

Alpine Committee Meeting

Sunday 30 September 2018 11:00 am

Sportpark, Loughborough



Present:

Bryan Thomas – Joint Chair (BT)
Lloyd Jenkins – Joint Chair (LJ)
Mary Calvert (MC)
Mike Frith (MF)
Andrew Hjort (AH)
David Manns (DM)
Nigel Vincent (NV)
Will Watkiss (WW)
David Chapman (observing)

By phone link:

Chris Shelley (CS) from 13:00

1) Apologies

Simon Bannister (SB)
Karen Conde (KC)
Paul Telling (PT)

2) **Declaration of Conflicts of Interests** Those present confirmed that there were no changes to their declarations of conflict of interest.
There were no safeguarding issues raised. LJ reminded everyone that the term “safeguarding officer” should be used rather than “child welfare officer”.

3) **Minutes from previous meetings** (agreed and published 10 July 2018)

4) Action points not on agenda elsewhere

- i **Rule clarification for the Inter-Regional event (DM)** - DM had circulated a document on this with proposed new wording (appendix 1). This was accepted and will be incorporated into the rules. DM confirmed that only registered racers are eligible to enter.
- ii **Submission of proposal to TD forum that BASS races at Landgraaf be increased to 3 runs so that 40 point category adder can be dropped (LJ)** - LJ will write a document which DM can take forward to the TD forum in November asking that this be trialled for the 2019 BASS races at Landgraaf
Action: LJ to send DM proposal for changing BASS races at Landgraaf to 3 runs in time for November TD forum
- iii **Setting up of Alpine Facebook page (MC)** - NV has set this up under the gbski logo. It will be used for notices but will refer back to gbski for full details.
- iv **Job description for Alpine Race Secretary for English Champs** Andrea Grant has this in hand – linked to delivering the upcoming Race Sec course.
Action: Andrea Grant to submit job description for Alpine Race Secretary

5) Alpine Committee Terms of Reference

BT confirmed that Andrea Grant has stood down from the full committee. She will still be acting as race secretary to the English Champs. With Peter Heath’s resignation at the last meeting, there are now 2 vacancies on the committee. These posts need to be advertised and then approved by the CEO/Board. BT will amend the current TORs to reflect the vacancies and write Job Descriptions for the two posts. The posts can then be advertised.

Action: BT to write JDs for the 2 vacant committee posts and submit to Tim Fawke

Once the TORs have been approved by the Board, the details can be added to the SSE website.

Action: BT to get confirmation from Tim Fawke that the TORs for the Alpine Committee have been approved

6) Finance

- i **BT** reported that the half year accounts are healthy. This is largely due to the increased entries to the English Alpine Championships. All expenses have now been submitted. The recent Lowland Championships are also likely to bring in a surplus. **BT** will check that all slope hire costs have been paid as this figure appeared to have reduced on the accounts.
Action: BT to check all slope hire fees for the 2018 season have been paid out
- ii **BT/LJ** will liaise to set the budget for 2019 to present at the November meeting
Action: BT/LJ to set 2019 budget for the November meeting
- iii **Race Entry Fees** In the light of increased TD expenses and slope hire quotes, a review of entry fees is needed. These have not changed for several years. After discussion, it was agreed that entry to indoor events should rise from £29 to £32 and for outdoor events from £22 to £24. For Club National events this is a guideline only. Clubs can decide their own entry fees. The entry fee per racer held back by SSE for Club National events will increase from £4 to £5. TD expenses are paid from this fee.
- iv It was emphasised that expenses claims must be submitted within 2 weeks of UK events and up to 4 weeks for overseas events with non-sterling items.

7) Bormio Update

DM reported that there will be a site visit to Bormio on the 22 October by LJ, Tim Fawke and Andrea Grant to finalise details of potential local and regional Italian funding. Following which it may be possible to set up a longer term contract with the resort. There are plans to establish links with the local ski club to provide the hill support crew at the event.

Action: DM/LJ to report on Bormio site visit at next meeting

8) Review of 2018 artificial slope races

LJ presented a report of the 2018 artificial slope season (appendix 2) and a chart of entry numbers (appendix 3). BSA provided successful sponsorship of the GBR series and All England Championships. They have indicated that they are interested in sponsoring again in 2019. The All England event at Silksworth was very successful and thanks were recorded to the venue for their considerable efforts improving the slope.

It was noted that, while general entry numbers were good, there was a drop in the older age groups – particularly the males. AH asked if separate sponsorship for the U21 and Senior groups might be obtained to try and encourage those age groups to continue in the competitions.

Action: MC to pass on the suggestion of separate sponsorship for the U21 and Senior groups in the GBR Series to Tim Fawke

Post meeting note – the chart of entry numbers has been updated to include races after 30 September

9) Calendar Planning/Update

NV had received bids from most slopes – but no dates have as yet been fixed. Following feedback from racers, parents and coaches as well as the Ambassadors Group, LJ presented some factors for consideration for the 2019 calendar. These included scheduling the Inter-Regional event later in the season, returning to the CN/GBR weekend format and avoiding triple header weekends if possible.

There was concern that, so far, the bids received for indoor events precluded using any slope other than Chill Factor. NV will contact the relevant slopes again and see if it is possible for the prices to be improved.

Action: NV to contact indoor slopes re proposed slope hire fees

Post meeting note: revised viable bids have been received from Castleford and Milton Keynes

The schedule for publication of the 2019 calendar is:

- GBR and Championships venues confirmed by 12 October
- COR/Race Sec/Chief of Calcs to be confirmed by 31 October
- CN bids to be received by 31 October
- CN dates confirmed with named COR, Race Sec and Chief of Calcs by 16 November
- Final calendar published by 30 November

Action: NV to contact sponsor of GBR series with details of race dates before they are put on general release

Snowsport Scotland has requested that the Scottish Indoor Championships be run concurrently with the Scottish Indoor GBR race. (The results for the GBR would be extracted from the Championship results.) The Alpine Committee had no objection to this although it will need to be discussed with Snowsport Wales before a decision can be made. (However, concerns had been raised during the summer over the experience of the organising committees for Scottish races generally this year.)

Action: LJ to speak to Robin Kellen regarding merger of the Scottish Indoor GBR race with the Scottish Indoor Championships

Ambition has submitted a request to run 2 Club National events in 2019. To allow fair distribution of seeded races and minimise calendar conflicts, it is accepted practice that no club shall be allocated more than one Club National race each season. It was not felt that an exception should be made. NV will relay this message to Ambition.

Action: NV to let Ambition know that no club will be allocated more than one Club National

10) GBR Series 2019

Unfortunately, there had been confusion over the exact criteria being used to award the GBR bursaries this season (as opposed to the trophies awarded for the series which are explained in section 4 of BACR IV). For 2019, the criteria for bursaries/prizes must be clearly stated at the beginning of the season. Any announcements should be seen by the Alpine Committee before being made public.

11) Feedback from Dry Slope Ambassadors

GC submitted a positive report from the Dry Slope Ambassadors Group (appendix 4). The meeting thanked him for his ongoing work.

12) Course Setting Update – SB

- i. Alignment of UKCP1 courses - SB had submitted a report concerning discussions taking place to formalise course setting within the coaching pathway. LJ had concerns over this and would prefer to see a separate SSE course setting course for artificial slopes. He will contact SB to discuss.

Action: LJ to contact SB regarding alignment of course setting courses

- ii. Course Setters List – There was agreement for Beth Widdup to be added to the A Course Setters' List. Concern was expressed that some others on the lists (both A and B) were no longer actively course setting. There was also one course setter who is missing from the list. MC will feed this back to SB for review

Action: MC to feedback to SB regarding course setters list

13) Race Officials– AH

- i **Accreditation and registration of officials** is progressing. However, the main problem is that registration as an Official, opting-in to the officials' log and completing the L1 on-line course are three separated, related, but not connected actions.

Action: AH to progress with alignment of registration/opting-in to Officials' log /completion of online level 1 course

AH has made good progress with logging of races for this season so should soon have a definitive list of Officials at Levels 1-4, Race Secretaries and Chiefs of Calcs.

- ii **Training courses** Several courses have been run including one at Silksworth for racers and parents. A commercial level 3 course has also taken place for Ambition. The costings and protocol for commercial courses need to be clarified. Race Sec and Calcs courses are being held at SportPark in October but other pathways for these need to be considered – the most likely being mentoring/observing. The on-line course and level 3 course still need some editing.

Action: AH to continue with edit of online and level 3 courses

- iii **Polo Shirts** Tim Fawke circulated some suggested designs for Polo Shirts – AH will forward these to the committee for approval.

Action: AH to circulate proposed design of officials' polo shirts to committee for approval

14) Items for TD Forum

DM will take two items forward to the TD forum.

- Lowering of the category adder for the BASS races at Landgraaf
- ERSAs have requested to be allowed to use a wireless signal from the finish beam to the timing. (This would be for any artificial surface race other than Championships.)

15) Update on Alpine Squad & Dryslope Ambassador Sub-Committee

CS reported that constructive discussions were taking place involving Tim Fawke, Ian Findlay, PT and CS. There are no conclusions at this stage but there is recognition of the need for considerable reform. A further conference call will be taking place in 2-3 weeks after which CS will circulate a summary to the Alpine Committee.

Action: CS to circulate summary of future plans for Alpine Squad before November AC meeting

16) AOB

- i. **Snow Equipment** – MF suggested that the Indoor snow banners should be updated to show current British squad members.

Action: WW to arrange for Indoor snow banners to be updated

- ii. AH recommended that those bidding to host races should provide the names of officials at the approved level of accreditation, who will act as COR, Race Sec and Chief of Calcs, as part of the bid. This should be taken into account when deciding between competing bids. He suggested that the club with the most fully formed hill team (also likely to be the club with a record of volunteering on the circuit) should take precedence and that clubs should be encouraged to share events in order to be able to put forward a suitable team.

Date of next meeting

11:00 am Sunday 25 November 2018 at SportPark

Actions:

4.ii	LJ	to send DM proposal for changing BASS races at Landgraaf to 3 runs in time for November TD forum
4.iv	Andrea Grant	to submit job description for Alpine Race Secretary
5	BT	to write JDs for the 2 vacant committee posts and submit to Tim Fawke
5	BT	to get confirmation from Tim Fawke that the TORs for the Alpine Committee have been approved
6 i	BT	to check all slope hire fees for the 2018 season have been paid out
6 ii	BT/LJ	BT/LJ to set 2019 budget for the November meeting
7	DM/LJ	to report on Bormio site visit at next meeting
8	MC	to pass on the suggestion of separate sponsorship for the U21 and Senior groups in the GBR Series to Tim Fawke
9	NV	to contact indoor slopes re proposed slope hire fees
9	NV	to contact sponsor of GBR series with details of race dates before they are put on general release
9	LJ	to speak to Robin Kellen regarding merger of the Scottish Indoor GBR race with the Scottish Indoor Championships
9.	NV	to let Ambition know that no club will be allocated more than one Club National
12	LJ	to contact SB regarding course setting courses
12	MC	MC to feedback to SB regarding course setters list
13 i	AH	to progress with alignment of registration/opting-in to Officials' log/completion of online level 1 course
13 ii	AH	to continue with edit of online and level 3 courses
13 iii	AH	to circulate proposed design of officials' polo shirts to committee for approval
15	CS	to circulate summary of future plans for Alpine Squad before November AC meeting
16i	WW	to arrange for Indoor snow banners to be updated

Appendix 1 (DM)

SSE Inter-Regional Competition

SSE Alpine 30-Sep-2018

Current Rules

8.1. Entry Criteria

8.1.1. All Regional Ski Associations currently recognised by Snowsport England are entitled to enter teams. Selection policy will be decided by each Regional Ski Association. Individual entries are not accepted.

8.2. Eligibility

8.2.1. The competition is open to teams representing Regions recognised by Snowsport England. Teams representing other Home Nation Governing Bodies (HNGB) may be invited into the competition.

8.2.2. All competitors within a regional team must be currently registered with one of the HNGBs as an alpine performer. Those competing for an English Region must be in membership of a Snowsport England member club affiliated to the Region for which they have been chosen to race.

8.2.3. Where competitors have nominated on their registration form a Snowsport England member club for artificial slope racing, they may compete only for the Region to which that club is affiliated. Any competitor wishing to change their nominated club may do so by following the procedure detailed in section 4.3.8.

Proposed Rules

8.1. Entry Criteria

8.1.1. All Regional Ski Associations recognised by Snowsport England at the closing date for entries are entitled to enter teams.

8.1.2. Teams representing other Home Nation Governing Bodies (HNGB) may be invited into the competition.

8.1.3. Individual entries are not accepted.

8.2. Eligibility

8.2.1. The BARTS list valid at the closing date for entries (the "applicable BARTS list") will determine all questions of HNGB registration or club affiliation.

8.2.2. All competitors within a team must be registered with one of the HNGBs as an Alpine performer.

8.2.3. Club affiliation will be based on the information published in the applicable BARTS list.

8.2.4. Any competitor wishing to change their nominated club may do so by following the procedure detailed in sections 4.3.8 and 4.3.9.

8.2.5. Regional affiliation for those competing for an English Region will be based on the region to which their nominated BARTS club is affiliated, regardless of the HNGB with which they are registered.

8.2.6. Those competing for a team representing a non-English HNGB must be listed on the applicable BARTS list as registered with, or in membership of a club affiliated to, that HNGB.

8.3. Selection

8.3.1. Where competitors are shown on the applicable BARTS list as affiliated to a Snowsport England member club, the Region to which that club is affiliated has priority selection.

8.3.2. Where competitors registered with a non-English HNGB are shown on the applicable BARTS list as affiliated to a Snowsport England member club, but they are not selected by the Region to which that club is affiliated, they may be selected to compete for their HNGB.

8.3.3. Selection policy will be decided by each Regional Ski Association.

Appendix 2 (LJ)

2018 Artificial Season Report

I have done a quick analysis of the entry numbers which is attached. It is pleasing to report that, in general, entry numbers have been sustained across the season in almost all of the events.

I have listed the highlighted the key points below:

Club Nationals

- Average entry numbers are higher for Outdoor Club National events compared to Indoor. This has been due to the loss of Telford and MSR CNs, and the introduction of an Ambition CN which did not have a high entry. The female entry numbers appear to be slightly higher for outdoor CNs whereas male entry numbers are similar for both indoor and outdoor CNs.
- U10/U12 entries are higher on outdoor CN events in 2018.
- The largest entries for Club Nationals were at Hemel CN and Midlands CN.
- The lowest race entries were recorded at Silksworth, for the Tigers CN and for the Ambition CN.

GBR Events

- When looking at the GBR events entry numbers are similar for both Indoor and Outdoor events. The Outdoor entry numbers show a 10% increase since 2017.
- U10/U12 entry numbers are similar for both indoor and outdoor GBR events.
- The largest entry numbers were at GBR Indoor 1 & 2, and GBR Outdoor 1.
- The lowest entry numbers were recorded at GBR Indoor 4 & 5 and GBR Outdoor 5 at Chatham.
- BSA were very active in supporting all of the events and I would like to thank them for sponsoring the GBR series in 2018 and am hopeful that they will continue their sponsorship of the GBR Series in 2019.

It is also clear that we have strong entry levels of U10/U12 at all events and we need to encourage this as it bodes well for future race entries if this is sustained.

It was encouraging to see a strong representation at the Inter-Regional Event at Stoke with 14 teams entering in 2018.

The All England Championships saw a healthy entry in terms of numbers and standard of racing for the event at Silksworth. The Slalom event had 96 entries plus a further 39 U10/U12s. It was also pleasing to see a reasonable entry of teams in the Inter Club and Open Team events.

Lloyd Jenkins

Appendix 3 (LJ)
2018 Artificial Season

Date	Event	Cal Code	Others				Club Nationals				GBR				Championships			
			Females	Males	Total	U10/U12	Females	Males	Total	U10/U12	Females	Males	Total	U10/U12	Females	Males	Total	U10/U12
14-Apr-18	SSW Slalom	C425	40	38	78	17												
15-Apr-18	Excel Race, Pembrey	C427	23	25	48	14												
21-Apr-18	Ravens Outdoor CN	C426					35	40	75	30								
22-Apr-18	Tigers Outdoor CN	C428					29	31	60	25								
28-Apr-18	Pendle Outdoor CN	C430					45	51	96	27								
29-Apr-18	NWSF Outdoor CN	C431					37	43	80	18								
05-May-18	Midland Outdoor CN Stoke	C435					70	71	141	37								
06-May-18	GBR Outdoor 1 Stoke	C436									65	75	140	36				
07-May-18	Inter Regional Stoke	C438			14 Teams													
12-May-18	GBR Indoor 1, Chill Factore	C439									43	78	121	46				
13-May-18	GBR Indoor 2, Chill Factore	C439									46	80	126	48				
19-May-18	Norfolk Outdoor CN	C442					43	55	98	22								
20-May-18	Vikings Outdoor CN	C443					42	52	94	32								
02-Jun-18	Ambition Indoor CN 1, Chill Factore	C447					22	27	49	16								
02-Jun-18	Twin Peaks Outdoor CN Fir Park	C448	38	49	87	72												
03-Jun-18	Twin Peaks Outdoor GBR 2 Hillend	C450									47	73	120	84				
09-Jun-18	Hemel Indoor CN	C452					49	85	134	40								
10-Jun-18	Milton Keynes Indoor CN	C453					40	65	105	33								
16-Jun-18	GBR Indoor 3, Braehead	C455									36	75	111	53				
17-Jun-18	Scottish Indoor Champs	C458													39	71	110	46
17-Jun-18	Gloucester Outdoor CN	C459					50	54	104	28								
23-Jun-18	Welwyn Outdoor CN	C461					45	49	94	23								
30-Jun-18	GBR Outdoor 3, Pontypool	C463									43	54	97	25				
01-Jul-18	GBR Outdoor 4, Pontypool	C463									40	47	87	27				
07-Jul-18	Chatham Outdoor CN	C466					35	44	79	19								
08-Jul-18	GBR Outdoor 5, Chatham	C468									35	43	78	18				
14-Jul-18	GBR Indoor 4, Chill Factore	C469									36	49	85	34				
15-Jul-18	GBR Indoor 5, Chill Factore	C469									32	52	84	39				
11-Aug-18	Anglo-Welsh Indoor, Chill Factore	C474													32	53	85	30
12-Aug-18	British Indoor Champs, Chill Factore	C475													38	58	96	34
25-Aug-18	All England Champs Silksworth	C478													43	53	96	39
26-Aug-18	Inter Club, Silksworth	C479															9 Teams	
01-Sep-18	Scottish Outdoor Champs, Hillend	C480													30	47	77	45
08-Sep-18	Welsh National, Pontypool	C482													33	39	72	24
09-Sep-18	Welsh Champs, Pontypool	C482													32	35	67	20
22-Sep-18	British Outdoor Champs, Hillend	C488													37	55	92	39
29-Sep-18	Ambition Indoor CN 1, Chill Factore	C490					26	37	63	18								
06-Oct-18	International Slalom, Kiltiernan	C491													29	40	69	25
07-Oct-18	Irish Champs Slalom, Kiltiernan	C491													29	40	69	26

Totals	568	704	1272	368	423	626	1049	410	342	491	833	328
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2018 Totals (Outdoor)	431	490	921	261
2018 Average (Outdoor)	43	49	92	26
2017 Average (Outdoor)	39	50	90	26

2018 Totals (Indoor)	137	214	288	107
2018 Average (Indoor)	34	54	58	27
2017 Average (Indoor)	30	52	82	36

2018 Totals (GBR Outdoor)	230	292	522	190
2018 Average (GBR Outdoor)	46	58	104	38
2017 Average (GBR Outdoor)	38	55	93	33

2018 Totals (GBR Indoor)	193	334	527	220
2018 Average (GBR Indoor)	39	67	105	44
2017 Average (GBR Indoor)	42	62	104	33

Appendix 4

Dry-slope Ambassadors Overview Report 30/09/18

Further thoughts & comments collected throughout the season.

Course Setting - Observation

Welcome courses being set by as many different qualified course setters as possible throughout the season. (Each brings their own thoughts & twists to the racing)

Chatham

Positive feedback from Regional / CN / GBR races – Welcoming club, good facilities with a great potential once the slope is totally complete.

Race Days

I think we could do more here, perhaps this is something the hosting slope could be made aware of at the outset should they require assistance during presentation then we can assist. (Helps to continue to raise our profile) – I will contact Race sec prior to race to discuss.

Training Day

August provides the only free weekends during the season within which to hold this event, & consequently we suffer a little from family summer holiday, having said that we had 16 athletes attend this year.

The event was held at Gloucester for 2 reasons commercial & accessibility.

A number of coaches from the circuit gave their time for free (Simon Bannister / Lee Pascoe / Adam Bloom / Rob Bullen) for which I am extremely grateful.

Paul Lewis joined us again to discuss sports psychology (ensuring different content from previous years to keep it interesting to those who have been Ambassadors for a couple of years) – A parent's presentation was also provided. A sensitive discussion was also held around the tragic death of Ellie Soutter, & the how we can all help one another, feelings, who to talk too etc

Ski – Tuning demo was provided

Media Presentation (do's & don'ts) was presented by Neil McQuoid

Team Building game - Outdoor laser quest

Skills / drills / techniques – video & coach feedback

Head to head team racing to finish

If approved I would like to prepare similar for next year, & get the date in the diary at the earliest opportunity.

Ambassador Reports

As with previous years after the exam period. Many of the Ambassadors took turns to write race reports which were passed to Gareth Vogan & subsequently published on-line. It wasn't something which was insisted, but many with a bit of coercing took up the challenge.

Ambassador Kit

The acceptance of our request for 1x long sleeve & 1 x short sleeve for next year is much appreciated. The current tops are being "well worn" & I believe with genuine pride during races, good to see Ambassadors constantly filling podium spots across both males & female & all age groups (including overall)

I will arrange next year's kit once next year's athletes have been identified.

Attendance

Very good with all but 2 athletes racing CN / GBR / Champs on a regular basis. The 2 who were unable to commit to this had advised me at the start of the season & continued to race regionally

GBR Series

Understood this is on the Agenda for this meeting

Indoor Races

Totally understand in the main these are governed by finance; however, these are definitely Manchester centric (at least 6 weekends) this year 1 x Mk & 1 x Glasgow. (if consideration could be given to this for next year it would be welcome)

General

Feedback remain positive from Parents about the Ambassadors; enquires & interest continue as to how you become an Ambassador

Unfortunately, Laurie Taylor was unable to join us this year, following the Olympics his commitments grew exponentially. We continue to keep in touch so hopefully at some point he will be able join us.

Irish Champs – Team Race

This year will be the first where the England A team will consist of all Ambassadors, good way to conclude the season (let's hope they can bring back the trophy once again!)

Summary

So far so good.....

Hope the above is of assistance, any queries please call

Gareth