

**American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 13, 2010**

Members present: Bill Bauer, Scott Chapin, John Kotar, Dennis Kruse, John Leighton, Don Maher, Dave Nelson, Paul Pedersen, Sue Scheer. Members not present: Don Becker, Tom Duffy, Joe Timmerman, Mary Wingfield. Also present: Ned Zuelsdorff, Shellie Milford, Cherie Morgan.

Meeting took place at The Ranch and was called to order at 4 p.m. by John Leighton, Chairman

Minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2010. Bill Bauer asked for correction to the minutes. Corrections are noted in italics. Under Trail Policy: Groomer Education. After discussion regarding groomer education, Dennis Kruse made a motion and John Kotar seconded the motion that, *as a matter of policy, the Trail Superintendent shall attend grooming school and assistant groomers shall have the option of attending groomer school.* The motion passed.

Under Community Relations: It was suggested that community relations need to improve. Bill Bauer made a motion and Joe Timmerman seconded the motion that, *as a matter of policy, the Executive Director shall develop a year-round program of community relation that would include Board members and the ABSF shall maintain an active year-round program of community relations.* Motion passed.

With corrections to the November minutes, they were approved.

*Approval of Agenda.* John Leighton indicated that #5, Telemark Venue and #9, Homologation would be removed from the agenda. Scott Chapin moved to approve revised agenda, Dave Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

*Medica Foundation.* Scott Chapin talked about the process of bringing the Medica Foundation on as a sponsor. He indicated that he and Ned had been working on this for about a year and hope that it will develop into a higher level sponsorship. Medica will sponsor the Elite Sprints and the Barnie Ski Games in 2011.

*Worldloppet/Birchleggers.* Don Maher gave a history on the Worldloppet Breakfast, stating that the Worldloppet organization asked all races to put on a special event for WL members. Attendance at the WL Breakfast has increased over the years with about 130 attendees at the 2010 event. Don suggested that a memento of some kind, be given to the attendees starting in 2012. Paul Pederson made a motion requesting \$750 for mugs for the 2012 event. John Kotar seconded the motion. Motion passed. Discussion took place regarding support and activities for VIP's. Ideas are: have a van for transport to events and start; a special dinner, have a hospitality person in charge of organizing all of the above. Office will talk to Lea Justice about taking on the job of hospitality person. The format for printed results was discussed. John Kotar made a

motion that the Birch Scroll results be listed by age class. Paul Pedersen seconded. After discussion, motion failed. Temporary K markers for the last 5 K's telling people how far to the finish was requested. Ned indicated that we can use red sandwich boards for this purpose. Addition signage issues were discussed including split areas, finish area where additional German/English signs will help. International symbols are used at the finish area. It was suggested that a message area be set up for people going to Worldloppet races overseas to be able to contact each other.

#### *Other Business. J*

The Cap. John Leighton indicated that Mary Wingfield requested that the Board consider a "soft cap that would allow skiers to register under some circumstances until January 31<sup>st</sup>. Discussion took place. It was indicated that foreign skiers and comp entries would be accepted beyond the cap/deadline. Scott Chapin made a motion and Dave Nelson seconded the motion to keep the cap as approved. Motion passed. John Kotar opposed the motion.

Discussion took place regarding the idea of allowing transfer of race numbers. After discussion Dennis Kruse made a motion that skiers be allowed to sell their registrations and ABSF would collect a fee of \$25. After discussion, Bill Bauer requested that the idea of refunds or transfers be tabled. Dennis agreed with the amended motion. Motion passed.

Groomer Education. Discussion took place regarding bringing a grooming education program to Hayward. Ned suggested that the program be open to HASTA, North End, Seeley, Drummond and National Forest Service groomers. After further discussion, it was decided that Ned would talk to Eric Anderson and check into the cost and other details.

Old Pisten Bully. Ned indicated that we are not in a hurry to sell the old Pisten Bully. If there are decisions to develop more trail, it is possible that we would have use for it. Currently we swap machine use with Wausau taking a groomer to them and then they bring a groomer here for the Birkie. Scott indicated that we need to be sure that the transfer of equipment is covered by insurance.

Dennis Kruse requested that we do as much as possible to distribute information regarding race changes this year to skiers, shops and organizations.

Cherie distributed a written tutorial to Board members regarding adding content to the Board Members page.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by Shellie Milford and Ned Zuelsdorff