

# Alpine Committee Meeting

Wednesday 28 April 2021 19:00



## By Zoom

### Present:

Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)  
Bryan Thomas (BT)  
Sally Bartlett (SB)  
Mary Calvert (MC)  
Gareth Case (GC)  
David Chapman (DC)

David Eaves (DE)  
Andrew Hjort (AH)  
David Manns (DM)  
Julian Sambles (JS)  
Stephen Metheringham (SM)  
Tim Fawke (TF)

### 1) Apologies

Paul Telling has currently stepped back from the committee.

### 2) Declaration of Interests and Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues. TF announced that a new adult safeguarding policy would be launched soon.

All committee members are up to date with their Declarations of Interest and the Snowsport England website is up to date with photos.

### 3) Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting on 10 March 2021 had been agreed and published on 23 March 2021.

### 4) Matters arising from previous meeting not on the agenda elsewhere

- i. LJ confirmed that the Club National Series award would not be presented this season. He will send DM a bulletin for posting on gbski.

**Action: LJ to send DM bulletin on the CN Series award for posting on gbski**

- ii. LJ reported that, as yet, there was no progress with the missing trophies. It was agreed that, if this was the situation at the end of May, replacement trophies would be ordered.

**Action: LJ to monitor situation with missing trophies and arrange for replacements to be ordered if necessary**

### 5) Alpine Committee Membership

TF confirmed that the independent review into the issue which led to PT stepping back from the committee has now been reported. The committee expressed the view that the skillset which PT brings to the committee is very much needed. It is hoped that he will re-join the group soon.

### 6) Finance Update

TF confirmed that the Q1 accounts were not yet available but that he would send them through as soon as possible. A revised budget for 2021 will be produced when the delays/cancellations to races are clarified.

SM raised the issue of the £6 fee to Snowsport England from Club National races. He is concerned that races (particularly those at indoor venues) will not be viable if the fee is kept at this level. He asked for a review to be done on whether the fee could be capped – particularly for indoor races. LJ agreed that this could be looked at for 2022 once the costs for the slopes are known. It was agreed that clear documentation is needed to explain that the fee primarily covers TD fees, travel and accommodation as well as contributing to organisational costs.

**Action: i) LJ to consider possibility of capping the CN fee payable to SE (particularly for indoor races) in 2022 season**

**ii) TF to draft explanation of CN fee for publication on gbski**

## **7) Alpine Championships**

DM confirmed that the GBR calendar application for the 2022 Alpine Championships has now been submitted for the championships and that he is starting to assemble the team. The initial flight bookings have been made.

TF will be traveling to Bormio in the autumn and will confirm details of the Snowsport England contract with the resort at that time as well as look into outstanding sponsorship.

## **8) 2021 Summer Calendar**

- i. AH confirmed that most events were now moving forward. He is waiting to hear from Snowsport Scotland regarding GBR 1 & 2 at Braehead in June. If these cannot proceed, they will be doubled up with the Scottish events in November.

The Ambition/Excel Club Nationals at Chill Factore will probably still go ahead, although the logistics of running a race there during Covid restrictions are difficult.

It is hoped that by August events will be running more normally. Both GBR series will run although the indoor series may not finish until November.

AH is still awaiting confirmation of officials for the Snowsport England events.

- ii. DC asked if the seed point cut off for the All England Championships could be reviewed. He is concerned that racers currently without seed points may find it difficult to achieve 250 points this year because of the cancellation of several races. It was felt that there should be enough races for racers to have competed in at least one Club National but it was agreed to keep the situation under review.

DM agreed to review the seed list publication dates so that a seed list is published between the Rossendale Club National and the All England Championships.

## **9) 2022 Calendar Planning**

It had been hoped that the bidding round for 2022 would now be open. However, this has been delayed while 2021 is confirmed. A meeting will take place with the other Home Nations to confirm dates and avoid calendar conflicts. (The change to 3 outdoor and 3 indoor weekends should free time for other races.) LJ, AH, DC and GC will form the sub group to look at planning for 2022.

## **10) Officials and Officials' Training**

AH had circulated his report (appendix 1) prior to the meeting. He asked whether incentives to attract officials could be introduced. He also emphasised the need for officials to still be willing to act as gate judges once they have qualified at a higher level. Gate Judging is one of the most important official functions on race day and needs experienced volunteers.

## **11) Update from TD Forum**

LJ reported that there had been no TD meetings since the February calendar review. TDs have been allocated to all scheduled races. There is a Home Nations meeting on 30 April when it is hoped that it will be possible to confirm the Snowsport Scotland races.

## **12) Alpine Pathway and Alpine Squad**

- i. Squad meetings started in November 2020. There have now been 5 of them with 10 to 20 athletes represented at each call. Normally, there is a theme or guest for each one followed by a Q&A section. The guests have included Pat Sharples, Jodie Burrage (GB tennis player), Tim Fawke and Rachelle Rogers. JS gave a huge thank you to Rachelle for her help in organising and structuring these meetings as well as MC for taking notes and of course Ian Findlay for being the main lead on them and providing the info of what is going on. The feedback has been good and the sessions will only grow as the new squad is welcomed in June. There is a clear planner laid out so the sessions can be more prepared and structured around discussion points.

A one-day physical session is planned with the athletes in the autumn. Feedback is that early October or even early November would be most suitable.

- ii. 19 athletes have expressed interest in the Home Nations Alpine Pathway Programme. This includes 5 U16's and 2 U18's from England.
- iii. A questionnaire has been sent to all squad members. (This was compiled with help from Bridget Owens.) So far, 15 people have completed these - sometimes just the athletes, sometimes the parents (sometimes both). JS will share insight once it's all written up. This is proving valuable. Almost everyone so far is asking for more Super G!
- iv. There are 58 applications in total for the 2021-2022 Squad. The roll-over athletes will be confirmed on 30 April and communications will be sent to the new applicants. For new applications, a coach's nomination form will be sent out. So far, it is proving very difficult to find a facility where assessments can take place.
- v. Snowsport England have been accepted back onto the Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) programme. There are 8 places in total (across all disciplines). It will be a couple of weeks before it is signed off by Sport England but further details will be communicated as soon as possible.
- vi. The Talent Management Group has been recruited and will meet in May. JS will feed into this and report back to the committee.

**Action: JS to report back from Talent Management Group at next meeting**

### **13) Nastar Events**

JS asked if there was any progress on these events which Robin Kellen has started for Snowsport Wales. (They are being called National Slalom Awards - NSA.) DE confirmed that he had run 5 test events and has sent the information back to Robin Kellen. DE felt the format is very useful. LJ will contact Ian Findlay with further details.

**Action: LJ to contact Ian Findlay with details of the Welsh NSA events**

### **14) Dry Slope Ambassadors**

GC confirmed that all the Dry Slope Ambassadors from 2020 had had their roles extended to cover the 2021 season. He will write a bulletin for Claire Pennell to upload to the Snowsport England website. He will also arrange for race reports to be provided for the website. TF asked that these reports include a thank you to EOLA.

**Action: i) GC to write a bulletin about the dry Slope Ambassadors for the Snowsport England website**

**ii) GC to ask Dry Slope Ambassadors to provide race reports to Snowsport England**

### **15) Volunteer Recognition**

TF confirmed that he has drafted a document with Ryan Grewcock concerning volunteer recognition. He will share this with the Chairs' Committee and then present it to the Board. Once approved, it will be up to each discipline committee to decide how the policy will be applied within its discipline. Funding will need to be approved from within the discipline's budget.

**Action: TF to progress the volunteer recognition policy with the Chairs' Committee and Snowsport England Board**

### **16) Sponsorship**

- i. LJ reported that he had attended the link call with EOLA. They are continuing to support the GBR series. Once all the dates are confirmed, they must be sent to EOLA. All CORs for GBR events should also be informed of the need to promote the sponsorship. TF has sourced publicity material which can be used for the events. An approved script for the announcer at the GBR events as agreed between EOLA and SE needs to be produced.

**Action: AH to make sure CORs are aware of sponsorship details**

**LJ to ensure EOLA are given GBR dates when available**

**TF/LJ to produce an EOLA approved script for the announcer at the GBR events**

- ii. TF confirmed that EOLA were not exclusive sponsors. It was agreed that GC and BT will discuss ways of attracting more sponsorship and will present them at the next meeting. SB pointed out the need to explain to potential sponsors how taxes could be offset with sponsorship. DM offered to add sponsors' graphics to the gbski website.

**Action: GC/BT to present proposals for attracting sponsorship at the next meeting**

#### **17) AOB**

- i. JS asked for an update on Snowsport England membership numbers. TF did not have exact figures but said that numbers were trickling up and he hoped more people would join once races start again and more courses are being run.

**Action: TF to update committee on membership numbers**

- ii. TF has asked that Alpine provide an overview of racing at all levels for inclusion on the Snowsport England website under "Get Involved". LJ has agreed to provide this to TF for early next week.

**Action: LJ to provide overview of racing for the Snowsport England website**

- iii. GC suggested that an inventory of equipment be undertaken. It is currently split between GC (south) and DE (north).

**Action: GC and DE to liaise and do equipment stock take**

- iv. DM asked that the committee looks at their current TORs. It is felt that the remits as listed are much broader than currently being considered and it was agreed to discuss this concern at the next meeting.

TF also asked that the diversity within the discipline be looked at. He particularly highlighted support for disabled racers and improved accessibility.

**Action: MC to add discussion of the committee's TORs to the agenda for the next meeting**

#### **18) Date of next Meeting**

**The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 16 June 2021 at 7pm by Zoom.**

Actions:

|       |       |  |
|-------|-------|--|
| 4i    | LJ    | to send DM bulletin on the CN Series award for posting on gbski  |
| 4ii   | LJ    | to monitor situation with missing trophies and arrange for replacements to be ordered if necessary         |
| 6i    | LJ    | to consider possibility of capping the CN fee payable to SE (particularly for indoor races) in 2022 season |
| 6ii   | TF    | to draft explanation of CN fee for publication on gbski  |
| 12vi  | JS    | to report back from Talent Management Group at next meeting  |
| 13    | LJ    | to contact Ian Findlay with details of the Welsh NSA events  |
| 14i   | GC    | to write a bulletin about the dry Slope Ambassadors for the Snowsport England website                      |
| 14ii  | GC    | to ask Dry Slope Ambassadors to provide race reports to Snowsport England                                  |
| 15    | TF    | to progress the volunteer recognition policy with the Chairs' Committee and Snowsport England Board        |
| 16i   | AH    | to make sure CORs are aware of sponsorship details   |
| 16i   | LJ    | to ensure EOLA are given GBR dates when available  |
| 16i   | TF/LJ | to produce an EOLA approved script for the announcer at the GBR events                                     |
| 16ii  | GC/BT | to present proposals for attracting sponsorship at the next meeting  |
| 17i   | TF    | to update committee on membership numbers  |
| 17ii  | LJ    | to provide overview of racing for the Snowsport England website  |
| 17iii | GC/DE | to liaise and do equipment stock take  |
| 17iv  | MC    | to add discussion of the committee's TORs to the agenda for the next meeting                               |

## Appendix 1

### Alpine Officials' Training and Calendar Planning Report

April 2021

#### Alpine Officials' Level 1 Training Courses

I ran a seventh session, for Pendle, after the last meeting.

|                        | Club             | Attendees |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | Aldershot        | 12        |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb   | Welwyn           | 9         |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | Western Counties | 12        |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | Midland          | 15        |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> March  | Hemel            | 26        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> March  | SPSRC            | 13        |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> March | Pendle           | 12        |
|                        | Total            | 99        |

Feedback

Please follow link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-VLPBDN52/>

#### Task and Finish group for other courses

The following have agreed to be part of a working group for Hill Roles:

Jane Lee

David Eaves

Dave Chapman

Lloyd Jenkins

Stephen Metherringham

Gareth Case

David Manns

The next step is to plan a meeting and outline the courses as well as a timescale.

#### Other Courses

I suggest I create smaller groups to follow the same process for:

- Timing and Calculations
- Race Secretary

There is likely to be some cross over between groups.

#### Calendar 2021

This Friday we are due to have our 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Last Thursday, Lloyd and I had a virtual meeting with Chill Factor. This resulted in the Social Media post, earlier this week.

#### Calendar 2022

As soon as we have clarity for 2021, we can produce the material for 2022. I would like this to be done in conjunction with the work on training courses.

#### Snowsport England Registration System

I will be doing the minimum possible to keep my records ticking over until I have a definite indication of which functions will be taken over by the new system.

Andrew Hjort