

# ENGLISH SKI COUNCIL LTD

(t/a SNOWSPORT ENGLAND)

---

---

## Minutes of a Board Meeting held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 10am At SportPark, Loughborough

---

---

Present:           Jeremy Eaton           Director – in the Chair  
                  Dan Hardie            Director  
                  Jemima Barnes        Director  
                  Nigel Matthews       Director

                  Tim Fawke            Chief Executive

Apologies:       Karen Richardson  
                  Jennifer Denning  
                  Peter Heath

- 919** The Board noted with regret the recent resignation of Barry Spouge and Adam Pinney from the Board. As agreed provisionally at the last meeting, Jeremy chaired the meeting.

It was noted that we need to stay focused as a board and not get distracted by smaller issues which if needed will be taken up by a board member and dealt with on an individual basis.

**920** **Declaration of Interests**

No new interests were declared.

**921** **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011 were confirmed as a true and accurate record thereof and were signed by the Chairman.

**922** **Matters Arising**

**Actions from last meeting:**

- 797e. Child Protection Training – No progress as yet.
- 830d. ESC Skiers' Foundation Trust – review terms – no progress as yet
- 841b. Accounts layout for reporting to Council members – Jennifer to action. – no progress reported
- 856. Facilities strategy – budget & job description for co-ordinator – no progress
- 883 Proposal for England Group to replace Coaching Committee – Tim & Nigel are discussing with Richard Barbour and will prepare a detailed proposal for Board approval – agreed to action this at the end of the season
- 890g Board Evaluation Survey – Results have been circulated to the rest of the board
- 911 Nominations committee – Set up and meeting in Bormio at English Championships next week
- 912 TF has notified publisher of the decision to terminate production of The Piste
- 914b AGM date agreed as 26<sup>th</sup> May 2012  
Next meeting confirmed 18<sup>th</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012

\* inserted into the minute book for record purposes.

## 923 2012 – 2017 Strategy and Sport England Presentation

The next funding round is seen as an evolution of policy strategy and not a revolution. Have consulted with multiple bodies. There is more demand for delivery at local level; therefore, we need to show how we can deliver at a local level.

- a. Access to facilities on school sites needs to be better, which is difficult for us given the location of our facilities. However, they would also like to see NGBs working locally.
- b. There is a 3% cut in funding from 09-13. This is generally a positive result.
- c. The 1million target has gone as Sport England has changed their targets.
- d. There is an increased interest in 14-25 year olds 60% funding for this age range and 40% for the rest. They are looking to track people through into older age groups.
- e. We are linking in with secondary schools – this led to a discussion on ESSKIA and how and if we can work better with them.
- f. Funding is split 25% talent; 75% participation
- g. Sport England will reward success and want delivery: They view funding as a privilege not a right.
- h. 30<sup>th</sup> April is the deadline date for Sport England grant application.
- i. We will be told in December 2012 what funding we'll get but won't receive the official award letter until 2013 with the funding to start from April 2013.
- j. From the board TF and Development Officers need us to help with engagement in the process
- k. The bid will be broken into 14-25; adult; talent and will be measured on strength of plan, use of insight. Use of insight led to a discussion on facilities such as Ackers and how we can use info such as the facilities strategy to help with the bid. The Board also discussed drop out around age 16 and GCSEs and discussed how and if we could look to keep some of those who drop out, in the sport for longer (full guidance document on how the bids will be assessed is in drop box).
- l. Timescale: Feb = thinking time. March = engage April = engage Need to talk with alpine, freestyle and Nordic to get the plan together.
- m. End of Feb: 2 pages need to be fed back to Sport England: within our strategy we much imbed what is important to Sport England.
- n. Development Officers to contact: Regions./disciplines, Crystal, CSPs, SportsCoach UK, Women in Sport, and attend talent meeting with Sport England
- o. TF has set up new dropbox folder with documents for the funding application within

## 924 CEO Report

### **a) Office**

Noted that paper work is not being sent out for ASCL courses. Tim to action this and make sure paperwork is sent out in time. Nigel to provide Tim with details of any other issues and details on particular courses as there are some who are not receiving paperwork.

### **b) Marketing budget**

£12000 cost of the Piste plus postage of £1500-£2000: Is this value for money? Are we promoting SSE in a way that we are happy with? It is only partially colour – could we have full colour instead?

Last issue of The Piste to be held until after Bormio due to spelling errors and it being out of date and missing events such as Bormio.

It was noted that we have 2 audiences both younger and older and we need to work out what the different things these audiences want to see. A proposal is to form a partnership with Racer Ready. JE and TF to meet with Neil McQuoid in Bormio about this.

Communication Strategy – Discussed that this needs looking at in great detail, however, first we need to make sure the Funding application is done, Bormio is successful and that we sort out a new chairman before this can happen effectively.

It was noted that we need to learn how to speak to people in the snowsports community, particularly as SSE is perceived to just be looking at racing.

It was proposed that the Board could go on a road show meeting all clubs, engaging with members, trying to make common links with clubs.

It was noted that e-communication could be a path for SSE to follow.

#### **c. Consultant for bid proposal**

It was agreed that Tim can have a consultant to help write the bid. This was agreed to be signed off by Jeremy Eaton.

#### **d. BASI – Performance pathway**

Pilot course planned with press release to be sent out once this has been completed. Relationships seem to be developing with BASI and we plan to work together on the printing and storage of course resources.

#### **e. Talent Pathway**

Agreed we need someone to run/provide us with and help develop a pathway

Action: DH to contact people who might be able to help find someone to bring in to help with the talent pathway for SSE and get them to contact TF. Action TF to put together a specification for what we want from a consultant along with 2-3 names of people who might be able to do it.

#### **f. Go Ski Go Board**

Key date 22<sup>nd</sup> May – facilities and club conference. Crystal is sponsoring it with exhibition stands.

Board members are invited to attend if possible. TF has requested that at least 1 board member is present on the day.

#### **g. BSS**

No dates yet for constitution. TF met with Dave Edwards from BSS and the constitution is progressing but there are no dates for when this will be circulated back to the HNs. While there is some very positive news regarding funding for the freestyle and snowboard teams which is great news, there is a concern over funding for Alpine for the 2012-13 season as some of the current sponsorship contracts expire. BSS will need to clarify the position by March so budgets are in place for the following season.

BSS working group – Dave Collins presented to the group at BSS meeting, it seems that they are forming a clearer pathway. Timescales are currently unknown and it is not yet known how long this will take to implement. TF will attend the next meeting of the working group on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.

### **925 Governance Review**

Need to recruit Chairman and directors. Board also needs to review itself and offer action  
Chairman requirements: Someone who has a clear focus and can bring clarity to the organisation; someone who can chair meetings well and who has the ability to represent us well and our organisation at the right level. We want to punch above our weight in a broad sense.

Make up of board – it was discussed if we need 8 members – need to check memorandum  
Could we propose that there need to be 1 to 1 meetings with chair of key committees or that chair of committees sit on the board?

JE and JB to discuss future of alpine committee with Andrea. NM to discuss schools committee with them. The board agreed to advise committee leaders that there are no more than 8 members on each committee.

**926 Finance and Admin**

Accounts were not agreed or signed off .  
JE to talk to KR to understand expectations of team and make it easier.  
There are issues with statements to debtors going out late  
There are also invoices for courses being sent to when courses have not even taken place

TF to chase Jennifer about audit and update required  
Action: Karen and Jennifer to take this forward to allow Tim to focus on the bid.

JE proposed that Tim has bank signatory limit increased to £1000. Board agreed that Tim can have a sign off up to £1000. Jeremy Eaton to sign off over £1000.

**927 England Alpine Ski Team proposal**

The board discussed at length the England Alpine Team, including a proposal put forward to the board about the future of the team. The proposal presented some good ideas and the board agreed to some of the points raised. The board agreed that developing a talent pathway is a priority for all the sports it governs. The board, however, was concerned with the action for developing a head coach and exactly what that would involve/look like. The board agreed that it might be a good idea to offer a CH2 programme and that broadening the team across disciplines would be a good way to increase team spirit and identity. The continuation of the team was noted as a great concern due to a number of issues with the team over the last few years. The board agreed that they needed to receive proposals such as this earlier than the night before to be able to fully consider such proposals and make decisions.

**928 Key Committees**

Freestyle minutes – received and agreed  
School minutes – received and agreed  
Nordic minutes – received and agreed  
Alpine – no minutes received, but discussed at length

**929 British Ski and Snowboard**

Covered under minute above

**930 AOB**

Board documents  
It was agreed that any documentation accompanying any decisions that need to be made must be in the dropbox folder at least 1 week before the meeting so that members have enough time to read all documentation for the meeting.

Halesowen Office Staff meal – NM took them out for a meal – good evening had by all.  
NM thanked for taking staff out for a meal.

**931 Next Meetings**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May at Chill Factore  
AGM – 26<sup>th</sup> May at SportPark, Loughborough

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 14.55.