



2026 Spring BOD Meeting

May 28, 2026

5:30 pm

Called to Order, President Tim Hinderman, 5:34 pm

Role Call: Tim, Vanessa, Jim, Erik, Eric, and Erin (not present: Craig & Jacob)

Motion to approve Fall 2025 Meeting Minutes, Jim (Eric seconded); none opposed

Manager's Report, Erin Renna; she provided a season overview highlighting the accomplishments of Northern athletes (see 2025-26 stats report) including those who were invited to Nationals, Whistler Cup, and some notable results at Nationals and Western Region champ events. Three BSSEF U16 men were invited to Nationals this past spring. Erin also gave a report regarding the membership status and trends (the youth athlete numbers remained almost the same from last season (382 Northern Division youth athletes); we saw a big jump in numbers in the U16 women's group as well as higher FIS numbers). Erin also provided a Congress update and reviewed the new rule changes: the new rules approved at Congress include changes to US national selection, redistribution of collegiate quota spots, and the introduction of a 3-run slalom format for FIS events, allowing irregular start intervals for U12 and younger GS competitions and the use of soft-eared helmets for racers 10 and younger. The recent departure of Bill Gunesch as Western Region Director and the appointment of Will Brandenburg was discussed, and Tim noted the need for closer communication with the new regional leadership. Erin shared the 2026-27 calendar draft (Western Region and Northern Division). The group discussed the calendar draft including removing Laura Flood as a qualifier this year due to scheduling conflicts, and debated hosting non-sanctioned YSL races to provide more local racing opportunities. Erin will reach out to PNW to research running these races as non-sanctioned. The final calendar will be approved at the upcoming Spring ACC meeting in Helena on June 1st, and the ACC meeting agenda was shared. Finally, Erin touched on the Strategic Planning update. The group will meet again this summer, and work on a task list that reflect short term, medium and long term goals. Short term goals include better coach training opportunities, more race accessibility and reducing barriers to entry at the YSL level, and increasing revenue through fundraising.

President's Report, Tim Hinderman; Tim proposed bringing Chris Anthony's 10th Mountain Division documentary to Montana venues in November as a fundraising opportunity, with proceeds split between the Ski Museum and Northern Division. Multiple Montana cities to include Missoula, Bozeman, and Whitefish. The team discussed potential challenges including coordinating dates across venues, volunteer needs, and beer/wine sales restrictions, with Eric suggesting Helena's Myrna Loy theater as an alternative option and Jim recommending Waypoint theater in Big Sky. This would be a great fundraising opportunity for Northern Division.



Financial Report, Erin Renna; Erin shared the financials from last season (Fiscal year closes on June 30th). Our current financial position is healthy, sitting at about \$122K. Erin's goal is to collect A/R payments (mostly from champ events), by the close of the fiscal year (about \$12K). She also shared that the fiscal year is looking to run in the red again, similar to last year (about \$3,300 deficit). A budget draft was presented for next year that would still show a red balance, prompting discussion about potential cuts and increased fundraising. Jim suggested renaming and reselling some legacy awards since their current funding sources have dried up, while Vanessa offered to reach out to families in Red Lodge with ski racing connections to secure new sponsors for these awards. The group discussed fundraising strategies, with Vanessa suggesting targeting individual donors rather than corporations, and Eric proposing to create an alumni contact list through QuickBooks and US Ski and Snowboard. Financial challenges from the season were reviewed, including lost revenue from canceled slalom camps and low attendance at OHG, though Jim noted these issues were partly due to the poor winter conditions. Overall, the BOD is happy with the season's revenue. The Division is hoping with the film fundraiser and potential ND logo'd swag sales, we can increase this revenue next season, and this will be reflected in the budget. Jessie is working with a graphic designer to start the process on a logo.

New Business- Summer camps/training opportunities- challenges this year with the early closing of Hood. BSF/FVSEF will run a joint camp in June, and BSSEF's traditional July camp has been moved to June, causing conflicts with the end of the school year, and therefore have lower numbers than usual. BSSEF/BSF is planning to do a U16 and over SL camp in Norway at the end of August.

WR FIS & Champ Event Head Tax Discussion- The BOD brought up whether to impose a divisional head tax on Big Sky next season for hosting the U16 Western Regions Champs (which it has the right to do per the handbook). The board discussed head tax policies for hosting FIS races, particularly focusing on the Northern Division's decision to charge a partial head tax rather than the full amount. Erin presented quota numbers for the upcoming championship event next season, noting that hosting U16 Westerns would generate significant head tax revenue to both BSSEF and the division. Due to Northern hosting this event as it's on a rotation, Northern has to give up the ability to host Tri-Divisionals in 2027 (therefore losing head taxes on that event, as IMD will have to host Tris again). The board agreed to maintain their historical compromise approach of charging a partial head tax, with Tim explaining this was established about 8-10 years with Jeremy. The BOD would like to formalize this policy in the handbook rather than continuously debate it. Erin explained that the current agreement with Jeremy is for BSSEF to pay a Divisional head tax of \$3.50 per start instead of the full \$7, but there was uncertainty about whether this applies to races picked up at the last minute. The board agreed that this policy should be formalized in the handbook rather than leaving it as an annual decision. However, they agreed BSSEF should be charged \$3.50 per start of the April Elite series even though it wasn't originally calendared, as it's not up to the host Club, but



the BOD, and it falls under the agreement for the \$3.50 per start per the 2025-26 Handbook. Eric suggested that moving forward, Northern should charge the full head tax on all regional and FIS races to subsidize budget deficit and increase coaches education budget. Jim emphasized the need for the board to make this decision independently rather than deferring to the ACC, arguing it's important to establish a clear precedent for financial decisions, and the BOD is responsible for all financial decisions for the Division per the Bylaws. They debated whether to maintain the \$3.50 policy for next season or increase it to the full amount of \$7. There was a motion to propose that BSSEF be billed for the 2026 Spring Elite Series race for \$3.50 head tax per start, by Eric Gomes. Jim seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Erin will send BSSEF an invoice for these head taxes. There was also a motion from Eric to charge a full divisional head tax of \$7 per start for all WR FIS races and WR Champ Events beginning next season (2026-27), and Jim seconded. All were in favor.

Meeting Adjourned, Tim Hinderman, 7:49 pm.