

Youth Committee Meeting

April 7 2018

Facilitator: Amy Cichanowski - CXC Youth Coordinator

1. CXC Youth Cup schedule selection protocol:

All Junior Cups events, Midwest Junior Champs, a Loppet event and the Junior Birkie.
2-3 more events upon petition/gaps in schedule

2. Youth Technical Delegates (TDs)

System started this past season to train existing TDs to understand Youth Racing manual and to bring new TDs in at the Youth TD level.

3. Wax restrictions

Motion by Jim Mullen, second by Bruce Manske, restricting all CXC Youth Cup and Skiwerx Races to non-fluorinated glide waxes. Motion approved.

4. Midwest Junior Championships

- The Youth Committee is looking at more venue options for the Midwest Junior Championships. RFP being developed by Amy for Midwest Junior Championship host application. Discussion regarding how population density might affect participation in Midwest Junior Championships if it moves to non-metro locations. Attaching the Midwest Junior Championship to other events (ie Great Bear Chase, Fat Bike Birkie) might motivate parents to attend in non-metro locations. **Decision was made to alternate between Mpls metro and other venues to keep the interest in the event high. The 2019 event will be at Wirth Park in Mpls.**
- The event also needs a Rebrand (new name):
Midwest vs Central
Junior vs Youth
Championship vs Festival
Suggested event name change (research still in progress): Central Youth Ski Festival
- Bonus points structure
There currently is a 50% point bonus for the two individual points races. In order to get more attendance at SkiX events which is identified as a highly needed developmental skill, we will have: **SkiX count for points as a third event (taking away the 50% bonus)**. Coaches would need to support the value of this event as well. We will go ahead with this plan after we analyze points to make sure three races with no bonus equals two races with a bonus. There is no intent to weight the weekend any heavier.

- Infractions for classic technique at Midwest Jr Championships (V-1 skating during a classic race observed by multiple course monitors):
 - 10 athletes were assessed a 15 second penalty
 - 1 parent protested (and later was ok with it and said we handled it professionally)
 - 3 parents agreed and were pleased by penalty (saw it as the event being well-run)
 - 6 no response
 - **We will adjust the rules as written for the Youth Cup to allow for time penalties at events. The rules currently only discuss carrying infractions through the season. This is a large administrative burden and needs to be reconsidered.**

5. CXC Youth Cup/Skiwerx Series

Skiwerx events are designed to be more introductory than Youth Cup events. Many geographic Skiwerx Series (MN, MI, WI) will feed into all-region Youth Cup. All Popular Events (marathons) will have Skiwerx Series events in the future.

We will formalize participation-based incentives for U10s in Skiwerx Series events, such as medals to all participants and certificates to all skiers that do a minimum number of events (probably four).

6. Dream Camp

U14 skiers who earned highest points are eligible for Dream Camp (top 8 spots, with a few declining, so top ten is typical). Proposal being developed to insure balanced representation from Michigan in addition to Wisconsin and Minnesota. More Youth Cup races are currently available in MN and WI. Skiwerx results might be used to find qualifiers, lessening the need for as much travel for athletes and their families. Will develop formal proposal for the future. This year, there were skiers from MN, WI and MI that qualified outright off of the Youth Cup points list.