

USOA SKINDIVING SPEARFISHING ANNUAL MEETING REPORT 25 July 2024

- 1. Election:** Scott Turgeon, Palm Beach Freedivers, was re elected as National Director – 2 year term
- 2. Rules** – There were 8 Rule proposals. None were approved, so the current 2022 Rules remain in effect. Proposals as follows:

Meeting Agenda Item #3.0 Skin Rules Changes Agenda

new or changes in *italics* or red, deletions are ~~lined thru~~

3.1. Change

Rule 3.7.2 Each competitor shall pay a \$30 International team support fee in addition to the normal entry fee. The hosting club or council will collect these fees and forward them to the Society Treasurer. [2005]

3.7.2.1 This fee will go to the USA world team for CMAS events on odd years and to WFSC in even years. Funds are used from the nationals the year before the world event.

3.2. Add

Rule 4.7.2.1 Scoring of National Championships covering two (2) days shall be calculated by percent (%) of first place individual's score for each diver on each day and then both day's percent's will be added together for a total 2-day score. The converted percent scores will also be used to determine Team standings. The exact method to be used is the same method currently in place to determine USOA's National Team as for the World Championships. [2020] This rule may be waived for special events with the directors approval

3.3. Change

Existing Rule: **3.2.1** The competing teams shall consist of three men or two women or a two person mixed team. [2003] However, at the request of the hosting council and the discretion of the National Director, the men's division may consist of two (2) man teams. [2022]

Proposed Rule: 3.2.1 The competing teams shall consist of **two men** or two women or a two person mixed team. [2024] ~~However, at the request of the hosting council and the discretion of the National Director, the men's division may consist of two (2) man teams. [2022]~~

3.4. Change dependent on approval of 3.2.1

Existing Rule: **3.7.1** entry fees shall not exceed \$300.00 per men's team and \$200.00 per women's and/or mixed team and includes the *USOA* National Entry Fee. **[2005]**

Proposed Rule: 3.7.1 entry fees shall not exceed **\$200.00** per men's team and \$200.00 per women's and/or mixed team and includes the *USOA* National Entry Fee. **[2024]**

3.5. Change/Add

Add to Rule: **4.2.2** In boat based competition, each team will be transported by one boat equipped with a motor. **At the request of the hosting council and the discretion of the National Director, two teams may request to share one boat.** **[2024]**

3.6. Change

Existing Rule: **7.9** The International Team Captains shall be chosen by the 4 diving members **[2022]**

New Rule: 7.9 The International Team Captains shall be **nominated** by the 4 diving members **and must be approved by the National Director and a majority of USOA officers** **[2024]**

RULES: ARTICLE IV
RULES GOVERNING SKINDIVING SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS
4.1 This event shall consist of skindiving spearfishing only; no artificial breathing apparatus will be allowed.
4.1.1 Competitors must be swimming in or under the water when the spear is used.
4.1.2 Every competitor must enter the water with a float and with a dive flag as/if required by relevant state(s) or national regulations. [2022]

3.7 New/Add to 4.1

4.1.3 It is recommended that divers operate in a one up-one down diving rotation and use direct surface supervision for 30 seconds after each dive when possible. **[2024]**

3.8. New/Add to 4.1

4.1.4 It is recommended that divers exercise proper weighting when possible. Proper weighting is positively buoyant at the surface and above 5 meters on a passive exhalation. **[2024]**

3. Competition Results:

3.1 Statistics

3.1.1.1 There were 86 competitors from 8 clubs/councils

FSDA

Kona Coast

Miami Freedivers

Mile O

Orange County

Palm Beach Freedivers

S Florida Freedivers

Tritons

- 3.1.1.2 It was a two (2) day tournament; each day a different dive site.
- 3.1.1.3 Location: Islamorada FL, about 20 miles south of Key Largo, off the tip of Florida.

3.2 Winners:

3.2.1 Divisions

1st **Men:** Palm Beach Free, *Palm Beach 1*

Mikhail Kuznetsov, Andrew Giest, Scott Turgeon

2nd Kona, *Big Island Boys:* Ryan Myers, Nicholas Bailey, Justin Lee

3rd *FSDA 1:* Drake Sweet, Mirco Zanella, Josh McCann

1st **Women:** FSDA, *Pochahantass* Melody Engle, Rosibel Molina

2nd Palm Beach, *Latinoless* Julie Higgs, Kirstie Serrano

3rd Mile O, *Icy Hot*, Tracy Wollschlager, Anna Hilton

1st **Mixed:** Tritons/*Beauty & Beast*, Miguel Guinovart, Lorena Causo

2nd *Jewfish*, Britney Brockway, Garrett Moss

3rd S Florida Free, *Love & Spears*, Lauren Sarasus, Jose Liccardo

3.2.2 Individuals:

1st Men – Mikhail Kuznetov – *Palm Beach Free 1*

2nd Men – Justin Lee – *Big Isle Boys, Kona Coast*

3rd Men Osmani Cuellar – *NHT APL #2, Miami Freedivers*

1st Women Rosibel Molina – *Poachahantas, FSDA*

2nd Women Brittney Brockway -*Jewfish*

3rd Women Lauren Surasua – *Love & Spears, S Florida Freedivers*

4.0 **2025** Update on 2025 National Championships: *Proposed* Friday, April 11, 2025 with additional day: Saturday April 12, 2025 for JAWS Youth Tournament – Rough and Game Fish. The host is NFSA; tournament at Lake Pleasant, Arizona, 43 miles NW of Phoenix which is located in SW Arizona. Boat based nationals based out of Pleasant Harbor Marina There is 10,000 acres of water, 116 miles of shore line with average depth of 70'. Daytime temperatures in 80s. Fish: striped bass, carp and shad – no limits.

Carol Rose, Secretary Skindiving Spearfishing Committee