Far West Water Ski Club

November 2022 Newsletter

http://farwestwaterskiclub.com/index.html

farwestwaterskiclub@gmail.com

A Message from the President

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Yes, the time is again upon us to celebrate all things family, friends, religion, ancestors, and all the other things I didn't include but especially waterskiing! Or, if you choose nothing at all ;-). Seriously though, my hope for all of you is that you and your families are happy and healthy and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

My last two trips out to the course this past week were about getting the entire site ready for the winter months. The water has still been going down so it was necessary to move everything out to the mouth of the bay where it will remain for the winter or until we get more rain! Steve, Dennis, and I moved the signs and the dock to their current location on Friday. The new anchor winches we installed on the dock were paramount in making the dock move so easy that we completed the whole process with a pontoon boat! (Good thing there was no wind!!!)

Saturday we had a great group of people show up to move the course which requires a minimum of 4 boats and 8-10 people. We had that and then some! Thanks to all who showed up to help! We absolutely cannot function without the people who are willing to volunteer a little of their time to help with these moves! The move went very smoothly and took roughly 2 hours. When we finished, for all who could attend, the Club bought a nice lunch at a new brew house (Paso Robles Brewing Co.) in town to show our appreciation.

On another note, we (the Club Officers) are now finished updating the Club Bylaws and will be sending them out for approval very soon. It is not a very long document so please take the time to read the entire thing. It is very important for you all to know the bylaws. If you are satisfied with the document as presented, please respond to Lani Woods (lani.woods@att.net) with "Approved As Read" to cast your vote. If you have suggestions for any changes, please be very clear! When you are finished, please send an email to Lani and note the Article and Sub-Article number or letter where your suggested change is so we can identify the section and evaluate your change. There will be a two-week period for responses from the date the document is emailed. After the two-week period has elapsed there will be no more changes accepted. Lani will compile all the responses and present them to the other Board Members for evaluation. You will be contacted individually to discuss your changes if the Board has any questions. After applying the new changes to the document, it will again be sent out with the new changes highlighted for final approval. From the date of this last set of changes, there will again be a two week period to respond "Approved As Read." Once approved, the new bylaws will go into effect starting January 2, 2023.

Alright. Enough business! Let's get on to celebrating our families and the holidays and the fact that we not only have one of the best public slalom course sites in the entire country, but we are also all part of the **best waterski club anywhere**!

Cheers!

Bob

From the Tournament Director

I'm pleased to bring you the tournament season wrap up and Freeze Out information. After a long season away last year, I had a blast serving as your Tournament Director for this season and getting to spend a lot of time on the lake with you all. Over the course of seven tournaments, we saw 60 skiers participate this year, racked up over 10,000 cumulative points, and saw 11 class jumps. Our skiers ranged in age from 4 years old to people born before 1960. Except for October, we utilized a team format that introduced some to a new way of scoring, kept the teams changing each tournament, allowed a few poor performances to claim a team victory, and few stellar performances fall short of a team victory. Team sports aren't for everyone, but hopefully everyone got a little understanding of what the collegiate teams deal with every year.

As mentioned, October tournament was back to the old class warfare that saw the best skier from each class take home the prize. Your winners were as follows. Novice – Carson Perry, 1 – Kyle Vaugh (double class jumper), 2 – Sue Houx, 3 – Carter Josef, 4 – Dalton Hornor, 5 – Case Widle, 6 – Dennis Iba (class jump), 7 – Troy Richman & Gavin Hornor (tie), 8 – Jim Williams, 9 – Mark Gambetta, and 10 – Jim Kilsdonk. Sunday was all about fun. After several prelim rounds, Dennis Iba and Caroline Cole competed in a paddle board race from the dock to the 55's and back. Dennis was looking strong until a rogue tsunami sent him to Davy Jones' locker never to return. Caroline claimed victory, a lot of bonus exercise, and an Amazon gift card.

We announced our class year end and high buoy count winners at the banquet. The class year end winners are determined based on their best 5 scores, but they had to have at least 4 scores to qualify. The high buoy count winners are the male and female skiers

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with the highest cumulative scores from all tournaments this year.

By far our most participants showed up in the Novice class this year. Between Cal Poly and the younger kids, Novice was typically our biggest class. Providing that introduction to competition water skiing to so many people is possibly one of the best things our club does for the sport. Lisa Chitty won the Novice class by showing up consistently all year and continuing to improve. Similar story for our Class 1 winner, Sheri Francey. Sheri showed up to every tournament and showed how living at the lake can really improve your skiing. Sue Houx won our smallest class, Class 2, but saw some strong competition from Caroline Cole who needed one more tournament to keep up with Sue. Class 3, typically one of our most active and interesting classes, ended up going to Ethan Livesey, one of our only double jumpers this year. He and our Class 4 winner, Robert Francey battled for the Class 3 top position most of the year after Ethan jumped into Class 3, but Robert jumped into Class 4 early enough in the year that by the end, most of his tournaments were in Class 4. Only 1.5 points separated the two of them, so next year's competition in Class 4 should be interesting. Class 5 came right down to the wire with 2 newcomers to the class. After Robert Soden's move into Men's 7 scoring, he posted a couple great scores that gave him the win by 2 points over Kathy Carney. The Class 6 winner was also aided by a move into Men's 7; Dennis Iba posted some great scores after his move, won Class 6, and ended the year by jumping into Class 7 at the last tournament. Lori Craig gave him some strong competition, and after a long winter of skiing in Florida will look to join Dennis in Class 7. In another close one, Doug Belmont squeaked out a Class 7 win by 5.5 points over Susan Kilsdonk. Both Troy Richman and Gavin Hornor showed up strong in this class at 36 mph, and either would have won year end if they had shown up for one more tournament. I would have liked Class 8 to be a little closer, but in the end Jim Williams kept me firmly seated in second place. And in a class of his own, literally and figuratively, we saw Jim Kilsdonk run some amazing passes this year, consistently running deep into -38 off, and taking home the Class 10 year-end.

And I believe a new benchmark has been set this year for the high buoy award. If I'm not mistaken this is the first time a married couple has taken the men's and women's honors. Susan again claimed the top ladies spot with 553 points and Jim secured the men's top spot with 695.5 cumulative points. All the points breakdowns can be seen in the following pages.

Congratulations to all on the fantastic skiing and endless fun on the water. Our next and last tournament will be the Freeze Out on 01 January 2023 at the slalom course. I would like a rough head count by 30 November 2022 in order to get prizes in time. Please call, text, or email me if you plan to attend. I'm also looking for a boat to tow the Freeze Out.

-Brian

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