

# Tri States Meeting

## Saturday June 2, 2007

Meeting was called to order 10:10 AM by President Bill Coyle

Introduction of all members and their involvement in skating.

22 Clubs in attendance plus additional guests.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes made by Linda Brown, seconded by Ann Dougherty. Approved.

Motion to approve minutes - Linda Brown and seconded by Ann Dougherty. Approved.

Treasurer's Report - Thanks to Dorothy Tank for the wonderful job as Treasurer and all the records that she keeps.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report - Linda Brown and seconded by Ann Dougherty. Approved.

Motion to send \$135.00 to Don Korte for his great work on our Tri States Website by Bill Goen and seconded by Linda Brown.

### REPORTS:

#### Secretary Report:

Special thanks to Barb Ridgeway and the members of the Bowling Green Figure Skating Club for not only helping to take care of this Annual Meeting each and every year - but also taking on the joint meeting of the Councils in April. We appreciate their willingness to stay involved and helping us all so much!

Special Thanks to Dorothy Tank - who handles all the Treasurer's responsibilities faster than lightning. She gets back to everyone timely - and gets me absolutely everything that I need. She keeps great records - which are really efficient to reconcile each year. She gets the checks out in record time to the skaters. Dorothy wanted me to bring up the issue of the Skaters and their clubs. Now that the qualifying competitions are using IJS - there are NO LONGER any indication of clubs listed with the skater's names. This made the awards process very time consuming this year.

Special thanks to the Mentor Figure Skating Club for hosting the Tri States Synchronized Competition. It was a wonderful event - and very successful as you will note in our financial reports.

Special thanks to the Kent Figure Skating Club for hosting the Tri States Freeskating Competition. It too - was a wonderful event - and we are so grateful to both of these clubs for their efforts. Kent indicated some very helpful information with regards to the IJS Manual System that was used - and you will find that information in your booklet.

We had our normal emails and mailings this year - and a total of 58 clubs that joined Tri States Council. We are sending out our Annual Meeting Booklets to all the clubs that don't come to this meeting. We are hoping some of these clubs will get back to us about membership.

One of the things that fell short this year - was getting the names of the competitors that received Tri States Monies - into the program of the Tri States Freeskating Competition. We will make sure that we take care of that for next year. In the meantime - we will put a list of the skaters on our website for this past 2006-2007 Skating Season. (Tri-States.org).

My thanks to those clubs that got in touch with me about their proxies for Governing Council. Because of our emails and communications - I was able to carry 25 Proxy votes to Governing Council. It appeared that there were only a total of 36 votes up on the platform. Remember - it's not necessary to give the votes to me to carry - just as long as you give them to someone that is going to the Meeting.

Treasurer's Report (See Booklet)

Awards and Competition Report (See Booklet)

### **FREESKATING BIDS**

Twin Bays FSC - presentation by Cathy Shoemaker, treasurer

Comment: With regards to IJS - Recommendation that Tri States follows whatever divisions the qualifying season is using - down to Juvenile. Projected Income: \$4,000 - \$6,000.00. Basing this information on current Cherry Festival.

Dearborn FSC: presentation by Doreen Young

Interested in Bidding on Synchro really. No Financial Projections. Ice \$180.00.

Ann Dougherty interested in numbers for the Freeskating Competitions. 250 - 300 skaters. . Competition lasting about 2 days. Discussion about the "time" of the year for holding the Freeskating Competition. Most clubs agree that we should move the competition "away" from March - further into April. We should try to lock into a permanent yearly date.

### **SYNCHRO BIDS:**

**Twin Bays** - Projected Income: \$15,340.00 -based on bid that was made before. Can do February 9<sup>th</sup>. Bid was in for the following weekend. Comment: Last year Mentor had 47 Teams.

### **Fraser:**

Bidding on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Presentation by Nick Bennedetti. Because of Mid America they haven't bid in a long time. January 13<sup>th</sup> - Mid America Competition in Fraser - which is currently 27 years in existence. Rink is very supportive of everything Fraser FSC does. Fraser has additional music costs because of additional speakers that have to be brought in.

Ice Cost for Fraser: \$285 Bid based on previous Mid America Competitions.

Comment by Sue Clemente (Mentor FSC) The Beginner Category is growing - and entry fees have been very low for this level. We need to keep this in mind.

### **Wyandotte FSC**

Mary Moss making the Presentation. Support of the City and the Recreation Department. Ice Cost \$190.00. Bidding on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Midland FSC:

Bidding on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Ice Cost: \$130.00 - \$180.00 per hour  
Three Rink surfaces. Planning on using two rinks for the competition - the larger seating rink for the competition - one for warmup. Used Dearborn's numbers of teams (54) for projected income. Planned for IJS.

### Dearborn FSC

Doreen Young making presentation. Bidding on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Two Rinks. 1500 seats.  
Cost of Ice: \$210.00. Proposed Budget - worked off the numbers from the competition from a couple of years ago. City of Dearborn gives a lot of support - and lots of contributions without charge.

### Kalamazoo FSC -

Amy Bauer making presentation.  
No projected income. Profit could be \$4,000 - \$5,000. Ice Cost \$225.00. Olympic and NHL Rinks. Profit would help defray club costs. Seating 700 in NHL - 250 in Olympic. Bidding on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Kalamazoo last hosted a synchro competition with 60 teams.

*Comment: MINIMUM SHOULD BE: AT LEAST 1000 seating ...for a synchro competition.*

### Bowling Green FSC

Pat Rabb making presentation. Have hosted our Synchro Competition recently at least 3 times. Based on what was done in 2005 - profit \$14,500. Seating capacity: 5000 people.

### FSC of Cincinnati

Presentation by Cathy Brinkman. Cincinnati Gardens have been approached to host Synchro Nationals. Asking for support for NEXT YEAR! Have bid 5 out of the last 6 years for a Tri States Competition.

**We need to Standardize Budgets presented to us in advance. We need to understand our finances before we vote - rather than just shooting from the hip. We need to clarify our process better. Next year we will do a mailing (as we did this year) asking for information about bidding on our competitions. We will put this information into a spread sheet for all (at the meeting) to follow. Anyone showing up at the meeting with bid information (not previously submitted) will not be considered.**

Bill Coyle asked for any Addendums to the bids:

Twin Bays: Reducing the net income to \$13,540.00 -\$5,410 to Tri States.

Fraser - in at about \$10,000 adjusted.

Wyandotte: \$8505 Projected Income after the split.

Midland - no adjustments

Dearborn - no adjustments

Kalamazoo - no adjustments

Bowling Green - no adjustments

Cincinnati - no adjustments -leaving bid in for this year

Motion by Steve Wolkin - to ask all clubs that haven't filled out a budget form - after lunch each of the clubs could prepare one during lunch. No agreement to this motion.

Everyone hosting Tri States Competitions using IJS for both Freeskating and Synchronized Competitions.

Has the Freeskating Competition outlived it's usefulness? Comment by Ann Dougherty. Is the date right? Lots of Discussion.

Music Report: Net Income \$1940.41. New Equipment that needs to be purchased, as per Bill Goen. We need at least one new microphone. Bill Coyle asking about the Music Rental Process. Whoever brings the equipment lets the LOC know how much to send on to the Treasurer. Doreen will put together a process with a COPY of this process to the treasurer of Tri States, so that they will be aware of the monies they are to receive. Music persons are listed on the website. Music Equipment cannot be used without the services of a music official. We have 7 sets of music equipment - big sets, mini sets, need at least three per competition. Two in use - one in backup.

Bill Goen: Headsets - to be used for IJS - The current headsets need to be replaced because the ones originally purchased - some officials don't like. Tends to be a bit cumbersome. **Motion made by Ann Dougherty and seconded by Linda Brown to purchase 4 head / micro combos at roughly \$60.00 each. No opposition to this motion. Motion passed.**

Discussion centered around anything else (equipment) that might be needed? *Ann Dougherty commented there is a need for a "technical" something between the Chief Referee and the Music Person. Walkie Talkies to be allocated between the music officials.*

Awards and Competition Committee Report page 26 in the booklet.

Voting - by ballot. Vote on Synchro First. Freeskating Second.

Clubs bidding: (8) Synchro Competition - February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Twin Bays, Fraser, Wyandotte, Midland, Dearborn, Kalamazoo, Bowling Green, Cincinnati

Results after three votes:

Midland - 16

Dearborn - 6

Midland to host the Tri States Synchronized Competition February 9, 2008.

Voting - by ballot for the Free Skating Competition

Twin Bays pulling their bid because of the date.

Dearborn - motion Suzy Malloure, Lainie DeMore - April 5, 2008 or possibly April 12, 2008. Dearborn will let us know.

Dearborn to host the Tri States Freeskating Competition for 2008.

\*\*Dearborn Date for the Freeskating Competition has been set since the Meeting: 4/12/2008

### Old Business:

Jeff Marshall -we were going to implement a "festival" during the synchro competition to celebrate - with a banner ceremony - presenting checks to the clubs to the teams going on to Nationals in 2007 - etc.. Dates Changed in January and February - so we were unable to do this. We should try to do that for 2008. Tri States going to pay for one hour of ice for awards. For those not going on to National Competition - Tri States is the LAST competition of the year - presentation of the checks on the ice - to advertise Tri States role in awarding monies to the skaters. **Jeff Marshall and Dorothy Tank going to work with Midland.**

We have money - what are we doing with it?

Suggestion: Helping Tech People?

DMC gave back the entry fee to those attending the Detroit Tech School.

Local Tech people have too many conflicts with skaters on the ice. IJS is here to stay - but the costs to the smaller clubs is a huge issue. Reducing the number of judges?? This hasn't been done. If we decide to reimburse funds to the smaller clubs - we should collect this kind of data and present to USFS. Ann Arbor added 15 hours of ice to springtime because of IJS. Garden City - it cost 5 hours. Officials saying more difficult for Juvenile and Intermediate. Dearborn intends to use IJS - running down to Juvenile. Midland can run down to Intermediate for Synchro. We need to study the costs.

Dearborn and Midland - isolate your IJS expenses - and we'll see what Tri States can do to help. Ann Dougherty commented that it is helpful to make sure that these competitions get Referees that know the system. Steve Wolkin - we get together once a year - not the most efficient way of doing business. Possibly we need more meetings during the year. Executive Committee getting together - to make decisions - on behalf of the organization. We want to be pro-active! We need a set of forms - turned into the Secretary about the logistics - all about our competitions.....how many entries, hours of ice, etc., etc.....to be kept on file.

### **POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT TO OUR SPLIT OF THE PROFIT MONIES**

Change the split - to be

60/40 for synchro - What is basis for this???

70-30 for Freeskating - bottom line higher percentage to the club. Lower percentage to Tri States.

The additional 10% could help out the clubs with additional IJS expenses. Motion made by Lainie DeMore and seconded by Ann Dougherty to change the split for the Tri States Freeskating Competition to 70/30.

50 / 50 is where the Synchro should stay..... As per Steve Wolkin.....**It was agreed to keep the Synchro at a 50/50 split.**

Guidelines for Bidding for Next year:

Freeskating is in trouble - do we want to look at date change? Marketing change? How we handle the competition???

Change the format?

We need to be different. Entry Fee - different at each competition because the competition sets the fee. Continuing Education After the Competition - during the evening? Sunday? Where do we need a competition? Whoever is bidding - look at other competitions during the month of April. No Admission for Freeskating. Club determines what the entry fee is. This amount could be on the bid form? Entries from the last several years would help in establishing the entry fee. Hours of icetime? How many hours did it take to run the competition? We need to use our Website to get the information out there.

Ending form? - analysis? - set form for tri states - when you are done with a competition - how many officials - how many technical people - fill in the sheets in order to get some idea of the particular competition for the next club to know. We have to make comparisons between Tri States Competitions Lainie and Maureen going to create a base document - with a deadline - asking for help - and submit it to the Tri States Membership - before the competition it becomes a working document - afterwards becomes the competition report. IJS for Synchro down to Intermediate.

Standardize the admission fee?: It has been up to the clubs.

How to handle refunds??? Up to the clubs - administrative fee for refunds needs to be determined by the club.

Does your club have a synchro team?- good idea to bid on the synchro competition?

Everyone went to the Twin Bays Synchro Tri States Competition - because they were supportive - even though it was a great distance. We definitely need to send our bids in advance with deadline dates.

Someone that doesn't do it ahead of time will not be allowed to bid. Each Information sheet should have set information.....front and back on one piece of paper - but make sure there is budget information laid out. Presenters to bring enough copies for everyone at the meeting.

Pat St. Peter is having monthly conference calls - the Club Presidents need to be on these calls. Very detailed - stuff you wouldn't get anywhere else. Next call June 28th.....take advantage of the opportunity!!

## PROPOSAL

Southwest Michigan SC - Kick Off Classic - Judge's School for Synchro tacked on to the competition. Tri States could help fund the school. Jeannette Davey (National Vice Chair for Synchro) is available - this is a prime time to have this school. There could be trialing and critiques.

We could look at the financial guidelines of DMC for direction?. Move we set aside \$2000.00 for Synchro Judges School - to use at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Lainie Demore motioned - seconded by Chuck Cope. Approved.

Vice Presidential Duties: Help with monies to the skaters - because we are missing clubs.

We need to develop guidelines for the Vice Presidents.

Elections for the 2007-2008 Skating Season

**President Bill Coyle**

**Secretary - Maureen Dalton**

**Treasurer - Dorothy Tank**

Steve Wolkin - moved to close nominations. Lainie seconded.

Suzy Malloure - VP for Michigan

Jeff Marshall - VP for Ohio

April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 - Sunday Meeting with the Three Councils.

Governing Council May 3 - 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Denver, Colorado.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Maureen Dalton, Secretary