

NORDIC COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Nordic Committee meeting held by means of a telephone/video conference on **Tuesday the 27th July, 2020 at 19:30.**

Present: Glennis Dore (Chair)(GD), Greg Bell (for MW1), Amy Gumbrell (AG), John Holgate (JH), Stephen Johns (SJ), Dagmar Junghanns (DJ), Alan Mitcham, Adam Pinney (AP), Neil Salmons (NS), Martin Watkins (MW2). Ryan Grewcock (RG) and Steven Metheringham attended as liaison officers for the SE Board.

Minutes Extract – Action

1775. Minute 1739 - British Cross-Country Championships. RG had spoken to TF about the problem with GBS and the Army Championships. Carried forward.

Action RG

1776. Minute 1745 - Go Ski Website Changes. Carried forward.

Action RG

1777. Minutes 1753 and 1754 - Telemark Coaching Scheme and Tutors. RG thought that some progress could be made on Tutors during the reorganisation of the committees. Carried forward

Action JH

1778. Minute 1755 - British Indoor Telemark Championship. JH said that the Championships had been cancelled for 2020 and that it too early to say what will happen next year. Carried forward.

Action JH

1782. Unification of the Coaching Schemes - RG will be in touch in due course regarding a working group to look at unification of the Nordic coaching scheme.

Action RG

1785. Alan Mitcham described the steps that Tyneside Loipers had taken to deal with roller skiing during the pandemic and the safe use of space within buildings and outside. Alan agreed to share that information and to update Alistair when planning the Lancaster event.

Action Alan Mitcham

1786. DJ offered to share her professional experience with Alan and Alistair of safe working practices for outdoor meetings under the pandemic.

Action DJ

1787. The pandemic has caused delays in rolling out the Army Cross-Country Coaching Scheme but GD hopes that roller skiing with the Army can begin later in the year with some on-snow work in February.

Action GD

1793. Virtual revalidation/refresher courses are awaiting roll out.

Action DJ

1795. DJ will contact clubs to enable them to make their own contribution towards the presentation [to Helen Bell]. RG suggested that Helen may be eligible for an SE national award.

Action DJ

1796. AP passed on a suggestion to the coaching panel that candidate instructors or those instructors awaiting revalidating could attend those venues where the coach is going to attend. The coaching panel agreed to discuss it.

Action DJ

1798. RG suggested that he could contact XC clubs to find out what activities they were going to engage in so that he could put that information on the website.

Action RG

1772. GD introduced Steven Metherringham who is an Independent Director on the SE Board. He thanked GD for the invitation to attend the meeting and he told the committee of his background and his role on the Board.

Apologies for Absence

1773. Apologies were received from Thea Wates (TW),

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1774. 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

1775. Minute 1739 - British Cross-Country Championships. RG had spoken to TF about the problem with GBS and the Army Championships. RG said that in view of the pandemic, pursuing this has not been a priority. It is understood that GBS is likely to make a decision on holding a championship for 2021 in September. Carried forward.

Action RG

1776. Minute 1745 - Go Ski Website Changes. Luke in the office is responsible for Go Ski and he has only recently returned to work. Again this has not been a priority because of the pandemic. Carried forward.

Action RG

1777. Minutes 1753 and 1754 - Telemark Coaching Scheme and Tutors. No action has been taken on either of these matters because of the pandemic. RG thought that some progress could be made on Tutors during the reorganisation of the committees. Carried forward

Action JH

1778. Minute 1755 - British Indoor Telemark Championship. JH said that the Championships had been cancelled for 2020 and that it too early to say what will happen next year. Carried forward.

Action JH

SE Update

1779. RG reported that Luke has recently returned to work and is currently on 50%. He will return to full time working next week. Victoria will return shortly on 50% and back to full time (3 days) next month. Sharron will also return to her part time work.

1780. There will be a new on-line meeting platform when the current GoToMeeting contract ends in August. A number of suggestions are being examined and RG

would welcome any suggestions from the committee on needs such as Webinars and on-line learning with clubs and coaches for the new platform.

1781. RG thanked the committee for feedback on the Terms of Reference. A draft of the Terms of Reference for all the Committees is going to the Board for ratification in August. The new scheme will involve a number of working groups across disciplines including some members from outside. It's possible that the new scheme could be in place by October.
1782. On unification of the Coaching Schemes, RG said that a unified Alpine coaching scheme has been agreed with the home nations. The unification of the Nordic disciplines will be more challenging in that the Scottish scheme is primarily performance whilst the English one is aimed towards development. The pandemic has delayed the start of working groups. However, RG believed that lessons can be learned from the Alpine process by looking at needs and starting with a blank piece of paper. RG will be in touch in due course regarding a working group to look at unification of the Nordic coaching scheme.

Action RG

1783. GD revived a question that's been well rehearsed by the committee over a number of years which is where Telemark sits within Snowsport England. Significant changes in the equipment, in the source of new Telemarkers and in the international position has directed Telemark, as a discipline, away from Nordic and towards Alpine. As on all previous occasions a decision was made by the committee that for the time being, on pragmatic grounds, Telemark shall remain under the Nordic Committee umbrella.
1784. Greg and Amy had attended a Club Matters Workshop and found it useful. More are planned to enable clubs to share ideas.

Chair's Report

1785. GD has had meetings with TF, with the Chairs of other committees and with regions to share information. She recommended to the committee the guidance documents which are on the SE website for returning to snow sports during the pandemic. Alan Mitcham described the steps that Tyneside Loipers had taken to deal with roller skiing during the pandemic and the safe use of space within buildings and outside. Alan agreed to share that information and to update Alistair when planning the Lancaster event. RG went on to detail some of the procedures required under the pandemic.

Action Alan Mitcham

1786. DJ offered to share her professional experience with Alan and Alistair of safe working practices for outdoor meetings under the pandemic.

Action DJ

1787. GD said that the SE AGM is planned for November. She will be required to prepare a report and she asked the committee to submit any photos to illustrate her report by early August. The annual on-snow event is still planned for 2021 in Nordseter and it will be around Easter time, exact dates tbc. The pandemic has caused delays in rolling out the Army Cross-Country Coaching Scheme but GD hopes that roller skiing with the Army can begin later in the year with some on-snow work in February.

Action GD

1788. For the annual recommendation for Tutors, the committee decided to roll over from 2020 to 2021 the names of the same Tutors.

1789. In response to a question from Alan Mitcham, GD said that there will be no coach assessment courses at either Hetton or Lancaster this year.

Telemark Report

1790. Ahead of the meeting JH had circulated his report to the committee. JH highlighted some of the main points and said that Chill Factor^e is expecting to open in August. It is not yet known whether the Manchester Club Telemarkers will be allowed in as a group in view of the limited space caused by implementing safety measures for the pandemic. Members of the committee discussed economics of the commercial indoor slopes and speculated on their future.

1791. Being a member of the Manchester XC club, JH reported on the problems of organising roller ski events, roller ski tours and the problems of handling equipment under the pandemic.

Cross-Country Coaching Update

1792. DJ reported that there will be no coaching courses this year because of the number of unknown factors due to the pandemic and the difficulty that there would be of having to change any arrangements at the last minute. However, SE roller ski events will be still going ahead, with focus on skills. DJ regretted that although the lack of a physical presence at a coaching courses may delay the progression of several skiers, it is planned to put in place a virtual revalidation/refresher course for later this year.

1793. Virtual revalidation/refresher courses are awaiting roll out. These have been designed to align with other SE programmes. Included will be a ski assessment and one to one discussion between the Tutor and the participant together with some workshops.

Action DJ

1794. AP & GD have joined the coaching panel and the panel are documenting their key actions and priorities over the next 18 months.

1795. DJ reminded the committee of the enormous contribution that Helen Bell had made to the coaching panel over many years. The panel are planning to make a presentation to her at Lancaster. DJ will contact clubs to enable them to make their own contribution towards the presentation. RG suggested that Helen may be eligible for an SE national award.

Action DJ

1796. AP passed on a suggestion to the coaching panel that candidate instructors or those instructors awaiting revalidating could attend those venues where the coach is going to attend. The coaching panel agreed to discuss it.

Action DJ

Any Other Business

1797. In the absence of other business, GD invited members of the committee to report on how Club roller ski activities have been affected by the pandemic. Although most committee members had been able to engage in some form of individual roller skiing, Clubs had to stop group roller ski events. The Rollerski.co.uk has restarted some limited roller ski events and been running on-line training. All Clubs are observing the guidance and planning to restart or extend their activities later in the year.

1798. RG suggested that he could contact XC clubs to find out what activities they were going to engage in so that he could put that information on the website.

Action RG

To Set the Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

1797. The next meeting of the Nordic Committee will take place by means of a video/telephone conference on **Tuesday 13th October, 2020 at 19.30 hr.**