



Cross Country NWT
Board of Directors Meeting
Agenda

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 @ 7:00pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87332845351?pwd=aY7yFNh1S1UganxPCDoBZxaKizo2g.1>

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Meeting ID: 873 3284 5351

Passcode: 631460

Attendance: Mike Vassal, John Stephenson, Ashley Coombs, Holly Hesk Jones, Sarah Pruys, Lisa McShane, Belinda Whitford

Agenda		Notes	Decision/Action
1.	Agenda - review and approve		Cross Country and Biathlon AWG trials added to AWG 2026
2.	Minutes - April 9, 2025 Action Items - April 9, 2025		Approved. Minutes have been added to nwtski.com
3.	Leadership Development	CC - Yellowknife - November 14-16 CC - Fort Smith - Dec 5-6 Coach Licenses Experience Records Officials Hub	<p>Sarah to recirculate CC course registration link, coach license link, experience records link. DONE.</p> <p>Sarah to look into list of people with coach licenses for 2025/26. DONE (thanks Holly).</p> <p>Sarah to put together email on new officials hub.</p> <p>See if your coaches have registered here: https://zone4.ca/register/Vmj7M5/report/Zxv3ky/</p>
4.	Draft Budget		<p>Sarah sent a draft budget to the executive, waiting on feedback.</p> <p>Post-secondary grants finalized and cheques sent out.</p>
5.	AWG 2026 (Lisa)	Head Coach Selection Policy 2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy 2026 AWG Athlete Selection Policy Team NWT Suit Policy 2026 Coach Selection Committee Cross Country and Biathlon AWG trials	<p>2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy</p> <p>Mike requested additional information be added to the 2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy policy about evaluating ski technique when temperatures are below the threshold.</p> <p>Belinda suggested athletes must pass ski technique standards if the secondary selection process is used.</p> <p>Sarah to take 2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy back</p>

		<p>to Head Coach for discussion. Holly to send a technique manual to Sarah for review and possible inclusion in 2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy.</p> <p>2026 AWG Coach Selection Policy Head Coach Selection Policy Approved. The deadline for applications will be October 15. Sarah to send out coach applications and policy to clubs for circulation. DONE.</p> <p>Coach Selection Committee Clair Littlefair, Holly Hesk Jones, Sarah Pruys</p> <p>Cross Country and Biathlon AWG trials John - Chief for both sports in 2008, during AWG parking lot was athletes village and tent for waxing. Demands won't be the same for trials, but they are significant. Potential problems: short, cold days which limits ability to delay outside trials. Biathlon needs safe storage space for firearms. Hay River has safe storage space, possibly slightly warmer days. If Sport North insists on both trials being held in YK, we will need additional help. Suggests TSOs write joint or similar letter to Sport North and Maca outlining challenges to host both in YK and positives of hosting biathlon in HR. Possibility to fly athletes to YK during January trial week, then bus/drive them to HR?</p> <p>Ashley - HR would likely need to bring additional volunteers to help run trials in Hay River. Noted additional capacity issues with trail maintenance.</p> <p>Belinda - YK will be very short on volunteers, hotels, etc.</p> <p>Sarah, John, and HR Ski Club and HR Biathlon to work on letter to Sport North/Maca on the above.</p>
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			<p>Sarah to ask Sport North if there is a policy coming regarding maximum tryout numbers.</p> <p>Team NWT Suit Policy 2026</p> <p>Lisa - previous suits have been white two pieces. Some athletes have purchased suits, so we don't have enough inventory for a full team. Suits need to be ordered by October 1 to receive them in time for AWG (includes picking sizes, one or two piece suits, etc), would need to order 18 for athletes plus extras. One piece samples didn't fit well, so two pieces might be better.</p> <p>Also need warm-ups for athletes and coaches. Race suits and warm-ups cost about \$350 each.</p> <p>Suggestion is to loan out race suits to use in future years, and allow athletes to purchase warm-ups if they would like (at 50%).</p> <p>Sarah, Belinda and Lisa to finalize details for suit policy.</p>
6.	Safe Sport (David)	Review of Safe Sport Policies Next Steps	<p>Sarah to check in with David about next steps for Safe Sport policies. DONE.</p> <p>Sarah to send policy suite to Belinda. DONE.</p> <p>John - When people sign up in Zone4 they have to check they agree to Nordiq Canada safe policies. Sarah to look into this. IN PROGRESS.</p>
7.	Club Funding (Vernon)	Club Events HP/TA Athlete Funding Territorial Champs	<p>Sarah asked if clubs would be okay with club funding applications going out earlier this year – there was agreement with this option.</p> <p>Lisa requested applications be based on previous years' costs.</p>

			Holly to discuss with Inuvik club about applying for club funding early this year. CCNWT to hold off on opening club funding until then.
8.	Meeting Calendar (Vernon)	October: Safe Sport November: AWG 2026 December: January: Strategic Plan February: 2027 CWG	
9.	Club News and updates		<p>Inuvik - Have snow (enough for snowshoeing)! Working on biathlon development. Biathlon looking at board training, specifically around gender equity.</p> <p>Hay River - AGM is Sept 24. Will start setting up biathlon as golf wraps up. Community Make the Connection event a few weeks ago, had a few new families sign up.</p> <p>Fort Smith - Just funded some new biathlon signs. Club cleanup is Oct 4, AGM is Oct 18.</p> <p>Yellowknife - AGM was in the spring (suggested other clubs consider doing the same). Board meetings have started. Purchased UTV with a trailer and flailmower. Lots of utility costs (new lights, appliances, building maintenance, etc). Lots of summer events on trails - Mud Run, Multisport Backyard Ultra, dryland training camp Oct 3-5. Chris sent a list of club events to Sarah.</p>
10.	Next meetings: October 22, 2025 @ 8pm November 12, 2025 @ 8pm December 10, 2025 @ 8pm		<p>Sarah to send upcoming meeting dates and meeting minutes to all board meetings.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.</p>