

Alpine Committee Meeting
Wednesday 2 February 2022 19:00
By Zoom



Present:

Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)
Debbie Gunton (DG)
Gareth Case (GC)
David Chapman (DC)
David Eaves (DE)
Sally Bartlett (SB)
Megan Whitmarsh-Ali (MW)

Diana Sarker (DS)
Tim Fawkes (TF)
Andrew Hjort (AH)
David Manns (DM)
Julian Sambles (JS)
Paul Telling (PT)

1) Apologies

No apologies.

2) Declaration of Interests

All declarations of interests are up to date. Declaration of interest forms need to be completed annually so all committee members have been asked to complete a new one.

Action: DG to send all committee members a new declaration of interest form.

3) Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues raised.

4) Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting on 24 November 2021 had been agreed and published on 10 December 2021.

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

i) Update on SnowSport England Race Manual V10.1 Dec 2018 and the SnowSport England Alpine Ski Competitions Race Secretary's Booklet.

DM confirmed the race manual V10.1 and the Race Secretary Booklet have been updated and circulated to the Alpine Committee for comments.

Action: DM to collate comments for race manual and secretary booklet and publish.

TF suggested maybe running some Webinars for Race Secretary before the start of the race season for those that needing a refresher course.

Action: AH to organise Webinar sessions before the start of the summer season.

ii) Race equipment update and hand over

As GC has stood down as the Dry Slope Ambassadors' Manager and AS and MW have been appointed, it was agreed they would now take over the responsibility of the South equipment.

6) Alpine Committee Vacancies

LJ welcomed DG, MW and DS to the committee.

The Dry Slope Ambassadors' Managers role will now be a shared role and DS and MW have been appointed. GC has given a handover and will continue to support them where necessary.

DG has also been appointed as Secretary following Mary Calvert standing down, Mary Calvert has given a handover.

7) Finance Update

DE confirmed the budget has been reviewed and accepted by the Finance Review Panel in December and should be signed off by Snowsport England at the next meeting on 10 February 2022.

The budget has been prepared using cautious numbers for race entries for the dry slope and indoor 2022 season given the 2021 numbers performed well as a result of limited racing. 2022 season would see more events with hopefully good attendance in hope to exceed the budget. However, with the delayed decision on Bormio proceeding, it's expected that participants will be lower than in previous years and the budget is likely to be reviewed post Bormio.

The budget has not included any income from introducing U10/12 opportunities at Inter Club / Inter Regional events as the format is still to be agreed.

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

AH confirmed he has received a late Club National race bid from Precise Racing which he is still pursuing to confirm details.

AH has compiled a table of officials' roles that could possibly be shared following a request from Steve Lambert. This table is for guidance only and will be very much dependant on circumstances on the day.

AH has reviewed the GBR series and has made some recommendations for changes for this coming season. It was agreed by the committee to go ahead with the changes however, the red bibs would be limited to 4 red bibs per race instead of the suggested 6 by combining the U10/12 results.

TF has approached EOLA for sponsorship of three sets of new race bibs this coming season, one set per Home Nation. TF also suggested that EOLA may extend that sponsorship to include the red bibs. DE suggested ordering some special bibs and have the Olympic team sign them which could then be presented to end of series winners.

9) Perpetual Trophies and Trophy Return

LJ confirmed that the GBR indoor series Perpetuals and glass trophies have now been distributed to Clubs or individuals affiliated to Snowsport England. Robin Kellen has a trophy order in place for those people that have been identified as joint winners.

LJ confirmed The Tim Reader Trophy has been returned and has now been presented to Toby Case.

LJ also confirmed the Ann Bates Trophy will be taken to Bormio and presented to Alexa Elliff.

DG confirmed we have a few indoor perpetual trophies that have not been returned and will continue to pursue.

Action: DG to continue to pursue missing trophies.

The Atomic Trophy has still to be located, it was taken from Sunderland at the All England but has not reached the recipient.

Action: DC to establish who collected the Atomic Trophy for the recipient.

10) Sponsorship

TF advised that as Bormio was confirmed at the very last minute, resources are now being used to concentrate on running the race but hoped sponsorship would gain momentum next year. For the summer season TF confirmed EOLA sponsorship for the GBR series would continue and

early signs are that EOLA will extend sponsorship beyond the 3 years agreed. Sponsorship again would be split between the three Home Nations.

GC suggested a funding opportunity of an advertising board on the Snowsport England website. This would be an opportunity for a business to partner with Snowsport England and pay a yearly subscription for advertising which would generate some income. GC to continue to explore this opportunity and suggested we use EOLA as a trial.

Action: GC to produce a detailed document on advertising board proposal.

11) Officials and Officials Training Update (Appendix 1)

AH confirmed several online courses have successfully been delivered, with participants from across the Home Nations.

AH still needs to obtain officials list from Chatham Club National and will continue updating the volunteer data log.

Ah advised the volunteer recognition spend has been approved in the budget but no decisions have been made yet on how this will be spent.

Action: AH to update committee at next meeting on 11 April.

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

Ian Findlay was invited to the meeting to talk the committee through the Alpine Squad Selection policy but failed to attend and no apology was given. Several members of the committee raised concerns that as one of the few paid members of Snowsport England, this was deemed unacceptable and left JS in a quandary over the Alpine Squad Selection Policy.

JS presented the Alpine Squad Selection Policy which in the absence of Ian Findlay will now be reviewed by the committee for publication. The committee agreed this document needs to be published before the start of the Alpine Championships.

Action: JS to collate committee comments and update Selection Policy document and publish.

TF confirmed that Ian Findlay will be leaving Snowsport England at the end of March and the Talent Management Group has been paused until October 2022. This is due to the talent funding received from Sport England being aligned to UK Sport funding of Snowsport GB. The funding will not be announced until late summer. The short term focus and priority is to work with GBS with the aim of getting increased funds for the talent pathway. Once we know what funds we have we will then review the role of Talent Management Group for the start of the next Olympic cycle.

PT raised a concern of what happens with Ian's roles until the October when the funding and the structure can be reviewed. TF confirmed that in the interim, plans are being put in place to review Ian's role and responsibilities and decide where these best fit in the current structure.

13) Dry Slope Ambassadors

DS confirmed the selection list had been drawn up from the latest Obarts list and letters have been posted out to athletes with some already confirming their place. DS had concerns around U21 maybe not taking the squad places due to starting Universities but so far, the response has been good. DS and MW are now focusing on options of how to maximise the Ambassadors' on race days as role models and representing Snowsport England.

MW advised this year's tops and hoodies have been designed and a team development day has been confirmed for the 18th April at Swadlincote but a coach is still to be confirmed. MW is also looking into an option of setting up an Ambassadors' social media page.

14) Alpine Championships (Appendix 2)

DM reported the Alpine Championships are progressing well and entries are still coming in. This year the race will run on a reduced core team.

15) AOB

- i. Stephen Metheringham submitted a question on whether regional funding could be reintroduced this year. The committee felt this question should be directed to TF who has agreed to take this forward.
- ii. GC asked TF if he could obtain the British Masters Trophies for male and female from Robin Kellen.

Action: TF to liaise with Robin Kellen to obtain the British Masters Trophies.

- iii. GC raised a concern that Louise Wright has been invited by the committee on several occasions but so far has not been able to attend a meeting. GC would like her to attend a future meeting to talk through her role and share future plans.

Action: TF to raise this request at the next board meeting on 16 February.

- iv. Stephen Metheringham raised a concern with DM/LJ of whether a standard wording Club National Invite could be designed to stop inconsistency of wording.

DM confirmed he is well on the way to producing a template on GBSKI which will be published before the start of the summer season. DM advised in time this could also be extended to include acceptance bulletins.

Action: DM to complete Club National template ready for use

- v. DE suggested that as part of the process of updating the race documents and manuals that it would be a good idea to include the U10/12 format for the Inter Club / Inter Regional event.

Action: DM/LJ to agree and include U10/U12 format with Race Manual updates.

**The next meeting will take place by Zoom on
Monday 11 April 2022 at 7pm**

Actions from meeting:

Ref	Who	Action	Completion date
2	DG	to send all committee members a new declaration of interest form	28 February 2022
5i	DM	to collate comments for race manual and secretary booklet and publish	April
5ii	AH	to organise Webinar sessions before the start of the summer season	Update 11 April 2022
9	DG	to continue to pursue missing Perpetual Trophies	11 April 2022
9	DC	to establish who collected the Atomic Trophy for the recipient	11 April 2022
10	GC	to produce a detailed document on advertising board proposal	11 April 2022
11	AH	volunteer recognition spend	Update 11 April 2022
12	JS	to collate committee comments and update Selection Policy document and publish.	Completed and published https://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/resource_category/alpine/
15ii	TF	to liaise with Robin Kellen to obtain the British Masters Trophies	Update 11 April 2022
15iii	TF	to raise with the board for Louise Wright to attend a committee meeting	16 February 2022
15iv	DM	to complete Club National template ready for use	End of March
15v	DM/LJ	to agree and include U10/U12 format with Race Manual updates	April

Ongoing Actions log:

Who	Action	Update or completed
PT	to send LJ photos for the Guide to Racing article	Completed
LJ	to circulate racing overview to the AC and then arrange for the guide to be posted on the Snowsport England website	Completed and published https://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/A-Guide-to-Alpine-Ski-Racing.pdf
GC/MC	to do handovers of their roles to new committee members	Completed
LJ/AH/DC/GC	calendar planning group to review team competitions	early 2022
LJ	to recontact Zena Heulin regarding a race survey	11 April 2022
LJ	to distribute the Indoor GBR trophies to clubs as soon as he has received them (for the clubs to present)	Completed
LJ	to follow up on Tim Reader and Ann Bates trophies	Completed
MC	to contact 4 perpetual trophy winners to confirm they have received their trophies	Completed
GC	to liaise with TF regarding additional sponsorship opportunities	Completed
AH	to look into allocation of course setters for the 2022 Championships and GBR Series (in discussion with the other Home Nations)	Update 11 April 2022
AH	to contact everyone on the officials' log (and everyone who has responded to the survey), informing them of the changes	Completed
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
JS	to ask Ian Findlay who is overseeing the squad selection policy and what the rationale behind it is	Update 11 April 2022
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	Completed

Appendix 1

Officials' Training and Calendar Planning 2022

Report for the Alpine Committee to be held on Wednesday 2nd February

Officials' Training

Registration for 2022

The new system has some teething issues and Claire has been very helpful in trying to iron these out. An early decision to have; volunteers, official and SCOs as one category is, with hindsight, regrettable as SCOs are a somewhat separate group. Course Setters (including aspirant Course Setters) and Event Welfare Officers would, however, seem to be a good fit as being subject to the same data/privacy regime would make it far easier to assemble Hill Teams. I would further suggest that L2, possibly even L1 Alpine Performance Coaches be included as they should be/may be asked to be in a position to act as referee. Just as there is a strong case for L2 (possibly also L1) Coaches doing a course setters' course, I feel L2 Coaches should definitely be encouraged to be L2 Officials and to do the Referees' Training Course (see below).

Suggested Actions

1. Bring Volunteers, Officials, Course Setters, EWO (and possibly L1 and L2 Coaches) under one "Volunteers" tick box (coaches would need to register separately as coaches)
2. (Therefore) Separate out SCOs

Training Courses

I have publicised and run 2 of a series of 4 Online Training Courses:

18th Jan Referee 3 participants

25th Jan Start Ref 1 participant (two short notice cancellations due to work so additional session run on 1st Feb) 8th Feb Finish Ref

15th Feb Chief Gate Judge

Reg Date	Ski Club	I would like to join the course for:			
		Ref	Start Ref	Finish Ref	CGJ
2022-01-11 02:51:42	arlberg ski club	No	No	Yes	Yes
2022-01-10 19:18:30	GSR	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2022-01-10 13:58:25	Aldershot/AFPST	Yes	Yes	No	No
2022-01-10 06:10:50	Gordon skiers Racing	No	Yes	No	No
2022-01-09 22:25:01	Chatham	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2022-01-09 17:17:15		Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Booking is still open so please encourage any interested to register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FK2LTMY>

Welsh and Scottish Official

As you can see from the participants list, the courses are not attracting an exclusively English audience. I think this is fine, indeed something to encourage. As you know from previous reports, I have had conversations with SSS and some features of our latest pathway align with how they do things. Wales has developed a Calcs Course

(which potentially saves me from having to pester anyone to do one for us) so cooperation has benefits, aside from which the crossover of officials means lots of nominally Welsh registered volunteers are regulars at English races.

Suggested Actions

1. Assuming there is no political reason against, reach an agreement for Welsh Officials and English Officials to be treated as one Pool/Pwll.
2. See if we can reach a similar agreement with SSS.

Calendar 2022

A surprise change of dates

Due to a bit of miscommunication, GBR 3 will now be held at Hillend on Sunday 5th June with the Fir Park race the previous day. This, regrettably, clashes with the Landgraaf weekend (if this runs).

Officials for SE managed races

So far, I have had 4 replies to the survey. Separately, I have agreed with Gareth that he will be Chief of Race for the All England. I plan to be Referee for the event.

I could do with all L3/L4 Officials completing the Survey – even if just to say they are not available!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HXCNTGH>

Officials for Club Nationals

I plan to circulate a spreadsheet for ROCs to complete. This can be amended and re-submitted over time. At this stage though, I feel all bidders should be able to confirm:

1. Chief of Race
2. Race Secretary
3. Chief of Calcs
4. Event Welfare Officer.

The spreadsheet will give a clear indication of the roles which should be filled and, I will also send the list, requested by Steven Lambert, outlining jobs to be shared.

Jobs which can be Shared at a race

Steven Lambert has requested a list of roles which can be shared. In the table, I assume that one Official can only do a maximum of two roles. I have not included roles before or after the race (e.g., Bibs) but, for completeness, I have included Course Setter. The table is RAG rated. Starter+Back-up is an exception as it is possible but dependent on equipment.

	CoR	Race Sec	Calcs	EWO	Ref	Start Ref	Finish Ref	CGJ	Back-up	Commentary	Course Setter	Gate Judge	Starter
CoR	Grey	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Race Sec	Red	Grey	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Calcs	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red
EWO	Red	Yellow	Red	Grey	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Red	Red
Ref	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Start Ref	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Red
Finish Ref	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Grey	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red
CGJ	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
Back-up	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Green	Grey	Red	Green	Red	Purple
Commentary	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Grey	Green	Red	Red
Course Setter	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green
Gate Judge	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Green	Grey	Red
Starter	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Purple	Red	Green	Grey	Grey

Club National Competition

Rather than force through a major change without further consultation, I propose we make only one small adjustment to the Club National Competition for 2022. This will be that the final result will be decided using the best 5 results over the season.

GBR Competition

A meeting, lots of emails and about 10 hours of data crunching later, I have the following proposal for the GBR Club/Academy Competition for 2022. We seem to have the endorsement of SCW and SSS. Robin did, however, raise a concern that some clubs/academies might pressure racers as listing them as first club. Whereas this might be true, I think it is beyond our control.

The Competition

- There will be an indoor and an outdoor competition
- Points will be awarded to both male and female racers in all age categories.
- The Masters category will be split into M1 (30~49) and M2 (50+).

Points will be awarded as in the current age group categories in GBR: 1st = 7 2nd = 5 3rd = 3 4th = 2 5th = 1

In order to avoid giving an unfair advantage to clubs well represented in smaller categories, we would adjust the points to reflect the category size. This would be done by always awarding the 1-point score:

In practice, this would mean:

Finishers	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
0	0	0	0	0	0

1	1	0	0	0	0
2	2	1	0	0	0
3	3	2	1	0	0
4	5	3	2	1	0
5 and upwards	7	5	3	2	1

Once totalled, points will be awarded to clubs/academies as for the GBR Overall

1 st = 100	7 th = 36	11 th = 20	17 th = 12	23 rd = 6
2 nd = 80	8 th = 32	12 th = 18	18 th = 11	24 th = 5
3 rd = 60	7 th = 29	13 th = 16	19 th = 10	25 th = 4
4 th = 50	8 th = 26	14 th = 15	20 th = 9	26 th = 3
5 th = 45	9 th = 24	15 th = 14	21 st = 8	27 th = 2
6 th = 40	10 th = 22	16 th = 13	22 nd = 7	28 th = 1

After each Race weekend, we will produce a Medal Table showing Gold, Silver, Bronze, and then total points:

CLUB	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Points
SET	1	1		100
GRE		1	2	80
BRT	1			60
SAK			3	50
CTO	1			45
ACB		2		40

In the event of a tie, the advantage goes to the club/academy with the most Gold, then Silver, then Bronze

Other suggested GBR enhancements

Red Bibs

I suggest we have 6 red bibs per race

Male U14 + Female U14+

Male U12 Female U12

Male U10 Female U10

This concentrates encouragement at the lower end of the age range and save us from having to do a separate calculation to combine U12/10. These bibs would travel with the bib sets (so would we need 12?) but if the budget runs to it a presentation final bib at the end of series might be a nice touch and, of course, bibs can carry endorsements...

Ideas for prizes and incentives – not all compatible!

Category winners get free race entry to 1 GBR?

Red Bib holders get free race entry to 1 GBR?

Discount for multiple entry. Might be expensive and difficult to handle refunds!

I think the key is to get Clubs and Academies behind the GBR Series.

Volunteer Recognition

SE now has a shop, with the much discussed hoodies (one of the photos is even branded as "Official")

<https://www.birdsofdereham.com/shop/product/technical-hoody-se-range-30683/>

Can we agree a plan for distribution as previously agreed?

Appendix 2

Alpine Committee Wednesday 2 February 2022 Report on English Alpine Championships



Team

A slightly reduced team this year, mainly to help control expenditure.

ROC Tim Fawke, Andrea Grant, David Manns
Calcs Alan Bullock, Deb Manns
COR Lloyd Jenkins, Dermot Flahive
S/F Ref Karen Conde, Andrew Hjort
TD Wilfred Bereiter, Tristan Cole
CTD* Taryn Archbold, Kirsty Crawford, Xan Alaerts

Note * We will be hosting three Candidate TDs undergoing practical assessment or examination, helping to clear a small backlog in the qualification system due to lack of competition. On the days when they are not being assessed they will be included in the officials team on the hill, and they will also be making appropriate contributions to the cost of their travel and accommodation.

Programme

A small change to the original published programme has U14 and U16 competing together. In previous years we have run them separately but the expected lower entry this year allows us to focus resources on running two events per day. Running U14 and U16 together also allows them to 'share' seed points.

Sunday 20 th	FIS SL	U14/16 SL
Monday 21 st	NJR SL	U10/12 GS
Tuesday 22 nd	NJR GS	U14/16 SGx2
Wednesday 23 rd	FIS GS	U10/12 Parallel
Thursday 24 th	FIS SG x 2	U14/16 GS
Friday 25 th	-	U10/12 Slalom

Logistics

After some debate about the most effective way to move all the kit from UK to Italy and back, Lloyd and Alan have volunteered to make the long drive to Italy in a rental van. An alternative route was discussed that involved palletising all the kit and sending it through a freight operator, but various factors counted against it, including long lead times and the reluctance to introduce extra 'risk' to what will undoubtedly be a difficult event to manage.

COVID

Several editions of a 'COVID Info' document have already been published, summarising the best information and web links that we can find. We have been in contact with the British Vice Consul in Milan who has provided us with their 'official' interpretation of the situation.

The lift company are providing a scheme whereby you can get your documents validated which will then enable your lift pass to be used without having to separately scan a Green Pass every time lifts are used.

The biggest issue so far has been to identify what happens with the 12-15 age group where these have not had the same opportunities as the older groups to acquire the necessary vaccination status and/or documentation. In the end this is not a problem for our organisation to sort out, but we want attendance to be as high as possible, which is why we are publishing information whenever we come across something useful.

Finance

The ROC is working hard to ensure that expenditure is kept as low as possible. Anticipating entry levels to be around 75% of last time, the budget is currently showing a very small surplus. This is without any input from sponsorship or our usual percentage of takings on the sale of merchandise by Fine Designs, but we have followed the lead of other race organisations this season in levying an entry fee (€30) on non-British FIS entrants.

Entries

Entry numbers at the time of writing:

U10/12	74
U14	79
U16	92

David Manns

1st February 2022