



Sport Development Working Group Summary Thursday, May 3rd @ 10:00 am

Desired Outcomes:

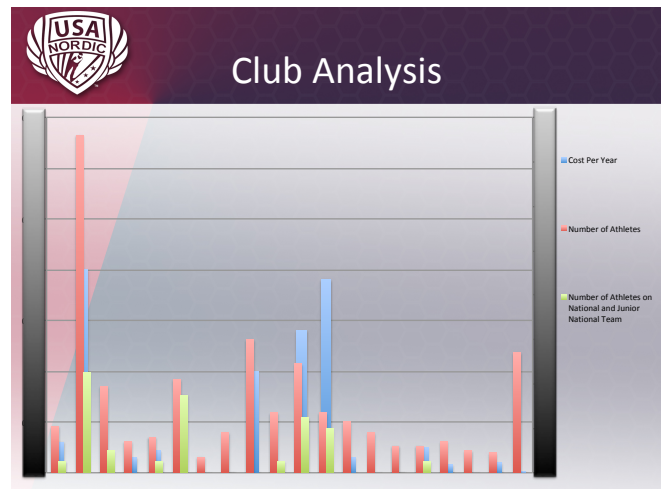
- A shared understanding of what has happened in the past year
- A shared understanding of the sport development goals and progress
- A shared understanding of the athletes pathway from U10 to masters
- A shared understanding of levels camps available to athletes
- A shared understanding of facilities upgrades
- An agreement to next steps for sport development

Topic:

Review Sport Development Report

- Athlete participation and growth
 - Shared powerpoint with group and answered questions
 - See Sport Development Report for total numbers
 - Numbers not included in report are shared below

Regional Breakdown														
U10		U12		U14		U16		U20		Seniors		Masters		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
East														
25	16	22	4	14	4	22	9	31	15	1	1	3	0	167
Central														
70	58	37	19	20	14	10	6	15	4	11	1	10	0	275
IMD														
11	4	8	2	2	4	2	4	5	3	2	2	0	0	49
RMD														
62	42	11	5	6	4	4	4	4	1	5	2	2	0	152
Alaska														
21	8	12	2	4	2	3	1	3	0	1	0	7	1	65



- Coaches certification status
 - Shared with group that coach growth is largely related to improved reporting, not specifically growth in number of coaches
 - Have seen continued growth in Level 100 certification
- US Cup Jr. Series Participation
 - Saw 2% growth after much stronger growth last year, but good to see continued growth and not a backslide especially after a slow start to the year with lower participation in January.
- Junior Nationals Participation
 - Consensus was that age groups are appropriate and happy with participation

Review Sport Development Plan & Matrix

- Briefly look at Sport Development Matrix
- Discuss prioritized goals for sport development
 - Feeling is that Tech Tips will remain important, but they don't need to be exclusively sport related
 - Address needs that coaches and parents share with us
 - Even more basic and entry level
 - More videos on equipment

- Use videos that clubs have and link to those videos if we feel appropriate
- Discuss goals for recruitment and retention
 - Not much discussion on this

Review Pathway for Athletes

- National Team athletes and coaches
- Junior National Team athletes and coaches
 - We need to have goals for this year to be able to compare outcomes to those goals at this time next year
- Fly Girls and Guys explanation

Discuss Women's Nordic Combined Plan

- Where are we at right now
- Where are we going?
- How do we get more girls at the U14 level
 - Feeling is that we now have a better pathway and numbers of athletes should follow
 - We see a significant drop off after U10
 - 128 to 32 athletes
 - Alan Alborn feels that is largely responsible to the social nature of girls sports, challenges with puberty, and more coaches education

Review Summer Camp Opportunities

- Junior National Team
 - Need to create pathway while as the same time still supporting clubs and it is still unclear where the line on this is.
 - Todd Wilson feels we need to work collaboratively and make sure that naming athletes does not hurt clubs
 - Clubs can coordinate camps for athletes who are not on the JNT to help share costs for trips
- Fly Girls and Guys
 - Athletes and coaches have submitted applications using the criteria established and we will be selecting both in the middle of May
- Junior Flyer Camps
 - Flyer for Central camp has been shared with Loomii list and athletes are signing up

Next Steps for Sport Development

- Are we heading in the right direction
- What are we missing or needs to be tweaked?
 - Still need more coaches and better club support
 - Engage retiring athletes
 - Provide pathway for coaches and application process for USANS trips can help with this
 - Continue to have more paid coaching positions
 - Emphasize what works
 - Share with the community how fun coaching young athletes is
 - Continue to involve parents even more
- What additional staff is needed?
 - Another JNT Coach specifically tasked with Nordic Combined and Women's NC

Action Steps:

- **Tech Tips and other video resources – Jed, Clint, Blake, Alan – 2 additional by Springer**
 - Equipment Safety check
 - Website navigation
- **Drills and training plans – Jed, Clint, Blake, Alan**
 - Visual Coaching is a possible platform
 - Work with Membership to determine club requirements for Visual Coaching
- **Coach Recruitment – Jed**
 - Continue to reach out to retiring athletes
 - Engage retired jumpers/NC skiers
- **Club Development – Jed and Kevin McAllister – Begin to develop resources in June**