

Snowsport England Ltd
Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting
4th June 2019
2.00pm SportPark, Loughborough

Present:

Jamie Horner	Chairman
Simon Levene	Finance Director
Morwenna Angove	Director
Natalie Dunman	Director
James Nickson	Director
Tim Fawke	Chief Executive Officer
Jan Doyle	SE Head of Development
Claire Pennell	SE Operations Manager
Ian Findlay	Talent Lead
Ryan Grewcock	Coaching and Workforce Lead
Luke Williams	Events and Campaigns Lead
Will Watkiss	Member Services lead
John Daines	North Staffs
Alan Jones	Honorary Life member
John Shedden	Honorary Life member
Martin Middleton	Bassingbourne
Hilary Whipp	Bassingbourne
Stephen Metheringham	ERSA and Ski MK Chair
Geraldine Elgy	Chair Midland Ski club
Kenny Walton	Chair Lions ski club
Lloyd Jenkins	Alpine Committee Joint Chair
Kevin Blanks	
Muriel Ryding	
Garry Ryding	
Zena Huelin	Member Director for election
John Greenwood	

1. Apologies:

Chris Stroud	Members Director
Elly Cockroft	Director
Ian David	Director
Crispin Vitoria	Director
Chris Exall	Honorary Life Member
Janet Kanalas	Member
Joan Evans	Honorary Life Member
Dave Ryding	
Jo Ryding	
Shirley Ryding	

Carl Ryding	
Stuart Robertson	SWSA Chair
Bryan Thomas	Alpine Committee joint chair
Morten Bringhmann	
Dave Braithwaite	

2. Chairs Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 2019 SE AGM and made the following remarks

Great to see to you all. Thank you for making the effort to attend.

We have witnessed some truly wonderful performances over the last year at all levels of the sport. Dave Ryding, a product, of course, of our talent platform has led the charge with another stunning season and it is apt that Dave and his family will be recognised with a Chair's Award today.

Success on the international stage fuels the interest that we must nurture and grow in all elements of our sport, however, to capture and develop emerging talent we remain indebted to the volunteers at all levels who work tirelessly to continue to create exceptional environment to fuel grass roots participation in our sport.

There is no better example of this than the continued success of the English Alpine Championships in Bormio. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to all of our volunteers for the invaluable on-going contributions that they are making to our sport. I am delighted that we will highlighting the achievements of Kevin Blanks today.

The composition of the SE Board remains very strong. Simon, Morwenna, James, Natalie and Crispin have all made significant contributions in their first year towards refreshing our brand and updating our Vision and Mission as we look to further increase the profile, diversity and reach of Snowsport England.

Simon has filled the large shoes left by stalwart Bryan Thomas in taking on the role of finance director. Bryan's contribution should be noted once again as, of course, should that of Mike Danbury, who unfortunately has had to step down a Member's Director due to ill health. We wish them both well and would also like to welcome Zena Huelin who we hope will be elected as Member's Director later this afternoon.

The SE Board is looking forward to continue adding significant support and expertise to our CEO Tim Fawke and his dedicated team as we all strive to continue to represent the very best interests of our sport and the SE membership.

I am delighted to confirm, as will be reiterated by our Finance Director, Simon Levene, that we remain on a solid financial footing. Sustaining levels of funding is a real challenge across the sporting spectrum. In a hard market we as a Board remain firmly focused on attracting commercial support to our sport moving forward. Our brand, vision and mission will play a key role in attracting support which is why they needed to be brought up to date.

There is always much work to do to ensure that we continue to meet the highest possible standards of Governance and also improve upon our commerciality and internal and external communication but I have the confidence, as do Sport England, that the right team of people are in place around Tim to achieve this.

I am confident that our organisation remains great shape for the challenges that lie ahead.

Thank you again and hopefully see you all here next year.

3. Minutes 38th AGM & Matters arising

The minutes of the 38th AGM were presented to the meeting

There being no questions on these minutes and they were duly approved.

Matters arising

Alan Jones – Facility Strategy – This paper was duly discussed at the board. Snowsport England continues to support slopes that are under threat and also engage with developers when new slopes are planned. However, we don't currently have the resources to develop a wider facility strategy as suggested in the document proposed by Alan Jones.

John Shedden - History of Snowsport England - We have recruited a student to complete a piece of work looking at the history of snowsport and Snowsport England. This work has just started and will be concluded in the Autumn.

John Shedden - Question on Branding and linking with BSS (Now GBS). This was suggested when GBS rebranded but was not followed up so we rebranded separately.

4. Annual Report of Snowsport England

TF presented a full overview of the organisation since the last AGM covering the highlights and challenges through 2018. TF then went through the key objectives for 2019 – 2020.

Please see [presentation](#) for further info

5. Members Director report

In the absence of the Member director JH went through the Member director report prepared by Chris Stroud.

Two Members directors – Chris Stroud (Midlands based) and Mike Danbury (Eastern based).

Unfortunately, Mike is not well at the moment but the report presented was from both of Member directors.

Mike has recently stood down due to ill health.

Board meetings

Attended all board meetings, plus a number of board conference calls

Coaching Conference

Attended the two days of UK Snowsports Coaching conference
Visiting variety of seminars, both on and off slope. Discussing sessions with members. Gaining feedback and views regarding the sessions, weekend as a whole and any other SSE matters.

Club Cluster meetings

Last year, attended Gloucester and North Staffs meetings. This year, hoping to visit Stoke, Gloucester and Rossendale

Attended 'Slide' UK trade show at Telford in January

Visit to CESA meetings (Local region)

Attended regional chairs conference call

Presentation to fellow board members regarding 'SSE History, background and structure'

Lapsed members survey, sent out by Will Watkiss – currently collating results from returns

Meeting with Victoria Stonehouse on new membership structure

6. Finance report

SL presented the 2018 financial accounts. The key points were;

- Full Financial Statements are posted on the Snowsport England website
- Abbreviated Financial Statements to be filed with Companies House
- No issues raised on Audit. Will be tendering for new auditors this year per policy
- Met objective to returning a small surplus for year, exceeding budget

- Sponsorship income has not met expectations; change of approach to gain a portfolio of mid-size sponsors
- Narrative on results provided in Annual Review, any questions please email office team

2019 – 2021 Budget and forecast

2019 so far

- Budgeted roughly break-even in 2019
- Very successful English Alpine Champs kicked us off to an excellent start and now expecting to return small surplus
- Positive results so far to sponsorship strategy however monetary sponsorship remains difficult to obtain in the current economy

Forecast to 2021

- Increased business effectiveness has managed reduction of grant to date
- Tipping point expected in 2020 with reduction in Sport England grant pushing us into deficit from 2020
- During 2018/19 costs were reduced without impacting services, however depending on future grant guidance services may need to be reduced
- Need all departments and activities to be in surplus

7. Election of members director

Zena Huelin was duly elected to member director role on the board which has a 3-year term

The voting was as follows:

For – 37

Against – 2

Abstain - 0

Zena was welcome to the board by JH and looked forward to her input in helping the organisation move forward.

8. Vision, Mission & new branding

TF went through the new Vision ***“Inspiring participation in Snowsport at Every Level”*** and Mission and the exciting plans that are in place for the organisation as we move into 2019-2020. This was alongside the launch of the new logo and branding for the organisation.

See [presentation](#) for further details

9. Chair’s Awards

The awards are there to reflect the Snowsport England's appreciation for the work done to help promote and celebrate Snowsports either as their job or in a voluntary capacity. These awards are not voted for and are awarded by the board at the exclusive decision of the board without influence.

The Chair's awards for 2018 were presented to Dave, Jo, Shirley, Carl, Muriel and Garry Ryding and Kevin Blanks for outstanding services to Snowsport England over many years.

Any other Business

Questions:

John Shedden mentioned in the new mission there was no mention of English skiers abroad and was this a conscious decision.

While we understood the point John Shedden made, as an organisation we would still be there for English Skiers wherever they are doing the sport. It was felt this wording was not required in the mission.

Stephen Metherringham – no feeling of belonging to a wider community and that if we are to get members / clubs to all work together there needs to be a feeling of belonging.

It was agreed that this was a key point and should be considered as we move ahead to deliver on the mission and vision.

Kenny Walton – Pro rata membership for indoor season only

There are challenges with this, but we would review and see if there is anything that can be changed to resolve this.