

Tri States Annual Spring Meeting
June 4th, 2005
Holiday Inn Express Meeting Room
Bowling Green, Ohio

Chuck Cope, President, Called Meeting to order 10:20 AM
Motion made by Bill Estey to approve the minutes, seconded by John Chrien. Minutes Approved.

Correspondence: Maureen Read all the thank you's received from the skaters.

Treasurer's Report - Dorothy Tank

Financials Closed out as of May 15, 2005 - in order to report to the Annual Meeting.

There are still outstanding checks that have NOT been cashed. Everyone please spread the word.

A very special thank you to the Bowling Green FSC for the job they did with the Tri States Synchronized Competition held at the Bowling Green University Ice Arena last February. They turned a check over to Tri States for \$7,235.44. Sensational Job!!

Troy FSC who hosted the Tri States Free Skating Competition mailed in a check (received after the Tri States Meeting) for our portion of their profit, \$863.32. We are grateful to both clubs for taking on this responsibility and doing such a fine job of representing the Tri States Council.

Huntington Bank - Account in Cleveland, Denise Simoni lives in Kentucky - Dorothy Tank lives in Michigan.

Numerous letters have been written. Two Accounts at the bank. We are still trying to close these accounts out, but having a lot of trouble. \$14.92 - \$123.00 in the two accounts. Doreen Young going to research and try to help with the problem of closing out the accounts.

Proposed Budget for the 2005-2006 Skating Season

See Booklet for the list of payments made in the Skating Season for 2004-2005

Motion Made to approve Treasurer's Report by Doreen Young and seconded by Chuck Buxton.

Motion Passed. Motion made to accept Proposed Budget for the 2005-2006 Skating Season by Doreen Young and Seconded by Bill Estey. Motion Passed.

Chuck reported that the Vice Presidents need additional responsibilities. They now submit the skater's names to Dorothy Tank our Treasurer so that the skaters can receive monetary awards. Dorothy Thanked Bill Estey, John Chrien and Donna Cerami for their work in this regard.

Secretary's Report: Maureen Dalton

Thanks to Barb Ridgeway and the Bowling Green FSC for making all the arrangements for the Annual Meeting. We especially like the new Meeting Rooms at the Holiday Inn Express!! We can always depend on the Bowling Green Figure Skating Club!!

We had the normal mailings this year - and additional Email Mailings as well.

According to our ByLaws or Code of Regulations - we are required to have our membership dues in by September 1st. We have been very "lax" in this regard - so we are notifying everyone that September 1st is the absolute deadline for membership which entitles the member clubs and their skaters to receive monetary awards.

Those clubs with memberships already in: Westminster FSC Erie, Pa, Brooklyn FSC, Fraser FSC, Winter Club of Indianapolis, Hiawatha FSC, SW Michigan FSC, Mt. Pleasant FSC, Cleveland FSC, Little Traverse FSC, Strongsville FSC, Skating Club of Novi, Lake Effect FSC, Plymouth FSC, and Kalamazoo FSC.

We have some codes of regulation that have to be amended - simple housekeeping issues. We will vote on them at next year's meeting. They will be posted on the website.

We should try and set a date for the three councils to get together to go over Governing Council and related issues next year. Suggested Dates: April 23rd? April 30th?

Next Year's Tri States Meeting: June 3rd, 2006

As we do not have permission to "publish" the roster of clubs and delegates, etc. on our website - we will simply send out an email and an attachment in the fall with everyone listed.

We now have a complete book of minutes and treasurer's reports and related information in a large binder for the Tri States Council.

President's Report: Chuck Cope

The Open House/Reception held at Governing Council on Friday Night was a huge success. Not only did our intercouncil people attend - but there were people from all over the United States checking in to see what was going on. This Open House was sponsored equally by the Detroit Metro Council, Tri States Council, and Cleveland Council. There was a fabulous turnout - very well received. The three Councils are considering doing this again for next year's Governing Council Meeting in Orlando. Discussion about inter club councils. Lots of information - lots of questions answered. Possible Round Tables for next year at Governing Council in Orlando. Interclub Councils need to be more vocal about what is going on?

Vice President Michigan Bill Estey: Overall picture about competitions good. Michigan says thank you to Chuck Cope, Dorothy Tank and Maureen Dalton for their hard work.

Vice President Ohio John Chrien: Talked about the Freeskating Competition in Troy. Distances normally hurt the participation in our Competitions. John reported that there were requirements not adhered to with regards to out of territory skaters. Discussion followed. See Bill Estey's Awards Report.

Vice President Donna Cerami (Western Pennsylvania) Not present

We had no report from Indiana as their Vice President's position is vacant at this time.

BIDS for Synchronized and Free Skating Competitions

The following bids were submitted for the Synchro and Free Skating Competitions:

Midland Figure Skating Club - New Three Surface Ice Arena. FREESKATING Competition.

Volunteers have raised \$750,000 towards the purchase for the new rink. Opening September, 2005. Working with the Convention and Visitor's Bureau. One Olympic, 2 NHL Rinks. Plenty of Parking. \$125.00 per sheet of ice. \$175.00 per sheet of ice Prime Time. Amounts apply to the weekend as well. Even though they did not win the bid for EGL's - they are hopeful for the future. Walking distance from hotel to the rink. Midland FSC has been in existence since 1955. The currently have 150 Members. They are planning on rebuilding and increasing membership. Have hosted two Regionals, and one Tri States Competition in the past (at the old rink). Handouts were available.

Southwest Michigan Figure Skating Club - Chuck Buxton (Kalamazoo, Michigan).

Freeskating 4-21 and 4-22. Wings Stadium - off I-94. Three Sheets of Ice. Main Rink - 5,000 seating.

Parking is not a problem. New September 2005 - Restaurant and Bar. 5 Concession Stands. Full Line Pro Shop. 9 - 13 dressing rooms. Lots of Hotels, Restaurants.

Club founded in 1989 - 100 members. 6th Annual Kick Off Classic in November, of 2005.

Lots of Synchronized Experience. Bidding on both competitions.

Bowling Green: Bidding on both competitions. Advantages: Most accessible to everyone in Michigan and Ohio.....spacious arena - 5,000 seating. Lots of Parking. Have hosted lots of competitions - including last year's Tri States Synchro Competition. Ice \$185.00 per hour.

Plymouth FSC: Debbie Lyddon - bidding on both competitions. Located in the middle of the Detroit Metropolitan area. \$165.00 per hour. Meeting rooms, Parking sufficient. NHL - 3800 - Olympic 800. Lots of Dressing Rooms. Several hotels, malls, etc. Experience: Skate for the Cure Synchronized, Octoberfest.

Dearborn FSC: Ice \$180.00 per hour. Bidding on both competitions. Close to Airports, hotels, malls. Have hosted several competitions - including Tri States Synchro in 1998 - Midwest Synchro Skating Clinic.

SC of Novi: Susy Malloure - Free Skating Competition. Hosted Tri States 2004 and 2001. Right in the middle of Metropolitan Detroit Area. Highway construction should be finished. Did very well last time they hosted the competition - over \$4,000.00. Ice price \$200.00. Trying to re-negotiate for \$150.00.

Lake Effect: Nancy Adams, President of Lake Effect. Bidding on the Synchronized Competition. Smaller Club, hosts the Lake Effect Invitational. They have an active Adult Synchro Team. Georgetown Ice Arena - west side of Grand Rapids. Only opened a couple of years. 18 miles to airport. Two Ice Surfaces. 900 on the main rink. Lake Effect Club is interested in marketing this event for the time two weeks before the 2006 National Synchros. They are thinking there might be teams that would like to come to that area - knowing they would be coming back to Nationals to get a look see at the area. Lots of hotels, restaurants, movies, malls etc. No dead spots in the arenas - soundsystem is good.

Kalamazoo FSC: Bidding on the Free Skating Competition. Sheree talked about the club rebuilding. 100 - 140 members. More younger skaters coming up. Have hosted Basic Skills Competition for DMC. Lots of Hotels, lots of restaurants. Lots of Parking. Ice Cost: \$195.00 - \$145.00 (ice cost should be between these figures.)

Question from Jeff Marshall about the Synchro Bidding

Lake Effect: They will have to work with the rink in order to get something built for placing the judges in a better position to see the teams on the ice.

Music Report by Doreen Young - in booklet

CD's are becoming more and more of a problem. Poor quality CD?? Beware of "deals".....
50 - 60 cent CDs have better quality. Colored CD's are more of a problem. CD's are NOT indestructible. You have to take care of them. Place them in cases. DO NOT PUT LABELS on CD's.....use permanent marker. These labels that the LOC produces - they don't know what to do with??? Put them on baggies. We all need to bring these suggestions back to our clubs. Put notification on the Website!

Awards Report in Booklet

The Competitions and Awards Committees are now combined together.
Decision about the plaque situation that occurred at the Troy Tri States Free Skating Competition. Plaque was awarded to Kentucky (Not a Tri States Member Club) - because of the large number of entries at the Troy Tri States Free Skating Competition. . One also awarded to Bowling Green (They are Tri States Members). "Good will" decision made by Bill Estey at the competition. Bill Estey looking into the appropriate verbage to ease this situation. Possibly adding verbage to the Awards/Competitions Rules and Regulations in the Competition Handbook - and eliminating the current "rule" in the Bylaws next spring.

BREAK FOR LUNCH: 11:45

Meeting back in: 12:30 PM

Voting on Synchro:

SW Michigan FSC, Lake Effect, Bowling Green, Plymouth, Dearborn, Kalamazoo

Winning Bid: Dearborn FSC

February 11, 2006

Free Skating Competition:

Midland FSC, SW Michigan FSC, Bowling Green, Plymouth, Dearborn(dropped out because they won the Synchro Bid), and SC of Novi.

Winning Bid: Midland FSC

April 21 - 22, 2006

Jeff Marshall - Strategic Planning Committee

See Proposed Changes to the Tri States Code of Regulations

4.2 Voting Members

Any member club who has paid the prescribed annual dues on or before September the 1st may become a voting member of the Council. Each voting member shall have one vote in all matters submitted to the membership. Each member club may assign a delegate for voting purposes. (Dues are in the amount of \$50.00 per year due May 1st and deadline for payment is September the 1st the close of the general meeting)

Rationale: if the annual meeting is held in late summer, clubs can use this meeting as a time to turn in dues. There will be notices of this meeting and of this deadline. Might encourage clubs to attend annual meeting just to get their dues paid.

Cost: Increase in on time membership money.

5.1 Annual Meeting - changing date from June until August - September.

June is a very bad time to gather a group of skating people. End of season. Schools ending, Ice Shows and Graduations. Have the meeting at a time that more people will attend. New club boards will be in place and may be more willing to attend meeting. More energy at the club level that time of year. Can add a clinic to encourage skaters parents and coaches to attend the meeting.

Problem: Annual Meeting is used to select competition bids.

Solution: Have bid posted on line no later than April 1st. Clubs will be mailed a ballot to be returned by no later than May 1st to the secretary. Announcement posted on line.

Cost: Extra Postage - Extra Mailings?

Discussion about switching dates for the Annual Meeting. Mostly comments about there NOT being a good time for the meeting - no matter what time of the year. Bid process could be very difficult "on line"considering the number of people that are not comfortable with computer usage. It was not necessary for a vote on either proposal. Committee would like to go forward and try some other possibilities.

Meeting for the three Councils to meet in 2006: Governing Council is May 3rd.

The Tri States Council, the Detroit Metro Council and the Cleveland Council should try to meet - April 29th, 2006 - in Bowling Green. Saturday 10:00 AM. At the Holiday Inn Express - in the combined meeting rooms. We already have the rooms reserved.

Same Weekend as Lake Effect competition

Weekend AFTER Ft. Wayne Competition

New Business:

Bill Estey: If we have a team / club represented at the Free Skating Competition and they are NOT Tri States Members - and they win the total club award - we present them with the Plaque. The next highest club with points would be awarded a plaque also. Bill making the recommendation for the By Law Change to be voted on next June. He will also be submitting a set of guidelines - and moving the details to the competition handbook.

Original By law to be eliminated.

Motion made by Dorothy Tank and seconded by Lainie DeMore to award a \$100.00 Gift Certificate/ American Express Gift Check to Don Korte for his wonderful unselfish work helping us with our Website.

Unanimous Motion Carried

Discussion about the monies given to skaters / teams. We need something more consistent.

Issues about Adults, Synchro Teams. Dorothy Estey going to chair the Committee.

Jeff Marshall also on the committee. Dorothy will select other people to serve on this committee.

Motion made by Jeff Marshall and seconded by Lainie DeMore

Award \$25.00 to those Adult skaters who qualify at Sectionals in the Championships Events.

For Skaters advancing from Sectionals to Nationals.

Motion passed.

Starting with the 2005-2006 Skating Season

Motion made by Jeff Marshall and seconded by Dorothy Tank

All Skaters that place 1,2,3 and 4 at Adult Nationals (in the championships rounds) will receive an award of \$50.00

Motion passed.

Starting with the 2005-2006 Skating Season

Motion made by Jeff Marshall and seconded by Ann Dougherty

Amend: #11 - Adult Skaters that place 1,2,3, and 4th at Adult Nationals in the open events will receive an award of \$25.00.

Starting with the 2005-2006 Skating Season.

Chautauqua:

Prize Monies being awarded - indicated in the announcement. For accumulated points - prize monies in the amount of \$500, \$300, and \$200.00 being award to clubs. Possible suggestion for us?

Ann Dougherty: New Business

New Judging System

Would Tri States be interesting in Buying Headsets??? Should we allocate monies or start to think about the possibility of renting out equipment to those clubs that can't afford the more expensive set ups. We could handle this just like we do the music equipment rentals.

It was suggested that Bill Goen and Lainie DeMore would be our "Computer GURU Committee" - to start evaluating and looking into the NJS and the hardware / software issues.

National Showcase Event in California: Skater from Michigan going to Nationals. Christina Kolen. Would Showcase Event help our Freeskating Competitions??? Showcase can be added to our current Free Skating Competition.

Nominating Committee: John Chrien moved to renominate our Present Officers to serve another term. Bill Goen Seconded. Nominations were closed. The following are our officers for the 2005-2006 Skating Season:

Chuck Cope President

Maureen Dalton, Secretary

Dorothy Tank, Treasurer

The Council broke into two groups - Ohio and Michigan to Caucus and elect Vice Presidential representatives for Tri States.

Vice President for Ohio:

Vice President: John Chrien

JChrien@SBCGlobal.net

Vice President for Michigan

Vice President: Suzy Malloure

Skating Club of Novi:

Malkidsx4@aol.com

Jeff Marshall made the suggestion that we poll our member clubs - and try to send out a letter to each of the clubs - asking for cost of ice per hour??? Forward to everyone.

This was done in Cleveland - helped in negotiating ice time.

Dates of Competitions:

September 9-10 Skate Cleveland

September 9-10 Wyandotte

St. Clair Shores - September 15-17

Dearborn Basic Skills - Oct 8

Plymouth 14 - 15 of October

EGL's - 23rd

UGL - week before

Westland - 12 and 13th November

Kick off Classic - 19th of November

Rising Stars ??

Sectionals - 17, 18 and 19 of November

Ann Arbor - Porter December 3rd - 4th

Skate for the Cure Dec 17th

Holiday Skate - Dec 18th Basic Skills

Jan 21 - Wyandotte Adult

Junior Nationals: Denver - Date?

Feb - Tri States Synchro Dearborn

2006 National Synchro 22 - 25th

Port Huron Feb 3 - 5

March 11-13 - CIC's

Mid America - January 13-14th of January

Mids - 26 - 29th Synchro

Adult Sectionals: Feb 11th

It was suggested to go to Don Korte's Website www.sk8stuff.com to check on competitions!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM. Thank you all for participating in this year's meeting.

Sincerely,

Maureen Dalton, Secretary

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