new National schedule: the meet was reduced by one day and the stating of the days that National will run
- Discussions of Restructure proposal. No changes in the present regions, changes will occur in the event structure as distributed on the current restructure flowchart.
- The issue of Premier events and the participation of coaches I this event were discussed.
- Issues involving Premier Solo and Figure events were discussed.
- The draw for the 2004-2005 skating year will be drawn later this year after new rulebooks have been finalized.
- Required footwork for singles events was discussed.
- Next year, all 1st through 4th placements will advance to National.
- The time requirement for Premier was discussed.
- The National event fee will now be \$55 per event
- The maximum Regional fee will be \$45 per event
- Expectations to reduce the National schedule by (3) days.
- The National meet will be run in block events.
- Eligibility for "B" and "C" level events will use the current Junior Olympic requirements