

Tri States Council of Figure Skating Clubs  
Michigan - Ohio - Indiana - Western Pennsylvania  
Saturday, June 5, 2004

The Meeting was called to order at 10:25 AM by President Steve Wolkin.

Minutes from June, 2003 Meeting in Bowling Green, Oh  
Lainie Demore moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes.  
Motion made and seconded by Lainie Demore and Doreen Young.  
Minutes Approved

Minutes from February 14 Meeting at Twin Bays FSC in Traverse City, MI  
Motion made and seconded by Chuck Buxton, and Bill Estey  
Minutes Approved

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was started by Steve Wolkin.

1. 2002-2003 Skating Season - Denise Simoni spoke regarding the checks (over \$5,000) that have NOT been cashed.
2. Current Procedure for 2003-2004 Skating Season: Regional and Sectional checks for skaters were mailed to the person designated on the Tri States Membership Form (in the space for the person in the club to send monies to). Signed receipts were returned to Denise. (Note: Denise had received all but one back at the time of this meeting). Envelope contained the letter to the President of the Club explaining checks that were enclosed. Envelopes with individual checks sealed for each recipient was inside the larger envelope. A letter of congratulations was inside each of the skater's envelopes with the check stapled to the letter.

In addition - a spread sheet was mailed to the Club - showing the checks that were issued to their club members.

John Chrien then suggested an idea - about requiring clubs to attend the Tri States Meeting in June (thereby boosting attendance) in order to pick up the checks awarded to the skaters. John's suggestion was to process the checks at the Annual Meeting to the delegate from each club. Those clubs that didn't attend would not receive the award monies. The negative to this suggestion - was of course that we would penalize the clubs that didn't attend. It was then decided to table this discussion until the Committee Report.

Question: What to do about the checks that are outstanding? Tabled until Committee Report.

Treasurer's Report was read and explained.

Motion made and seconded by Doreen Young and Bill Estey.

Treasurer's Report approved.

#### Secretary's Report

Maureen passed around Thank You Notes from the skaters (SEVERAL this year!!) Maureen thanked Denise for the incredible work she had done this past year. Now that her family has moved to Kentucky, she is unable to continue on as Treasurer. Tri States presented her with a token of Appreciation. (Engraved Pen, Pencil and Letter Opener in a wooden case)

Maureen thanked Don Korte for all his help on the Tri States Website. [www.tri-states.org](http://www.tri-states.org)

Thanks to Bowling Green FSC - especially Barb Ridgeway - for their efforts on behalf of Tri States putting on the Annual Meeting and luncheon this - and every year.

Steve Wolkin reported on Strongsville FSC - as there will be a minor adjustment to the profit due Tri States. Jeff Marshall spoke on behalf of the Strongsville FSC - they are regrouping. Motion made and seconded by Doreen Young and John Chrien - accepting the competition financial report as written - to be amended at a future date.

#### More of the President's Report:

Steve mentioned that we need to seriously look at amending the bylaws - especially 7.2 - as it identifies that if a particular section's representation isn't in attendance, then the VP position is forfeit? He felt that it was a particularly harsh comment. Additionally it was noted, that since our quorum is those that attend - if a state is not represented in attendance they forfeit the ability to elect a Vice President for the state. We need to find a way to increase participation. We need to get with Indiana and Western Pennsylvania people and we may need to change that portion of the bylaws.

Steve mentioned he felt badly about not being more involved - moving Tri States along better. If it becomes necessary that your officers attend a particular competition in order to facilitate a meeting (like at Tri States Synchro or the Freeskating Competition) - we may wish to consider electing judge's, accountants, and other similar official USFS positions - so they would be able to attend these meetings....we really need more than one annual meeting to handle all the things we need to take care of. \*\*If the officer is unable to make the meeting - they could always send an agenda or remarks.

#### Awards Committee Report:

Bill Estey read his report

Maureen introduced Bill Goen's Music Report for Michigan

Jim Cunningham, Chair of Ohio's Music Committee - had no written report. Jim did speak to certain issues. He spoke about a need for a small compact, inexpensive unit like the one used in Ohio - for Michigan. It is easy to use - easy to carry - combination CD / tape deck player.....Michigan desperately needs a new unit. Jim carries about \$3500.00 worth of equipment with him at all times.

#### Music Inventory:

We need to have Bill Goen research the process with Ed Murzin. Motion made and seconded by Bill Estey and John Chrien to purchase two additional units provided they don't exceed \$3500.00 (It may not be that much). It is important to remember that the rental of our music equipment brings in a good deal of income to the Tri States Organization.

There was a discussion that we needed a Chairman over all the states with regards to the Music Equipment. Doreen very graciously agreed to Chair this Committee. This will enable us to keep better control over the equipment and rental fees (income) and equipment needing repair, replacements (expenses).

There was discussion about the rental of the Tri States Music Equipment. Clubs have mainly inappropriate, terrible equipment to be used at competitions.

We need to change the Bid Form. We need to eliminate the part that asks, "will you be using your own sound equipment?" (Check the Competition Handbook for information regarding the Tri States Music Equipment).

Tri States Music Equipment is used by the LOC of the Tri States Synchornized or the Tri States Freeskating Competitions free of charge.

Music Committee Discussion: Jim Cunningham brought up that the CD is not an impervious item - we have a lot of CD's out there that don't work. It would be wonderful if everyone put their CD's in the "box" that holds CD's. Jim referenced a special catalogue that he likes to use showing equipment that can be purchased to protect CD's. CD's plus the holder - .45 cents....10 cents for the holder (cost) .....to be sold for \$2.00. Jim also mentioned that some of the BLUE CD's aren't read by the Tri States Music Equipment. Jim also suggested that competitor's should only use ONE PROGRAM NUMBER per CD. Joann and Doreen suggested that their club could put out something about the do's and don'ts of CD's.

## Tri States Committee

Maureen Dalton, Chairman

Denise and Gene Simoni, Marti Drabing, Brian Peltz, Susan McKendrick, Dorothy Estey, Dorothy Tank, Chuck Cope.

Maureen thanked the committee for all their help during the year. Maureen mentioned that the specific reason for forming this committee was to come up with some suggestions as to handle the Tri States AWARDS process. What was discovered after Denise Simoni (the Treasurer) went back to the original distribution process - was that the system we have really works. The Committee tossed around several suggestions in meetings during the year, but concluded that the system that we already have - works just fine, as long as the timeline is adhered to.

The Committee then took the time during the year to create the Competition Handbook. Maureen mentioned SEVERAL TIMES - that the 10 copies she brought to the meeting - were a work in progress. Two of the handbooks would be given to the Clubs winning the bids for the next skating season - and the other 8 handbooks were available to those that would be willing to read and send in corrections. Lainie suggested that when it is finalized that we put it on our Tri States Website - [www.tri-states.org](http://www.tri-states.org).

Dorothy Estey led the discussion with regards to Proxy information. Tri States Council as well as Cleveland Council (with Detroit Metro Council as well) needs to get more involved in the distribution of Proxies before next year's Governing Council Meeting.

Committee Recommendation: We need to establish a By Laws Committee, to review our current By Laws and establish Rules and Regulations for the organization.

Motion and Rationale from Susan McKendrick: Motion set aside. Once it was determined that our current plan of distribution of awards worked perfectly there was really no need to set up a new routine.

## LUNCH

Bids for Competitions

Freeskating: Chuck Buxton for SW Michigan FSC

Sue Sequin for the Plymouth FSC

Kathy Slack for the Troy FSC

Dearborn - Shannon Iatzko

Synchronized Competition:

Bowling Green FSC

Plymouth FSC

Dearborn FSC

Freeskating Competition: Winning Bid to Troy FSC

Synchronized Competition: Winning Bid to Bowling Green

Laura Maki made the suggestion to the committee that we limit the dates that we list on the Competition Announcement. There are people that feel listing Thursday and Friday and Saturday and Sunday - stops a lot of kids from entering .....thinking they might miss more school.

Suggestions for changing the date of the Annual Tri States Meeting were made. Steve appointed a Strategic Planning Committee which consisted of:

Steve Wolkin

Jeff Marshall

Drew Patterson

Bill Estey

This committee will meet during the next year, and put together some suggestions about meetings, and other ideas.

Discussions:

Shall we have Tri States Meeting at the Freeskating Competition at Troy to cover Governing Council Matters??  
There is nothing we can do this year - but discussion regarding changing the date of the Tri States Annual Meeting to be covered in 2005 - first Saturday in June - with the intention of changing the date?? Amend the Annual Meeting date?  
Formally invite Detroit Metro Council - Cleveland Council - as an open meeting.

Election of Officers:

John Chrien made the following presentation of the proposed slate of officers:

President: Chuck Cope

Treasurer: Dorothy Tank

Nominations from the floor: None

Kathy Slack moved to close nominations.

Slate was elected by unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned to Caucus:

Michigan elected Bill Estey as Michigan Vice President

Ohio elected John Chrien as Ohio Vice President

Indiana - no one present, Vice President position vacant

Western Pennsylvania - no one present, Vice President position vacant.

Lainie Demore was called on to present news from Governing Council.

Lainie mentioned that the report of action was already on the website - it's about 37 pages. She also mentioned that she was keeping records of all the items sent back to committee - she was going to place them in a folder and take it out again at Columbus Governing Council Meeting in 2005, and ask what has happened to those specific items???

Next year's Governing Council Meeting: Columbus, OHIO. Everyone in the nearby states should make every effort to attend. If they are not going as a delegate - they should try to make the Thursday Round Tables and various seminars.

New "Steering Committee" from headquarters to be used for 2008 Nationals.

Hot Topic: The new judging system

New at large representative for the Midwest: Ann Dougherty from the Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. Lainie also suggested that everyone attend the seminar put on by the Parliamentarian - it is extremely interesting.

Proxy votes: Huge Issue

Last issue to be discussed:

Outstanding checks in the amount of over \$5500.00 - that have never been cashed. There was a general consensus that we try to locate the skaters to send them the monies that they are due. There isn't a lot of information to go by - besides name and check amount, but it is a suggestion that we try. Denise is recommending that we tell the new treasurer to open a new bank account. We do not have enough benefits, and our charges are too high.

Motion: for the remaining monies - once the 90 days is passed - remaining monies will be swept out of the account. The new treasurer will attempt to locate and distribute the old checks using our present system.

Motion: Ann Dougherty

Second: Susan McKendrick

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Motion made and seconded by John Chrien and Doreen Young.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maureen Dalton, Secretary