

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

Draft Minutes of a Council Meeting held at Snowsport England Offices
on Saturday 20th June 2009 at 1.15pm

Present:

Barry Spouge	Chairman
Jennifer Denning	Finance Director
David Hart	Director
Nigel Matthews	Director, Coaching Committee Leader
Karen Richardson	Director
Peter Stratton	Director
Tim Fawke	Chief Executive
Peter Heath	Company Secretary
John Wahlers	NWSF Representative
Graham Pickles	YSF Representative
Piet Van Kempen	ERSA Representative
Darren Schmidt	SRSA Representative
Jeff Elmore	WMSA Representative
Roger Crombleholme	WMSA Representative
Tony Archbold	ESSkiA Representative
Richard Berry	Non-Regional Clubs Representative

Observers:

Ralph White	Manchester Cross Country Ski Club
Alan Jones	Merseyside Ski Club
Arnie Eckersall	Southampton Area Ski Association
Lesley Gash	Southampton Area Ski Association

1. Apologies

Chris Exall	NESA Representative
Andrew Jeffries	NWSF Representative
Gillian Gilyead	ESSkiA Representative
Adam Pinney	Nordic Committee Leader
Martin Carr	Freestyle Committee Leader
Martin Tomlinson	Schools & Youth Committee Leader
John Shedden	Coaches Representative
Peter Handford-Styring	National Coaching Scheme Members Representative

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th May 2008 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Annual Elections

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

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

It was noted that Gill Hall had resigned recently as Alpine Committee Leader due to other work commitments. The meeting expressed their appreciation of all the work Gill has done over the last six years.

Members were asked to think of suitable successors for this key role. A notice has been sent to member clubs with a job description inviting volunteers.

5. Strategic Matters

The Chairman explained the background to the proposal on the agenda. SSE's articles provide that "The Council is responsible for advising the Board on the general direction and guidelines and overall policy (including financial policy) of the Company." The high level of apologies for recent meetings has led to at least two meetings being cancelled. Various reasons for poor attendance were suggested, but the meeting agreed that the membership must be given the opportunity to advise the Board on policy matters – suggesting one formal meeting per year with e-mail consultation as required through the year. Views may also be gathered through the proposed Regional Chairs' meetings and by the new Development Officers when visiting clubs and regions.

The following resolution was proposed by Piet Van Kempen, seconded by Richard Berry and agreed without dissent:

- 1. After the AGM there is a council meeting to elect the KC Leaders and deal with any admin business**
- 2. That an e-mail address of council@snowsportengland.org.uk is setup as a distribution list. This would mean that an e-mail sent to this e-mail address (but only from a council member) would then be sent to all the other council members. The point being to allow more efficient communication between council members without the need to know the e-mail addresses of all members.**
- 3. Continue the current arrangements where the KC leaders organise their meetings to complete their duties**
- 4. Should other council members have any questions, then these can be directed at the relevant KC to be dealt with. Depending on what was asked it may be appropriate to invite the said person to the following KC meeting.**
- 5. When the most recent KC mins are added to the SSE web site an e-mail is sent out to the council e-mail address to advise members of it.**

It was suggested that notice of Council meetings be sent to all Council members with an agenda requiring confirmation of attendance not less than two months before the date of the proposed meeting. If less than the number required for quorum confirm their attendance by the two month deadline, the meeting to be cancelled.

Membership of Council:

Two representative of each Regional Association appointed by the Region

Two Representatives of ESSkiA appointed by ESSkiA

The Leader of each Key Committee

The Directors

The elected representative of the registered coaches

The elected representative of the voting National Coaching Scheme members

The two elected representatives of the non-Regional Full members

At this point, Barry Spouge left the meeting, and Nigel Matthews took the Chair.

6. Financial Matters

Council received the management accounts to 30th April 2009 and the 2009 budget as approved by the Board in January.

In response to a question about the £23k deficit budget, it was noted that most of this is in the Coaching budget and reflects the current issues relating to UK Snowsports and BASI. Tim is contacting all those who have not renewed their coaching registration for 2009 and there will be significant promotion of the UKSS courses once they are fully in place.

7. Administration

It was noted that there had been no changes in staff over the year. Sara Tatham had just completed her first year as Finance Manager and was doing a good job. Interviews for two Development Officers were completed last week. Final appointments will be made next week, anticipating that they will start work in August.

8 Key Committees

Reports from all Committees are as in the Annual Report. Minutes for all meetings are available in the public download area of the web site.

Tim reported on the arrangements for the Coaching Conference to be held at the new Snow Centre, Hemel on 19/20th September

Nigel thanked Ralph White for all the work he had done on the UKSS Nordic Scheme - awaiting acceptance by Snowsport Scotland.

Nigel reported that the Schools & Youth Committee has been very active under its new Chairman, Martin Tomlinson

9 Snowsport GB

An update was given at the AGM – see AGM minutes.

10 AOB

Piet Van Kempen, Chief of Championships for both events, invited members of the Board to attend the All England Indoor Championships at the new Snow Centre, Hemel on 23rd August and the All England Championships at Sunderland on 5/6th September.

In response to a query about the Alpine Championships, Tim advised that the organising committee are planning to hold two NJR category FIS races in addition to the normal programme. These are open to Juniors only with a reduced international quota – the aim being to leave sufficient places for all British Junior entries. Tim reported that the provisional race programme would be published in the next few days.

11 Next Meeting

It is proposed to hold the next Council meeting at the Birmingham Ski Show (end of October). This will be an open meeting for the purpose of consulting the membership on SSE's strategy over the next four years.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 2:30pm.