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NORDIC COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Nordic Committee meeting held by means of a telephone conference on **Tuesday 14th May, 2019 at 19:30.**

Present: Glennis Dore(Chair)(GD), John Anderson (JA), John Holgate (JH), Stephen Johns (SJ), Dagmar Junghanns (DJ) and Adam Pinney (AP).

Minutes Extract – Action

1596. Minute 1549, 1523, 1502, 1461 1479 & 1574 - The Wearing of Helmets. RG was unable to attend and there was no report.

Action RG

1597. Minute 1575, 1550,1524,1503, 1480 & 1471 - Cascading the latest Cross-Country Coaching Information. ...DJ said that she would check to see if there was anything that needed sending out prior to the update although there was nothing to cascade from this year's on-snow event. However, for the future, DJ said it would be very useful to create a new role for someone to collate information and to gather notes and images from workshops. The committee agreed to create this role and put out a general request to the clubs to put forward a volunteer for this role. GD offered to draft a role description to be sent out to the clubs.

Action GD & DJ

1599. Minute 1580 - The use of workplace training. ...[DJ].. said that the Coaching Panel would make further investigation into workplace training but would also have to consider how such a scheme would integrate into any new Home Nation unified scheme, and as a consequence there would be no immediate action on this topic.

Action DJ

1601. Minute 1583 - SSE Insurance. No report. RG to update committee.

Action RG

1602. Minute 1591 - Robert Hovey Trophy. GD said that she needs to arrange a date and venue to make the presentation.

Action GD

1606. There was some discussion on Cluster Meetings, what they are, and whether they replace the Regional meetings. GD offered to find out more about them.

Action GD

1607. Committee membership. GD will check if Mike Harrigan still wishes to be a member and that if not, whether Neil Salmon might replace him.

Action GD

1608. GD raised the topic of active snowsport participation at Club Level. ...GD will contact SSE office to get membership numbers the SSE systems if these are now available.

Action GD

1609. GD said that feedback had been very positive about all aspects of the course at Kvitåvatn... There was interest in an early season event and DJ said that Scott Dixon had offered to run one. DJ said that she will approach potential organisers to consider running both events.

Action DJ

1612. JA had some concerns about how few "Time to Listen "courses there are for him to renew his Club Welfare Officer post. ...GD said that she will raise this with the office.

Action GD

Apologies for Absence

1594. Apologies were received from Thea Wates (TW) and Mary Wray (MW).

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1595. In accordance with Minute 297 the minutes of the previous meeting were circulated to the committee. The committee authorised the approved minutes to be published on the SSE Web site in accordance with Minute 296.

Matters Arising

1596. Minute 1574,1549, 1523, 1502, 1461 &1479 - The Wearing of Helmets. RG was unable to attend and there was no report.

Action RG

1597. Minute 1575, 1550,1524,1503, 1480 & 1471 - Cascading the latest Cross-Country Coaching Information. The information to which previous minutes referred dated back to July 2017. DJ reported that she had not done anything recently but did not think that there was anything outstanding to cascade. The Coaching Panel produce an update once a year and DJ said that she would check to see if there was anything that needed sending out prior to the update although there was nothing to cascade from this year's on-snow event. However, for the future, DJ said it would be very useful to create a new role for someone to collate information and to gather notes and images from workshops. DJ said that she had someone in mind but that they had not yet been approached. The committee agreed to create this role and put out a general request to the clubs to put forward a volunteer for this role. GD offered to draft a role description to be sent out to the clubs.

Action GD & DJ

1598. Minute 1558,1559 &1578.- Unifying the Home Nations Coaching Schemes. DJ, GD and AP reported that they had met with RG to discuss this subject. The Scottish scheme includes performance whereas the English scheme is about technique. DJ said that SSS were keen on the SSE Cross-Country L1 & L2 as the foundation for any coaching scheme. AP said that during the meeting one the things that they talked about was separating the performance aspects from the technique training in L3 & L4. A further meeting is to be set up with Scottish representation so that ultimately all the home nations could access both England's development scheme and Scotland's performance scheme although at this stage DJ didn't know how this might be achieved. During the teleconference with RG, the view of the NC representatives was that SSE Nordic coaches are already coaching efficiently and effectively and, consequently, the addition of 'formal' qualification options to 'improve' coaching would be neither necessary nor desirable. There is to be ongoing discussions on the promotion of the sport with children and also discussion on the best way to involve the English clubs into progressing skiers through the coaching scheme.

1599. Minute 1580 - The use of workplace training. JH explained how workplace training worked in other SSE disciplines and how it could be made to work within the cross-country coaching scheme. DJ thanked JH for his explanation and said that the Coaching Panel would make further investigation into workplace training but that they would also have to consider how such a scheme would integrate into any new Home Nation unified scheme. As a consequence there would be no immediate action on this topic.

Action DJ

1600. Minute 1581 - AP said that he will continue to represent NC on GBSS. He has already done some work on selection criteria.

1601. Minute 1583 - SSE Insurance. No report. RG to update committee.

Action RG

1602. Minute 1591 - Robert Hovey Trophy. GD said that she needs to arrange a date and venue to make the presentation.

Action GD

Chair's Report & SSE Update

1603. In relation to the committee finances, GD said that there had been a loss of £867 for 2018 largely due to low participation numbers at 2 of the events. GD expressed thanks to the organisers of the events and for their efforts to minimize any potential loss as the end of 2018 is approached. GD had discussed with the Finance Director and CEO the difficulty of NC to make a significant profit to cover office costs from our relatively small number of events. A number of options were considered. Among them, at the last NC, the committee agreed to raise the cost of roller ski weekends in 2020.

1604. GD had also met with the CEO and Chairs of the other Committees and she reported that SSE will shortly publish more details on the new mission statement “Inspiring participation in Snowsport at every level” concentrating on improved participation at all levels and on the development of talent.
1605. The committee were reminded of the SSE AGM in June and that it is expected that NC will need to review its terms of reference this year.
1606. There was some discussion on Cluster Meetings, what they are, and whether they replace the Regional meetings. GD offered to find out more about them. Some Committee Members had already received invites and reported that a few of their Club members went to Regional/Cluster meetings last year.

Action GD

1607. Committee membership. Rupert Butcher is stepping down from the committee and it is anticipated that Martin Watkins will replace him. GD will check if Mike Harrigan still wishes to be a member and that if not, whether Neil Salmon might replace him.

Action GD

1608. GD raised the topic of active snowsport participation at Club Level but she had insufficient information to enable the committee to pursue a discussion. GD will contact SSE office to get membership numbers the SSE systems if these are now available.

Action GD

Feedback from Kvitåvatn

1609. GD said that feedback had been very positive about all aspects of the course, especially the coaching. There were 26 skier that had attended, of which 22 provided written feedback. DJ reported that the new track making machine had improved the tracks and they were more extensive than previously but ski hire was problematical. There were some suggestions for improvement from the participants, which are to be reviewed for future events. Both Kvitåvatn and Nordseter were considered as good venues, with no strong overall preference for either. There was interest in an early season event and DJ said that Scott Dixon had offered to run one. DJ said that she will approach potential organisers to consider running both events.

Action DJ

Other Events

1610. Confirmed events include:
Hetton Lyons - 24-25th August, 2019
Lancaster - 5-6th October, 2019
NW Telemark Festival at Manchester - 29th June, 2019 together with the
British Indoor Telemark Championship 30th June, 2019.

1611. The on-snow cross-country event will be in the first week of April, 2020: 29th March to 5th April, 2020. The venue is yet to be announced..

Safeguarding

1612. JA had some concerns about how few “Time to Listen “courses there are to enable him to renew his Club Welfare Officer post. He will have to travel and have an overnight stay to take part in the next available course. GD said that she will raise this with the office.

Action GD

Cross-Country Coaching Panel

1613. DJ said that work progresses with the Proficiency Awards. L1 and L2 are complete and this includes an update on skating techniques. Participation in the awards is increasing, especially in L1 & L2.

1614. A coaching course has been run recently with 3 skiers in L2, 2 of which passed and one referred on coaching.

1615. Scott Dixon has been fast tracked to L2 which was subsequently upgraded to L3.

1616. DJ was pleased to welcome Alison Raynes to the Coaching Panel. Alison will take over the role in keeping the records of the Cross-Country Coaching Scheme that Helen Bell previously carried out.

1617. On this year's Lancaster weekend there will be a Coaching Workshop. There will also be a L1 & possibly a L2 course on the same weekend. Revalidation opportunities will be also be available. On 20th October, 2019 there will be an Advanced Coaching Workshop for L3 in London run by Alan Eason.

Telemark Development Committee

1617. Once again JH had circulated his report in advance of the meeting and he highlighted some of the main points. The committee were very pleased to receive his excellent news that following major surgery and radiotherapy, JH was now beginning to return to normal life. He updated the committee on those skiers that are progressing their way through both the SSE and BASI coaching qualifications. He expanded on the on-line payments system which is working well for events like the NW Telemark Festival and race thanks mainly for the work done by Alison Raynes. On-line payments are not working so well for family groups membership.

Any Other Business

1618. JA reported on an introduction to roller skiing course with 19 adults and 2 children taking place over 2 months and 8 sessions.

1619. JH reported on the success of the UCLan roller ski sessions at Preston with 30 people at each session.

To Set the Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

1620. The next meeting of the Nordic Committee will take place on **Monday 22nd July, 2019 at 19.30 hr.**