

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

ARC Meeting

Sunday 3rd March 2013

SportPark, Loughborough



Present:

Andrea Grant (AG) – Chair
Taryn Archbold (TA) – Coaches' Liaison Officer
Jemima Barnes (JB) – England Team Manager
Jeremy Eaton (JE) – Interim Chair, SSE
Darren Fellows (DFe) – Communications Rep
Dermot Flahive (DFI) – Chair ROTP
Peter Heath (PH) – Finance
Lloyd Jenkins (LJ)
David Manns (DM) – Chair STP
Mary Calvert (MC) – Secretary

Minutes:

1. Apologies were received from:

Tim Fawke (TF) – CEO, SSE
Ian Findlay (IF) – Talent Pathway Officer, SSE
Charlotte Gould – Racers' Rep
John Harrington – Schools' Rep
Steve Lambert – Regional Rep

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

All those committee members present who had not already completed a form did so.

3. Actions from Previous Meeting

3.1 Karen Conde is looking into Level 1 Training Courses

3.2 IF is dealing with advising clubs of the new mentor programme.

3.3 AG is reviewing ROC and Race Sec appointments.

3.4 BARSC Indoor races have been confirmed for 12/13 October 2013.

3.5 Discussions are still ongoing with Gloucester Ski Slope. There is still no agreement on sponsorship. The slope is insisting that racers and spectators are not allowed to take any of their own food or drink onto the premises. ARC finds these restrictions unacceptable. If there are problems at the first race, then further races at the slope will be pulled.

Action: AG and TF to have further discussions with the slope

3.6 A level 2 officials course will be held at Gloucester on 13/14 April 2013. It was stressed that a significant increase was needed in the pool of race officials. Existing officials should be encouraged to recruit new officials from their clubs and regions. PH would publish full details of the course.

3.7 Issues had previously been discussed regarding appropriate levels of course setting. All BASI level 2 (APC 2) coaches are qualified to course set. It was noted that no courses for course setting on artificial slopes had been held recently. The course setters list had not been updated.

Action: TA to look into this

4. Update from ROTP

DFI presented the report appended at the end of these minutes.

There was discussion as to whether the U10/U12 entry fees at events run in conjunction with the GBR series should be reduced. It was felt that this was not appropriate and the fees should be the same for all racers. It was agreed that trophies/medals should be awarded for these events.

Kevin Webb has stepped down as Chief of Race for the Alpine Championships. The CEO of SSE (TF) will take over from 2014. JE, as Chair of SSE, will formally thank Kevin for all his work.

JB asked for clarification whether U10/U12 racers could act as forerunners for Children's races. LJ confirmed that it is up to the jury to decide who the forerunners are. DFe supported suitable racers being asked to forerun if their coaches felt it was appropriate.

AG published an Alpine Race Bulletin in December. She will update this and republish it.

5. Update on Team England

JB reported "The England Team has undergone a major change over the last year and moving forward the England Team will be renamed the England Squad and will form part of the England Talent Squad which will run across all disciplines. For the upcoming year the England Alpine Squad will be selected and when and if needed separate criteria will be published for 'team' selection i.e. If we need an England Team to compete somewhere, then a criteria and selection would occur. Criteria for the Squad are published on the website and will be emailed to clubs in the next few days."

DFe expressed concern that the criteria had been published the day before Bormio. He was worried that this could mean some racers not achieving the selection criteria. It was emphasised that there were facilities for those not at the championships to still be considered. JE stated that in the last 3 years, the criteria had not been published until April. There had been many changes this year and publication had occurred as early as possible. It was planned to publish in December 2013 for next season.

LJ reported that BSS had an athlete tracker on their website in the governance section and asked if SSE intended to do this as well. There is a home nation line available.

6. Alpine Funding

DFe raised concerns about the apparent direction of funding by BSS away from Alpine racing. JE responded that all of the current BSS funding was ring fenced for ski and snowboard Slopestyle via UK Sport. UK Sport have a no compromise approach - if there is not a prospect of a medal then they will not fund the sport. The bids for the current round of funding began 18 months ago. At that stage, there was no one with a realistic chance of a medal at Sochi. This was not the case for ski and snowboard Slopestyle. Alpine now have more racers at the top level and BSS are actively trying to gain more funding for Alpine. It was agreed that ARC would like SSE to communicate more information on how funding was achieved – as well as promoting the recent high level successes of our top racers.

Action: JE to report back to the SSE Board

7. Request for change of age group

A request had been received in January from the parent of an U12 racer that the racer be allowed to race as an U14 for this season. The request was circulated to all committee members. Responses were considered by a sub-group of the Chair ARC(AG), Chair ROTP (DF), Interim Chair SSE (JE) and CEO SSE (TF). They agreed that:

- Whilst we totally understood the request, it's difficult to let one racer (or a number if there was a seed point cut off) to ski in an older age group. This would be unfair on the U14's and the U12's who missed this cut off – there could have been some that missed it by only 1 or 2 points.

- We also believe that no skier will be held back by not being seeded or skiing stubbies for a year, it is believed that this will help with their development.
- We also looked at freezing their points, but if they really are good racers, then they will obtain good seed points within a couple of races next year.
- We did look at the other side too, but having been in discussions with BSS and the other HN's over the last few months (actually over a year) we did make a decision which we must stick to. A large percentage of coaches also support the non-seeding and stubbies for U12's.

Action: TF has already replied to the parent

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Funstar Races

A proposal that this style of race be reintroduced was put forward by Alan Jones. (It is a format which allows recreational skiers to compete down a course and compare their times with top seeded racers.) The committee felt that the National calendar was too full to accommodate any extra races but that these might be a format which could be adopted by individual slopes/clubs.

8.2 Race Leagues

Alan Jones also proposed that race leagues be introduced – with racers competing in groups of a similar standard. Again, the committee felt that the race calendar was already too full to accommodate this.

8.3 Club National Series

It was confirmed that the 13 Club National races (9 outdoor, 4 indoor) listed on the calendar would be used to decide this series. With the change of rules for U12 racers, only U14 racers and above would be eligible to count for the team. The four best overall results for each club will be combined to produce a total time for the club with the conditions that:

- at least one of the results must be an U14/U16 racer
- no more than two results by SEN/MAS racers
- at least one result by a male racer
- at least one result by a female racer

8.4 Chair of ARC

AG announced that, because of changed work commitments, she was resigning from the SSE Board and standing down as Chair of ARC (although she was remaining on ARC).

JE thanked AG on behalf of all the committee for the work she had put in to ARC.

AG suggested that LJ take on the role of interim Chair of ARC until the SSE AGM in June. This was formally proposed by JE and seconded by JB. All agreed.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 2 June at 13:00.

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

ROTP Report to ARC

Sunday 3rd March 2013 at 10:00

SportPark, Loughborough



Artificial Calendar 2013

- COR appointments confirmed for all events run by SSE
- Still awaiting COR, Race Secretary and CWO details for many events
- SSE propose to charge maximum recommended race entry fees of £20 for outdoor events and £25 for indoor events
- Most clubs have not confirmed race entry fees for their events although we expect that some will charge less than the maximum recommended values
- Southampton have decided not to hold an event in 2013;
- Landgraaf Indoor BASS races – we are reviewing the viability of holding the event this year; BARSC are potentially interested in hosting the event in 2014 subject to approval by the BARSC member clubs
- BARSC Indoor Championships confirmed as a 0 minimum penalty race and scheduled for 12/13 October at Chill Factore, Manchester
- We have had no requests for winter seeded races (Excel) although we believe that SSW plan to hold an Excel event
- We need to decide on the race entry fees for the U10/U12 events to be held in conjunction with the GBR series

GBR series

- Gwyneth Watson to update the rules document for these events; Dermot to circulate to ROTP and ASC for approval
- The Home Nations to co-ordinate the publicity for these events
- The Home Nations to confirm GBR series sponsorship
- We need agreement on trophies for the GBR series

Officials Training

- L2 Officials course scheduled at Gloucester on 13/14 April
- The format of the L2 Officials course is being revised to have the first day in the classroom and the 2nd day putting the training into practice at a race event
- SSW have kindly agreed to move their Gloucester club race to Sunday 14th April to fit in with the L2 course
- The Tutors are revising the course material to meet the new format
- The charge for the course is £25 per delegate
- There are requests for L1 training from Telford and Ravens clubs; Alan Bullock will deliver the course for Telford and Piet Van Kempen will deliver the course for Ravens

- Piet is also in discussions with ERSA regarding training
- We propose to hold a training refresher seminar for existing L1 and L2 officials annually going forward; we hoped to hold the first refresher session this spring but we may struggle to find a suitable date; the Level 2 tutors have offered to help with the preparation and delivery of the refresher seminar; Piet will co-ordinate the seminar

Documentation

- Race Secretary Booklet drafted – out for review by ROTP this week and aim to publish by 11 March
- Guide to Ski Racing Rules. Alan Bullock and Mike Frith to update as required for review by ROTP with the aim of publishing before end of March
- SSE Race Manual (current version 8.5, July 2010). Lloyd to update for review by ROTP, with the aim to publish by end of March
- BACR – has been updated and published on the GBSKI website following the TD Forum
- Alpine Race Bulletin. Artificial update to be provided by Andrea Grant for review by ROTP, with the aim to publish by the end of March

Alpine Championships

- Overall entries up on last year but FIS entries down; this is largely due to the change in age groups that meant that there was no new intake into FIS this year
- The full race program was held
- The championships are expected to make a moderate surplus
- As planned Kevin Webb has stepped down as Chief Of Championships with Tim Fawke taking over for 2014; David Manns will take on the race co-ordination and organisation for the event
- It is proposed to split the Race Secretary role with Andrea continuing with the FIS races and Debs Manns taking on the U16, U14 and U12/U10 races
- The 2014 championships are scheduled for Bormio during February half term, commencing Saturday 15th Feb 2014