

Eastern Region Coaches Association Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 30, 2007

President Carey Elder called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

Attendees: Allen Bell III Ed Heater Steve Hinkle Jeanne Sincavage John Weiderhold
Tiffany Bogden Carol Heffner Janet Jordan Kitty Sten
Carey Elder John Heffner Kristen Kievit Linda Weaver

Election of Officers

The Coaches Association officers for the 2006 season were nominated for re-election and approved by all members present. The elected officers are:

Carey Elder – President	Avril Pickersgill - Treasurer
Ann Wahlig - Vice President	Ed Heater - Secretary

Regional Practice Time at 2007 Nationals

Carey Elder presented the information for National practice. Skaters will pay a \$5.00 fee which would also include any open practice sessions that day.

2008 Regionals

The 2008 Regional Meet was voted to be held at the Palace Skating Center. Steve Hinkle informed the coaches that scheduling problems at the Palace may prevent the rink from being properly prepared for Regionals. If that is the case, the event may have to be moved to the Holiday Skating Center. Tentative dates for the 2008 Regional Meet are June 21 & 22, 2008.

Christiana 2008

Carey Elder asked if Christiana was planning to have a meet in 2008. Steve Hinkle stated that he had discussed this with Beth and thought they would probably host a meet.

All Regions Down in Numbers

Steve Hinkle stated that all regions across the country were down in number. Although he hasn't heard anything from the National Office, he wanted to warn the coaches that there is a possibility that the National Office may revisit the idea of restructuring the regions.

Meet Schedule for NJ State Open Meet and Regionals

There were some comments made about the meet schedule for both the NJ Open meet and the Regional meet. Steve Hinkle addressed these issues. He stated that the Southern Region combined the B's and C's for the same event. If this was done in our region, most of the events at the end of the last day would be adult events. He also stated that the NJ State meet ran late because of an error on his part in the schedule. With respect to the NJ State meet, he suggested that that coaches let him know how late their skaters would be willing to stay on Sunday night. If needed, he could cut the number of dances down to 2 or run into Monday. Kristen Kievit suggested that we use three figure panels. Steve said that having three figure panels makes crossovers difficult to address. Everyone present thought the suggestion of combining the B and C events made sense. Doing so should improve the schedule for next years Regional Meet.

National Event Schedule Issues

Kristen Kievit stated that there seemed to be a lot of dead time at Nationals last year. She thought that this may have been because of the way it's schedule. She suggested that if the National Office knew that an event had a small number of skaters in it based on the results from Regional meets, that they should define the time for that event accordingly. Janet Palm stated that the schedule is already based on the best guess by the National Office of the maximum potential skaters that could attend the event. When skaters don't show, events become final events or run more quickly.

Kristen Kievit also called the National Office about a problem with the event schedule, they had scheduled Elementary A Girls Singles elimination on a Sunday, and the finals the following Saturday. They eventually fixed the problem, but Kristin complained about the attitude of the staff at the National Office. She ended up calling them four times to get the problem resolved, and they never return her phone calls. She thought they should have been professional enough to call her back.

Steve Hinkle stated that Freshmen and Sophomore events should be held closer to the World Class events.

The meeting was adjourned by Carey Elder.