

NORDIC COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Nordic Committee meeting held by means of a telephone conference on **Tuesday 3rd December, 2019 at 19:30.**

Present: Glennis Dore (Chair)(GD), John Holgate (JH), Stephen Johns (SJ), Dagmar Junghanns (DJ), Dominic Luck (DL), Adam Pinney (AP), Neil Salmons (NS), Thea Wates (TW). Ryan Grewcock (RG) attended as liaison officer for the SSE Board.

Minutes Extract – Action

1694. Minute 1661 - The Use of Workplace Training. - AP requested that use of the word "should" shadow in this requirement for Levels 1,2 & 3 should be changed to "encouraged to" shadow. RG offered to discuss ways in which he can help to support the process and to circulate material.

Action DJ & RG

1696. Minute 1663 - Coaches 3rd Party Insurance. Claire Pennell had said that she would add a statement to the website. Not yet completed.

Action CP/RG

1697. Minute 1664 - The criteria for the appointment of Tutors and Senior Tutors. There is a further need to refine it using the code of conduct received earlier this week and to discuss it in the Coaching Panel.

Action DJ

1698. Minute 1667 - Action Point Summary. This is still being reviewed.

Action GD & SJ

1709. JH said that work will start shortly on re-writing the Telemark Coaching Awards and addressing some of the problems encountered under the present awards. RG offered to assist.

Action JH & RG

1710. JH reminded the committee that there are only 2 Telemark tutors and only one for Levels 1 and 2. Again RG said that he will assist and discuss different levels of tutor.

Action JH & RG

1715. DJ and Alison Pawley will shortly begin writing the 2019 Coaching Update.

Action DJ

1716. DJ and RG intend to revisit the revalidation procedure to look at bringing it in line with other SE disciplines and BASI.

Action DJ & RG

1717. All the Coaching Awards syllabus are to be refreshed for their clarity and layout.

Action DJ

1718. The criteria for Tutors and Senior Tutors is to be examined to tie in with the Tutor Code of Conduct.

Action DJ

1722. Events - AP observed that both the Hetton track and the Hayes track have become rough and unsuitable for beginners. Some of the committee favoured use of the UCLan track which has a number of advantages over some of the others. GD to explore options.

Action GD

1727. Income Tax Forms - It was claimed [that] the [Lakeland] club is registered as an Amateur Sports club. This small club had made no such application SJ wondered if any other club had suffered in a similar way and he asked SE if they had any advise. RG...said that he would look into it.

Action RG

1729. The Army have run the British Cross-Country Skiing Championships for many years. In previous years GB Snowsports have authorised the Army to run it on their behalf but this year GB Snowsports have refused to authorise it. AP offered to write to Tim Fawke and ask him to resolve the difficulty.

Action AP

Apologies for Absence

1692. Apologies were received from John Anderson (JA), Simon Levene (SL), Martin Watkins (MW2) and Mary Wray (MW1).

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1693. 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 SE Web site in accordance with Minute 296.

Matters Arising

1694. Minute 1661 - The Use of Workplace Training. - DJ reported that this subject is for next coaching panel meeting. The Coaching Panel have already trialled shadowing and it worked well, so more can be made of this opportunity. AP requested that use of the word "should" shadow in this requirement for Levels 1,2 & 3 should be changed to "encouraged to" shadow. RG offered to discuss ways in which he can help to support the process and to circulate material. He distinguished between shadowing which is just watching and supervised hours where aspirants become involved with the session.

Action DJ & RG

1695. Minute 1662 - BDS insurance accreditation/CIMSPA. DJ reported that no action has yet been taken. The Coaching Panel say that they are awaiting input from SE, however DJ observed that the Coaching Panel has very limited capacity to implement this as well as all the other development work. RG was not aware of anything that needed to be sent out.

1696. Minute 1663 - Coaches 3rd Party Insurance. Claire Pennell had said that she would add a statement to the website. Not yet completed.

Action CP/RG

1697. Minute 1664 - The criteria for the appointment of Tutors and Senior Tutors. DJ said that the requirements have been drafted. There is a further need to refine it using the code of conduct received earlier this week and to discuss it in the Coaching Panel.

Action DJ

1698. Minute 1667 - Action Point Summary. This is still being reviewed.

Action GD & SJ

1699. Minute 1673 - Webinar. The webinar that followed on from the presentation by Barbara Grogan took place on 2nd December, 2019. There were about 10 attendees including representatives from snowboard and alpine. It was

recorded. Some actions and further information is to be circulated by social media. RG said that those from other disciplines joining the webinar had been inspired and really benefited from the experience. The committee agreed that webinars are a good way forward for cascading information.

1700. Minute 1677 - Posting of Athlete's Profiles. Completed. NS said that he will monitor and update profiles where necessary. RG said that he will promote this section of the website. Two of the athletes have been nominated for the Sport Aid Award.

1701. Minute 1683 - Tutor recommendations. Action completed.

1702. Minute 1684 - Tutor Code of Conduct. Action completed.

1704. Minute 1685 - Editable Telemark Awards. Action completed.

Safeguarding

1705. RG said that Bridget, who is the lead on Safeguarding, will be going on short time so that many of her duties will be covered by other members of staff. She will continue to field questions on Safeguarding and Safeguarding courses.

1706. AP reminded the committee that safeguarding course refreshers can be done on-line. It's only the initial course that needs to be done face to face. The safeguarding course is now a generic one in that it applies to all sport disciplines.

SE Update

1707. RG reported that the office has been busy with registrations but there has been problems with the system. However, most of this has now been completed. RG also said that there has been an increased amount of activity on social media recently with respect to Nordic.

Telemark Report

1708. In advance of the meeting, JH had circulated his report. During the meeting he highlighted the main points. These included news of the Manchester club's helmet policy and progress on the summer Telemark Festivals. The club's roller ski sessions at UCLan continue to grow with over 30 skiers at each session. This has means that more equipment has needed to be acquired. JH extolled the virtues of the programmes Member Mojo for dealing with membership and Participant for administering events.

1709. In answer to a question, JH said that work will start shortly on re-writing the Telemark Coaching Awards and addressing some of the problems encountered under the present awards. RG offered to assist.

Action JH & RG

1710. JH reminded the committee that there are only 2 Telemark tutors and only one for Levels 1 and 2. Again RG said that he will assist and discuss different levels of tutor.

Action JH & RG

Coaching Panel

1711. DJ said that there had been an instructor course at Lancaster and she had invited two of the aspirants to attend the event at Hetton as part of their preparation. They said that they had found it very helpful. There had been two coaching workshops, one at Lancaster run by Patrick Winterton and a higher level one at Redbridge run by Alan Eason, which included the revalidation of 3 coaches.

1712. The Proficiency Awards have been redesigned with the new logo together with a new certificate. These are about to be reprinted. There is also a new updated technical guidance for Levels 1 & 2. DJ is in the process of updating the remaining guides for the upper levels.

1713. Alison Raynes has contacted the instructors and coaches to ascertain their plans to progress through the coaching system and to assist with the planning of future courses.

1714. AP has completed an update of the course notes for Level 1 on snow and Level 1 roller ski instructors.

1715. DJ and Alison Pawley will shortly begin writing the 2019 Coaching Update.

Action DJ

1716. DJ and RG intend to revisit the revalidation procedure to look at bringing it in line with other SE disciplines and BASI.

Action DJ & RG

1717. All the Coaching Awards syllabus are to be refreshed for their clarity and layout.

Action DJ

1718. The criteria for Tutors and Senior Tutors is to be examined to tie in with the Tutor Code of Conduct.

Action DJ

1719. In the longer term, DJ intends to create a library of coaching documents. Members will be able to see all the documents but the public will also have access to some of them. RG said that he has already made a start on the compilation.

1720. Workplace Training - DJ repeated that shadowing has already started but said that it does not necessarily have to be part of an assessment. Another option is to do it as part of a coaching/training course, especially Level 1. This is to encourage skiers to use them as development as well as for assessment.

Chair's Report

1721. Budget - GD said that it had been amended to include a potential on-snow event towards the end of 2020 in Norway. GD said that she had now also budgeted for preparation of some new course material.

1722. Events - Nordseter is scheduled for the spring and there will be two skills weekends. The Hetton event in August, likely to be the Bank Holiday weekend needs a new organiser, as Alan Mitcham has formally stepped down from this role. Alan is looking to the Tyneside Loipers to provide the organisation of the event. The other roller ski skills event will be at Lancaster in October. As yet there is no organiser for the Lancaster event but JH has a person in mind. Another event at Leeds is also being considered as an option. AP observed that both the Hetton track and the Hayes track have become rough and unsuitable for beginners. Some of the committee favoured use of the UCLan track which has a number of advantages over some of the others. GD to explore options.

Action GD

1723. Army Coach Scheme - Discussions with the Army are at an advanced stage. As previously minuted, the civilian requirements such as safeguarding and DBS checks will not be needed. Further consideration will be made to translate an Army qualification to a civilian SE one when a skier leaves the Army. Army training is expected to begin next year.

1724. SE Mission and Vision Statement – The Board is proposing a revised Committees structure to enable the organisation to deliver against the new Mission and Vision. GD will meet with SE later in December to review the draft proposal, which includes elements of Nordic represented in other Committees, eg. the Coaching and Technical Committee will have responsibility for all disciplines. Participation in all the disciplines will be dealt with by another committee. The schools and university committee will operate in a similar way to the existing one. In addition to the single discipline committees there will be a separate one for Talent, again encompassing all disciplines.
1725. Recalling the experience of previous attempts over the years to increase participation, AP once again opined that increasing the number of events is unlikely to increase the number of participants. AP believes that increasing the number of events will merely spread our existing participants more thinly. GD said that she expected the new Participation Committee to be tasked with solving that problem while also looking at how to extend participation. DJ said that the quality of events ought not to be sacrificed at the expense of quantity. She also reminded the committee of the difficulty of getting enough people to run the events that we already have. RG echoed the view of not overextending event capacity.

Any Other Business

1726. NS said that the BNDS had organised the annual Barnaby Norman memorial race which had attracted about 20 young participants: from 3 year to 18 year old children. There are currently monthly training events taking place for the BNDS. All the racers with profiles on the website will be racing on snow this winter. 3 of them have already taken part in races in Bruksvallarna, Sweden. NS once again lamented the lack of funding for the skiers.
1727. SJ said that the Lakeland Club had been assailed with a set of income tax forms because, it was claimed, the club is registered as an Amateur Sports club. This small club had made no such application but HMRC would not accept the audited club accounts showing that it is a non profit making club. Instead the club treasurer has to make a full 11 page tax return. SJ wondered if any other club had suffered in a similar way and he asked SE if they had any advise. RG suspected that it may be something to do with the bank and said that he would look into it.

Action RG

1728. DL reported that the LRNSC has now planned its event calendar for 2020. GD reported on her attendance at the London Ski Show as part of the LRNSC

presence there. Over 200 people had participated in roller ski taster sessions but she was unable to say whether this would translate into new members at this stage.

1729. AP reminded the committee that the Army have run the British Cross-Country Skiing Championships for many years. In previous years GB Snowsports have authorised the Army to run it on their behalf but this year GB Snowsports have refused to authorise it. AP offered to write to Tim Fawke and ask him to resolve the difficulty.

Action AP

To Set the Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

1730. The next meeting of the Nordic Committee will take place by means of a telephone conference on **Tuesday 21st April, 2020 at 19.30 hr.**