



Pacific Northwest Ski Association A Division of U.S. Ski & Snowboard

(DRAFT) Board of Directors – 2026 Winter Meeting Wednesday, January 7, 2026 7:00pm Virtual via Zoom

Karl Wardrop welcomed all members to the PNSA board of directors for term 2025 – 2026 Winter meeting of the 2025 – 2026 PNSA board of directors @ 7:01pm

Roll Call: The following officers and directors were present at roll call. Karl Wardrop, Tim Durkin, Molly Dennehy, Malcolm Ash, Justin Rackley, Colin Quinn-Hurst, Mark Stapleton, Jeff Kray, Reitler Hodgert, John Rust, Courtney Altringer, Lily Eriksen, Karen Lundgren, Annie Elgee

Not present: Roger Root, Ron Bonneau

Claudia Yamamoto – PNW executive director

Gallery: Rob Cravens, Past BOD, Peter Leonard USSS Alpine Sport Committee, Pete Korfiatis PNSAA

A quorum was present per Article III Section 4 of the PNSA By-Laws.

Karl reviewed agenda and Malcolm Ash moved to approve – **all in favor**

2025 – 2026 PNW BOD Motion #19 To approve BOD minutes from January 7th meeting
Maker: John Rust, Second: Justin Rackley **Motion Passed**

REPORTS:

President: Karl Wardrop – currently seeing snow, and although there were several lost earlier events, many have been rescheduled or moved to areas with more coverage. PWNSEF had their annual appeal. You can still make donations via their website.

Vice President: Tim Durkin – Glad the weather has shifted. East PNW is getting some snow and hopefully that continues.

Treasurer: Malcolm Ash – Malcolm shared projected 25-26 Head Tax Income should all races come to fruition. Financials are right where we should be. All club dues and elite pass payments have been on time. For races that have been postponed, Malcolm has an estimated loss column (which is not a large amount of money currently). We bumped up SunCup with an estimated increase as we are expecting more athletes this year. Overall race income could be a \$15K swing depending on snow conditions and possibly additional races being cancelled or rescheduled. This is all absorbable as we are in a good cash

position currently. John Rust inquired about expenses we could possibly reduce to offset for low head tax receipts. Expenses are what they are, so we really can't reduce any to create a cushion. Worst case scenario is that we break even for the season. We could possibly reduce costs for our convention by dialing back there. P&L statement shared as well. Claudia added that we're doing quite well with our interest income. Halfway through the year we are at \$7500, and we could easily double that by some CDs. Our interest income budget is \$10,000, which we should exceed by year end. Karl added that we made a \$25,000 B-Net purchase at the beginning of the year, so that's also affecting cash flow. B-Net distribution has been good – especially for speed events. Rob has worked with all program managers to manage B-Net needs. Karl told Colin and Reitler they have access to B-Net as well for crowd management at Nordic races.

Secretary: Molly Dennehy – Nothing to report, just praying for more snow in the forecast.

Executive Director: Claudia Yamamoto – Adjusting and continuing to be fluid with race organizing and rescheduling. It's been important for daily check-ins to make sure races happen. Nordic has had a race already and TeaCup is coming up. We're hoping for more snow and continued good financial position.

Jeff Kray announced Alan Lauba's upcoming retirement. It would be great for anyone to reach out to him and acknowledge his long career and contributions to PNW racing, especially if you see him at the NW Cup at CMAC. Molly Dennehy will share a link to upload any photos you may have of Alan over the years, as CMAC is creating a slideshow for a surprise retirement party for him in May.

Alpine West Update: Justin Rackley – Race schedule is fluid with postponements/rescheduling as we wait for snow. Stevens being inaccessible from our big weather event was quite the challenge, but they are now dialed with alternate routes in. In December we lost the Mammoth, CA race, which Big Sky absorbed. And although they got a lot of snow, they were still able to pull off races. Races are now happening so that is good. Justin is tracking all emails from Bill Gunesch regarding the Western Region and they seem to be on top of pulling off races by shuffling as needed.

- **Calendar** – Calendar updates we've mentioned already. As we look ahead, Justin thanked Malcolm for walking us through potential head tax loss and emphasized the importance of understanding the impact. Weather is becoming more volatile, so we may continue to see a fluctuation from year to year on snow levels and racing opportunities. There's definitely more to talk about what we should do to better plan for low snow/shortened seasons.

Karen Lundgren mentioned a subject that was brought up last season – the U14 SuperG camp registration. It sold out in 24min, leaving 50 kids on the waitlist. We had discussed earlier about prioritizing second year U14s to invest in those kids as they take on more competitive speed racing.

Karl has referred this issue back to the ACC, and they are working on it actively now. Justin agrees it's something to be aware of and address this summer. Perhaps Katie and her

committee would put together a motion to address this. PNWSEF supports this project with funding, so they should be included in this discussion. John Rust agreed that this issue has come up the past 2 years, and we need to create fairness. Justin mentioned that last year's host mtn. was able to accommodate everyone. Going forward, maybe it will be an issue, maybe it won't be to have 150 kids with 50 on the wait list. The camp format is great, but depending on the resources, it could be challenging to accommodate 150 kids. Races that have been Cancelled: Russ Read, SPAC night SL, and NW Cup #1. For NW Cup #1, the executive committee took action, informed Claudia, and it was determined that neither Meadows or Bachelor could host, so they cancelled it. We did calendar pretty smart with 4 NW Cups. Because NW Cup #1 was cancelled, NW Cup #2 then became NW Cup #1, NW Cup #3 became NW Cup #2, and NW Cup #4 became NW Cup #3. Crystal added 2 extra GS races to their NW Cup for a set up of Sat/Sun SL, and Mon/Tues GS. A huge effort was made by Uros, Alan and CMAC to make this happen. Now just pray that the snow keeps coming!

Malcolm met with CMAC last Monday and everyone pulled together to get a fast-track GS homologation and permanent wiring for QuickSilver. Steve Maynard will be heading up there this Friday to get that measured and sent off to USSS, so it's set to go. It was a great pitch in by everyone.

Jeff Kray says it's promising that there's a lot of snow already and they are making more on QuickSilver.

John Rust emphasized the importance of giving kids as many chances to race as possible, and allowing kids that haven't had training (due to low snow at their mountain), the opportunity to get some early racing in.

Nordic Update: Colin Quinn-Hurst –

- **Calendar** – Similar to Alpine, we've been using our flexibility muscles in regard to the calendar. Our first qualifier was cancelled, but people came together to put on a race in BC. Although the Central Region had an alpine race the same weekend, Apex mountain agreed to host so kids were able to score and get a race under their belt. It was really cool to see everyone that came together to make a race happen outside the US. Rest of the calendar is the same for now. Tea Cup is coming up this weekend, which is a PNW cup. We have lots of kids registered, so it should be a fun one. There is talk of making it a junior national qualifier (JNQ2) in the future. As we look at calendars, should we choose a January weekend as a backup plan in the future. Jan 23/24 will be a super qualifier in Utah for FarWest, Rocky and PNW divisions. President's weekend will be a race in Spokane, and we will hold Kongsberger race the last weekend in February – it will be open to all levels. March 9-14 will be Jr. Nationals in Wisconsin.

We are getting summer camp info out to parents so kids can start registering. Colin also likes the idea of placing executive committee communication on What's App as it's a great tool for getting decisions made without a bunch of emails going back and forth.

Old Business : none

New Business:

- Rob Cravens gave an advisory on club medical plans and provided training on Stop the Bleed initiatives with PNW TDs. Many resorts have their own medical plans that are out of date and need to be reviewed. He noted that no one on the hill is permitted to administer first aid, other than ski patrol. TDs should look at a club's medical plan language to see if it needs to be updated to meet USSS standards, and then each club needs to update their plan accordingly. An idea came up to distribute Stop the Bleed kits to all TDs so there is a mobile one during a race in addition to kits stocked at the race start and finish. It is important to have heightened awareness around this. We're looking to develop a plan, especially with speed training, to have a stop the bleed kit in a pelican box and also teach coaches and athletes how to use it. This is advisory, but very important. Kids skis are so much more sharp these days and it's a risk, so we need to be proactive. Jeff Kray agrees whole heartedly that TDs should have kits. Lily Eriksen asked to consider a future policy where locations of stop the bleed kits will be announced and kits will be inspected before a race. It should also be a practice to discuss this at the team captains meeting. Rob mentioned that Kelly Brush has educational videos on how to use these kits. Karl will get this info out to all program directors.
- Claudia asked if as a board we could ask all clubs to have ski patrol posted at the top of their race venue for the entire race if this isn't already a standard.
- Karl addressed John Rust's earlier concern about impact of kids missing school due to the tight schedule in having to intent for races. Is there a way to minimize this? Ski areas want races to happen mid-week so as to minimize interruption/access of public availability on weekends. It's killing racing in the PNW, and doesn't help with retention in the older age groups as school attendance becomes more crucial at the high-school level. Don't know that there is much we can do.
- Pete Korfiatis gave an update on Bluewood. They will be widening Huckleberry to get homologated for SG and GS, and they are also working to get everyone up to speed on timing so they're dialed in to host races.

Karl Wardrop –

- Next BOD meeting 6-8 weeks from now for a quick update before convention. Karl will send an email out with date for the next meeting. Dates for convention are May 30-31, and we're trying to find an economical option in western Washington or western Oregon area.

2025 – 2026 PNW BOD Motion #20: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Maker: Jeff Kray Second: John Rust **Motion Passed**

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 8:15pm