

**Alpine Committee Meeting
Monday 19 June 2023 19:00
By Zoom**



Present:

Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)
Debbie Gunton (DG)
David Chapman (DC)
Sally Bartlett (SB)

Gareth Case (GC)
David Manns (DM)
Andrew Hjort (AH)
Paul Telling (PT)

1) Apologies

David Eaves (DE)
Megan Whitmarsh-Ali (MW)
Tom Farenden (TF)
Diane Sarkar (DS)

LJ opened the meeting by thanking Tim Fawke for his contribution and support as a valued member of the Alpine Committee over the years and he will be sorely missed.

2) Declaration of Interests

All declarations of interests are up to date.

3) Safeguarding

GC advised that 3 safeguarding issues are being investigated and there are no on-going safeguarding risks with any of the children that were involved in these cases.

4) Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the meeting on 17 April 2023 had been agreed and published on 5 May 2023.

5) Matters arising from previous meetings.

None.

6) Finance Update - LJ (Appendix 1)

LJ went through the Finance Update Report for the 2022 Year-end and Q1 of 2023.

LJ included a review of artificial race entries to date with the report. To date GBR races are very attractive with high numbers of race entries. CNs are not seeing any substantial uplift in entry numbers, so far.

DM confirmed that following Tim's departure, we just need to monitor that all monies due are received from Bormio Tourist Office.

Action: LJ/DE to check that monies due from Bormio Tourist Office are received.

7) 2024 Calendar Planning update – AH

AH circulated 2024 bid documents for the committee to review prior to publication.

Bidders for 2024 will be circulated three documents:

- GBR and National Bid Form
- Club National bid Spreadsheet
- Race Bid Overview Document for 2024, which includes supporting information

The Club National Bid is now on the same spreadsheet as the post-race Hill Team submission. This will save any need to re-type.

AH confirmed that a Calendar meeting has been held with Snowsport Wales and Snowsport Scotland

- As established in 2023, double header weekends run by one club will be considered.
- AH will try to keep all bidders updated with other bids received.
- **NB. The core hill team must be declared on the bid.**

AH will circulate race dates as Clubs submit bids to give other Clubs an indication of dates that are being chosen. The committee discussed if the ceiling price for the CN levy needed to be raised for entry fees with rising costs, as the existing levy fee includes for TD's expenses. AH suggested that each slope could pay their own TD costs. A decision was made that the expenses will be reviewed in September when full detail of the summer races expenses will be available.

Some interest has been shown from SnoZone Castleford wanting to host some races in 2024 but no bids received yet. AH thought maybe other Clubs may be interested in running a Club National at the venue given that Chill Factore is heavily booked with other races.

AH also suggested that maybe the Inter-regional should be nearer the middle of the season.

8) **Perpetual Trophies**

DG confirmed that the annual emails have been sent giving details for Perpetual Trophy returns.

The sponsorship for the Inter-Club trophy for U10/12 is still on-going, currently assigned to Tim on the on-going action logs, LJ will take this on.

GC questioned whether Robin Kellen has sourced any Masters Trophies for the British Outdoor, DG confirmed nothing was presented last year, LJ will follow this up with Robin Kellen.

Action: LJ to contact Robin for Masters Trophies.

9) **Sponsorship - DC**

i. Update on advertising board

This is an on-going action log for a meeting with Tim, LJ/DC/GC will now meet to discuss further.

Action: LJ/DC/GC to arrange meeting to discuss Sponsorship proposal.

10) **Officials' and Officials' Training Update - AH**

Officials' status on Sport 80

Getting the pathway onto the SE System was delayed by the development/glitch removal of/on the system and is now further delayed by Tim's departure. AH is pushing for a meeting with Sport 80 so hopes to have positive news soon, however, AH does not intend to pester an already very busy office as there are more pressing matters.

Level 3 Training Courses

AH is planning to organise further online series of courses. Dates are to be confirmed.

Officials for Chill Factore Races, 15th and 16th July and 12th and 13th August

AH noted that for volunteers are sought. AH asked to be advised of any members that plan to be at any of these races.

11) Update from TD forum – LJ (Appendix 2)

LH went through the update report following the Mat TD Forum meeting.

DM noted the changes in the FIS ICR with regard to climbing back in slalom, and felt that this should be considered as to whether this rule is applied to all artificial race types?

AH suggested we may need some clarification of the rules so that people are aware of what they can and can't do.

PT confirmed some of the races in Austria are already running to these rules and as long as it is communicated, it seems to be being accepted.

Unseeded children's races were allowing climbing, it may be that regional races may choose whether they allow climbing back. SB agreed with Paul but also thinks some clarity on rules needs to be communicated to coaches and felt rules should be consistent to avoid confusion.

DM thought the team events may want to allow climbing back due to pointing system. LJ advised that further clarification will be available as and when details become available.

12) Alpine Squad LJ (Appendix 3)

LJ went through the update on selection of the Alpine Squad for 2023/24.

GC questioned if the selection criteria will be changed for next season, LJ confirmed some minor changes are likely to be implemented following a review later in the year.

PT suggested that prior to any criteria changes, the purpose of the Alpine Squad needs to be established which hopefully, Tom Farenden should be able to drive forward.

13) Dry Slope Ambassadors (DS, MW)

No update on the Dry Slope Ambassadors.

14) Alpine Championships (DM)

DM reported following the departure of Tim, changes in organisation are clearly needed. A meeting to discuss this will take place on Thursday 22 June, after which the plans going forward will hopefully be clearer, particularly with those activities that Tim had been handling for the last few years. The ROC cannot afford to have anything slip through the cracks if the event in 2024 (and beyond) is to live up to its reputation.

In the short term, invitations will soon be going out to previous team members to determine their availability. The group booking for flights will also need to be done soon to minimise the risk of any dramatic price increases.

15) Athlete Welfare (GC)

GC reported that with regard to the athlete welfare and well-being initiative the audit self-assessment document has been completed and is ready.

A number of guidance documents that will accompany the audit have also been prepared and are currently in the process of being updated with branding and formatting to make it more appealing to the eye to read. Once completed they will be added to the SE website.

The overarching safeguarding policy and Snowsafe toolkit will remain in place where they are on the SE website. The audit process requires clubs/academies to have some more specific policies in place and published on websites/social media. These policies such as social media, photography etc are all practical policies that should contain the clubs' expectations for members, coaches, parents. They are in the process of being formulated and will appear in their own section of the SE safeguarding page, the idea being that clubs can download a template policy and amend for their needs and put their own club branding on it for their website.

16) **AOB**

PT raised the following questions:

- i. Update on Course Setting / Coaching Courses, and how we can influence this.**

Question to be rolled over to the next meeting as PT had to leave meeting early.

- ii. Update on Alpine Pathway / Talent Pathway now that Tim has left. What changes are required, what should this be doing and who is in charge?**

Update from Tom Farenden had been received:

- Selections for 2023/24 have taken place with Tom Farenden, LJ and PT on the panel
- Gathering current pathway information with the intention of adding to the SE website with other discipline pathways, Gareth has shared a lot of information and this is almost complete.
- Pathway development discussions have started but nothing concrete to feedback
 - Gareth sharing lots of information, which is helpful.
 - Briefly discussed on the selection call with LJ and PT so will follow up there also.
 - As this progresses, Tom Farenden would like to engage the committee more for feedback and ideas to establish a way forward
- Changes required:
 - Need to ensure that being part of the English alpine Team adds value to the athletes. There are a few options being considered and how they might fit into the 10year strategy

DG made a plea to all members of the Alpine Committee to ensure that reports and other papers to be submitted by Wednesday prior to the date of the Committee meeting, so that they can be circulated in good time prior to the meeting,

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

Actions from meeting:

REF	Who	Action	Completion date
6	LJ/DE	to check that monies due from Bormio Tourist Office are received	Update next meeting
8	LJ	to contact Robin for Masters Trophies	Update next meeting
9	LJ/DC/ GC	to arrange meeting to discuss Sponsorship proposal	Update next meeting

Ongoing Actions log:

Who	Action	Update or completed
AH	updates to sport 80 for logging officials' details and accreditation	Update at next meeting (Currently on hold)
LJ	to follow up Perpetual Trophy sponsorship for U10/12 Inter-Club	Update at next meeting
TF	to send slope contact emails to AH	No longer required
AH	to update Officials' pathway on Snowsport England Website	By next meeting
DC	to arrange advertising meeting with LJ and TF	No longer required
AH	to produce Officials' flowchart	Update at next meeting
LJ	to arrange Alpine Squad selection meeting with PT and Tom Farenden	Completed

Appendix 1

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Finance Update

2022 Year-end Accounts

Financial Statements for year ending 31 December 2022 have been received from the Auditors and approved by the Board.

As David Eaves mentioned in his brief summary email, the Accounts for the year-end show a surplus of £11,347 (2021: £(4,101)). When the Q4 2022 Management Accounts were previously reported, they referenced an (un-audited) surplus of £954. The main reason for the increased surplus between the Audited and Management accounts has been the release of part of a provision for staff costs.

Q1 2023 Management Accounts

Each year the financial performance of the English Alpine Championships (EAC) in Q1 has a substantial bearing on SE's overall performance for the year. The EAC is SE's premier event and is supported by a dedicated set of volunteers from our Alpine community as well as our central staff team. In 2023, the EAC exceeded expectations both in the delivery of the event and in its financial performance. Mostly due to the EAC, Alpine provided a surplus in Q1 of £22.7k compared to a budgeted surplus of £15k. This is a great result and our thanks to our colleagues in Alpine and our central services team for their work on this event.

Artificial Numbers to Date

The 2023 artificial season has got off to a solid start. In particular, GBR races have seen very high entry numbers at both Indoor and Outdoor events, exceeding the budget forecasts.

Club National races are close to the budget forecast, but have not seen any significant increases over 2022 so far. The Inter-Regional event, held at Silksworth in April, showed a 30% reduction in entries, but this is largely due to the timing of the event and it is intended to schedule the event for late June/July in the 2024 calendar.

A summary of Artificial Numbers to date is included with this update.

Appendix 2

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Update from TD Forum Meeting May 2023 (Lloyd Jenkins)

The TD Forum met on Saturday 13th May as an online meeting.

The key points to note were as follows:

FIS Matters

The meeting was advised that after some delay the Fluoro ban in race waxes will come into force for Winter 2023/24, although on-site inspections are likely only to happen at the highest level initially, as the cost of testing is high.

Restricting the number of first - and second-year starts was discussed at length, although FIS is not yet ready for decisions as there are some complex issues to resolve; Nations are enforcing this (or not) to varying degrees at present.

ICR Changes

Rules are to change with regard to not allowing any climbing back in SL after coming to a stop, to bring it into line with other disciplines. This has been confirmed in the Southern Hemisphere ICR Precisions and will be introduced for 2023/24 season for FIS events now published on the FIS website.

Complete stop for Slalom events

- 614.2.3 Interdiction to Continue after a competitor stops
If competitors come to a complete stop (e.g. after a fall), they must no longer continue through previous or further gates. ~~This interdiction is valid in all events with a fixed start interval (Downhill, Super-G, Giant Slalom, Parallel). Only exception is for Slalom (art. 661.4.1), as long as the competitor:~~
~~- does not interfere with the run of the next competitor or,~~
~~- have not been passed by the next competitor.~~
- 661.4.1 A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitor's ski tips and both feet have crossed the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have crossed the gate line. ~~This rule also applies when a competitor has to climb back up to a gate. (art. 614.2.3)~~
- 804.3 Where there is no outside pole, both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole on the same side, following the normal race line of the slalom crossing the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole. If competitors lose a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must meet both requirements. ~~If competitors have not correctly crossed the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole and does not follow the normal race line, they have to climb back up and pass around the missed turning pole.~~ Where there is an outside pole (first and last gate, delayed gate, and combinations (hairpin, vertical) art. 661.4.1. is valid.

The use of electronic noticeboards such as WhatsApp are to be allowed explicitly, removing the requirement for publishing paper forms, such as Start Lists and Referee Report Forms. These are to be announced at the Team Captain's Meeting.

There will be some clarification on allowing double entry by an athlete if two events are scheduled in same location on same day. Details are defined in the FIS Southern Hemisphere ICR Precisions

FIS Medical Council

Current activities include:

- Trans-gender discussions on-going within FIS, but no conclusions yet.
- New Athletes Health Unit has been approved by council, looking at all aspects of health and well-being across all disciplines.
- Projects on concussion under way, including review of wearable devices to measure impact.

New TDs

Ross Gardner was confirmed as having completed their GB assessments and exams and is now approved as a full British TD.

Rule Changes BACR/BCR

No changes were tabled at the May Forum meeting

U16 Race Format – random draw

A proposal to use a random draw for U16 races as has already been successfully trialled in the USA. The meeting agreed that this could be a positive change and wider discussion was required. A sub-group is to be set up discuss the proposal and seek input from racing community

Next TD Forum Meeting

The November TD Forum meeting is planned to take place on 4th/5th/6th November 2023 in Manchester.

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Alpine Squad Update

The Selection Panel met on 7th June to review the squad selection for 2023/24. LJ chaired the panel following the recent departure of Tim Fawke and was supported by Paul Telling and Tom Farenden.

LJ confirmed that the selection process had been completed and letters have been prepared and emailed to those who were successful/unsuccessful and were posted to athletes on 12th June. Once the appeal process has been completed, the 2023/24 squad will be announced on the Snowsport England Website.

The numbers selected are similar to those selected in 2022.

YOB	M	W	Grand Total	Category
2003	2	2	4	U21
2004	6	0	6	U21
2005	4	6	10	U21
2006	4	5	9	U18
2007	4	6	10	U18
2008	4	4	8	U16
2009	3	2	5	U16
2010		1	1	U16
Grand Total	27	26	53	