



Stevens Creek Striders

## Minutes of the Board of Stevens Creek Striders

Date: August 7, 2008  
 Present: Peter (Chairman), Lina, Peggy, Mike, and Dave  
 Present by telecom: Robin and Gene  
 Location: Peter's home, Sunnyvale

- 1 A special meeting was called to discuss the rules for awarding the Steven's Creek Striders' (SCS) entry to the Western States (WS) for the 2009 event

### 2 Summary of results

Three votes were taken

The first vote was taken on the following question:

Should entrants to the SCS drawing being held in 2008 for the WS race to be run in 2009 be limited to those who entered the 2007 SCS drawing and lost?

Results:

Yes	1
No	5
Abstain	1

The second vote was taken on the following question:

Should the SCS drawing be held at the Clam Bake on August 24 or should the drawing be held on September 15?

Results:

August 24:	6
September 15:	1

The third vote was taken on the following question:

Should the entrants to the SCS drawing be required to meet the WS qualification standard by the time of the drawing on August 24?

Results:

Yes	7
No	0

### 2 Process

Prior to voting the board held a lengthy discussion. This was done to determine the relevant facts, discuss possible options, and allow board members to express opinions and provide reasons why various options should be taken.



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### 3 Facts

Although no formal stipulations were made the following facts were not in question except as noted. The facts are provided in rough chronological order of their occurrence, not in the order they were stated at the meeting.

The SCS drawing held at the 2007 Holiday party was won by Charles who gave his place to Jean.

The 2008 Western States was canceled because of fire.

All entrants to the 2008 WS are automatically allowed to run in the 2009 race. This includes Jean who has the entry won in the 2007 SCS drawing for the 2008 race.

WS asked SCS to consider not using their slot for the 2009 race, not the slot awarded in 2007 but the slot to be awarded in 2008.

SCS did not agree to give up their slot which is earned by running the Last Chance aid station.

WS also informed SCS that the name of the person using their slot must be provided to WS by September 15. (There had been some uncertainty that this would be true; however, from Robin's most recent contact with WS officials it is almost certainly true.)

WS will not be holding a lottery this year for entrance to the 2009 race. (This is believed to be true, but in any case if a WS lottery actually is held it will be after SCS is required to provide the name of the person taking its slot.)

The method of determining the SCS WS slot must be modified from the usual method for the 2009 race.

Questions concerning rules for the drawing from previous years were asked several times. For most of the meeting the rules were only discussed by memory, but late in the meeting the actual rules were brought up on the computers of Peter and Mike and also by Robin at his home. The rules have changed over the years, but the 2007 rules are considered the most relevant.

#### The Rules in 2007 were

We draw the winner from the hat. Any Strider who fails to secure a place in the Western States public lottery on December 8, 2007 may enter the Striders Draw.

You'll be allocated tickets in the draw as follows:

- Paid up member on December 8, 2007. 1 ticket
- Never won the Western States Strider Entry. 1 ticket
- Every year of helping at Last Chance in last 5 years. 2 tickets max
- Club Service (eg Board Member, Relay Captain, Station Captain) in previous 5 years. 2 tickets max



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### 3 Statements, Opinions, and Questions

The following is a summary of statements, opinions, and questions given during the discussion. They are not verbatim quotes and they are not given in the order they were made. Some of them are composites of several comments. Answers to questions are not provided because most of the questions were meant to spur thought and discussion, and the answers to those questions are dependent upon ones point of view. Questions asked that had answers not subject to opinion are covered in **2 Facts**.

The reason why changes to the rules are needed this year is because the 2008 race was not run.

The reason why changes to the rules are needed has nothing to do with the race not being run in 2008 but because SCS must choose who will use their slot before the normal December timeframe.

Because the 2008 race was not run only those who were entered in last year's drawing should be allowed to enter this year's drawing since the drawing is really for a slot in the same race.

Another reason why the rules must be changed is that WS is not holding a lottery this year so it is not possible for anyone to meet that criterion.

Because there is no WS lottery this year the only people who meet the SCS qualification to enter the drawing this year are those who were in the drawing last year since the lottery held in 2007 applies to the race in 2009.

In 2007 we had a drawing and Jean got that slot. The WS was not run in 2008, but Jean will get to run in 2009. So the 2007 drawing is over. Anyone who is qualified should be able to enter the drawing this year.

People who have gone through the very difficult process of applying for the SCS lottery which includes supplying evidence of meeting the qualifications to be allowed to enter the WS lottery should not need to compete in the drawing with those who did not go through that process. Waiting to learn if one gets selected in the SCS lottery causes a great deal of anxiety and often ends in disappointment. Those who went through that last year should not have to compete in the drawing against those who did not.

Why should the drawing be restricted to only those who lost in the drawing last year? Why not two, five or ten years ago?

Those who were in the 2007 WS lottery and in the 2007 SCS drawing all went through the entry process in 2007. No one is going through the process this year so



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no one has to do anymore work to enter drawing or go through any stress with a WS lottery this year.

SCS is given an entry in the race because of the work it has done for WS. The person receiving this slot should be a special person who has given a lot to the club. We should not be giving the slot to someone who did not go through the lottery process last year.

Everyone who entered the 2007 drawing for the 2008 race had a chance to win the drawing last year. One person won and everyone else lost. The fact that the race was not run in 2008 had no impact on those losing the drawing in 2007 because they could not run in the race anyway. The person who won last year's drawing gets to run in the race in 2009 so no one lost anything because the 2008 race was not run.

Do Striders need to be qualified to enter the drawing or should they be allowed to enter based upon their intent to qualify?

If SCS awards the slot to someone who has not yet qualified and that person fails to meet the qualifications, our slot will go unused or at least we have no reason to believe WS would allow us to provide a replacement.

We would be putting ourselves in the position doing the job of WS by determining who is qualified to enter the race.

Should those who lost the SCS drawing last year also have to show that they meet the qualifications this year?

It is not that difficult to determine if someone meets the qualifications.

It is getting late. Let's vote.

#### **4 The Vote**

It was decided that two votes should be taken, one to decide if only those who lost in the 2007 drawing should be able to enter the 2008 drawing and a vote to decide if entrants to the drawing had to meet the WS qualifications.

After the first vote was taken there was additional discussion as to whether the drawing winner should have to meet the qualification by the date of the Clam Bake or if they only needed to meet the qualifications by September 15 if we voted that the entrants needed to be qualified. It was suggested that a second place drawing winner should be determined in case the first winner failed to qualify. It was noted that there are no local qualifying races between the Clam Bake and September 15.

It was decided that a vote should be taken to determine if the drawing should be held at the Clam Bake or on September 15. That vote was taken, and it was



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followed by the vote to decide if lottery entrants had to show that they were qualified by the time of the drawing.

The votes were as presented in **2 Summary of Results**.

## **5 Additional Business**

Peter requested that Dave as Secretary run the drawing. Dave agreed, and Peggy agreed to assist.

The board agreed by consensus that anyone wanting to be reimbursed by SCS must obtain approval from the board in advance.

The logistics of the Clam Bake were discussed. Club member payments for the Clam Bake will be made at the beach. Help with the Rolling Aid Station will be solicited.

An informal agreement was made to discuss the rules for the 2009 drawing at a future board meeting.

## **6 Next Regular Board Meeting**

August 19  
At Peggy's  
Potluck