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AWS Womens Networking Meeting Minutes

Time/Date: 5th June 2023 Location: Big D, Hotham.

Present:

Angela Pope, Jane Scheer, Kylie Dwyer, Emma Christiansen, Acacia Rose, Kerri Dodd, Shea de Lorenzo, Simone Gibson, Stacey Harris, Rochelle Gilmore, Lindal Page, Elka Vasilevia, Malin Colander, Mel McCoy, Tanya Hart, Sarah Lyster, Tina Burford, Danielle Brook.

Secretary:

Jane Scheer

Meeting Open

Meeting was opened at 5:00pm AEST

Agenda Items

Agenda Item	Action
From the Chair:	
 L4 Scholarship program, offer to cover exam or some of the units that need to be completed- TBA with the Board 	
 Discussed & provided an outline of Mentorship program for women & men addressing Board's requirements. 	
 Post Natal day- an update day free of charge for women members returning from having a child is approved- TBA by Board 	
 Manual re-write aiming for 50:50 representation. Ange noted that the website is now tracking 50:50 representation. 	
 Ange gave a quick brief of Anne Schorling's Presentation at Interski re: Big Sky Resort Ski School addressing the problem of parents requesting a female instructor for their child now ask what traits do you want in an Instructor: We have male instructors who can offer those traits. 	
Open Floor to Members:	
 R.Gilmore brought up her experience of never having a female Trainer (role model) in Australia, she only experienced it once she started working overseas. 	

- S.Gibson raised the idea of Level 3 assigned as a Preceptor (American term???) which can help a member attain their L4. These preceptors can then move onto being Mentors.
- M.McCoy suggested APSI needs to look at the units that females are failing & try to address that with clinics or at Ski School level
- L. Page suggested that the men and women ski and look different and that should they be examined based on gender. A.Pope noted that that it is recognised that when comparing females skiing to males the picture can look different however the performance at the standards are the same. Examiners take that into consideration- & exam function over form.
- A question was asked how mentees will be attracted to the Mentorship program.
 S.Lyster explained it will be an application process, starting small as a test case model.
- K.Dodd asked how many female Rookies were inducted this year who may apply as a mentee? Answer was zero.
- However it was emphasised that the program encompasses male mentees also.
- L.Page suggested that females learn differently, so female only clinics are important.
- T.Hart made note that information on these differences would be worth giving to all trainers and instructors.
- Information on different ways men and Women communicate and think differently would be well worth investigating and having an expanded section in the Manual.
- T. Burford suggested that instructors don't need to be involved in a Mentorship Program, one can simply choose someone, male, female, old, young who one can approach someone as a "mentee" figure to help them, that the mentorship program.
- K.Dwyer suggested that the scholarship could be for any female who comes back to the industry- Allow The Post Natal Course for come back to the industry with a Free of Charge Course @ the Level.
- Someone asked can males be a mentor for women? She was advised that the MP will be a test case, and that it was up to the mentees to choose their mentor.
- **Ski resorts need to also be involved in the conversation.** Engage with Resorts to increase the female Rookies pool.
- Suggestion to AWS through APSI to make contact.

Suggestions

R.Gilmore: Networking/social nights during season, for all members not just women would be appreciated. When would these sessions ideally be held?

D.Brooks suggested that ski schools tend to give beginners to females and female instructors can get stuck in a rut of beginner lessons. How do we combat this?

T.Burford suggested if you feel this way, it's best to talk to your supervisor about whether you are stuck in a rut or whether it's the same for males too because the majority of lessons are for beginners.

Meeting closed

Meeting closed at 6:18pm