



## WORLD WATER SKI UNION

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## BAREFOOT SKI COUNCIL

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DATE:

## M I N U T E S

of the 7th MEETING of the WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL of the W.W.S.U.  
held on the 6th of MARCH 1988 at the house of Don Mixon, LAND O' LAKES, Fla

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The Chairman called the meeting to order at 0810 and called for one minutes silence in respect of our departed friend Glen Ireland.

### Present were:

Mr Franz Kirsch	Chairman	(Chm)(FK)
Mr Charles Ramsey	Secretary	(CR)
Miss Gillian Hill		(GH)
Mr Alfred Keifer		(AKf)
Mr Don Mixon		(DMx)
Mr Brian Price		(BrP)
Mr Graeme Dwyer		(GDw)
Miss Karyn Cromwell		(KC)
Mr Stew McDonald arrived later.		(SMc)

### ITEM 1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Karyn Cromwell, the new Group 1 substitute.

He further extended a special welcome to the new members from Group III, Messrs Dwyer and Price.

He explained the rules of procedure to be in force - once round the table, then a decision or if necessary, a vote.

No new subjects would be introduced. It was necessary to prepare far in advance, so only subjects for which the documentation had previously been distributed would be discussed.

He drew members' attention to their responsibilities as representatives of the sport. There were problems in the past. He writes many letters and gets almost no answers. Much work is involved and it is disappointing to get no replies. His request for names and addresses had not been answered adequately enough for him to be able to print badly needed headed notepaper.

A position on the Council should be accepted as an honour. It involved working through the whole year and not only at the biennial meeting.

His intention was to bring supplies of headed paper with him, but some addresses and phone numbers were still missing. They were now complete, and he hoped there would be no more changes. He will bring new headed writing paper to Australia. When he sent correspondence, he asked that if it could not be dealt with immediately, the recipient at least send a postcard to let him know it had been received. Chm also urged all to let him be first to know of address changes.

**ITEM 2. AOB Items**

The Chm had a number of items which he would present first. GDw passed round a paper on rules changes. Chm asked if everybody got the invitation and agenda and the proposals in time. GDw got the material late but in time.

**ITEM 3. Minutes of the Meeting in Kelheim**

Chm recalled that we had run multi sessions there which was very successful. He planned to do it next time. The minutes of each session of the Kelheim meeting were produced overnight and approved the following day. There now remains only the 4th session to approve. GH proposed that the minutes of the 4th session be accepted as a true record. Seconded DMx and passed without dissent.

**ITEM 4. Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising out of the minutes. SMC had sent a letter strongly advising the sending of an agenda of a barefoot meeting to all. Chm wryly observed that there never had been a meeting without a formal agenda sent in advance.

► SMC arrived at 0825 and joined the meeting. He expressed his pleasure at being once more in the Council after a long period of absence.

**ITEM 5. Report by the Chairman**

Membership details were now complete.

► Exeboard.

The Barefoot Council is now allowed in Exeboard meetings. This is a very positive step forward. It was very important as a member of the waterski family to be close and be heard.

► Olympics.

Waterski is very close to being in the Olympics. The decision should have been taken in Calgary but was postponed to Seoul in September. Chm was asked if barefoot was in the Olympics, but he thought that if the word waterski appeared in the Olympics vocabulary that was already a major step. Even so, only slalom and jump were accepted. Tricks was not considered interesting. Only one day was allocated.

If waterski is in the Olympics then there must come a complete new structure - maybe no groups but a pyramid with federations as members of a new IWSF (the name which comes into force on 1.1.89)

► The Chm was thinking about a world cup for barefoot. Rules would be as in racing. The money was not yet resolved - it is just a concept. There was the possibility that in the future there would be no more Group Championships.

► SMC was trying to organise a Group I Championships with maybe 3 federations.

Chm suggested he charge an entry fee to cover costs till sponsoring developed. SMC was reluctant to do this at a Championships.

► CHm asked for a volunteer to work on the World Cup concept. Proposals are required for the next meeting. GDw volunteered to take it on. SMC will do it for Group I.

ACTION

► SMC intended to promote an international - a USA-AUS competition in Marine World.

► CHm noted that there was an outsider present. This is not allowed.

SMC explained that there were changes in the Group I Council coming up. There may be changes in the World Barefoot Council in Australia. CHm concluded from this that the Group I membership is uncertain. SMC should have an answer in a couple of weeks. When pressed he undertook to try to get a complement this weekend.

CHm said it was a strict rule - it was in the byelaws. No outsiders were allowed to be present at Council meetings.

BrP and SMC thought meetings should be more open.

CR warned that it was conceivable that the Exeboard would declare the meeting null and void, although this was not very likely.

SMC confirmed formally that Karyn is appointed as substitute.

SMC proposed that Sam Spano be allowed, as prospective member, to stay if he does not speak or interrupt.

GDw seconded the motion.

Those in favour - 4

Those against - 3

Those abstaining - 1

Motion carried.

#### ITEM 6. World Championships 1988

The dates are still 28/11 - 04/12

BrP passed round a progress report (he is in the Organising committee) by the Organising committee chairman Les Doyle.

CHm observed that the World Championships were in good hands.

SMC asked for wider distribution of newsletters.

The Report will be attached to these minutes.

► BrP reported that the site does not provide a straight course. There is a 200m runup area, then 400m of straight.

There is a bridge at the end of the course. The skier should go through the bridge in the wake. Caution is necessary, but with reasonable care there is no danger.

► The 90 second turnaround between passes has been tried out in competition and was a success. The time it added was little since a straight turnaround anyway took about 60 seconds.

► Flightcraft boats were approved in the USA, but the decision on the 150 hp o/b version was indecisive. Informally good. The Organisation will fit raised seats for jury view.

CHm proposed and SMC seconded that the boat with the 220 hp o/b be approved. Passed without dissent.

► CHm asked has an event time calculation been made. BrP said it is under way.

► BrP will take questions on obligations back, for answers by Les Doyle.

ACTION

An acceptance had been signed but not the contract. BrP said the obligations had changed in the meantime, which invalidated the original acceptance.

CHm was firm that the Council members must be accommodated for the full period necessary.

► SMC questioned observance of the requirements of the Obligations. In Canberra his hotel room cost about twice the allowance.

GH read out the Obligations for 1990. She recalled that the hotel costs for the waterski worlds ran to some £10,000. Chm said the Exeboard might well come to Melbourne and must be accommodated by Australia. DMx reported having to pay something more for his room at Kelheim than the cash allowance received. FK said he had understood the allowance was related to the cost of the room. It was possible the room prices had been revised subsequent to the original fixing.

#### ITEM 7. World Championships 1990

An official bid was said to have been made by the US at Thorpe. SMC recalled Congress gave it approval. Both the CHm and GH were sure it was not a firm bid. It was not in the Congress minutes.

SMC reporting on progress, said the AWSA will become involved. A site is not yet fixed. When it is, then the organisation will be assigned.

▶ Referring to the Group III bid for 1988, it was said they were not happy with the site but the Organisers could not go to another site. Change meant finding other organisers.

▶ CHm returning to the 1990 Worlds said we have a bid and a person responsible but no site and no organising club. He said there may be a bid from the UK. GH said there was no bid. They were not in business to bid against the US, but they stood ready to fall in if the US were to default. A major sponsor is no longer too sure. If it were necessary, they would have to go for it.

BrP proposed we should give the US time to come up with a site. If not then the bid should go to the UK. GH thought that if they were to take it up, they would have to know by the end of the year.

The Council will make the decision in Melbourne to go ahead with the US or give the 90s to GBR.

There was the question whether the US actually made the bid and if it was accepted by Congress (as stated by Steve Combs). CHm will write to Bilo for a definitive answer.

▶ The meeting returned to Item 6, the 1988 World Championships judges panel.

A detailed nomination by Australia included biographies. The KIWI nominations are still to come. Chm asked GDw to get in touch with NZL for their nominations as soon as he gets back. Group I has no nominations as yet. Canada has 2. SMC will try this week to get names.

ACTION

BrP proposed the Council recommend Terry Benford as Chief Judge. Chm said this is an administrative matter best not expressed in a resolution. We should leave it as is since a change in the method of recommending and choosing officials is in preparation from the top.

ACTION

Group II nominations are Terry Benford, Romain Gilot, Romana Franchi and Jo Mainwaring as judges. Homologator Andy Harris, Scorer Gill Hill.

#### ITEM 8. Drugs control

Drug Control has been adopted by the W.W.S.U. It is to be applied under the laws of the country of the host. It must be accepted by the participants.

In Australia there are no testing facilities, so there will be no control at the '88 World Championships.

▶ GDw fears that imposed controls may place intolerable financial burden on organisers, to the point that no country will stage World Championships. We should come up with our own system to forestall imposition of one from above.



## ITEM 9. Technical Matters

Records

The Chm has had a discussion with Bob Corson about record verification. His proposal was to adopt the system used by waterski. This involved a tier system of checking and referral.

► SMC reported that multi-standard videos were coming out, which would remove the problems of Group I viewchecking.

► BrP wanted acceptance or rejection of a record application to be based on a majority vote, i.e. that where Groups deny a record for different tricks or crossings, approval be based on a trick by trick (or cross by cross) majority vote.

► SMC produced a list of some dozen or so records which he said had never been processed or a finding announced. He wanted them researched and wanted to know which had been approved, though some he knew had not. The list includes 9 start methods records (620 points):

Ron Scarpa	- Aug 81	Mike Seipel	- Aug 81
Billy Nichols	- Aug 82	John Strasser	- Aug 83
William Farrell	- Aug 83	Lori Powell	- Aug 84
Don Mixon Jr	- Aug 83		
Russ Conoley	- Aug 83		
Punky Forgiana	- Aug 83		

All had been submitted before Canberra (Jan 85). The last 3 at least, he wanted definitely handled.

He also had two trick records of Mike Seipel.

He made a motion that the Council review applications denied for administrative reasons. Seconded AKf. This motion was tabled.

► CHM, explaining his proposed revision of the approval procedure, said record notification should go out at the latest the day after the competition. Then the paperwork should be sent. When all this was clear, the Chm releases the announcement. If there is a doubt, the Chm and the Secretary view the video. If they cannot confirm the claim, then a panel of at least three 1st class international judges shall be called to into being to scrutinize the record. If they give the ok, then it is a record. If not, the application is referred for Council action at the next meeting. The existing system does not work since the material does not get to all involved. A proposal is in the pipeline. It will go to Groups to discuss it at the next meeting.

► GDW thought the time for Goup perusal at present was too short, since in the Group III case, the material has to go to NZL. There was a general feeling that a longer period was needed for response.

► It was agreed the originals do not need to go to the WBC Chairman. When the original gets to the Group Council Chairman, he signs it and sends copies and retains the originals for safe keeping.

► SMC proposed that certain past record applications be re-examined, including the ones already mentioned. This was agreed.

GH wished to make it quite clear at the outset that she would vote against the consideration of any record for which the documentation had not been properly submitted.

It was admitted there had been cases of poor performance by officials, but it was the skier who was the victim.

SMC proposed that the jump record application of Chris Onofrio of 08/08/86 be considered for approval if there has been no other womens jump record of a lower value set since.

Seconded DMx  
 Those in favour - 5  
 Those against - 2  
 Abstaining - 1

Motion carried.

A record for William Farrell in tricks was not approved due to the time being more than 15 secs (letter June 1st 1987). DMx said that the rules specify that the pass starts at the 1st movement, regardless of when the timer reacts. This cuts out the last trick as being not in time.

A Rick Powell record application of 4610 was withdrawn. There were many tricks that just could not be accepted.

A Lori Powell slalom record of 1195 was now formally submitted. It was made on 25/07/87. A letter dated the 16th Aug was sent but no documents. SMC proposed that it be considered. Seconded AKf.

Those in favour - 5  
 Those against - 3

The motion is carried.

► SMC moved that video viewing be item by item (trick, crossing) and the majority finding accepted. Seconded BrP. GH moved to amend this resolution to read a two thirds majority. Seconded GDw. This amendment was carried unanimously.

The main motion was then carried unanimously.

► A Mike Seipel tricks record of 4330 made at the Worlds at Kelheim had been deferred on the video at Kelheim. There had however been no followup. [It was later viewed but not given] SMC proposed that it be reviewed subject to finding documentation and tapes.

Seconded BrP. Carried without dissent.

GDw then brought forward that he has 6 applications which have been submitted, including:

- Tricks 5240 Dodd Dwyer 8/2/87
- Tricks 2110 Debby Pugh 10/4/87

GDw moved we examine these records. Seconder DMx. Passed without dissent.

It was decided to view the tapes of these record claims after the conclusion of these discussions.

It was further decided that SMC should take on the task of researching the records on his list. He would examine what documentation there is in Group I, though there might be some that is not available after the change of officers in the Barefoot Council.

He called upon the Chm to make available the record documentation held in Trier. Copies of certificates should now be issued for records that are found to have been approved.

ACTION

## ITEM 9.2. Rules Changes and Interpretations

The Chm cited the Rule that as this was not the biennial meeting, a two thirds majority was required for a rule change to be made. The change goes into effect in 60 days, unless the vote is unanimous, in which case it is effective at once.

► C1609 1)&m). DMx agrees with Group II. [Turning erect] BrP expressed himself dead against any semblance of a deep water start.

It was advanced that in a sitdown, the penalty is time. Points should reflect this.

► Proposed GDw rope on foot 450 B-F, 300 F-B. Agreed.

Proposed DMx wake rope on foot 590 B-F, 420 F-B. Agreed.

Judges should see these increased points as calling for stricter judging.

The Group II jump proposal for persisting bad triangles was examined and it was decided as follows: if no jump produces an in-tolerance triangle, the shortest-distance-or-rejump option becomes available to the skier after 3 jumps. After 5 jumps still with no in-tolerance triangle, the shortest distance of the best (out-of-tolerance) triangle is automatically awarded, with no rejump option being offered, i.e. the shortest distance is the mandatory score for that jump.

► It was agreed to impose a 15cm maximum for the ramp triangle.

A description of the setup of the ramp shall be detailed in a new rule - 1412f.

#### Interpretations

The interpretations proposed by Group II were considered.

► GII-707 Use of the wake wave. It was agreed to rewrite C1613d to include an extract of GII-707.

► Start tricks - one attempt only.

A sit back is a fail, with no score, with the following exceptions:

- two foot reversion (without losing BSP)
- taking the handle in a toe up reverts to an ordinary deep water.

Success, failure and partial failure all to appear in the rule.

► In start tricks it was reaffirmed there are 6 groups. If a 1 ft and a 2 ft version of the same trick are performed, the second is a repeat, but the scorer will take the higher scoring of the two and disallow the other.

Agreed

► GII-709 is to appear the rules as a clarification for rule C1609f.

► GII-710 It was considered necessary to add to C1613f) that forward 360 deg tumbleturns must be continuous.

► GII-711 This is a clarification to the rules, that a somersault must be landed on the seat and/or feet. The score is maintained as is.

► Ladies overall. No agreement on this suggestion was apparent. It will be deferred to Australia.

► Delegates are to advise their Federations that the Council meeting to be held in Melbourne will give strong consideration to the incorporation of the jump event in Ladies overalls. Agreed.

► Slalom scoring

GDw was for compulsory one run backwards and one forward.

BrP preferred to leave it leave as is.

A decision will be taken in November and may be 1 and 1.

► DMx proposed to raise backwards 1 foot slalom to 120 points. Seconded AK

Those in favour - 5

Those against - 3

This is less than a 2/3rds majority and so is not effective.

GDw may bring in a proposal in Australia for 1/1, also points equal for backwards and forwards.

► C1512 and C1612 "official video". Approved unanimously.

► C1512 & C1612d) The words in the Australian rule book were taken over verbatim.

"Should a malfunction in the timing of the pass occur, then the start and end of the pass is to be determined by using the video. If the start of pass cannot be determined by the combined use of the video and the judges sheets, then a mandatory re-run is to be taken."

► The maximum length of the boat is to be 6.2m (C1101)  
 ► The re-ride is to be a judges-only option. The US has good experience for 1 season. It puts the judges on their mettle and makes them more conscientious.  
 BrP objected that sometimes something happens the judges do not see.

However the skier is free to draw the jury's attention to something that may affect the grant of a reride.  
 AKf proposed that a request for a reride be initiated only by an event judge or driver before the next contestant starts (C904). Seconded DMx. Carried unanimously. This rule goes into effect immediately.

► DMx proposed to disallow a jump if any part of the skier's body except his/her feet touch the ramp. Seconded SMc.

Those in favour - 3

Those against - 4

Those abstaining - 1

The Motion is defeated.

► Proposed by GDw that the Step 180 F-B be 300 points, and that B-F be 250. Wake Step 180 to be F-B 390, B-F to be 320 points.

DMx and AKf object - it is a very fast pair and does not merit high points on a time-taken basis.

The motion was seconded by SMc.

It was considered by some to be a very difficult trick to do correctly.

Those in favour - 6

Those against - 2

The motion is carried. Since the majority exceeds two thirds, but is not unanimous, it comes into effect in 60 days.

► GDw raised the matter of boat speed timing through the jump course. The driver can cheat by entering the course slow, accelerating as the skier approaches the ramp and slowing down again before the end of course buoy to get the time in tolerance. This matter will be discussed in the future, maybe in conjunction with other event timings.

It was remarked that speedos are calibrated, therefore there was no need to time the speed. Monitoring the speedo is sufficient.

► GDw advocated increasing the maximum speed to 70. Their experience was that it makes for better jumps.

He would come up at Melbourne with a proposal.

► GDw proposed that skier's instructions be standardised to "slow", "medium" and "fast".

What these meant in practical terms would be agreed between the judges and drivers. On the Chief Judge's instructions they would ride together to arrive at a common standard.

So for the skier there would be three commands plus speed, e.g. pull out of the water, the ride over the bumps and acceleration.

The vocabulary comprises the words slow medium and fast for acceleration, e.g. medium-fast for just less than full power.

► CHm asked if speedo manufacturers can include dual standard scales on the dial (kph & mph). SMc will find manufacturer's addresses and look this one up.

► CHm advocated the Group II ready-to-go signals, just "stop" or "OK".

► SMc raised the matter of skier incapacitation or being disadvantaged due to no fault of his own - the penalty timing should stop till he is sufficiently recovered to continue, where possible on medical advice. The competition continues in the meantime. GDw seconded the proposal. Carried unanimously, thus it is immediately effective.

ACTION



► BrP suggested compulsory post-event video viewing for all tricks and slalom passes, with scoresheet corrections where necessary.

He was concerned with the standard of judging which is not keeping up with the skier.

His experience was that video viewing shows many awardings were unjustified. At end of an event or when the jury came out of the boat, they view the video and sign their score sheets OK or amend them where necessary. The sheets go right away to the scorer. The panel must include sufficient other judges to carry on with the next event without interruption. If it is not clear from the video, the boat writing stands. CHm reminded the Council that this was thoroughly gone into at Kelheim. BrP advanced that there were new factors - tricks are much more sophisticated and faster today.

SMc objected to the workload for the judges. The whole event plus many repeat viewings were added to their boat tasks.

CHm pointed out that in Olympic sport there is no rejudging after realtime judging.

BP's own review showed that judges made many mistakes.

DMx asked how can one be sure that viewing produces the correct result, since there are even differences of opinion between judges viewing the video.

BrP made a motion on the lines of his proposal. GDw seconded it.

Those in favour - 2

Those against - 6

Motion defeated.

► CR raised an anomaly in backwards one foot slalom part-crossing scoring. This was deferred to the next meeting.

► In a tie for the finals, the rules allowed the Chief Judge to take only some of the tied contestants. It was agreed it should be he take all or none of the tied contestants for 12th(8th) place. This change to await a reprint.

► Harmonisation of jump programs with waterski.

CR had made an in-depth study of joint programming for jump.

The rules differ in many areas, but a common program would not involve much problem for barefoot except in one area, namely the determination of the size of the triangle.

Barefoot uses the height of the triangle, which is reasonably representative of its size. But tournament introduces an arbitrary measure - the difference in distance from the ramp to the extreme corners of the triangle. For waterski, this is a reasonably accurate representation, but for barefoot, owing to the much closer proximity of the ramp, the system introduces the possibility of gross distortion. This means that the calculation may bear a poor relation to the notational size of the triangle, and a "big" triangle might be accepted or a "small" triangle rejected and a too large triangle be used for determining distance. The distance measured to the centroid or centre of gravity of a large triangle can differ appreciably from the true distance.

The difference in distance of the corners of the triangle from a reference point is a real reflection of the size of the triangle only if the point is infinitely distant. As the reference point is taken closer, distortion of these relative distances arises. At 60 metres it is not noticeable. At 6 metres it is significant and in certain cases considerable.

Thus introducing the waterski system into barefoot jumping would mean occasional errors in scored distance of which the magnitude and even the existence was unknown. A detailed analysis of a wide range of jump situations is available from the Secretary.

► Boats. A policy and ruling of approval of towboats is to hand. It will be sent to members.

**ITEM 10. Standardisation of Standing List dates**

The Meeting confirmed the previously agreed date of the 1st of Nov to the 31st of October next for the Standings List.

**ITEM 11. New Homologation Dossier**

The Homologation dossier is not yet ready. FK will do it in SA. With instructions incorporated, it is easy to understand and use.

**ITEM 12. Unified Judges' Examination**

A Unified System of judges examination is not yet ready. The video element will be prepared soon.

BrP will send examination question material to CR & GH. Also details of the Group III judges rating system.

ACTION

**Item 13. AOB**

Medals for Championships

Medals will be provided for all members of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams. This is a ruling of the President. Organisers must order them.

► The new address of the President of the W.W.S.U. is:  
Via Augusta, 18  
08006 Barcelona

► Chm would like a copy of the written report from the Group Council Chairmen made each year to their own Congress.

► Addresses are urgently needed so that headed paper can be printed and distributed.

► The fax of Graeme Dwyer is 5971378 (+ Sydney)

► Entry date for the World Championships.

The names of team members (8+2) are needed ahead of time for the organisers.

GDw thought 4 weeks was reasonable for Federations, and time enough for program printing.

FK proposed we make a strong recommendation that all Federations shall send info about their team to the host country, including pictures, at last 4 weeks before the start of the competition.

► Late Entry Fee for World Championships is in a proposal from Group II.

► BrP recommended we should keep it mind a Junior World Championships. CHm declared this very important in the context of our acceptance into the Olympics.

► GDw asked about the 2 scorers medals that were never given. GH confessed to having them on her desk, without knowing for whom they were intended. They will be forwarded.

► DMx wished to put on record the inequality of the ratio of 1 ft to 2 ft in forward and backward slalom.

► GH asked the minimum standard of judges for records. CHm deferred this to the next meeting.

► GDw will send historical material to the Secretary for collation for a future world history of barefoot waterskiing.

Chm in closing the meeting expressed special thanks to the Nixon family for making this meeting a practical possibility and for the fabulous hospitality they had extended to us all. It was not only a very efficient but also a very enjoyable way to conduct a meeting. The meeting had been very constructive and productive and the urgent, important problems had all been dealt with. He gave his thanks to all.

The Chm reopened the meeting later in the day in order to scrutinise the record applications it had been decided to review.

RECORD VIDEO VIEWING

- ▶ Lori Powell Slalom  
back run: 6th 1 ft crossing - the foot was set down too soon  
1195-40=1155  
Not approved. No record.
- ▶ Mike Seipel Tricks  
In the 1st pass, the 360 b-b is judged to be 4 180s  
(repeats). The 180 toehold was not given.  
Not approved. No record.
- ▶ Dodd Dwyer Tricks 5240  
Approved OK
- ▶ Debbie Pugh - a tape of the wrong pass was submitted. A new one is to come.
- ▶ Jump Chris Onofrio - no documents available.

World Barefoot Council Members as of 08/03/1988

Group I	Stew McDonald Don Nixon Karyn Cromwell Sam Spano, substitute
Group II	Franz Kirsch Gill Hill Charles Ramsey Selwyn Neiman, substitute
Group III	Graeme Dwyer Brian Price Brian Carroll Lester Sowry, substitute

