

Alpine Committee Meeting

Sunday 10 February 2019 11:00 am

SportPark, Loughborough



Present

Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)
Bryan Thomas (BT)
Simon Bannister (SB) – by phone link
Mary Calvert (MC)
David Chapman (DC)

David Eaves (DE)
Mike Frith (MF)
Andrew Hjort (AH) – by phone link
David Manns (DM)
Claire Pennell (CP)

1) Apologies

Gareth Case (GC)
Karen Conde (KC)
Chris Shelley (CS)
Nigel Vincent (NV)
Tim Fawke (TF)

2) Declaration of Conflicts of Interests and Safeguarding

Those present confirmed that there were no changes to their declarations of conflict of interest. There were no safeguarding issues raised.

3) Minutes from previous meeting

These had been agreed and published on 8 December 2018.

4) Action points not on agenda elsewhere

- i **Job description for Alpine Championships Race Secretary** Andrea Grant has confirmed that she will be doing this.
Action: Andrea Grant to write job description for Alpine Race Secretary
- ii **Replacement Snow Banners (for indoor snow races)** These have been approved by TF. CP will ask Will Watkiss to arrange for them to be made. It was agreed that there should be 2 sets; one to be kept by MF for races at Manchester and Castleford and the other to be kept at Loughborough for races at Milton Keynes and Hemel.
Action: CP to ask Will Watkiss to organise production of banners for indoor snow races
- iii DM confirmed that he and NV were reviewing the possible use of the GB Snowsports online calendar for 2020.

5) Finance

BT confirmed that he would be gradually handing over the finance role to DE. The accounts for 2018 should be available by the end of February and, whilst the fourth quarter will be in loss as in previous years, the year's result will be very good. CP will liaise with BT so that the alpine accounts can be circulated to the committee. Good progress is being made on a three year agreement with Bormio for the Alpine Championships and a profit similar to 2018 is forecast for the 2019 event.

There is a need to increase entry numbers at the summer races. It is hoped that the new marketing appointee at SSE will be able to help with this. Sponsorship for the 2019 GBR race series and All

England Championships has not yet been finalised. Once this is in place, clarity is needed on how any bursary prizes will be awarded. This needs to be published well in advance of the first race on 5 May 2019. As yet, no sponsorship has been obtained for the British Championships.

Action: TF to confirm GBR and All England sponsorship and bursary awards asap

6) Bormio

DM provided a report on the upcoming championships – Appendix 1. Plans for this event are going very well.

7) Summer Races

NV had provided an update on the upcoming summer race season.

- i. NV confirmed that a SSW seeded race (not Club National) would take place at Gloucester on 8 June. He also confirmed that the Ambition CN at Chill Factore would be on 22 June (not 4 May).
- ii. NV requested that an urgent decision be made regarding the Friday night training slots at the GBR races. First refusal on these is usually reserved for the sponsor of the GBR Series. LJ confirmed that these training sessions would not be run by SSE but by one of the academies. However, a decision from the official sponsor was needed before other academies could bid.

Action: TF to confirm whether the potential sponsor requires the Friday training slot prior to the GBR races

- iii. NV provided a provisional list of officials for the GBR and SSE organised races. Several committee members volunteered for the vacant slots. MF asked that the Survey Monkey request for volunteer officials be sent out earlier next year. LJ suggested September so that the list of proposed officials could be considered by the Alpine Committee before the end of the year.

Action: MC to send the updated officials list for the SSE organised summer races to NV

Action: MC to ask NV to start process for volunteer officials for 2020 in Sept 2019

- iv. LJ reported that there was some doubt over the races at Snowzone venues (Milton Keynes and Castleford). He expected Snowzone to honour the existing agreement, however, if they can't, he suggested both races be moved to Chill Factore.

Action: NV to contact Snowzone for clarification of slope hire agreement

8) Perpetual Trophies

MC confirmed that she has a copy of the signing sheets for the 2018 All England, Outdoor GBR and Anglo-Welsh trophy holders with contact details. There is also a historical list of the All England winners. She will send these to CP so that there is a master list held by the SSE office.

LJ said that the signing sheet for the 2018 Indoor GBR series is held by Leasa Bullock. MC will contact her and ask for a copy. The British Outdoor Championships were organised by Scotland in 2018 and the British Indoor by Wales. Both events are being organised by SSE in 2019. MC will contact SSS and SSW for details of the current holders.

**Action: MC to contact Leasa Bullock, SSS and SSW for details of 2019 trophy holders
MC to send details of all perpetual trophies to CP for logging by SSE**

9) Course Setting

SB had circulated a report to the committee in advance of the meeting with input from PT.

- i. **.Course Setter Course Content** SB is producing the material for the course setters' course. He will share this with SSW and SSS who will also have input. The document will be then owned by the HNGBs. SB is focusing on the artificial slope content. PT will add any alpine content that is needed. This will be complete by the end of February.

- ii. **Course Setters' List** The current list includes SSE and SSW setters. SB is liaising with Iain Ramsey-Clapham who is finalising the SSS list. A single list for SSE/SSS/SSW can then be produced. This will then be logged onto the officials' database by AH.

Action: SB to provide AH with an updated Course Setters' List to be incorporated into the Officials' Database

AH asked that course setting records for the last few years also be added into the database to help with revalidation. DM said he could get most of this from gbski. MC offered to look up any other records manually.

Action: MC to liaise with DM for retrieval of course setting data from recent years

SSS have highlighted that the list is intended for artificial races (indoor and outdoor) only. It is not a list of alpine setters. It should be titled as such.

MF queried that the current Course Setters' Policy on gbski states that revalidation is needed every 2 years. SB confirmed that this was incorrect – it should be every 3 years. He will correct the document.

Action: SB to correct Course Setters' Policy document to state that revalidation was needed every three years

- iii. **Course Setters' Courses** Ryan Grewcock is planning two Course Setting courses. One will be held at Pendle and one at Chatham. (Kendal and Castleford have also asked for courses at their slopes but, at the moment, the numbers they have would not make a course viable.)

There was discussion on where course setting courses fitted into the various training pathways. SB would like to liaise with those running UKCP courses. CP will speak to Ryan Grewcock who can liaise with Mike Barker.

Action: CP to liaise with Ryan Grewcock/Mike Barker to enable SB to link with UKCP organisers

10) Alpine Officials

AH asked for confirmation that he could share the Officials' Log among the people listed on it. CP asked that he get permission from those on the list first.

AH reported that alignment between SSE and SSS officials' accreditation was ongoing. There needs to be clarification of what "add ons" are needed for officials in an alpine environment ie training for officiating at speed events.

11) Alpine Squad

CS has given notice that, due to increased work commitments, he will be standing down as Alpine Squad manager. BT recorded a vote of thanks to CS for all the hard work he has put into the squad.

The post will need to be advertised and, for that, a job description needs to be written. MC will ask CS for a summary of what the role currently involves and pass this on to TF, LJ and BT so that a job description can be written.

Action: MC to contact CS re summary of current Squad Manager role for TF, LJ and BT

12) Ambassador Programme

GC had submitted a report but was unable to attend the meeting. He confirmed that the updated & approved Ambassador Programme has been issued to Will Watkiss for uploading onto SSE website. All invitations for 2019 Ambassadors have been issued and accepted. A new design for the race tops and podium T-shirts has been agreed with the printers and an order placed for start of season availability. The August training day date will be confirmed before Easter.

CP asked whether a separate budget had been identified for the Ambassadors Programme. It was agreed that it should appear as a separate line within the Alpine Budget.

13) AOB

First Aid Cover at Races The question of first aid cover at race days has been raised again. This has previously been discussed by the committee (Feb 2018). Following that, DM contacted race organisers to find out their level of first aid cover and the cost involved. Unfortunately, the response was very low. Considerable discussion took place, both from the racer/official/spectator safety point of view as well as from the liability point of view. No committee member felt qualified to give a definitive ruling. The points raised will be sent to TF so he can obtain appropriate advice to issue guidelines.

Action: MC to send TF details of the discussion on first aid cover

Date of Next Meeting

Sunday 16 June 2019 at 11:00 am SportPark Loughborough.

Action Points

4 i	AG	to write job description for Alpine Race Secretary
4 ii	CP	to ask Will Watkiss to organise production of banners for indoor snow races
5	TF	to confirm GBR and All England sponsorship and bursary awards asap
7 ii	TF	to confirm whether the potential sponsor requires the Friday training slot prior to the GBR races
7 iii	MC	to send the updated officials list for the SSE organised summer races to NV
7 iii	MC	to ask NV to start process for volunteer officials for 2020 in Sept 2019
7 iv	NV	to contact Snowzone for clarification of slope hire agreement
8	MC	to contact Leasa Bullock, SSS and SSW for details of 2019 trophy holders
8	MC	to send details of all perpetual trophies to CP for logging by SSE
9 ii	SB	to provide AH with an updated Course Setters' List to be incorporated into the Officials' Database
9 ii	MC	to liaise with DM for retrieval of course setting data from recent years
9 ii	SB	to correct Course Setters' Policy document to state that revalidation was needed every three years
9 iii	CP	to liaise with Ryan Grewcock/Mike Barker to enable SB to link with UKCP organisers
11	MC	to contact CS re summary of current Squad Manager role for TF, LJ and BT
13	MC	to send TF details of the discussion on first aid cover

Appendix 1



Snowsport England English Alpine Championships Report to SSE Alpine Committee 10th February 2019



Team

The core part of the team is the same as previous events, but we have two new faces on the hill team (Gareth Case and Dave Chapman) and three newbies in the course crew. We now have two different FIS TDs assigned to us, both Italian, one is based in Milan so at least her travel expenses should be small!

We will also be assisted in resort by various people who are not part of the 'official' team but who are kind enough to offer their services during the week, including Georgina Kellen who has agreed (or been persuaded) to commentate for the full six days.

Local Support

We are still managing to make year-on-year improvements in the support we get from the local SIB (lift/hill company) team, this time we are including Dirk in email conversations which means we are getting quicker responses than was previously the case with Pasquale who is always extremely busy.

In a new venture this year we are contracting a group of six people from Sci Club Bormio to carry out course crew duties. The hope is that these will be more experienced at the process of maintaining courses as this is something they already do on a regular basis.

Programme

We have another packed programme this year, introducing another new element (a head-to-head parallel slalom) for the U10/12 age group, thus giving them three races where previously they have only had two. This does mean however that our resources are stretched very thin on Wednesday when we will be running a FIS slalom, U14/16 GS and U10/12 kombi on three different slopes at once.

Entries

This competition continues to be popular, and entry numbers are again high this year. At the closing date (Monday 4th) we had entries from GBR competitors as follows:

Group	Female	Male	Total
U10/12	50	74	124
U14/16	105	124	229
U18+ (FIS)	31	49	80
		Total:	433

This puts some pressure on the timetable for the U14/16 technical events (SL and GS) but with careful management this should not cause us any issues.

Travel

As usual the team will be travelling in several groups. One group will take the kit van out, one group of four fly out on Thursday to start the installation process during Friday, and the main group fly out on Saturday with a couple of stragglers arriving on Saturday.

There are some issues with the maximum weight that the kit van is allowed to carry; we believe these have been resolved for this trip, but we may need to explore other options for getting some of the heavier items out to resort next year.

Finance

With the high number of entries already received, it is clear that the income stream we enjoyed in recent years looks set to continue. There are a few additional out-goings this time, we have had to purchase a few items such as drills to replace worn-out ones, and items to be used during prize-giving, and the additional course crew is a new expenditure, but the ROC are still confident of achieving a healthy surplus from this event.

It is disappointing to report that the oft-discussed funding from local and regional sources will not be forth-coming this time round, despite assurances that an initial 'low key' bid would be looked upon favourably. Various excuses related to the possible hosting of the Winter Olympics in the area were quoted as the reason for not being able to process our request, but whatever the reason it just didn't happen.

However, we are continuing to apply pressure, and have not yet committed to signing a new three- year contract (2020-22). We have a draft contract approved by the SSE board, which we will discuss with the relevant people while we are in resort.

David Manns

Race Organising Committee

English Alpine Championships

07-Feb-2019