

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND



Alpine Strategy and Planning Committee Meeting

18:30 12 September 2016

Teleconference

Present:

Lloyd Jenkins – Deputy Chair (LJ)
Mary Calvert (MC)
Alison Eyre (AE)
David Manns (DM)
Ian Roberts (IR)
Paul Telling (PT)

1. Apologies

Bryan Thomas (BT)
Peter Heath (PH)
Elly Cockcroft (EC),

2. Declaration of Interests

PT still needed to complete this. Everyone else present had done so.

Action: MC to send PT necessary form

3. Minutes of previous meeting (10/07/2016)

The minutes of the previous meeting had been agreed by the committee and published on 25/07/2016.

4. Actions from previous minutes not on the agenda elsewhere

There were none.

5. Communication of SSE Child Safeguarding Policy

This refers to the Snowsafe document which has been published on the SSE website. LJ reported that all committee members should look at this document. The committee needed to complete a self-assessment form once a year and return it to the SSE safeguarding lead.

**Action: LJ to complete the self-assessment form and return it to the SSE safeguarding lead
All committee members to read the Snowsafe document on the SSE website**

6. Finance Report

PH had submitted a finance report to the meeting which was circulated in advance. There was no narrative attached to it. All events had come out with a surplus.

Action: MC to ask PH for a short explanatory narrative to be added to the minutes

7. Officials' Training

- a) **Level 2 Course** IR confirmed that a 2 day level 2 course will take place at Loughborough on 12/13 November. The tutors will be David Manns and Richard Dawe. He is awaiting confirmation of costings/accommodation/admin support from the SSE office. When these are clarified, an advert will be published. In the meantime, any queries should be sent to IR.

Action: IR to publish advert for Level 2 course when details confirmed by SSE office

- b) **Level 1 Course** LJ reported that several Level 1 courses had taken place this year. Another has been requested by the Gloucester Club in October/November.

Post Meeting Note

No update was available regarding the digital level 1 course. This will be added to agenda for the next meeting.

Action: MC to add digital level 1 course to agenda for November

8. Calendar Planning Group

- a) **2017** LJ reported that most of the 2017 key venues had been agreed and dates set for GBR and Championship events. Karen Conde (AEC) has sent out invitations to clubs for Club National bids. The Scottish Championships will again clash with the All England Championships. However, the TD forum and Alpine Squad training days have been put into the calendar and do not clash with any events. It is planned that the full calendar will be available by the end of October.

Post meeting note

This item should have made it clear that the TD forum and Alpine Squad training days have been put into the calendar and do not clash with any Snowsport England organised events. The Welsh Championships clash with an English Alpine Squad weekend in September.

- b) **2018** Nigel Vincent (AEC) is chairing a small group to look at calendar planning for 2018 and beyond. An initial report of this will be tabled at the next meeting.

Action: LJ to ask Nigel Vincent to provide an update on the future calendar review for the next meeting

9. Course Setting Policy

PT presented a review of course setting policies (appendix 1) which he had written with Jo Ryding (AEC). This was in general agreement with the Course Setting Policy published on gbski.com. He felt that this policy needed to be applied more strictly. It was also important that the course setter lists be kept current. Only those actively setting courses should be listed and there should be separate lists for indoor and outdoor artificial surfaces. IR suggested that course setters could be assigned to events – as TDs are. DM suggested that someone from the calendar planning group could coordinate this.

Action: PT to send draft paper to Jo Ryding to confirm her agreement to append with the minutes of the meeting

10. AOB

Disciplinary Issues at Events

Following an incident at a recent event, DM asked if there was a formal process in place for handling disciplinary procedures once a race had been completed (and therefore the jury was no longer in place). IR said that there was a facility within the TD forum to set up a panel to hear an appeal against a jury decision once a race had been completed but nothing to deal with disciplinary matters.

Action: LJ to look into what options might be available to deal with disciplinary situations

The next meeting will take place at Sportpark on Saturday 26 November at 10:30 am.

Actions:

2	MC	to send PT code of conduct and declaration of interest form	
5	LJ	to complete the self-assessment form and return it to the SSE safeguarding lead.	
5	All	to read the Snovsafe document on the SSE website	
6	MC	to ask PH for a short explanatory narrative to the finance statement to be added to the minutes	
7a	IR	to publish advert for Level 2 course when details confirmed by SSE office	
7b	MC	to add digital level 1 course to agenda for November	
8b	LJ	to ask Nigel Vincent to provide an update on the future calendar review for the next meeting	
9	PT	to send draft paper to Jo Ryding to confirm her agreement to append with the minutes of the meeting	
10	LJ	to look into what options might be available to deal with disciplinary situations	

Appendix 1

Review of the Course Setting Policy and Course Setters List. (11/09/2016)

Paul Telling and Jo Ryding have discussed the nature and standard of the courses and the course setters list, and come up with the following comments and suggestions (on the basis of starting from scratch.)

Current lists and policies have not been updated since 2014.

- It is agreed that the relative standard of courses for various events varies drastically.
- At regional and CN level you have a single course set and multiple attempts. At GBR and Championship level you have different courses set. It is expected that a regional is simplest, and a CN is clearly easier set than a GP. This is harder with Indoor races where CN / GBR / Championships effectively take the same format of only 1 run on a course. It is worth investigating how these races are set up (e.g a CN on artificial is not the same difficulty as a CN indoors)
- Basic guideline should be set (those we have are currently based on BACR rules, from adapted FIS rules) regarding the number of combinations and minimum / maximum distance at each slope. On outdoor slopes this would give the course setters more freedom than expecting a maximum or minimum number of gates as weather conditions can change the running speed of the slopes. For indoor slopes, where variables are limited, it would give the setters more options.
- An agreed set of guidelines (e.g dryslope features 1-3 combinations for a regional or CN, and 2 – 4 combinations plus 1 delay, with gate sets of no less than 6m and no more than 12m) would help, but arguably would still require the intelligence of setter to decide how it runs best.
- Paul and Jo agreed that actually having intelligent and relevant setters with current hands on experience would probably be more useful than stricter rules in place.
- It was discussed that having a strong, and constantly up to date version of a course setters list (two separate lists, one for each surface) would make this easier.
- You can have “everyone” bar a few highly experienced surface specific coaches start on the B list for each surface, and they are able to move up by setting on that surface under the guidance of the coach from the A list.
- The A List allows you to set for GPs and Championships (on that lists specific surface). The B list for CNs. If you set and it is appropriate then you move up the list for that season only. If you don't set for a year you drop down a list. If you don't set for two years you drop off the list and need to set again at regional level before you are re appointed to the B list.
- For an A List setter to remain on the list they should set at least one GBR / Championship race in that season that is supervised by another A list setter (this should be easy as these races would have two runs in two different courses and therefore have 2 A list setters there anyway)
- To be on the B list you must be working regularly (how this is defined is unclear) on that surface. E.g – No matter how good a snow coach is, they can not come in and set on dry – they must first set at regional level, then move onto the B list.
- UKCP should pick up more information and share more knowledge on the purpose of course setting in their sessions. There should be more opportunities for coaches to set at other slopes other than their home slope, through either training courses or race availability.
- It would be ideal if setting at at-least two Regional CN level races was required to get signed off for your level one coaching award.
- Generally the rules in the Course Setters Policy Oct 2014 are the same as most suggestions above but do not appear to be followed, largely because they have not been kept up to date. We are not sure who is / should be responsible for this, but it is suggested that it should be the same person responsible for the overall calendar.
- Again, this is suggested that between SSE, SSS, SSW, one person is nominated and accountable for creating a centralised calendar, communicating with regions on suitable / appropriate dates, circulating information on who is available to set or suitable, and recording who is signed off. This is particularly relevant with the GBR series running through all three countries and Governing Bodies. If we do not have one central person / contact then there will not be consistency in setting, or other aspects of running the races.

11/09/16