

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

ARC Committee Meeting

Sunday 25th November 2012

SportPark, Loughborough University



Minutes of ARC meeting Loughborough Sports Park

Present

Andrea Grant
Dermot Flahive
David Manns
Steve Lambert
Taryn Archbold
Darren Fellows
Peter Heath
Charlotte Gould

Minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies received from John Harrington, Jemima Barns, Tim Fawke, Jeremy Eaton and Ian Findlay

2. Review of previous Meeting

- Level 1 Training Course – ROTP to look at the feasibility of putting the course online.
- BSS Proposal – Ian F emailed findings to ROTP / ARC, see Appendix.
- Advise clubs of new mentor programme – information to be published to Snowsport England website and via an Alpine Bulletin.
- Review of ROC and Race Sec appointments – on going.
- Race Calendar – see ROTP Minutes.
- BARSC Proposal – Darren is still trying to confirm a date and location.
- Roles and Responsibilities, see below.
- Gloucester Ski Slope, Andrea and Tim have met with the new owners and they are sticking with no food or drink policy of no food or drink to be bought onto the premises unless purchased at the slope. Discussions on Sponsors are still on going.

3. ARC Committee – name change back to ARC (Alpine Race Committee) from ASC (Alpine Ski Committee)

The new committee is now made up of the following
Andrea Grant – Chair
Mary Calvert – Secretary

Dermot Flahive – Chair, ROTP
David Manns – Chair, STP
Steve Lambert – Regional Rep
Darren Fellows – Communications Rep
Charlotte Gould – Racers Rep
Taryn Archbold – Coaches Liaison Officer
John Harrington – Schools Rep
Peter Heath – Finance
Ian Findlay – Talent Pathway Officer, Snowsport England
Jemima Barns – England Team Manager

I would like to thank Gillian Gilyead who's experience has been invaluable over the years, as we move forward with a Schools rep who will now work with SSE, Esskia and regions on schools races.

I would also like to thank Stuart Riches for his time with the committee.

It has also been decided that Jeremy Eaton (Interim Chair, SSE) and Tim Fawke (CEO, SSE) do not need to attend meetings, as SSE is well represented on the ARC Committee.

4. Update from TD Forum – David Manns

See appendix

Important changes:

Changes to FIS ICR which we will be adopting as much as possible on artificial too

614.2.3 is a new rule that means a competitor in all events with a fixed start interval (i.e. everything except Slalom) must not continue through the course or climb back up the course if they come to a complete stop. For Slalom they may restart after a complete stop as long as they don't interfere with the run of another competitor.

623.1.1 now requires a competitor who is obstructed to stop immediately the incident takes place and report this to the nearest gate judge. This is a new requirement, previously they were only required to apply to a Jury member.

644.6 strengthens the emphasis on getting protests in on time, now stating that "protests not submitted on time, in the correct manner or submitted without the protest fee will not be considered".

667.3 which covers supplemental duties of the Gate Judge is amended to require them to record the details of any incident which involves a competitor being obstructed during their run.

5. Update from ROTP

- See ROTP Minutes
- Level 1 Training course – ROTP to look at feasibility of adding course on-line

- Job Descriptions and declaration of interest forms need to be signed.
- Excel races have now been agreed
 - It was agreed that they could be run from 1st November to End of February.
 - Maximum of 1 per SSE region, 2 in Wales and 4 in Scotland.
 - 2 Options on prices
 - Option 1 £4 per racer if SSE organise the race
 - Option 2 £ £1 per racer with a minimum of £50 per race
- Still have concerns about Gloucester and sponsorship – T Fawke / A Grant to speak to Gloucester and Bartlett’s to come to a positive outcome.
- More explanation on “what is a stubbie” is needed – ROTP
- Training
 - Level 2 – change to 1 day in the class room followed by 1 day on the hill – hope to have first course ready by end Feb.
 - Need to check with SSW re dates for first course to see if they can move from the Saturday to a Sunday race – D Flahive to action
 - Mentoring is on going and proving successful – this needs to be communicated so people are aware it can happen if requested
 - Plan for an annual update in 2013 for all Level 1 and Level 2 officials. Plan is to hold 1 in 2013, and if successful 2 in 2014, 1 South and 1 North.
- Course setters – needs to be looked at to make sure they set for appropriate level of races/racers. ROTP / T Archbold
- Cost – agreed an increase to a maximum of £20 for Outdoor races and a maximum of £25 for Indoor races, this is mainly due to significant increases on slope hire. GBR Races will be at £20 and £25.

6. Team England

No update from Team England was available.

It was felt that responsibility for Team England should be bought back under ARC – A Grant to discuss with J Barnes.

Team England equipment to be looked at to see if any could be used for English Alpine Champs – A Grant

7. Feedback to BSS

Artificial Format for GBR and CN races

- U14 to remain as is
- U12 & U10 SL, Stubbies on indoor and outdoor.
- Combi courses will not be part of the Artificial 2013 season, but was advised that it would be good to have a look to see if it would be possible on any of the slopes – ROTP – All race organisers.

Snow Format for 2013

- U16, 2 runs both to count in SL & GS
- U14, as is, 2 separate seeded runs, with both to count for overall in SL & GS.
- U16 and U14 to run on separate courses.
- U12 & U10 Non-seeded and Stubbies for SL
- Document to be published to explain format and trophies – A Grant / D Manns
- For the English Champs, we will look to see if its possible to run a combi for the U12/U10 for their 2nd race – A Grant / K Webb to talk to Bormio.

It was felt that we would like the regions to follow suit but realise that more communication is required regarding stubbies.

8. Update / Summary on BSS for ARC – Tim Fawke

- The BSS constitution has been submitted to Company House
- The nomination and election process has taken place, see table (no elections needed as only 1 person nominated in each role)
- Snowsport Scotland does not agree with the constitution so is not engaging with it. So the HN's committee is made up of SSW (Robin Kellen and Ian Fawcett) and SSE(Tim Fawke, Jeremy Eaton and Chris Exall)
- The HN's committee still need to meet to nominate 3 HN's representative onto each of the discipline committees. This should be done before Christmas.
- The new chair for BSS should be announced in December
- Tim Fawke has recently become the HN's Representative on the BSS board

9. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that we would try and plan for 4 meetings a year.
Next meeting, 3rd March 2013, Loughborough.

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

Alpine Seeding & Technical Panel

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Feedback to ASC/ROTP from Nov 2012 Alpine TD Forum

Changes to FIS ICR

The latest FIS ICR includes some changes that will need to be publicised so that all our racers, coaches and officials are aware of the implications when they take part in races.

606.1 now requires bibs to be worn throughout the race – finally we have official confirmation that bibs really do have to be worn when actually racing and not just during inspection!

614.2.3 is a new rule that means a competitor in all events with a fixed start interval (i.e. everything except Slalom) must not continue through the course or climb back up the course if they come to a complete stop. For Slalom they may restart after a complete stop as long as they don't interfere with the run of another competitor.

623.1.1 now requires a competitor who is obstructed to stop immediately the incident takes place and report this to the nearest gate judge. This is a new requirement, previously they were only required to apply to a Jury member.

628.4 relates to penalties for shadowing the course during inspection, and widens the penalty to include practicing turns parallel to the course, not just parallel to the turns required by gates on the course.

644.6 strengthens the emphasis on getting protests in on time, now stating that “protests not submitted on time, in the correct manner or submitted without the protest fee will not be considered”.

667.3 which covers supplemental duties of the Gate Judge is amended to require them to record the details of any incident which involves a competitor being obstructed during their run.

From an organisational point of view, it is interesting to note that several rules have been altered so that the TD no longer has responsibility for over-seeing training and warm-up courses (with the exception of the official Downhill training).

There are also some changes to the rules for gate panels for GS and SG (ICR 690) that may be relevant to organisers when negotiating contracts with resorts. It may also be useful for race Juries at Alpine races to be aware of the rules so they can check that the right kit actually appears on the hill to be used.

Changes to BCR and BACR

The 2012 edition of BCR includes a section detailing rules for Combi races. These largely follow the rules already in place in ICR, but adjusted to correct some of the 'FIS speak' and to take into account our style of racing.

The stated mandatory limit of one race per day for U10/U12 has been relaxed to "should participate in no more than one race per day" where it used to say "in no circumstances".

Three Alpine events (English, Scottish and British Championships) have been selected as test events where SL and GS races for the U16 age group should be run as standard two-run races.

No change was made to the 40 point Category Adder for indoor BASS races as the one event held earlier this year at Landgraaf did not provide enough evidence to recommend any alterations.

BACR Seeding rules were amended to allow the proposed BARSC indoor championships to have a minimum penalty of zero in line with HNGB championship events.

The Excel Format races have been agreed as acceptable for seeding on the basis of the key points already agreed between SSE and SSW (2 runs on same course, cumulative times to count, max entry 70, min penalty 20, min 20 point entry cut-off). Limit on number of these events per season largely in line with 'regions' (SSE 8, Scotland 4, Wales 2).

Other Topics

FIS are carrying out investigations to identify safe ways of wearing a camera on the helmet without compromising safety. Until then, no modifications to helmets used for racing are allowed. In theory this includes the sticky clip used to hold cameras such as GoPro, although I suspect we would be hard-pressed to enforce this in the start area of a race.

Some concerns have also been raised about the potential dangers of fumes from ski wax. FIS Cross-country skiers are required to have ventilation systems in their wax rooms, but there does not yet seem to be a co-ordinated approach. At the moment there is little we can do other than relay the concerns to clubs and coaches in general terms.

Some progress is being made with TD development. Several (under-50s!) are working through the development process at the moment, including one Applicant FIS TD (Paul Trayner) and one Candidate FIS TD (David Mansfield). Julian Adams has also been proposed as an applicant FIS TD, although we will have to take advice on the potential conflict between his New Zealand nationality and his progression to FIS TD through GBR.

Stubby poles are mentioned in various places in race rules and regulations, but it seems that there is no official definition of what constitutes a stubby. We all know what they're not, which is a sawn-off standard flex Slalom pole, but as there are various short poles on the market with a range of heights and flexibilities it seems that this will be something of a loose definition for a while yet.