

Snowsport England Schools Technical Advisory Committee

DRAFT

Minutes of meeting held at SportPark, Loughborough on Sunday 3rd July 2016

The meeting opened at 10.30am. **Present:**

Martin Tomlinson MBE (Chair)

Nigel Matthews

Gerry Wigglesworth

Chris Stroud

Dave Armstrong

Keith Sharkey (School Travel Forum)

Sally Berry

Stacy Gillow

Claire Pennell

Apologies received from:

Alan Cottle MBE

Ian Fawcett

Andy Stewart

John Shedden

Carrera Clarke

The chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance. Clare was welcomed as a representative of the Snowsport England office.

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 8th February 2016

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

1. Action List from Meeting held on 7th February 2016

Matters Arising:

A. Youth Development Committee Report - Update and National Schools Snowsport Week CS

Chris Stroud gave a report on the Youth Development Committee and circulated a copy of a presentation about the National Schools Snowsport Week 22-29 April 2016. The Inaugural National Schools Snowsport Week (NSSW) was a big success.

The presentation included how it was sponsored by Visit Andorra, showed much Media coverage in various parts of the country on the build-up, the event itself and

the follow up, featuring celebrity participation from Stacey Solomon (singer) and Aimee Fuller (Winter Olympic GB Snowboarder). Coverage from Daily Mail, ITV News coverage, Ski Club of Great Britain, many snowboard clubs, Radio stations, from Plymouth, Cornwall, Hertfordshire, North Yorkshire, Suffolk, Kent; in all there were 21 Slopes across England that participated, 149 schools, 1066 participants, with a fairly equal split between boys and girls, 57 pieces of Media coverage. The hand out further thanked all the volunteers at the club and regions around the country, whom without that support the week would not have been as successful.

Chris stated that The Youth Development Committee was pleased with the success of the event, and were keen to see how it could be made better, both in advertising the event, and the timings of the event, (it was noted that April is a very intense week for many schools, many with examinations looming). Chris further stated that The Youth Development Committee had many more meetings than the Technical committee.

A discussion on how the week had been advertised followed, with SSE office sending information to the County Sports Partnerships in the first instance. They would then pass the information to the School Games Organisers (SGO's), and then from the SGO's to the schools. For some schools the information arrived at SGO's in block emails and was slightly 'lost'. An example of this was that a notification of the NSSW was contained within another email that also contained articles about rowing. (B'ham (Chris)). In Merseyside (Gerry), the information did not come through at all. And finally, of the 400 schools in Birmingham for example, many had not received the information.

A brief explanation of how schools can obtain Sports event information followed for some clarification: As there are no longer School Sports Partnerships, it would be the Head of PE who would receive information via the SGO's, so if information went to the 450 School Games Organizers... the events could be better coordinated at the individual schools.

This committee's role for this could be that the event could be pushed through the SCO candidates, which would entail creating a contact list being formatted to include the names and details of those who had attended SCO courses. Discussion continued of how that could happen – for example Travel companies seem to have lists to send to anyone who has been a party leader... so could something similar be for SCO named contacts.

Another suggestion was that an appropriate number of fliers could be put into the pack that goes out to the SCO Tutors for distribution.

STF could send out fliers too

Chris finished with that there was a proposal to place an advert for a paid position for someone to oversee the National Schools Snowsport week.

Claire reported that only 5 schools have paid memberships of SSE as a result of the NSSW.

B. Annual Budget

The absence of anyone from SSE Board in attendance at this meeting, meant that there was no information on this item.

Query was raised by SB as to how was it possible that we make money from SCO and ASCL courses, but then hear that the committee is in debt. (Reference to a previous meeting)

Clare explained that that a certain % must be raised as there are liability costs associated with running courses. To be discussed in greater detail next meeting.

Action Claire Pennell/SSE Board

C. Articles for publication (AfPE)

David Armstrong has said that photographs were needed for the text that had been sent in for an excellent article on the ASCL experience , and that it was ready for publication in the Association for PE magazine: 'PE Matters' as soon as photographs were supplied. CS will send photographs to David from his ASCL course, he had gained permission from his candidates to use the photos. CS also has a candidate to write an article about the course including the lead up to the course, the course itself how qualification was then used on a subsequent Easter ski school trip.

David will get in touch with Alan to chase up an article on disability and Snowsports. Nigel M was asked if he could write an article about being the tutor of ASCL . KS from STF said that he could help as well with images.

Action KS CS NM DA AC

This generated discussion about the ASCL course and its advertising. A suggestion was made to that some "Speech bubbles" of evaluations of ASCL courses could be included in some companies' brochures as some companies offer the course as an incentive. CS noted that said the Youth Committee is looking at advertising in School Sports Magazine, and that a quarter page advert costs in the region of £360.00. Maybe this was a way forward as well. Additional publicity links were also available through Keith Sharkey to the School travel Forum and to the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel through Martin Tomlinson or one of the other members of the committee.

Action all

D. The School Travel Forum

Keith Sharkey gave an update on how ABTA and STF are to have a louder voice in regards to ensuring that STF members all had ABTA bonding or equivalent and to achieve ABTA support for STF. The STF website has been updated and relaunched

and includes links to include considerations after the Brussels bombings and added security checks.

STF are also working getting a coach qualification badge/kite mark for coach transport which would include/involve a 3 stage assessment.

STF would be discussing matters arising from the 2015/2016 season.

STF conducts surveys including one sent to SKI Party teachers about their knowledge of what STF and LOTC was. Results of some recent surveys were on the STF website.

It was reported that STF had been very supportive of advisers during the Paris bombing crisis.

2. The SSE Website: Schools Landing Page

NM has sent many articles to Victoria. Clare reported that the website was due to go live in a few weeks' time, hopefully at the end of July. It is hoped that the Schools Landing Page would have easier links to courses such as the SCO course and the ASCL course, perhaps through the use of a hyperlink.

Clare also indicated that she should be CC for any email traffic to Victoria to help ensure nothing gets missed.

3. Development Officer's Report

Claire is happy to produce information on SCO, ASCL courses for Nigel.

Claire said she could also help with the monthly newsletter, the weekly ones are from Victoria, there are Coaches newsletters for coaches, essentially, there are many newsletters promulgated, so if there are articles that has a recreational slant on it, then can please give it to Victoria or Claire

4. Safeguarding

Sally mentioned an article in a cycling magazine that basically asked the question –

...if you are a teacher looking after young people for a length of time and a child is upset (say perhaps after a fall?) could it be argued that it is neglect if a "hug" or such is not offered to that child? ...

Discussion of thoughts about this may be a good thing to be considered, Claire will ask the Safeguarding officer off SSE for thoughts, and Sally to also circulate a draft article regarding school residential trips.

Action CP SB

5. Plan forward – and some new matters arising

FIS rules / YouTube film

NM had conversation with Interski, they may be interested in helping but would want a script to follow –

Possibility of this if this committee provide a script if Interski could pay for it. (But that it could not then be sold)

JS still needs to be able to come back with his ideas. MT would email JS and then email us, at which time thoughts about a “story board could be created.

Action: MT would speak with JS

6. ASCL

Discussion ensued of what and who a Senior SCO course tutor was and a what and who a Senior ASCL Course Leader was.

Further discussion continued from last meeting about who approves any new tutors.

Historically, ASCL Tutors should be qualified teachers or qualified Youth Leaders. A qualified teacher who is endorsed by a senior person e.g. a Head teacher - is this still the right phrasing?

David Armstrong suggested all new tutors should be ratified by this committee, in perhaps the role as a critical friend (as how Governors are critical friends to schools).

Questions further arose, as to who does the final approval, this committee or is the final ratification down to Tim, once approved by the Technical committee?

In summary, after much discussion, back to square one – what is the criteria, and who has final approval authority.

Action: IF NM

7. SCO/ASCL report

Claire said that there are 11 SCO's advertised up to November, and 5 SCLs advertised

8. ESSKIA report – none available

9. AOB

Future projects

Adverts for newsletters

Another future project – to offer Residential trip course training similar to SCO - we could do a bespoke course- and sell that

GW expressed a thought about offering CPD for teachers on improving their ski technique – pitched at teachers specifically.

HELMETS

Gerry has become aware of frustrations shared by many Ski Party Leaders during the ski kitting out phase at the start of any school ski trip, that although Ski Party Leaders spend vast amounts of time sending ski companies information on Ht and Wt and Head size, shoe size... that Helmets are not being fitted properly. The information does not seem to be used. The lists seem to be used to move equipment around instead of being to ensure that there is the right "fit" for the children in question. Helmets especially – as most companies now do include the cost of a helmet in their ski equipment package. How they actually are fitted at during the ski fit session is either very good – or appalling. Additionally, there is evidence if GO PRO sets have been attached to the helmet – that does affect the safety of helmet, as the structure of the composite material can be compromised.

STF is starting to take helmet fitting and storage of helmets on board, there is an annex that has criteria for helmet fitting and storage on the STF website.

Even the addition of stickers to a helmet can compromise the helmets structure. Nigel will bring to the Coaching committee for guidance

Action: NM

An article about safe storage of helmets would be a good idea, and of other equip such as skis poles etc. would be good to include in one of the newsletters.

BREXIT

SG brought in an advertisement from a ski company for a school ski trip that essentially said that costs would not be effected by BREXIT. However, no mention of any other considerations such as the impact on EHIC cards or Travels lists or visas that might be needed. KS explained that ski companies are required to absorb a certain percentage of any price increases, and up to about 10% can be added as a surcharge. He said that the majority of the larger ski tour operators should be fine. As far as EHICs and Visas, situation is normal for now, no immediate changes are seen.

He mentioned that ABTA has a link of the FAQ for travellers. (Note – at time of drafting minutes, having checked the site below, no mention specifically of how school trips (ski or otherwise) may be effected – SG)

<https://abta.com/news-and-views/news/abta-statement-on-the-eu-referendum-result>

Scottish Alpine Skiing and Snowboarding personal qualities

Very good, perhaps we could discuss further at next meeting.

Next meeting: 6th November 2016 10.30-13.00 Sports Park Loughborough