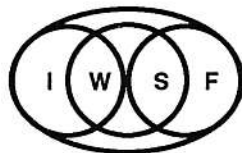


INTERNATIONAL WATER SKI FEDERATION

WORLD BAREFOOT WATER SKI COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the 15th Meeting of the World Barefoot Water Ski Council held in Fergus Falls, MN (USA) between the 20th and 27th of AUGUST 1996

First session - Tuesday 20 August 1996

Present:-

REGION ASIA AUSTRALASIA (AA)

Graeme Dwyer - Region AA Chairman (GD)
Brian Carroll (BC)
Brian Price (BP)
Clive Stephen (CS) - Substitute Member

REGION EUROPE, AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST (EAME)

Romain Gilot - Region EAME Chairman (RG)
Charles Ramsey - Secretary IWSF World Barefoot Water Ski Council (CR)
Selwyn Neiman - Chairman IWSF World Barefoot Water Ski Council (SN)
Andy Harris (AH) - Substitute Member

REGION PAN AMERICA (PANAM)

Sam Spano - Region PANAM Chairman (SS)
Oscar "Foot" Mann (OM)
Richard Gray (RGr)

I. Welcome by the Chairman

SN welcomed all to the meeting. He thanked AH for taking the minutes. SN was sad to learn that Bob Londrigan had resigned. He will be sorely missed. Council agreed a sincere vote of thanks for all his hard work for the sport. SN would write.

The revised members of the WBC were advised by the Region Chairmen. SS is now PA Chairman with OM and RGr making up the full PA delegation.

GD advised that CS will replace BC after these meetings. SN was saddened that BC was leaving us. The 20 years of outstanding contribution that BC has made to our sport will never be forgotten and it was hoped that BC would remain an active member of the Barefoot family.

SN recommended a change in the order of dealing with agenda items. Leaving the rules and A.O.B. until Monday after the championships had been completed.

Note: These minutes are in the chronological order in which each item was dealt with. The item numbers refer to the same item numbers on the agenda and therefore do not run as per the original order of business.

I.W.S.F President: ANDRES BOTERO, P.O. Box 2038, Medellin, COL

I.W.S.F Secretary General: CHANTAL AMADE-ESCOT, 12 La Ferme de St. Sernin, Pechbusque, 31320, Castanet, FRA

2. **Agenda - Additions and Adoption.**

CR will be circulating the rule proposals to all members during the week. They will be in 4 sections: General, Slalom, Tricks and Jump

2.1. **Items for AOB**

Judging standards and Interpretations - BP
 Jump Safety Standards - OM
 Software use by WBC - BP
 Judges Categories - BP
 Policy Book and Additional Rules - BP
 Injury statistics - OM
 Training video - BP and SN

2.2. **Current Championships**

Dawn Farrell joined the meeting. BP said that the LOC were great. Nothing is too much trouble for them and they are providing anything and everything we ask for. Only one major problem - the boats had arrived late. A great initiative is the video system. Fantastic technology will provide live and action replay facilities on the bank for ALL to see. Some concerns with the meter stations which the homologator and OM are dealing with. Apart from a couple of minor things everything is going well both on and off the water. BP advised that he is intending to file reports on all officials and will be asking various people to also comment on his performance. BP is also going to have a suggestion "box" on site for people to comment on the way the championships have been run.

BP requested some clarification on certain rules prior to the start of the tournament. Agreed that 10 minutes time maximum allowed for scrutinising of sheets by team reps. Each team rep will have preference to see his own team member's sheets before anyone else.

BP reported that the boat speedos were in MPH not KPH. Council were disappointed that once again we have to deal with this problem. Agreed that skiers can call in either KPH or MPH and drivers will drive accordingly using conversion chart. Tolerance is +/- 0.5 mph.

There is a problem for the many individual skiers that are taking part in that the rules are unclear as to who is their representative. Could be a problem for the team reps in handling all the additional burden of their individual skiers.

Dawn Farrell addressed the Council and answered any questions. The Council again thanked Dawn, all her staff and the LOC for their excellent work.

3. **Minutes of the 14th Meeting, held in Piqua, USA**

Acceptance

Proposed GD Seconded RGr that they be accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

BP - Judging tapes. We need to do more work here. Will be raised under A.O.B.

BP requested some feedback on the one judge in the boat system. AH offered some feedback from Region EAME and GBR where the system is working extremely well.

BP asked what was happening with sponsorship of the new printed rule book. SN has offers from many people in the sport and so far 75% of the costs will be taken care of by them.

4. **Chairman's Report**

4.1 A new look in Technical Rules.

So much has been said about the current rule book. Too much and too complicated. SN and CR have been working on a new format dividing the rules into sections. SN appealed to all members, especially those not serving on the jury, to watch the championships carefully and see where we must make changes, but remembering - if it works, then leave it alone.

5. **Regional Chairmen's Reports**

PANAM

SS welcomed everyone to his Region once again. He has some new records for the Council to look at. The new video jump measurement system is here for the Council to see for the first time. Some demos have been arranged. They have a new looking Council in PanAm this year and elections are due soon. SS reported that the X Games were once again a great success. PanAm have had problems with the new levels of judging.

EAME

RG reported the 1996 seminars were once again very fruitful for officials training. The new European League is working well. Numbers of skiers have nearly doubled. There are 2 new Barefooting nations in EAME - Spain and Greece. RG reported new EAME records set. There have been problems with the rules for the levels of judges. The rules concerning overallers making it through to the finals need to be thought about again. It has produced some weird and unacceptable results.

AA

GD firstly congratulated Region EAME on their impressive advances. The new concept for the finals has caused some problems and this together with other problems that the Region have identified and their possible remedies are offered within the AA proposals. There is some inconsistency in the new downgrading structure for tricks. It needs extending. As already mentioned, the rule book is far too complicated. The divide between excellence and participation is beginning to cause concern and this is being addressed by the Region.

9. **World Junior Championships 1997**

There is still no firm news from GBR - they are however talking to possible sponsors. BP was disappointed that no firm bid had been tendered. It is being left very late again. SN to report back a.s.a.p. He will endeavour to have some definite answers from the BWSF by the end of September. In the meantime, SN asked all members to consider the appointment of the Chief Judge.

World Championships - Australia 1998

All is in hand. The site will be Helles Park, Liverpool - the site used for the 1994 championships. The grass has grown since we were last there! LOC has been formed and sponsorship is being secured. Dates are likely to be April 1998. Boats are likely to be FlightCraft Outboard. The Chief Judge appointment for these titles should also be considered by members.

10. 1997 World Games

Dates: 7-17 August 1997 in Lahti, Finland. 8/9/10/11 August looks like being the dates for Waterski. SN unsure when exactly the Barefoot competition will take place. SN has had very little information. Attempts will be made to try and tie up some other events for skiers to take part in whilst in Europe and invitations to attend Grand Prix and other events are extended to EVERYONE! MasterCraft Outboards will be the tow boats. 30 competitors will take part; say 22 men and 8 women. We should have at least 4 men and 2 women from the USA and AUS. 1 man and 1 woman from other nations. Skiers will be selected from the standings list. We want the top skiers from each country. SN invited nominations for the World Games Barefoot Chief Judge and other panel nominations - Homologator, Scorer, and 6 judges (2 judges from each Region) and 2 drivers.

11. World Record Ratification

The following were ratified by the Council:-

Ladies jump record of Sharon Stekelenburg (AUS) made on 27 January 1996 of 17.20 metres - Approved.

Mens Jump record of Mario Moser (GER) made on 8 June 1996 of 28.10 metres - Approved.

Sharon Stekelenburg Jump 18.0 metres, set in Round 3 at World Championships Fergus Falls on 25 August 1996 - Approved.

Jennifer Calleri Tricks - 3370 points in Round 1 performed at Fergus Falls on 23 August 1996. After Council review ruled as 3100 points - Approved.

The following applications were processed and not approved:-

Jennifer Calleri Slalom - 16.7 in Round 1 performed at Fergus Falls on 21 August 1996 as reviewed by the panel and downgraded to 14.5 - No record.

Jennifer Calleri Slalom - 17 points in Round 2 performed at Fergus Falls on 23 August 1996 as reviewed by the panel and downgraded to 15.5 - No record.

Jennifer Calleri Tricks - 3300 points in Round 3 performed at Fergus Falls on 25 August 1996 as reviewed by the panel and downgraded to 2800 points - No record.

Jennifer Calleri Slalom - 17 points in Round 1 performed at West Palm Beach on 6 July 1996 as reviewed by the panel and downgraded to 16.0 - No record.

Sharon Stekelenburg - Tricks - 3130 points in round 2 at Western Regionals 28 July 1996. After Council review ruled as 3010 - No record.

There were further applications:-

Ladies tricks of Jennifer Calleri (USA) 3420 points. Regrettably the trick video has been accidentally damaged so cannot be checked by the Council.

12. Correspondence

The huge volume of Electronic mail is becoming a problem. Don't forget the phone still works! BP asked that a copy of SN's report to the World Executive Board be tabled for information.

14. Standings and Top 20's format

CR has copies for everyone. The delay in getting this document out is still unacceptable. It was agreed that a working group be set up to establish how the document is produced and revamp the methods so that in future, hopefully the system can be better. Agreed that CR, CS and Brian Heeney (USA) form the working group members. CR reported back on the findings of the working group and will E Mail/fax all Regional Chairman accordingly concerning the new modus operandi.

16. Election of Chairman

SN invited members to nominate candidates. BP proposed GD. RG proposed SN. There were no other nominations. A special meeting would be called before Sunday evening just to confirm the election result and appointment.

Second session - Monday 26 August 1996

RG had to leave so AH now carried a vote for Region EAME. SN re-confirmed each Region's voting members:-

REGION ASIA AUSTRALASIA (AA)

Graeme Dwyer - Region AA Chairman (GD)
 Brian Carroll (BC)
 Brian Price (BP)
 Clive Stephen (CS) - Substitute member without a vote.

REGION EUROPE, AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST (EAME)

Charles Ramsey - Secretary IWSF World Barefoot Water Ski Council (CR)
 Selwyn Neiman - Chairman IWSF World Barefoot Water Ski Council (SN)
 Andy Harris (AH)

REGION PAN AMERICA (PANAM)

Sam Spano - Region PANAM Chairman (SS)
 Oscar "Foot" Mann (OM)
 Richard Gray (RGr)

6. Rules**6.1. Experience with the 1995 Rule Book**

Most of the problems were in the admin. areas rather than in the rules themselves although there was still a little fine tuning to be done.

7 & 8 Rule Change Proposals

Note: These minutes should be read in conjunction with the Rule Change Proposals that were circulated to all members at the meeting. For reference, a copy of the proposals are attached to these minutes.

GENERAL

AA6010 (New Rule C1306 - Turn around times)

The wording as per the proposal was amended as follows:-

1. Time to commence when the *tow boat or chase boat* arrives at the start area, *whichever is the latter*.
2. OK
3. Make it *at* not after *the expiry of the 10 seconds*.
4. OK
5. OK

Agreed unanimously with the changes as above.

PA6001 (C1301 - Competition area - slalom and tricks)

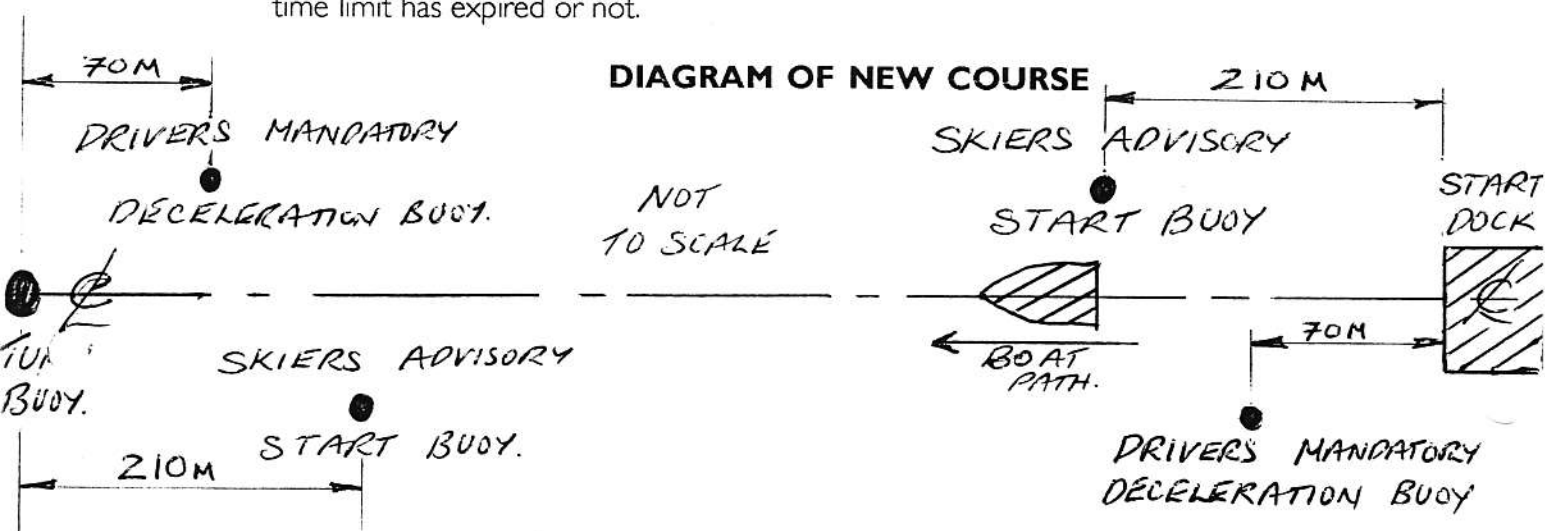
The Type A and B Courses were very confusing and coupled with the huge amount of extra text needed to explain when a skier could start etc. it was decided that one standard course would be described in the rules stating the minimum requirements which organisers etc, could add to if they so wish. The following was therefore agreed:-

Overall course length must be minimum 650m and max. 750 metres for a World championships from start dock to turn buoy.

From the start dock there would be one buoy positioned at minimum 210 metres down the course from the dock; lateral position would be approx. 15 metres from the centreline of tow boat path (on whichever side the organiser wishes). This buoy would be called the **skiers advisory start buoy**. (This buoy indicates to the skier the position at which he is guaranteed a full 15 second pass at 72 kph).

From the turn buoy at the other end of the course one buoy positioned at minimum 210 metres down the course from the dock; lateral position would be approx. 15 metres from the centreline of tow boat path (on whichever side the organiser wishes). This buoy would be called the **skiers advisory start buoy**. (This buoy indicates to the skier the position at which he is guaranteed a full 15 second pass at 72 kph).

Approx. 70 metres from both the turn buoy and start dock a **drivers mandatory deceleration buoy** must be installed on the starboard (drivers side of the boat with the boat facing the turn buoy or start dock) side of the course positioned laterally approx. 15 metres from the centreline of the tow-boat path. This buoy indicates where the driver **must** shutdown (as the boat passes the buoy) in a straight line regardless of whether the 15 second time limit has expired or not.



The above was agreed with 7 in favour and 2 against.

EA6008 - World rules only in the Rule book.

This was not agreed.

EA6012 - Scoring from the boat.

SN said that final, definite and instantaneous scoring needs to be our ultimate goal. It keeps the crowd lively and is a must for TV and media. We should be aiming towards achieving this capability in the near future using the video only as an arbiter like they do in cricket etc. It needn't be cost prohibitive. If a judge needed to look at the tape he/she could do so right there and then in the boat so that a definitive result could be announced almost immediately. He urged all members to start thinking along these lines so that hopefully some day soon, our rules could be amended to suit.

PA6031 - (C904 Re-Ride Request)

This is a text adjustment to the last paragraph of this rule. Agreed unanimously as per the proposal.

AA6016 - (C407 One Man Team)

Text adjustment as per the proposal. Agreed unanimously.

PA6022 - (C1304 Skier's Instructions)

Text adjustment as per the proposal. C1304(c) second sentence should start with "At the skiers discretion, the 2nd phase may etc (as per proposal)" Agreed unanimously.

PA6023 - (C1305 Levels of Judges)

Delete the word "homologation" from the minimum requirements under C1305. Agreed unanimously.

AA6021 - (C602 Appointed judges, scorers and drivers)

BP thought that the Junior rules should be combined with the Open rules where applicable in the rule book. The Council decided that the Junior rules should be listed separately as they are now for the time being; it was simpler having all the rules for the Juniors in one place.

There was a minor text change - the title of deputy chief judge should become *assistant* chief judge.

The Council approved the proposal for the appointment of the Judges panel for the Junior Worlds as per the proposals.

All the above agreed unanimously.

AA6022 (C204 Finals)

The Council agreed that the overallers should not go into the finals and it was a mistake to have the rules to include them as decided back in Piqua. A change was most definitely needed here and the following proposals were tabled:-

Proposal 1: top 3 from semi-finals plus next additional 2 best scores from either round.
5 in favour with 1 against (2 abstentions with 1 member not present).

Proposal 2: top 6 from semi-finals only.
3 in favour. 6 against.

Proposal 1 was therefore agreed by majority.

AA6023 - (C502 Overall Scoring)

After discussion, a proposal to use all three rounds to determine the team overall scores was not agreed as it was felt that the additional pressure of skiing for the team should be removed from the skiers making it to the final round. In the final the skier had the choice of whether to go for it or not.

Team overall results will continue to be calculated from the elimination and semi-final round scores only.

The individual overall scores would continue to be calculated from all 3 rounds.

AA6001 - **"Jury"**

CR was requested to check the use of this word throughout the rule book. It was suggested that the words "event judges" or "judging panel" would be more appropriate. Agreed unanimously.

AA6002 - **(C208 The Draw)**

The second word of this rule was changed to read.....Each **FEDERATION**..... The deadline for updating skiers scores as used for the seedings was changed from 24 hours to 72 hours. Agreed unanimously.

It transpired that the PanAm and AA Regions were not aware of the official I.W.S.F. entry form that should be used for entering skiers into World or Region titled events. SN could not understand why this was so as they are supposed to be sent together with the bulletin as issued by the host Federation. Copies of the entry form for each Federation's team member and any independent skiers should be sent to the WBC Chairman and the Organising Committee (Ref: C405). There appeared to be a lack of liaison between the PanAm and AA Regions and their respective Federations. SN was asked to make the IWSF Executive aware of this at the up and coming IWSF Executive Board meetings in Geneva.

AA6003 - **(C403 Ratings)**

An additional paragraph of text was added to this rule as follows:-

*Rating scores must be attained in **standings list** tournaments within the period from the 1st January of the year preceding the championships up until **72 hours** before the start of the first competition event of the championships.*

The items in bold above were changes made to the original proposal as tabled at the meeting. Agreed unanimously.

AA6004 - **(C405 Entry Registration)**

Text change - 48 hours becomes 72 (2 occurrences in 3rd paragraph of this rule).

It was confirmed as per the existing rule that the deadline for the intent to enter remains at 60 days with 4 weeks for the team and independent skiers to be entered using the official I.W.S.F. entry forms copies of which should be sent to the organising committee, the Chairman of the WBC and the Chairman of their Region (C405).

It has now been agreed that 72 hours before the start of the first competition event the final team member names with current ratings must be filed with the organisers.

The last paragraph of this rule was changed to readprior to 48 hours before the start.....

Future host Federations will be asked to include these rules in their bulletins so that all Federations are clear on the entry procedure.

All the above agreed unanimously.

AA6005 - **Chief Judge's Secretary**

The Council agreed that this position is absolutely necessary and should be in the obligations but it isn't. We should make sure that this item is included in the new policy guidelines section of the rule book. Agreed unanimously.

Other items

The various different software applications used by the Federations are producing results in varying formats which the Council felt was confusing. It would be far better if one standard format be adopted for all championships. It was therefore proposed that the WBC purchase a copy of the Lion Software which was acknowledged to be the best available and that this software only be used as the official computer software of the WBC and to be used exclusively at all WBC titled events i.e. currently the Junior and the Open World Championships. This software is now officially approved by the Council and its sole use is to be stipulated in the policy guidelines. Agreed unanimously.

JUMP

AA6007 - (CI405 Boat speed and path)

All amendments as per the proposal. Agreed unanimously.

AA6024 - (CI407 Jump - Success)

The Council agreed that when the skier's legs go past 90 degrees to the boat path they are considered to be trailing which annuls the jump. The text as per the proposals was amended and finally agreed as follows:-

A jump shall be considered successful if the skier lands and passes the end-of-course buoy in BSP. If the skier, before recovering, swings around so that his legs are trailing the jump will be disallowed.

Agreed unanimously.

PA6004 - Video Jump Measurement.

The Council were very encouraged by the developments in this area. The excellent work done by Brian Heeney (USA) and Dale Stevens (USA) was acknowledged.

It was agreed that the Council need to see the system in action running side-by-side with the Johnson system. There was a question concerning the reference points that the system uses and it was felt that one of the reference points used should be the ramp itself so that if the ramp moved during a competition it would be noticed immediately.

The Council agreed that the system be left 'on the table' for further evaluation at their next meeting but were happy to acknowledge now that this system is a great development and obviously does and can work for our sport. Several members had seen the system in action at the X Games. They confirmed its advantages and superior accuracy over the Johnson system.

In conclusion, the Council needed to be satisfied over the reference point issue. It was hoped that this could be resolved soon however in the meantime a rule could be inserted in the rule book stating that "a system using video may be used to measure jumps if approved by the WBC." Agreed unanimously.

Colours of Jump Ramp Surface

It was felt prudent to discuss this AOB item now. The Council expressed their deep regret at the recent tragedies in the USA and France. OM felt that using incorrectly contrasting colours on the surface of the jump ramp above and below the water line could possibly compromise the safety of the event. It was therefore agreed unanimously that rule CI401 (b) 7. should include that the colours of the jump surface be yellow above the waterline and that a dark colour should be used below the water line.

SLALOM

AA6008 - (C1505 (a) Boat speed and path)

Once the requested speed is achieved, which at a minimum must be by the skiers advisory start buoy, unless the skier's instructions have made attainment impractical, it shall be held constant to within +/- 1kph until the shutdown buoy is reached. Agreed unanimously.

1505 b) change the words.....scoring the pass..... to*judging the pass*. Agreed unanimously.

1505 e) change the wording to read as follows.....During the pass the boat shall follow a straight path approx. down the centre of the course until the shutdown buoy is reached. Agreed unanimously.

EA6007 - A proposal from Region EAME to reinstate one forwards and one backwards pass only was not agreed.

EA6001 - (C1511-Ties)

The method we use to resolve ties has become very complex, however no change was agreed. The wording as per the proposal from EAME now states that the order shall be decided in favour of the skier who includes a backwards pass in his score and would apply to all 3 rounds.

PA6002 - (C1506 - Start of pass)

It was proposed that any slalom pass must start from a stationary position outside the wake. Time will start at the skiers first movement towards the wake. (This means that the skier makes his deepee start, positions himself outside the wake and then starts his slalom pass when he is ready. He cannot cross the wake to change starting sides). A 180 degree positional turn is permitted but must be declared to the jury before the skier commences his pass. Agreed unanimously.

All slalom rules that have any reference to old rules concerning start of pass are to be deleted. Agreed unanimously.

TRICKS

Again, there were a number of proposals on the table relating to the old course which had since been revised at this meeting. Many of these proposals were therefore no longer valid.

EA6011 - (C1612 (h) 3.)

Region EAME proposed 3 levels of the 180 B-F 2 foot surface turns with points as follows:-
70 points for the flop over/roll around turn (New score), 100 points for a feet to feet turn with a butt-out, and 120 points for the feet to feet turn. The words "failed feet to feet" would be added to the trick description to clearly differentiate between the butt out and feet to feet versions of the trick.
 Agreed by a majority of 5 in favour and 2 against.

AA6009 - (C1605 Boat speed and path)

Once the requested speed is achieved, which at a minimum must be by the skiers advisory buoy, unless the skier's instructions have made attainment impractical, it shall be held constant to within +/- 1kph until the shutdown buoy is reached. Agreed unanimously.

EA6006 - (C1611 - Ties)

The semi-final round was inadvertently not referred to during the previous re-write of the rules. This proposal fixed this and was agreed unanimously.

EA6003 - Submitted tricks list

Region EAME wished this item to be discussed with a view to re-instating it for World and Region titled events. The pros and cons were discussed with particular reference to the continuing problem of poorly performed multiple turns. The proposal found no favour with the Council but it was agreed that the rules concerning the rotation of multiple turns be re-written to state that no 2 turns may be in the same rotation under any circumstances. New wording would be added to C1612 (i) 2. as follows:-

Should a skier perform 2 surface turns in the same direction of rotation neither will score and it will be considered a failed multiple turn.

Agreed unanimously.

At this point the meeting broke for dinner and re-convened the following morning:-

C1606 - Start of pass

This rule would have to be completely re-written stating that the timing and scoring of a trick pass starts at the skier's first movement towards a trick.

The subject of what we allow the skier to do before his pass commences came up for discussion. The Council had already agreed that we do not want to see warm-up tricks and the rules as they currently are seem to cater for this adequately and it was agreed to leave everything as it currently is. However, it was also agreed that the skier now must declare to the jury before the pass commences what preparatory movements he will make before the pass starts. Agreed unanimously.

C1606 (c) would now read:-

Timing for the trick pass shall start at the skier's first movement in barefoot skiing position toward doing a trick.

C1606 (b) and (e) would now be combined and **C1606 (d)** is now deleted.

AA6026 - This proposal was not agreed.

AA6027 - (C1612 (g) Rollover line step.)

Region AA proposed the introduction of the 3-tier line step. In addition to the butt out penalty of 100 points, **if the skier is judged to have landed on his butt before his foot touched the water surface a penalty of 150 points would apply (New score). Again, to clarify the rule, the words "failed feet to feet" would be added to the trick description to clearly differentiate between the butt out or failed feet to feet version and what is effectively a flop/roll around (on to the butt) line step.** Agreed unanimously.

AA6028 - This proposal was not agreed.

EA6002 - (C1612 (d) Toe hold turn tricks)

A text adjustment was required where the rule mentions recovery by tumbleturn.

The subject of the judging of toe turns was discussed. There is still too much room for varied interpretation of the rules. It was also noted that where we appear to have tightened up the rules for the toe front, the points have gone down. It was agreed that we still want the 3 levels of turn but they should be re-defined with revised points values as follows:-

Feet to Feet toe turn to the front. The skier must maintain toehold BSP throughout the duration of the trick up to and including the point where the skier has unloaded from the front toe hold position. New score = 850 points.

Failed feet to feet toe turn to the front. The skier must maintain toehold BSP throughout the duration of the trick. If he cannot sustain BSP long enough to satisfy the judges that he could ski away at will, he may butt out. New score = 550 points.

Roll/Fall around toe turn to the front. If the skier does not clearly maintain full BSP during the turn but manages to roll/fall around to the front and stand in one clear movement. New score = 250 points.

The above was agreed unanimously. But it was emphasised that judges must judge according to these rules. Adding the words "failed feet to feet" now adds credence to what is permissible.

So far as the toe back was concerned, it was re-iterated that the skier must make a definite pause in the back BSP for the trick to be scored.

13. Obligations & Sanction Fees

The Council felt that the sanction fee for staging World championship events was too high. It was regretted that President Botero did not make it to these championships where he would have seen our sport in a shining light. Several members were not convinced that the IWSF hierarchy were supporting Barefoot Water Ski enough and SN asked the Region Chairman to support him in his efforts to sway the IWSF our way. Agreed that the 3 Regional Chairmen submit their thoughts on paper to SN and their views would accompany SN's report to the IWSF Executive Board meeting in Geneva.

15. 1996 Chief Judges Report - 1996 World Championships

BP had now had time to put together an interim report for the Council on the championships we had all just enjoyed so much. His full and detailed report including assessments on each individual official would be sent to the Chairman within 2 months.

BP said that overall he had been given a good site and equipment with which to work with. The late arrival of the tow boats had caused some problems; the speedos were calibrated in MPH not KPH as required by the rules. Cushions were needed for the judge sitting by the driver. One of the boats had to be rendered U/S due to mechanical problems with steering. In general the speed performance of the boats was poor although they did meet the required minimums, but not all the time. If the boats had been on site in good time we could have found most of these problems and fixed them before the competition started.

The tournament supplied lines and handles performed well although it was noted that the bare tow lines came up short but were in tolerance with handles attached. The Jump ramp had some of the markings missing from the cow-catchers and at the water line at the front. The auto-timers worked but were not easy to use.

The scorers trailer was a little small and too cramped and busy at times. Otherwise the secretarial facilities were good. Communications were inadequate although the equipment was good but we really needed another channel. As far as computers were concerned the hardware was great but the software could have been better. The new standard software rule will cover this for the future.

There were some major headaches with the entries, with many Federations not following the rules and procedures correctly as per the Technical rules. The Intent to Enter should ask for a future correspondence address.

The judging was below standard at the beginning of the tournament but this gradually improved as the week went on. By the Friday, the standard was up to an acceptable level but clearly some officials had come to the championships unprepared for the task they had been appointed to undertake. There were some basic mistakes being made. The de-briefs each day certainly helped to bring inconsistencies to the fore and raise the standard of awareness. However, BP still feels our biggest problem is with our judging standards and maintaining consistency. We need to address these 2 areas promptly.

The Chief Scorer was over worked and doing far too much. She was too involved in other things which meant that she was not concentrating fully on the job in hand. There were some mistakes made which were picked up on too late. Quite clearly, being a member of the organisation committee etc. and also a member of the officials panel just doesn't work. We must bear this in mind for the future.

We were blessed with good water conditions and 6 record applications had been tendered during championship week. The 2 jump applications looked OKAY but 3 others from slalom and tricks had been denied by the event judges which left 1 remaining for the Council to see. A number of Region and National records had also been broken although they were not a matter for this Council.

There had been no official protests made at these Worlds.

OM said the video facilities had worked well and helped improve the standard of judging for sure. We still have some problems with the overall judging of multiple turns. GD said that we should look to change the way we train our new judges. One area where we could improve is changing the symbol system we use for multiple turns. The AUS system is good and a possible alternative. We still have a problem with the toe turn interpretations although hopefully now, this won't be a problem any longer.

These championships have given us the opportunity to put together examples of bad, acceptable and good tricks. The Council have all Winter/Summer to put a good judges training tape together. SN will get to work on this right away.

Despite the LOC not having the experience of running a major championship, they had excelled in their efforts and application.

As stated earlier, BP will be preparing individual assessments on each official. It will be totally confidential and for the eyes of the WBC Chairman only (SN). SN and BP will discuss and decide if any action needs to be taken subsequent to BP's report.

16. Election of Chairman - continued

CR announced the results of the ballot for the election of the Chairman. The results were 7 for SN and 1 for GD. SN was confirmed as Chairman of the WBC for a further 2 year term.

Additional item

SN announced the appointment of the Secretary of the WBC. He was delighted to confirm that SS had agreed to take over from CR. The Council congratulated SS on his appointment. CR would continue to administer the rule book for the time being.

17. Next meeting

To be advised. It will be at the World Juniors but as yet the venue is not confirmed.

18. Any Other Business**Software use by WBC - BP**

Agreed that all members should try and use Word 2, Excel 4 and Microsoft Access as the minimum.

Judging standards and Interpretations - BP

BP presented an example of a possible WBC examination paper for Level 1 judges. We need an official WBC examination paper set by the WBC. Agreed that OM, BP and AH form the working group to prepare the official WBC judges exam paper. It was hoped that this paper would be ready by the end of January 1997.

We also require an official WBC judges training video tape. SN will work on this and get it out as soon as possible.

The possibility of a World Judging Seminar held between the World Games and the World Juniors will be looked into. Also, a seminar held at the X Games June 23-29 1997 is a possibility. A possible seminar before the Sydney Worlds in 1998 will be considered.

Judges Categories - BP

The main problem is the limit of 12 per Region. It is prohibitive and unnecessary. Agreed that the limit of 12 of any level of judge per Region be removed. Agreed unanimously.

Policy Book - BP

The Council acknowledged this excellent document put together by BP. Left for the other Regions to look through, adopt and comment as necessary.

New World Rule Book Format - SN & CR

The new format would take the form of separate booklets for the different sections of the rules, World Rules, Additional Rules, Operations, Trick descriptions. etc. etc. Bound or loose-leaf versions would be available. Agreed unanimously.

Injury Statistics - OM

PanAm are beginning to compile injury statistics. Other Regions should also look into this. If there are problems then we need to identify them and implement measures to prevent injury. We are already in a position to recommend 'Jack-Strap' harnesses for inverted jumpers.

Archives and History - SN

We need to start compiling our archives. The *Barefoot Data Book* is a great incentive and we should keep pumping Phillippe Poyet (FRA) with results and other information. We should also make sure our minute archive is up to date. BP is missing a set of minutes from 1989! CR has the complete archive and will copy the missing set to BP.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12:35 on Tuesday 27 August 1996 and thanked all the members for attending what was generally agreed as an excellent week of Barefoot activity both on and off the water.

Signed as a true record _____ Chairman Date _____