

# **Snowsport England Alpine Ski Committee**

## **Draft Minutes of meeting held at Swadlincote on**

### **Sunday 8 June 2008.**

The meeting began at 10 a.m.

Present: Gill Hall (Chairman), Tim Fawke, David Pyle, Peter Heath, Daz Fellows, Gillian Gilyead, David Manns, Steve Lambert, Muriel Ryding.

In attendance: Rob Robson

#### **1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

GH welcomed Daz Fellows to the meeting and thanked him for the work done thus far, particularly in publicising the Inghams Grand Prix events. GH also welcomed Rob Robson, new ESSkiA Race Secretary, attending this meeting as an observer.

Sally Cadman having retired as Secretary to the Committee, thanks were offered to Sally for all her work. Thanks also go to Guy Hornsby who has volunteered to take over from Sally as Secretary. The Committee will also be joined by the Athlete's Rep once the election has taken place.

Thanks also go to Sandy Telling for the considerable work he has done on behalf of SSE.

Formal congratulations were also proffered to Tim Fawke as SSE CEO. The Committee also recognised that a large part of the success of the England Squad is due to the work that Tim has put in as Head Coach over the years.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence:**

Ian Roberts, Hedley Beavis, Guy Hornsby.

#### **3. Minutes of meeting held on 8 March 2008:**

These were approved as a true record of the meeting and are thus ready for publication.

#### **3. Matters arising:**

- 4.1 Inghams: TF had investigated whether Inghams sponsorship could be doubled by Sportsmatch, but this is not possible for the current sponsorship arrangement as the scheme will not consider funding already in place. However by suitable structuring of sponsorship arrangements it might be possible to achieve this in the future.
- 6.2 Indoor CN MK: DM reported that the GB TD Forum had given their approval for seeding the event as two separate single-run races with an unchanged minimum penalty of 10.

## 7.4 Registration and renewal

TF confirmed that in a continued effort to encourage more people to become officials, no renewal fee (or indeed late payment fee) will be charged for registering as an official, although the renewal forms have yet to be amended to show this. **TF**

PH reported that there will no longer be a separate BASS seeding 'tick-box' as part of the registration/renewal, and also no separate charge. Board approval required. **PH**

PH reported that TD forum had approved a change to pay BASS registration fees only at end of season based on those who actually competed.

It was proposed at the previous meeting that the Renewal Fee be £33 at 1<sup>st</sup> November, then £48 for later payment. Board approval still required. **PH**

Logbooks no longer required, changes as detailed in previous minutes. Board approval still required. **PH**

8.3 GH read out the reply received from the racer in question and it was agreed that the matter would be considered closed.

8.4 DM has produced a booking form with prices, but the process still needs some clarification and someone to coordinate. It was agreed that this is a matter to be handled by ROTP. **DP**

8.5 CN league progressing well, although some issues with assigned clubs during rework of office databases, now almost resolved. The committee again offered their thanks to Pete Calvert for his work in working out all the results.

## 4. ROTP Report

### 4.1 Race Calendar

DP reported that letters requesting calendar applications had been sent out, including the requirement for Clubs and Regions to include their proposed CoR and RS with their applications to hold events.

The importance of fore-runners in aiding course setters was discussed, including the need for education of fore-runners about their task, and education of CoR about need to use forerunners suitable for the event. DM to circulate a note to TDs about talking to their CoRs about this subject. **DM**

### 4.2 All England Championships

DP reported that arrangements were progressing for this event. The Mini event will take place after the main AE race on the Saturday. The Inter Club on Sunday will combine the usual Inter Club race and an Open team competition. This will be followed by the GP knockout dual slalom.

GH announced that Arrows will be donating trophies for Open Club competition.

- 4.3 Alpine Championships : the dates were confirmed as 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009, and need to be publicised. DP reported that a new resort travel organiser had been appointed, who was putting together a travel package which would be announced as soon as possible.
- 4.4 Documentation : it was agreed that work to standardise race bulletins should continue. With so much information readily available on the Internet, much of the detail published in the bulletins is no longer necessary, and could be reduced to a list of references to other sources of information. DM agreed to co-ordinate with Denise Fletcher-Lance who had joined ROTP with the assigned role of managing Race Sec booklet and related publications. **DM**

#### 4.5 Training

It was agreed that further efforts were required to encourage more people to become involved as race officials.

Level 1 course – investigate possibility of making at least some part of this course available through e-learning, possibly followed by a practical demonstration during a race. **DM**

Level 2 course –it appears that much of the resistance to attending this course is the time it takes up, but DM confirmed that the course really cannot be reduced in length, and would not really work if broken into two separate days. It was agreed to pursue SL's suggestion to hold a course 'down South' so that attendees could do the 2 days without needing the overnight away from home on Saturday.

SL to investigate possible venues and costs. **SL**

DM to talk to IR about possible alternatives to 25/26 Oct already proposed. **DM**

A second level 2 course could also be held on a similar basis further North, although this would entail a further weekend to be given up by the already heavily committed tutors. No firm plans for this were proposed, perhaps alternating North/South each year would be better.

SL raised the question of the insurance status for Course Setters for club/regional races/training. It was agreed that we need a way of verifying / validating 'local' setters so that they can set and still be covered by insurance, even though they are not on any of our approved lists. TF to investigate how this could be done, perhaps by some way of 'recognising' regional-level qualifications. **TF**

- 4.6 Equipment : it was agreed that the budget needs to include push-to-talk radio mics x 9, and spare/replacement batteries and and a new charger for timing units **GH**

#### 4.7 Indoor Races

Congratulations were offered to IR and DM for their work as CoRs for AWIC and MK CN to produce two well-run races. Also to Xscape Race Team for their 'bravery' in holding the Club National at some financial risk to themselves.

DF reported on some of the differences in the race format for the Lions events, which may help decide on how to adjust our events in future. For example the use of separate courses for males and females/minis, the use of the opposite slope for run 1 and 2, and the total number of entries possible (latest MK Lions event had around 190 entries).

It was agreed that the race regulations would be changed to permit clubs to raise entry fee for indoor snow events to a maximum of £20, in recognition of the increased costs in running these events and the restriction on total number of entries. **DM**

It was further agreed to change the race regulations to reserve the right for the Race Organising Committee / Jury to select a subset of mini entries by ballot, in proportion to the number of boys/girls entered, to a minimum of 20 entries. **DM**

The method of applying the 'cut-off' for over-subscribed indoor Club National events was discussed. Although it was recognised that there were merits in applying a matching male/female seed-point cut-off, it was agreed that applying a cut-off in proportion to the number of male/female entries received would be perceived by the racing community as the fairest method. Race regs to be amended accordingly. **DM**

#### 4.8 All England

SL to liaise with coaches about decision on trophy winners. **SL**  
SL to liaise with Denise about recovering perpetual trophies. **SL**

### 5. Finances

5.1 Refunds : on average we are refunding about £100 per race, with larger refunds recently for events with 'capped' entries (AWIC and MK CN), perhaps £1800 in total.

Each refund for entries made through online system incurs charge twice (once for original payment, once for refund), so it was agreed that this cost should be recovered by deducting £1 per refund for those entries withdrawn before the closing date. **PH**

It was agreed that after the closing date only refund would be full refund but only with medical certificate.

5.2 Registrations : it was proposed to change the date for removing early renewal discount should be moved to 23<sup>rd</sup> October in line with Scotland. This would largely avoid the complete chaos that occurs at early-season races trying to cope with large numbers of racers who had not renewed in time. Board approval required for date change. **PH**

5.3 If we are no longer providing log books as part of initial registration, we need to clarify where the current income (£13?) is going so that we don't lose out (possibly reduce service charge?) **TF**

### 6. ESSkiA Report

6.1 GG presented report on ESSkiA activities.

**7. Alpine Squad Management Report:**

7.1 MR presented report on ASMC/Squad activities.

7.2 The Committee offered their congratulations to all the athletes selected to the Squad.

**8. STP Report:**

8.1 In the absence of IR, GH presented brief report from Derek Metters.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Athlete's Rep to ASC : TF stated that there were 2 candidates for the position. This will be publicised within the next week. The candidates will be asked to each write a short statement, and arrangements will be made to contact all athletes by email about voting. Election date deadline 27<sup>th</sup> July. **TF**

GH highlighted again that expenses can be claimed by committee members for travel, which would actually help to present a truer picture of the real operating cost.

GH announced that the England dry slope squad criteria and application will be published shortly. **GH**

Meeting closed 14:40

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Sunday 12 October 2008 - Swadlincote