

**Southern Ontario District Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 8:00 p.m.**

1. Roll Call - Peter Daleman, Ron Howden, Gord Kerr, Richard Lemoine, Patricia MacDonell, Ken Norris, Connie Ohrling, Colin Rhodes, Marilyn Suke

Recording Secretary: Debra Friendly

2. Review/approval of agenda – Agenda is OK with additional items to be discussed under HPC.

3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes (attached) – Correction: Ken re grooming training should be Peter. Moved by Gord Kerr, seconded by Ken Norris to accept the minutes as corrected. Carried.

4. Update on action items from Nov 27 minutes – Orienteering kit – we don't know where it is. Action: Marilyn will let Katja know that it has disappeared. Marilyn Suke drafted the letter but nothing further has been done as Richard is still trying to firm up the contact list of people for clubs. Action: Marilyn will review the letter she wrote to make sure it is current and will resend it to Richard for distribution this weekend. (see below for additional item) Bursary discussion deferred to next month. Not for Profit – outstanding. Coaching symposium funding proposal by Ron – deferred to the Spring.

5. Treasurer's Report – Richard sent report via e-mail. Cash position is about the same as it was at AGM and will be close to that at next yearend. Setting up the new bank account has proved to be frustrating since banking regulations are stricter. Connie and Patricia will have to present themselves to branch of National Bank to provide identification. Richard will set this up with appropriate branches (Collingwood for Connie, Patricia to advise convenient location for her). Until at least one of them has been added to the account, we cannot write cheques but we can make deposits. A few clubs are slow to pay as has always been the case. Richard is following up with them.

6. HPC Report – The money allocated to the SOD Race series is not for individual races (except for the Open Men and Open Women categories) but for posters, year-end medals (for categories other than OM and OW) and cash prizes and the yearend BBQ. Wax restrictions need to be well-communicated on website. Action: Gord Kerr will make sure the right information is on the website (CH only for glide, restrictions do not apply to grip or structure). He'll use the CCO standard and modify it. We want to get standings posted after this weekend's race at Mono. Patricia's husband has agreed to do the calculations.

SOD support for World Juniors named to the team this weekend: Marilyn moved that SOD cover \$500 of the \$1600 for each of 2 athletes (Scott Hill, Julian Smith). Ron seconded. Carried. Action: Patricia will notify them both but payment will be delayed due to banking problem mentioned above. Action: Gord Kerr will put something on the website.

Marilyn said that there was nothing new to report from HPC since they haven't met since the last SOD meeting.

Coaching bursary: Marilyn reported that if we paid about 30% of ICC and CC costs, it would have cost SOD about \$4K last year. This would benefit about 100 members. Coaching Association of Ontario covers only Level 2 up to 70%. Ken recommends 100% coverage of ICC and CC courses. Colin and Ron disagree with full coverage because many of the attendees are not in it for the long haul. Some clubs already cover the fee 100%. Marilyn's concern is managing the applications for the reimbursements. Ron suggested a window of opportunity for people to apply for reimbursement and therefore it is handled at one point in the year. Colin said that the application be by club instead of by individual to minimize

administrative effort by SOD. Action: Marilyn will add to "the letter" that SOD will provide a subsidy but that a process is being developed. Action: Marilyn will work on developing the process. She'll ask Bruce Ski Club what might work for them.

7. Para Nordic Report – Ken reported that 6 sit skis owned by SOD – Kawartha (2), Highlands Trailblazers (2), Hardwood (1), Mono (1). Clubs have to provide the skis and poles. Someone with some marketing money has approached Ron. He will pursue with Ken. "Try It On" Day at Highlands in December with 9 people was successful. "Soldier On" in March has been cancelled due to lack of interest. They seem to prefer alpine skiing.

8. SOD Race Series Report – Midland was very successful. Highlands Yuletide Blast had higher than usual numbers possibly because of the series. Clubs need to include YOB on Zone 4 registration so that results can be calculated.

9. Other Committee Reports if available – University –CCC is trying to retain university athletes. CCC has done a survey of university coaches in this regard. Ron asked if SOD could do anything to help. Individual feedback will be accepted. Ken pointed out that we have to get universities on board to support their athletes. U.S. study shows HP athletes who go to university do maintain their standing and return to competitive skiing. Ron mentioned that the Vermont event had a high proportion of high level university athletes. Colin said that the University sprint category at Highlands was very beneficial since they normally don't advance to the heats if they are competing in Open so it gave them a good experience with heats (all athletes qualified since there were 18 men and 12 women). OUA championship allows students from non OUA universities to compete but they must be taking enough credits.

Youth – nothing.

10. Quick Update on CCO Board Meeting and Activities – CCO had a board meeting on Monday. Liz Inkila announced CWG team members. Congratulations to Bella Howden, Heidi Ohrling, Jennifer Jackson, Scott Hill, David Askwith from SOD. Liz advised that there was a survey done of athletes (and parents) who are part of the Ontario Talent Squad. Results available from Liz for those interested. Ontario team coach – Katja and Liz to investigate partnership with NDC – Thunder Bay. NDC has agreed in concept and, in fact, brought the possibility to CCO. Ron, Marilyn and Richard disagree with diluting NDC's efforts with NDC athletes at races. Our athletes need different things than NDC athletes. Having them help at camps would work but we need coverage at competitions. Katja is working on Midget championships. As a result of discussion about low attendance at Ontario Cup #1 in Thunder Bay, CCO agreed to provide funding to mitigate some of the loss.

11. Request for SOD District Input on Officials Training (see text from Liz Inkila send by e-mail to board members): CCO has provided 50% funding to Level 4 (FIS TD) officials and districts have done some funding. Last time the payment was 50/25/25 CCC/CCO/SOD. Level 3 has been 1/3 by each. Next Level 4 (held every 2 years, alternating between Canada and U.S.) will be in U.S. in the Fall 2015. CCC has no subsidy money this time. There is little benefit at club level to having FIS level officials. Clubs should cover Level 1 and 2. Level 3 course being held at 2015 Nationals. Motion by Ron that we suggest that CCO pay 50% of Level 4 costs and the remaining 50% be shared equally amongst the 4 districts. Seconded by Marilyn. Carried. Richard abstained due to conflict of interest as he is a Level 4 official. Action: Patricia will respond to Liz advising her of this motion.

12. Other business – Motion by Ron Howden to pay \$1,000 towards the snowmaking done by HN so that the World Junior Trials could be kept in SOD. Seconded by Gord. Carried. Richard abstained due to potential conflict of interest.

We need to start planning for summer camps. Action: Ron will propose something at the next meeting – criteria, level of interest, university level.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 18.

Prepared by: Debra Friendly

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia MacDonell, President