

MNHSNSCA FALL MEETING MINUTES

Baker Park Golf Course, October 11th, 2025

Current Nordic Coaches Association Members: 87

2024-25 Nordic Coaches Association Members: 127

JOIN NOW TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION! IT'S IMPORTANT!

JOIN [HERE](#)

1. Meeting called to order 9:30am by President Andrew Hansen (Wayzata)

Executive Committee

President-Andrew Hansen (Wayzata)

President Elect-Chrissy Snider (MPA)

Secretary-Britt Guild (Minnehaha Academy)

Treasurer-Doug Cran (White Bear Lake)

2. Vendor Introductions

ULLA (wax company)-<https://www.ullasport.com/>

Pioneer Midwest-<https://pioneermidwest.com/>

- a. Pioneer Midwest Skiswap is Nov. 8th & 9th
- b. Structure Intro Kits available \$480

Enjoy Winter-<https://enjoywinter.com/>

- a. Noname apparel (coats, racing suits, training jackets/pants hats, etc.)
- b. andyg@enjoywinter.com or 406-581-6450
- c. New line of Atomic Skis

Gear West-<https://www.gearwest.com/>

- a. Gear West Ski Swap is Nov. 2nd

Out There Nordic-Bjorn @ outtherenordic@gmail.com or 715-234-7765

- a. Race services, equipment, and product offerings

3. Minutes from Spring Meeting approved

4. HOF Inductee Ceremony

- a. Andrew Hansen introduced and spoke about Doug Boonstra, coach for Eden Prairie and inductee into Nordic Coaches Hall Of Fame.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a. There were 127 Coaches Association members last year. The Association received \$10 per member for expenses.
- b. The Association has fewer dollars compared to last year at this time because of the extra expense for the Coaches Social in June and plaques given to ski shops who participate in the VCD Award.

Treasurer's Report 10/1/2024 - 10/10/2025

TransDate	Item	Desc	Amt	Bal	
11/29/2024	Deposit	Mobile Deposit 349672020	\$1,070.00	\$6,494.50	
3/18/2025	Awards	Check 5055 Reimb Jason - Academic Rec	(\$108.03)	\$6,386.47	
4/4/2025	Stipend	Check 5057 Andrew H Pres Stipend	(\$500.00)	\$5,886.47	
4/4/2025	Stipend	Check 5056 David P Pres Stipend (back pay - missed during Treasurer transition)	(\$500.00)	\$5,886.47	
4/14/2025	Deposit	Mobile Deposit 361580014	\$190.00	\$5,576.47	
4/28/2025	Awards	Check 5058 HOF Plaques	(\$293.96)	\$5,282.51	
6/24/2025	Food/Entertainment	Check 5060 Reimb. Andrew - Omni Reservation	(\$125.00)	\$5,157.51	
6/25/2025	Awards	Check 5059 Coach Rec. Plaques	(\$181.13)	\$4,976.38	
7/15/2025	Signage	Check 5061 Dunder Plaques	(\$225.00)	\$4,751.38	
8/4/2025	Food/Entertainment	Check 5062 Reimb. Andrew - Coaches Social Food/Drink	(\$557.63)	\$4,193.75	
8/25/2025	Deposit	Mobile Deposit 373207613	\$10.00	\$4,203.75	
Category	Deposits	Awards	Stipend	Food/Ent	Signage
	\$1,070.00	(\$108.03)	(\$500.00)	(\$125.00)	(\$225.00)
	\$190.00	(\$293.96)	(\$500.00)	(\$557.63)	
	\$10.00	(\$181.13)			
Sub Totals	\$1,270.00	(\$583.12)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$682.63)	(\$225.00)
Revenue	\$1,270.00				
Expenses	(\$2,490.75)				
Loss	(\$1,220.75)				

6. MYSL Update (Sarah Stendahl)

- MYSL Ski Swap (largest in North America) is Nov. 15th @ Base Camp by Fort Snelling
- Swap info @ <https://www.myxc.org/ski-swap>
- Volunteers are needed for the Swap event and receive first pick on the selling floor.
- Junior coaches are needed for teams around MN.
- A donation will be given to a high school team if the high school recruits 10 junior coaches.

7. Review of Proposals not passed by MSHSL in June 2025

- All three proposals introduced to MSHSL in June did not pass.
- Proposal of increasing the State individual qualifiers was voted down because:
 - MSHSL does not want to increase the number of participants at State (lodging is a concern). State meet managers also do not think the Giants Ridge State course should add more participants to the race.
 - MSHSL is concerned that other sports will ask for more State qualifiers.
 - MSHSL needs to hear a broader agreement for this proposal from AD's and regional officials.
- Proposal to have a Nordic code of ethics was voted down because:

- I. The proposal was redundant, confusing and difficult to enforce.
- d. Proposal for Video review for Jury was voted down because:
 - I. MSHSL is concerned that other sports will ask for video review at competitions.

8. State Format Committee Presentation

- a. Based on a survey sent last summer to coaches, it was identified that coaches' biggest concern was increasing the number of individuals who qualify for State.
- b. A State Format Committee was formed last summer and met to create a State Format proposal that addressed the concerns of MSHSL and not increase the number of overall State pursuit participants. Proposal [HERE](#)
- c. Several important points were addressed in conversation among coaches about the proposal and a different State Meet format:
 - I. Coaches were concerned that the proposal suggested one less skier at sections.
 - II. It was voiced that having a roster of 9 (4 pursuit skiers, 2 relay skiers, 3 alternates) did not seem like a convincing proposal since alternates are rarely used at the State Meet.
 - III. Coaches voiced their disappointment in how coaches and athletes were treated at the 2025 State Meet by meet managers. Athletes were told not to wear club apparel in cold temperatures and were yelled at to stand in the corral too early before the race. Coaches and athletes felt disrespected by those managing the meet.
 - IV. Complaints about the treatment at the State Meet were given to Charlie Campbell (Nordic MSHSL representative) by the executive committee at a post race meeting.
 - V. Andrew will follow up with Charlie Campbell for clarification about when and where wearing other logos besides school logos is appropriate.
 - VI. The executive committee will meet with Charlie Campbell soon to address the disproportionate power of the meet managers over coaches.
 - VII. It would be difficult to discuss having Nordic split into different classes (A, AA) when our participation numbers have decreased by 1,000 skiers in the last few years. In 2018, there were 5,148 skiers. Current numbers show we have typically 3,500 registered skiers. We have added two teams this year: Hillcrest & Waconia.

9. Vote on Proposals Presented at the Spring 2025 Meeting

- a. The State Format proposal from the State Format Committee did not pass (8 yes, 24 no)
- b. [Change voting threshold for proposals](#) (Andrew Hansen)
 - a. Having more coaches support a proposal at (75% +1) gives a more serious impression of the proposal and would then have a better chance of passing by the MSHSL. The MSHSL does not need to approve this proposal as it only changes our bylaws.
 - I. The proposal passed.

10. Accept Nominations for President-elect, treasurer and secretary

- a. Doug Cran and Britt Guild were elected again for the treasurer and secretary positions.
- b. Jack Collins from Bloomington Nordic was nominated for President Elect. Nominations can be submitted until the Spring meeting before the voting process.

11. Discussion/Vote on recommendation for sprint relay course

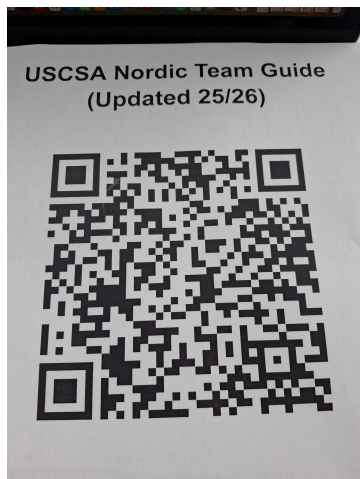
- a. Last year meet managers changed the spring relay course based on coaches recommendation.
- b. Coaches discussed and voted to be the decision makers for the State Meet sprint courses based on technique:
 - I. Classic Sprint Course-cat track
 - II. Skate Sprint Course-fairway
 - III. All coaches voted unanimously to have a voice in determining any changes to the sprint relay course and not having the meet managers solely responsible.

12. Update on COY awards process

- a. A new process for selecting COY was seen as important to help coaches have information about each nominee before voting. Most coaches do not personally know those coaches being nominated, and would like more information before making an educated vote.
- b. The process has not been solidified yet, so voting for COY for this season will be the same as previous years.

13. USCSA Update

- a. Scan this QR code to get college ski information to your skier and family:



14. Coaches Social Recap in Maple Grove

- a. 25 coaches attended with giveaways available.
- b. The social was able to be funded because the spring coaches meeting was virtual.
- c. If you have ideas for another location in the future, please contact Andrew Hansen. Alternating the location from the cities to out of Metro each year is a consideration.

15. Victor C Dunder Award Update

- a. Britt Guild, Brandon Burns, and Dave Johnson worked together over the summer to change the application process.
- b. Six candidates were awarded the VCD award from Minneapolis South, Cloquet-Esko-Carlton, Minnehaha Academy, Spring Lake Park, Bemidji, and Osseo-Park Center.
- c. Joes Sporting Goods has not been paired with a candidate. If you would like to nominate a skier, please contact Britt Guild at guildbritt@minnehahaacademy.net.

16. Association Scholarship Update

- a. Andrew has begun reaching out to companies and brands seeking financial assistance for a scholarship from the Nordic Coaches Association. If you have ideas in companies to approach, please contact Andrew Hansen.

17. Doug Edmonson Books & Historical State Meet Results

- a. Andrew Hansen recommended Doug's books about the history of Nordic skiing in Minnesota along with State Meet results dating back to 1930.

18. Racing Schedule Dates

- a. JNQ's: Dec. 13th & 14th, Dec. 20th & 21st, Jan. 17th & 18th, Feb. 14th & 15th
- b. Mesabi Invitational: Jan. 10th
- c. Loppet Invite: Jan. 10th
- d. ABC Relays: Jan 17th (tentative)
- e. Holiday Relays (TBD)

19. High School and Club "Collaboration Committee" revamp

- a. A collaboration committee is being revamped to help build a high school and club partnership and create common ground and focus on an athlete's goals.
- b. First meeting with coaches and club representatives via Zoom is **October 27th @ 8pm**.
- c. If you are interested in participating, contact Chrissy Snider at chrissy@sniders.net or (651) 399-7165.

20. Announcements from Coaches

- a. Andrew Hansen mentioned if you have a transgender athlete, please contact your AD in how to move forward. It is important to note that a coach does not have the authority to make decisions about participation and that it is a school's jurisdiction.
- b. It was reemphasized to become a member of the Nordic Coaches Association in order to be insured and protected from lawsuits. Contact your AD to make sure you are insured on school trips.
- c. John Wagner from Mesabi East invited other teams to join his team at Giants Ridge if you make a trip or if you need any other assistance for a practice, etc.
- d. John Wagner reminded coaches that if a middle school/JV athlete races varsity, that athlete is unable to compete at a lower level again. There are ways around this, but contact your AD to ensure your races are high school sanctioned races.

21. Q&A with Beckie Alexander (Washburn) and Todd Hohenstein (Ely)

- a. Coaches were able to ask Beckie and Todd questions about their programs, practice schedules, team building activities, coaching practices, and coach recruitment. Thank you Beckie and Todd!