

Alpine Committee Meeting
Wednesday 22 September 2021 19:00
By Zoom



Present:

Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)
Mary Calvert (MC)
Gareth Case (GC)
David Chapman (DC)
David Eaves (DE)

Andrew Hjort (AH)
David Manns (DM)
Julian Sambles (JS)
Paul Telling (PT)
Tim Fawke (TF)

1) Apologies

Sally Bartlett (SB)

LJ announced that Bryan Thomas has left the committee. LJ proposed a huge vote of thanks to Bryan for all his help and support over the last 5 years. His contribution has been tremendous.

2) Declaration of Interests

All declarations of interests are up to date.

3) Safeguarding

TF reported that there have been issues with the use of video evidence in appeals at races. If the video has not been taken with appropriate permission, then it cannot be used. It was agreed that a policy needed to be set up for this as, currently, appeals require video evidence. TF will draft a document which he will forward to DM for presentation and consideration at the TD forum on 6 November.

Action: TF to draft policy on video appeals and forward to DM for consideration at the November TD forum

4) Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting on 14 July 2021 had been agreed and published on 4 August 2021.

5) Matters arising from previous meeting not on the agenda elsewhere

LJ is still working on the overview of racing for the SE website.

Action: LJ to circulate racing overview to the AC as soon as possible

6) Alpine Committee

i. Terms of Reference - DM asked that the TORs be looked at. Currently they are very wide ranging and many areas are not addressed by the Alpine Committee. TF reported that he and the Board are reviewing the Snowsport England strategy in line with the new Sport England strategy "Uniting the movement" this will help to give clarity on the priority areas the committee will need to address. The committee will be consulted on the strategy in due course.

ii. GC asked that all actions have timescales put onto them to reduce the risk of items being rolled over repeatedly. MC will add this to the action list.

Action: MC to add time frames to the actions list

iii. Committee vacancies - GC submitted his resignation as SE Dry Slope Ambassador Team Manager at the last meeting and has since provided TF with a draft job description. The role will be advertised in the next 2 weeks.

MC has submitted her resignation effective from 31Dec – or earlier if a replacement is available sooner. She will send TF/LJ a draft job description within the next week.

Action: MC to provide TF/LJ with a draft job description for the role of secretary on the Alpine Committee

7) Finance Update

DE/LJ were pleased to report that, despite the race cancellations which had taken place this year, participant numbers were above those forecast in the budget for all races completed. Whilst there are a number of costs to include, the overall position for the races completed should show a surplus. DE feels that the team competitions (Inter-club and Inter-regional events) need to be made more appealing. One made a loss and the other just broke even.

DE/LJ will draft a financial statement for publication before the next meeting.

DE/LJ hope to have the 2022 Budget prepared and submitted for SE Board approval prior to the next meeting.

Action: DE/LJ to circulate draft financial statement

8) Snowsport England/GB Snowsport (GBS) targets

GC asked if there was any clear plan for working towards the GBS target of the UK being one of the top 5 Snowsport nations by 2030. (This is spread across all disciplines.) TF confirmed that GBS are working towards an agreed plan with UK Sport. This will be submitted before the Beijing Olympics but funding will very much depend on the results in Beijing. Any funding obtained will be directed by GBS to areas they feel will benefit the most.

9) 2021 Calendar

LJ reported that the Scottish events at Braehead in November (which include the final Indoor GBR race) have been cancelled. All perpetual and non-perpetual Indoor GBR trophies are already in Scotland. LJ is liaising with Niamh Barrie to arrange for these trophies to be returned and, after some discussion, it was agreed that the awards should be presented to the relevant racers by their clubs. The awards will be based on the results of the 3 GBR Indoor races already held.

Action: LJ to liaise with Snowsport Scotland about return of Indoor GBR trophies

LJ to arrange for notice to be posted explaining what is happening with regard to the Indoor GBR Series

10) Trophy Return

- i. All age group and team perpetual trophies from the Anglo Welsh/British Indoor, Inter-Regional, British Outdoor, All England and Outdoor GBR Series are with the 2022 winners or have been posted to them.
- ii. There are 5 special trophies. Three are awarded for overall improvement plus the two Arrow Zero OBARTS seed point trophies. (The latter two were awarded to Robert Holmes and Nicole Shering.)

Ann Bates Trophy – awarded to the most improved U14 – U21 female. It was originally awarded for artificial slope racing but more recently has reflected performance on snow. It considers BASS, IBARTS and OBARTS points. This has been awarded to Alexa Eliff.

Tim Reader Trophy - awarded to the most improved U21 male. This is primarily related to performance on snow and is based on FIS and BASS points. BARTS points may be used as a back-up. This has been awarded to Toby Case.

Atomic Trophy - awarded to the most improved male or female U14 – U16 racer. The award is principally based on artificial slope seed points. This has been awarded to Olivia Howeson.

Action: LJ to send DM an article for gbski about the 5 special trophies

LJ to let MC know how the unrepresented special trophies should be given to the winners

11) Course Setting

General concern was raised about the number of active course setters on the A and B lists. More Course Setting courses have been held this summer and have been oversubscribed. Part of the problem seems to be that many of those doing a course are doing so to enable them to set within their clubs rather than at races. PT has been encouraging registered racers to do the course. He feels that, once people are on the B list, the pathway for progression is fine.

12) 2022 Calendar Planning (see appendix 1)

The Home Nations met last week. For 2022, it was decided to run a GBR series similar to that planned for 2021. There would be 3 weekends for each series (one per nation) – with the last weekend to include the British Championship. The races will be held on the second and fourth weekends of the month – avoiding, for example, ESSKIA events. This should free up the maximum number of weekends for Club Nationals and Regional races.

AH is awaiting clarification from Snowsport Scotland about homologation of the Fir Park slope.

The bid document for races has been edited to make the form shorter. More details will be required if there is doubt over whether any necessary facilities can be provided.

A suggestion was put forward that a club medal table could be run for the GBR Series. AH will take this forward.

Action: AH to look into Club medal table for the GBR Series

The inter-club race at the All England Championships this year ran well. However, it was agreed that discussion needs to take place over the format. It was also recognised that some events for U10/U12 racers should be scheduled on the second day of these Championships. Clubs and racers need to be involved in these discussions.

Action: GC to contact the Dry Slope Ambassadors for their opinions on the inter-club event and an U10/U12 event on day 2 of the All England

LJ to liaise with Zena Huelin and ask if she can do a race survey in the next few weeks

13) Volunteer Recognition and Sponsorship

There was further discussion on volunteer recognition and how it could be funded. It was suggested that reduced entry fees for officials' children might be considered. There was also a suggestion that low seed point racers might be offered reduced entry fees to some races to encourage others to enter. LJ and DE will look into this.

Action: LJ/DE to consider cost implications of offering reduced entry fees to some racers/officials

TF will be meeting with EOLA before Christmas and will ask whether they may be able to help with sponsorship of officials' clothing. He will also ask what extra support they could provide at races. AH suggested further sponsors could be brought in – as long as they do not conflict with EOLA.

Action: TF to discuss other sponsorship possibilities with EOLA

It was agreed that GC and TF would look at sponsorship options generally. (PT was persuaded to input to this – but he was very concerned not to have a conflict of interest.)

Action: GC/TF to look into general sponsorship opportunities

14) Officials and Officials' Training Update (see appendix 1)

AH reported that the Officials' Pathway had been published 2 months ago.

It was agreed by all that courses should continue to be held on Zoom

15) Update from the TD Forum

There was nothing to report from the TD forum. The next meeting is 6/7 November.

16) Talent Management Group Report (including the Alpine Squad)

JS reported that Squad Zoom calls have been taking place on a monthly basis. There have been 2 donations to the squad. S Metheringham has donated a talk from Vicky Gosling and Chill Factore have donated £562 from the profits from a race.

He confirmed that, for next year (when there will hopefully be far fewer problems due to Covid), the squad selection criteria will be tightened. These will be ready for November.

PT asked if someone would be on the British Children's Team selection call on behalf of Snowsport England. JS will talk to Ian Findlay about this and follow up with Juliette Foster.

Action: JS to follow up on upcoming GB Children's team selection

17) Dry Slope Ambassadors

There was nothing to report from the Dry Slope Ambassadors' group.

18) Alpine Championships

DM reported that the team for the Alpine Championships would be finalised in the next month. Flights have been booked.

19) AOB

There was nothing raised.

20) Date of next Meeting

**The next meeting will take place by Zoom on
Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 7pm**

Actions:

			Completion date
3	TF	to draft policy on video appeals and forward to DM for consideration at the November TD forum	before TD meeting on 6 Nov
5	LJ	to circulate racing overview to the AC as soon as possible	before meeting on 24 Nov
6ii	MC	to add time frames to the actions list	immediate
6iii	MC	MC to provide TF/LJ with a draft job description for the role of secretary on the Alpine Committee	30 Sept
7	DE/LJ	DE/LJ to circulate draft financial statement	before meeting on 24 Nov
9	LJ	to liaise with Snowsport Scotland about return of Indoor GBR trophies	15 Oct
9	LJ	to arrange for notice to be posted on gbski explaining what is happening with regard to the Indoor GBR Series	1 Oct
10ii	LJ	to let MC know how the unrepresented special trophies should be given to the winners	15 Oct
10ii	LJ	to let know how the special trophies should be given to the winners	15 Oct
12	AH	to look into Club medal table for the GBR Series	24 Nov
12	GC	to contact the Dry Slope Ambassadors for their opinions on the inter-club event and an U10/U12 event on day 2 of the All England	15 Oct
12	LJ	to liaise with Zena Huelin and ask if she can do a race survey in the next few weeks	4 Oct
13	LJ/DE	to consider cost implications of offering reduced entry fees to some racers/officials	24 Nov
13	TF	to discuss other sponsorship possibilities with EOLA	End 2021
13	GC/TF	to look into general sponsorship opportunities	End 2021
16	JS	to follow up on upcoming GB Children's team selection meeting	1 Oct

Appendix 1

Officials' Training 2021 and Summer Calendar 2022

Report for the Alpine Committee meeting on 22nd September 2021

Summer Calendar

Given the restrictions and setting aside the frustrations of an incomplete series indoors, I feel the season has run as well as we could have hoped.

Summer Calendar 2022

An initial meeting between Wales, England and Scotland agreed a basic format of 5 races over 3 weekends with race 6 being the British Championships. To fill the gap left by the British Indoor, the Anglo-Welsh would split to become the English and the Welsh Championships.

Inter-club

David Chapman and I would like to discuss possible formats for the event. Seeking ideas from within and outside the Alpine Committee would be a good start but one area that seems an obvious anomaly is the lack of provision for U12/U10s.

Promoting the GBR Series

Much that can be done. I would like to revisit:

- Reb bibs for category leaders
- Inter-club competition – a medal table is easy to produce
- Incentives for racers
- Incentives for officials

Officials' Pathway

This was published. Two people commented, one to ask for his name to be corrected, the other to raise the issue of recognition of those who have given much in the past but are not part of the training cadre going forward, the upset being that the use of Level 5 for trainers might diminish the standing of those not involved. Whilst sympathetic, I don't feel this is the case and to have a larger group of trainers who could, but probably won't, train might cause other issues.

Tim suggested we could recognise their contribution in some other way - hall of fame or similar- and that this might strike a balance.

The next steps are:

- Develop the online courses – I propose to start with *Referee* as this should also appeal to coaches.
- Settle any outstanding issues of status and make clear that, moving forward, status will, be earned, not conferred.

Integration with the new system (see last report below)

So far only a few issues to check and Claire and I have exchanged a number of emails. Moving forward, it would make sense for the contact details to be refreshed from the SE system; Name, email, phone, and everything else to be kept on the log. The log will need to evolve to accommodate the new validation aspect of the L3 level hill roles.

Potential future flashpoints revisited

A form of words has been added to allow for CoR to have L4 status, but only as CoR and only for their own events.

Races 2022

A simplification of the bid documents and a new grid for the calendar have been produced (and are attached).

On balance I have decided to make the bid an online form but have made the lengthy evidential document separate from the bid, the idea being that the committee might/will ask for evidence/clarification.

Calcs and Race Secretary Courses

I suggest we liaise with Snowsport Wales who have already run a calcs course. I will turn my attention to a Race secretary's course in, well, due course.