

Alpine Committee Meeting
Wednesday 24 November 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)

1) Apologies

Sally Bartlett (SB)
Tim Fawke (TF)

2) Declaration of Interests

All declarations of interests are up to date.

3) Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues raised.

4) Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting on 22 September 2021 had been agreed and published on 7 October 2021.

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

LJ has written the review of racing for the Snowsport England website. He asked for photos to accompany it. PT offered to send some.

Action: PT to send LJ photos for the Guide to Racing article

LJ to circulate racing overview to the AC and then arrange for the guide to be posted on the Snowsport England website

6) Alpine Committee Vacancies

- i. Dry Slope Ambassadors' Manager – GC will be standing down as Dry Slope Ambassadors' Manager at the end of 2021. (He will be continuing in his role as Equipment Officer which he previously shared with DE. He will now take full responsibility for the role.). There were 4 applicants for the role of Dry Slope Ambassadors' Manager. All were interviewed last week and a final decision will be made before Christmas. GC will do a handover.
- ii. MC is standing down as Secretary at the end of 2021. There has been one applicant for the role who is being interviewed next week. Once the appointment is confirmed, MC will do a handover. Thanks were expressed to MC for her work over the years.

Actions: GC/MC to do handovers of their roles to new committee members

7) Finance Update

DE reported that the Q3 report had been received this week. It was much better than expected – especially given the cancellation of the Alpine Championships in 2021. This was largely due to the general success of Alpine despite the cancellation of some early summer races and the varying formats used due to Covid.

The budget for next year has been completed. It assumes that the Alpine Championships will go ahead in 2022. Equipment replacement costs have been included. The budget has been set with a cautious forecast. TF and Simon Levene have approved the budget and it will go to the Board in December.

The budget contains £1000 allocated to volunteer recognition, which can be used to cover items from the new Snowsport England clothing range. This will be used for volunteer recognition as a first step. However, the criteria for making the awards still needs to be discussed. Potential discounted entry fees, which have previously been discussed, may be considered in the future.

Amendments to the Inter Club / Inter Regional events format are being considered to allow an U10 / U12 additional event on these dates to increase participation and income.

8) 2022 Calendar and 2023 Calendar Planning (Appendix 1)

AH confirmed that dates had been allocated for all race bids. There are a couple of clashes but these are not close geographically.

AH would like to introduce a club competition within the GBR series and review the criteria for the CN Series. There also needs to be a review of the Interregional competition and club team competitions at the All England Championships. The calendar planning group of LJ, AH, DC and GC will look at this in early 2022 and report back to the committee.

Action: calendar planning group to review team competitions

LJ reported that he had contacted Zena Heulin regarding a race survey but had not yet received a response.

Action: LJ to recontact Zena Heulin regarding a race survey

9) Perpetual Trophies and Trophy Return

LJ confirmed that he had received the perpetual trophies for the Indoor GBR Series at the TD forum in November. The glass trophies are still with Robin Kellen. LJ is hoping to receive these soon and will then arrange for trophies to be distributed to clubs.

Action: LJ to distribute the Indoor GBR trophies to clubs as soon as he has received them (for the clubs to present)

The Tim Reader Trophy is still missing. LJ is following up on this. The Ann Bates trophy is also awaiting presentation and LJ is following up.

Action: LJ to follow up on Tim Reader and Ann Bates trophies

There are 4 trophies where confirmation is needed that they have reached the recipient. MC will contact the winners to check.

Action: MC to contact 4 perpetual trophy winners to confirm they have received their trophies

10) Sponsorship

LJ reported that the EOLA sponsorship agreement has been confirmed. GC will contact TF and look into additional sponsorship options.

Action: GC to liaise with TF regarding additional sponsorship opportunities

11) Course Setting

PT had nothing to report. There had been no relevant new rules.

GC asked if allocation of course setters for the 2022 season needed to be considered. PT confirmed that CNs would be set by club coaches (and appointed by the club running the CN) and that GBRs and Championships would be set by coaches with a bit more expertise. PT asked that

allocations should start to be confirmed for this where possible. (For the GBR Series, these allocations will need to be discussed by the Home Nations.)

Action: AH to look into allocation of course setters for the 2022 Championships and GBR Series (in discussion with the other Home Nations)

12) Officials and Officials Training Update (Appendix 2)

The new SE system is coming on-stream so the opt-in survey for the Official's Log is no longer necessary. In the future, AH will maintain the log of officials with roles performed, but rely on Snowsport England to provide and update the status of the Officials.

Action: AH to contact everyone on the officials' log (and everyone who has responded to the survey), informing them of the changes

Steve Lambert had contacted AH to ask if there was a list of jobs which could be done by a single person at a race. Clearly, Chief of Race, Race Secretary and Chief of Calcs need separate people fulfilling each role. (These roles need to be named in advance.) It was agreed that some other jobs – especially if they were busy at different stages in the race, could be doubled up.

13) Update from TD Forum (Appendix 3)

The issue of wireless timing was discussed. The TD forum agreed that DM would collate information from all TDs using wireless timing in winter races. He would report back to the TD forum. At the moment, there are no changes to the guidance on this.

Action: DM to collate information on wireless timing for the TD forum and report back to them so the Alpine Committee can then be updated

There had been a long discussion at the TD forum regarding use of video evidence at races. Adrian Pery (current TD Forum chair) is going to consult GB Snowsport for advice and the TD Forum executive will then consider whether any rule changes need to (or indeed can) be made. In the interim, existing practice and regulations should continue.

There were some minor rule changes to report which are listed in the appendix.

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

JS reported that Vicky Gosling (Chief Executive of GB Snowsport) was the guest speaker at the most recent squad meeting. He thanked Stephen Metheringham for facilitating this. The next meeting is in December and the guest speaker will be from the para-skiing community.

The squad criteria are not finalised but will be circulated as soon as possible. Ian Findlay will be setting these. Selection will be based on points and will be linked to the GB selection criteria so that they are compatible. PT asked who would be overseeing the policy and asked for clarity on why different policies were set in different years. JS will check with Ian Findlay and report back at the next meeting.

Action: JS to ask Ian Findlay who is overseeing the squad selection policy and what the rationale behind it is

There had been some correspondence with GB Snowsport regarding the Children's team selection. A complete list of the Snowsport England squad was submitted – and reference made to the academies.

15) Dry Slope Ambassadors

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

16) Alpine Championships

DM reported that the team for the Alpine Championships was now complete and contained several new members. The same hotel as in previous years is being used. Planning is now

centred around getting the correct paperwork in place to transfer all the equipment to the resort and around Covid issues.

The invitation bulletin should be published in the next few days.

17) AOB

- i. Stephen Metheringham had submitted two items to be raised at the meeting. The first relating to the SnowSport England Race Manual V10.1 Dec 2018 and the second to the SnowSport England Alpine Ski Competitions Race Secretary's Booklet. In both cases, he asked when the document would be updated. (He cited "*the use of SSE instead of SE, references to Male and Female rather than the FIS approach of Men and Women, Alpine Officials not aligning to new system, new SE policies around Trans and Non Binary and 2021 Photo and Recorded Images, etc.*")

DM agreed that he would do a first pass through both manuals and circulate them to the Alpine Committee within the next month for comments.

Action: DM to look into updating the SnowSport England Race Manual V10.1 Dec 2018 and the SnowSport England Alpine Ski Competitions Race Secretary's Booklet

- ii. GC asked if the race equipment needs to be checked. DE confirmed that the set held in the North was fine. LJ reported that he has ordered some batteries and spares and thinks it is all OK.

2) Date of next Meeting

**The next meeting will take place by Zoom on
Wednesday 2 February 2022 at 7pm**

Actions:

			Completion date
5	PT	to send LJ photos for the Guide to Racing article	1 December
5	LJ	to circulate racing overview to the AC and then arrange for the guide to be posted on the Snowsport England website	8 December
6	GC/MC	to do handovers of their roles to new committee members	1 January
8	LJ/AH/DC/GC	calendar planning group to review team competitions	early 2022
8	LJ	to recontact Zena Heulin regarding a race survey	2 February
9	LJ	to distribute the Indoor GBR trophies to clubs as soon as he has received them (for the clubs to present)	14 January
9	LJ	to follow up on Tim Reader and Ann Bates trophies	14 January
9	MC	to contact 4 perpetual trophy winners to confirm they have received their trophies	1 January
10	GC	to liaise with TF regarding additional sponsorship opportunities	2 February
11	AH	to look into allocation of course setters for the 2022 Championships and GBR Series (in discussion with the other Home Nations)	2 February
12	AH	to contact everyone on the officials' log (and everyone who has responded to the survey), informing them of the changes	Complete 8 Dec
13	DM	to collate information on wireless timing for the TD forum and report back to them so the Alpine Committee can then be updated	June 2022
14	JS	to ask Ian Findlay who is overseeing the squad selection policy and what the rationale behind it is	2 February
17i	DM	DM to look into updating the SnowSport England Race Manual V10.1 Dec 2018 and the SnowSport England Alpine Ski Competitions Race Secretary's Booklet	January 2022

Calendar Planning, 2022

Report for the Alpine Committee on 24th November 2021

Calendar for 2022

The calendar is now complete for 2022. The opportunity for additional events still exists but the committee may be minded to remove this.

Chill Factore has emerged as the only indoor venue which wishes to support indoor races and, I should add, their support is excellent. We have a good price and a new timetable which will save many travelling one night in a hotel by starting in the mid-late afternoon on Saturday and early on Sunday.

Issues arising from the process

GBR and Club National Competition

I suggest a task and finish group to look at the format for a GBR Competition and to look at updating the Club National Competition

Inter-club and Inter-regional format

I suggest we align these and simplify

- 1a Teams of 4, one of the opposite gender (or)
- 1b Male and female races
2. A U12/10 race, teams of 4, at least one U10 and one of opposite gender to team
3. Team limits per club/region raised or removed
- 4 No separate open competition
- 5 Leagues of 4, two to qualify
- 6 Seeding based on cumulative points for U14 and above and on GBR 2022 results for U12/U10
- 7 Knockout from 16

Prizes and promotion

Previous meetings agreed to have red bibs for age-group leaders. I think we should actively seek prizes and support as follows:

1. Complementary events

The obvious example is Paul's "Dash for Cash" but other ideas may present themselves. The second event which we have run after GBR races indoors will not now fit with our Saturday afternoon/Sunday morning timetable.

2. Club prizes. Suppliers/retailers would seem an obvious target
3. Scholarships/bursaries etc. Age-group specific. The academies would be the likely target for the U14~U18 categories and maybe for the U12/U10s. Not sure about Senior/Masters - could be suppliers, Victoria Wine or Voltarol (only half-joking about the last two).

Inclusivity

This was an issue raised by Snozone when invited to bid. Let's focus on welcome and access. Let's also be realistic that this committee's influence is somewhat into a process that should start at club and slope level.

Welcome. Is everyone?

Age groups

We can ensure that all ages feel the races are for them. This is an issue with a perception that races are aimed at school and maybe university age participants – think how often we reference “racers and parents” etc.

If we want to encourage Seniors/Masters, we need to be inclusive, just as, at the other end of the age range, we need to be more inclusive of U12/U10 (see Inter-Regional and Inter-Club). My preference would be to split the Master Category, at least into 30~50 and 50+. I think we could do more to encourage U12/10 as well.

Gender, ethnicity and orientation

This is an area where what we can do is limited with much more scope being available at club level.

For all three, our input can be positive in terms of language and event welfare.

Cost

Racing is expensive and, with the exception of laudable attempts to limit the need for specialist equipment (see catsuits for U12s) we have not done much to help – nor could we.

We could look at the costs of participation and help by limiting the peer pressure to attend every event, especially for younger racers focussed on Club Nationals. We could also look to off-set the cost of participation in the GBR by having a reduced rate for multiple races, something like “Book all 5 GBR Indoor and get free entry to the British Indoor”. I think we could also look at the cost for siblings.

Alpine Officials' Training 2022

Report for the Alpine Committee on 24th November 2021

Officials' Training

Closing the Log

With the new SE system coming on-stream, the time has come to close the opt-in survey for the Official's Log. Moving forward, I would like to maintain the log of officials and roles performed but rely on SE to provide and update the status of the Officials.

ACTION: I would like permission to contact everyone on the Log and everyone who has responded to the survey, informing them of the above.

Online Courses

I plan to run the following online courses in December:

1. Thursday 2nd December, 1900~2100 Level 1
2. Thursday 9th December, 1900~2100 Referee

Officials' Lists for 2021

I have uploaded what I have received and am chasing up a couple of missing races.

Level 2 Accreditation at non-qualifying events

The pathway makes provision for logging L2 experience at non-qualifying events so we need a mechanism for doing this. I would suggest we make this the responsibility of the club to keep me informed.

Accreditation via prior experience and maintaining accreditation without volunteering

2022 will provide a re-set point and I would hope that, by the start of the 2022 summer season, all registered officials have a settled accreditation status. There will be anomalies and these do need to be addressed as "X is chief of race because he has always been chief of race" is not satisfactory. In most cases, I would suggest the solution will be asking people to take courses after, rather than before, gaining experience.

Maintaining accreditation level without volunteering is also complex. Two groups:

X is always Y so never does any other roles but has done in the past

X has a long and distinguished career as an official, but now does one race each year

The second could be addressed the way KLM deal with frequent flyer status, once you have maintained a status for a certain time you keep it in perpetuity. This is, of course, how we account for TDs in the system.

In the first situation, I would suggest that accreditation becomes subject to re-taking the course, as for all other officials. The alternative, is to use an annual update or the TD Forum for the same purpose.

Appendix 3

Alpine Committee Meeting Wednesday 24 November 19:00

Update from TD Forum Meeting November 2021 (Lloyd Jenkins)

The TD Forum met on Saturday 6th/Sunday 7th November with the Saturday being the Rules Update Seminar and FIS TDs update meeting and Sunday being the British TD Forum Meeting.

The key points to note were as follows:

Wireless Timing

The subject of the use of wireless timing was raised following a query received from a club

- As BACR 1 (Article 611.2.4) already allows for the use of wireless equipment to wirelessly connect start and finish to the timing system, no changes are required to at this time.
- Further information is to be collected from TDs at winter races with regard to the use of wireless equipment.
- If felt necessary a proposal will be tabled at the May 2022 TD Forum.

Use of Photographic/Video Evidence

SE representatives raised an issue re the use of photographs or video in support of a protest against another (child) competitor following some cases at recent races.

After some lengthy discussion it was agreed that the TD Forum Chair would seek some legal advice from GBS on this issue and that in the interim, existing practice and regulations should continue.

Rule Changes BACR/BCR

BACR

No major changes other than BACR IV Article 8.4.1 where the Calendar Fee for races is amended to £40 to bring it into line with the current charge

BCR

Changes are as follows

BCR I

[Amendment to the U16 rules to allow the 1st run of the race to be accepted for seeding if recommended by the TD to the National Seeder under Art 7.3 BCR III.](#)

625.2 Award of Prizes in the Case of a Terminated Competition

For Slalom and Giant Slalom events [scheduled to take place over two runs](#) the 1st run has to be completed, i.e. all competitors on the start list must have had the chance to start. If this is not possible, the race is invalid. If the 2nd run is not completed [due to force majeure on the day](#), then the results of the 1st run become the race results [and the TD may recommend to the National Seeder that the race be accepted for seeding under Art 7.3 BCR Book III.](#)

BCR III

Race Acceptability

7.3 The TD Forum ([T&C SC recommendation for Exec approval](#)) has discretion to approve races for seeding, which do not strictly comply with the ICR/BCR. In making their decision, the Forum should consider inter alia the recommendations of the appointed TD & the National Seeder and the interests of all registered racers, not just those who competed in the race being considered.

8.4.4 Amended to

[If there are less than five competitors with BASS points amongst the first ten of the result list, or there are not five competitors who started with BASS points, then those competitors without FIS points, i.e. the remaining competitors will receive the maximum value. If fewer than three competitors with BASS points are ranked within the five, which are taken into consideration, or at least three competitors without FIS points are classified, the competition will be considered for BASS points with a double of the maximum value \(of the respective event\) as minimum penalty.](#)