

# SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

Minutes of a Council Meeting held at Snowsport England Offices  
on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 1.15pm

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## Present:

Barry Spouge	Chairman
David Hart	Director
Nigel Matthews	Director, Coaching Committee Leader
Dave Richardson	Director
Tim Fawke	Chief Executive
Peter Heath	Company Secretary
John Wahlers	NWSF Representative
Andrew Jeffries	NWSF Representative
Mike Smith	YSF Representative
Graham Pickles	YSF Representative
Gill Hall	EMSA Representative, Alpine Committee Leader
Piet Van Kempen	ERSA Representative
Darren Schmidt	SRSA Representative
Gillian Gilyead	ESSkiA Representative
Tony Archbold	ESSkiA Representative
Richard Berry	Non-Regional Clubs Representative
John Shedden	Coaches Representative
Peter Handford-Styring	National Coaching Scheme Members Representative
Adam Pinney	Nordic Committee Leader
Martin Carr	Freestyle Committee Leader

## Observers:

Stewart Smith	Sharks Ski Club
Alan Jones	Merseyside Ski Club
Lance Robinson	Merseyside Ski Club
Jeff Elmore	Midland Ski Club
Tony Irvine	Kendal Ski Club
Jan Irvine	Kendal Ski Club
Arnie Eckersall	Southampton Area Ski Association
Mike Hammond	Coach
Chris Exall	Coach
Jo Willoughby	British Disabled Ski Team
+ 3 others	

## 1. Appointment of Chairman

Barry Spouge introduced himself as Chairman, having been appointed at a Board meeting immediately after the AGM.

For the benefit of the observers present, the Chairman proposed to take Item 5 on the Agenda first.

## **2. UK Snowsports Coaching Scheme**

Tim Fawke gave a presentation on the new UK Snowsports Coaching Scheme – presentation available at: [http://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/governance\\_policies-1042.html](http://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/governance_policies-1042.html) under Coaching

All course material will be available at: <http://www.uksnowsports.com/>

The scheme will be managed by UK Snowsports – a new organisation comprising the Home Nations. Details & constitution not yet finalised. The UK Group will need authority to agree changes to the Scheme without having to refer back to the HNGBs each time for approval.

The Home Nations are seeking the full support of the SSGB Board and staff for the UK Snowsports Scheme – to be discussed at the SSGB Congress tomorrow.

The scheme is to be launched on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Responses to questions:

In the short term, instructors/coaches will continue to register with their HN. Once the new organisation is established, registration will be with UK Snowsports.

NISC has been disbanded. NI instructors & performers currently register with SSE or SCI/SAI.

Existing Club Instructors will need to qualify as Level 1 Instructor at their scheduled refresher date, though they can qualify earlier if they wish.

The new BASI Level 1 qualification is competing with our Club Instructor/ASSI qualifications, but does not deliver what our members want or need for teaching in the club environment. Despite protracted negotiations, we were unable to persuade BASI to grant the HNs input to the technical content.

The BASI scheme offered no equivalent to the Club Instructor. All existing CIs (700 in SSE) would have to pass the BASI Level 1 on revalidation (within 3 years) to remain in the scheme.

In view of the failure to reach agreement with BASI, the HNs had agreed to work together to produce a single UK Coach Award Scheme, which would be endorsed by Sports Coach UK for the UK Coaching Certificate and with the top coaching qualification recognised by the IVSI (who recognise the current SSE Coach qualification).

Additional modules may be provided for specific activities – e.g. freestyle jumps, and for sports psychology, nutrition etc.

### **3. Regional Project**

SSE has secured a grant from CCPR for a project to support communications with existing and potential members and the development of regional development plans. Tim gave a short presentation on the aims and perceived benefits of the project.

Two Regions will be selected for the pilot scheme. Tim to contact Regions to see who would be interested.

Discussion:

Some Regions are better at securing funding than others – need to share knowledge. County Sports Partnerships can help to link sports organisations and individuals with potential grant and sponsorship opportunities. Details at:

[http://www.sportengland.org/index/get\\_resources/county\\_sports\\_partnerships.htm](http://www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/county_sports_partnerships.htm)

The Youth Sport Trust works with sports governing bodies and others to create programmes which give young people the chance to take part in sport.

<http://www.youthsporttrust.org/>

Need for the Schools & Youth Committee to work closely with ESSkiA to take advantage of these opportunities.

Returning to the agenda order:

### **4 Apologies:**

Martin Tomlinson                      Schools & Youth Committee Leader

### **5. Minutes**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2007 were approved.

### **6. Matters Arising**

None

### **7. Annual Elections**

There being no contested positions, the following were appointed as Leader of their respective Key Committees:

Alpine	Gill Hall
Freestyle & Snowboarding	Martin Carr
Nordic	Adam Pinney
Coaching	Nigel Matthews
Schools & Youth	Martin Tomlinson

## **8. Finance**

The Chairman reported that the new Finance Manager, Sara Tatham, had started with us only two weeks ago. We are aiming to resume monthly financial reporting to the Board in June and will report back to Council as soon as possible.

The 2008 budget included very cautious estimates for the Coaching Scheme and Alpine Championships income leading to a projected overall deficit for the year of £26k. The Board will review this when the management accounts are available.

## **9. Administration**

The Chairman introduced the new staff members: Sara Tatham and Marie Beard. Contact details will be updated on the website: About Us, Governance, Staff

## **10 Key Committees**

Full reports on committee activities are given in the Annual Report.

Noting that the Alpine Committee concentrates its efforts on racing, there was a suggestion that a Development committee is required for grass-roots development and increasing participation.

There was a request that future Council meetings have a section in the agenda for clubs & regions to share their ideas and what they do, perhaps moving to one Council meeting and one Regional Forum per year.

It was noted that there had been recent proposals for Council to have its own Chairman to facilitate such ideas, but that no-one had volunteered to take on the role.

In response to a request for a social networking website hosted by SSE, it was noted that our insurers would insist that all input to an open forum be fully vetted before publication. It was acknowledged that we need to improve communications in both directions with our current and potential membership and proposed that the request should be considered as part of the e-communications strategy project.

Tim confirmed that the Coaching Conference will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at Harben House, Newport Pagnell. The conference is for all members of the Coaching Scheme, not just coaches.

Schools & Youth Committee. Martin Tomlinson is chairing his first meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June & is looking for volunteers to serve on the committee.

## **11 Freestyle Presentation by Peter Handford-Styring**

Details of Peter's presentation are available at:

[http://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/council\\_presentations\\_may\\_2008-2725.html](http://www.snowsportengland.org.uk/council_presentations_may_2008-2725.html)

After the presentation, Richard Berry commented that only one Freestyle Squad member listed in the presentation was receiving benefit from a tax efficient bespoke fund operated by the Skiers Trust of Great Britain. 40 new bespoke funds have been set up in the last year and the fund now has an annual turnover of £700k.

Details available at: <http://www.skierstrust.co.uk/>

## **12 Snowsport GB**

The Spring Congress and AGM will be held at BA offices, Heathrow tomorrow. Peter Stratton & Tim Fawke will be attending to represent SSE. Barry Spouge has a prior commitment.

The Home Nations have together submitted a number of proposals, which are on the Congress agenda. These cover:

- provision of monthly management accounts to the HNGB Boards
- a HNGB representative to attend Board meetings
- SSGB to support the UK Snowsports Awards Scheme

## **13 AOB**

Barry Spouge announced that Dave Richardson of Norfolk Ski Club had been co-opted onto the Board of Directors.

Understanding that SSGB's National Performance & Development Manager is considering possible criteria for recognition of Ski Academies by SSGB, it was requested that SSE develop membership criteria for Academies wanting to be members of SSE.

Recognising British Disabled Ski Team Member - Joe Willoughby's presence at the meeting, Graham Pickles sought assurance that the UK Snowsports Coaching Scheme will include full provision for disabled skiers. This was confirmed by Tim.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 4:15pm.