

MNHSNSCA SPRING MEETING MINUTES
Mora Vasaloppet Center, Saturday, April 20, 2024

Meeting called to order 9:30am David Paulson
Welcome from the Vasaloppet Committee Jon Larson

1. 2023 Fall Minutes Approved

2. Treasurer's Report

- a. Balance of \$6,059
- b. Money is spent on awards and biannual meetings in Mora. Money has been spent on hosting the Charlie Banks Relay in the past as well.
- c. Is there an additional area where this money could be spent? If you have an idea, bring the idea to the 2024 fall coaches meeting.

3. Recipients of annual awards:

- a. Boys Head Coach of the Year: Brett Schulze (Hopkins)
- b. Girls Head Coach of the Year: Chris Hanson (Brainerd)
- c. Boys Assistant Coach of the Year: Tyler Fish (Ely)
- d. Girls Assistant Coach of the Year: Ralph Hapness (Stillwater)
- e. Volunteer of the Year: Siiri Morse (Spirit Mountain)

4. Vote in new officers: Candidates chosen at fall meeting

- a. President: Andrew Hansen (Wayzata)
- b. President Elect: Chrissy Snider (Mounds Park Academy)
- c. Secretary: Britt Guild (Minnehaha Academy)
- d. Treasurer: Doug Cran (White Bear Lake)
- e. Past President: Dave Paulson (Chaska/Chanhassen)

5. Thank you to departing officers

- a. Secretary: Dennis Nelson
- b. Treasurer: Rich Heilman
- c. Past President: David Johnson

6. Review of Proposals Submitted to the MSHSL

- a. Five proposals were passed by coaches at the fall meeting to submit to the High School League
- b. Only two proposals from the fall meeting were submitted after receiving counsel from Charlie Campbell from the High School League to research and collaborate with the Alpine Coaches Association before submitting proposals about a season date change. Officers felt a stronger proposal with higher approval from coaches has a better chance of being approved by the MSHSL.
- c. The para factor and hat logo restriction proposals were submitted to MSHSL.
- d. The High School League will vote on the two proposals at the League's June meeting.

7. Presentation of new proposals for the season 2024-25

- a. Ian O'Neill (Mounds View High School) presented his proposal for Major Rule Changes-State Qualifying Meet.
- b. Coaches discussed the premises of the plan to populate the State Meet with the fastest skiers by advancing 1st team, 2nd team, and eight additional skiers (not on top two

teams) from the section meets. Currently, the 1st team, 2nd team, and four additional pursuit skiers (not on top two teams) from the section meet advance to the state meet.

- c. The same number of skiers would attend the state meet because the 4th and 5th pursuit skiers on a team would not ski at the state meet.
- d. A previous proposal that was rejected by the MSHSL asking to allow six additional skiers (not on top two teams) to advance to the state meet may also be a way to include more top skiers to the state meet. This proposal could be resubmitted. The proposal was rejected because too many changes to the state meet had already been made and approved.
- e. The proposal and ideas on how to move forward was tabled to the 2024 fall meeting.

8. State Meet Venue Committee Update

- a. Britt Guild reported that a committee has been formed since the fall meeting but has not met waiting to see how the season and state race concluded for the 23-24 season.
- b. The committee will send out an online State Meet Location survey to coaches and discuss with alpine coaches their opinion of the alpine state race venue at Giants Ridge. Officers were told by the MSHSL that it is preferred to have the alpine and Nordic state races at the same location.
- c. If you would like to be on the committee, contact Britt Guild @ guildbritt@minnehahaacademy.net

9. Coach of the Year Process

- a. Coach of the Year awards were announced at the spring coaches meeting. Ideas in when to give awards or changes to the process can be discussed at the 2024 fall meeting.

10. MYSL Presentation by Sarah Stendhal, Outreach Director

- a. There is a need for junior coaches for MYSL programs especially in Greater MN areas
- b. If you have questions or want information, contact Sarah @ sarah@myxc.org

11. Victor C Dunder Update

- a. Seven skiers received the award/equipment from various locations
- b. Ski shops are eager to donate to recipients
- c. Next year, the award will be given to first and second year skiers
- d. Denny asked if anyone would like to take on the responsibility of organizing the award process each year, he is happy to pass on the responsibility. Reach out to Denny @ dennis@nelson.us if you would like to volunteer for this role.

12. Charlie Banks Relay Discussion

- a. Dave Paulson will be sending an email asking for input from coaches about the future of the Charlie Banks Relay

13. Schwartz Miller Scholarship Endowment

- a. Coaches are encouraged to let upcoming senior skiers know to apply for the Schwartz Miller scholarship which will pay for Birkie or Korte entry fees.

14. US Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association update

- a. Dave Paulson will send information about the New England College and the opportunities the US Collegiate Ski Association can provide skiers who want to compete in Nordic at a college that does not have a competitive NCAA Nordic Ski Program.

15. Nordic Participation Numbers & Challenges for Remote Schools in Access to Snow

- a. Dave Paulson will be asking for data from coaches in the number of skiers in high school programs in 2019 compared to 2024.

16. Brief Report on the MN High School Coaches Association Meeting

- a. Dave Paulson encouraged coaches/officers to attend the meeting to collaborate with other Coaches Associations from different sports.

17. Nordic Hall of Fame Update

- a. One applicant has been nominated at this time.
- b. Nominations must be submitted to Dave Johnson by May 1st:
djohnson@marshallschool.org
- c. Other inductees found @ www.mshsca.org/nordichalloffame

18. Discussion on Spring Meeting Virtual Only Option

- a. Coaches decided to not make any changes to the meeting format and locations at this time.
- b. Discussion tabled until 2024 fall meeting.

19. CXC JNQ Scheduling

- a. 2024-2025 JNQ Proposed Race Dates: Dec. 7th & 8th, Dec. 14th & 15th, Feb. 15th & 16th.
- b. Andrew Hansen will report to CXC that high school coaches prefer the other race dates to be Jan. 18th & 19th

20. Brief Discussion and Consideration to Tie Section Races

- a. Andrew Hanson asked coaches to think about if they are comfortable with the large number of tie section races skiers experienced this year. Andrew asked coaches to think if the scoring format should change to prevent the number of tie breakers needed at section races.
- b. Item was tabled for the 2024 fall meeting.