

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

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SSE DRYSLOPE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

May 2016

Edition 1.0

1. BACKGROUND TO THE DRYSOPE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

Across England every year hundreds of athletes compete in ski slalom races on dryslopes all over the country. In a typical year there are likely to be circa 100 dryslope races, catering for all abilities, from schools races and regional races, through to national and GBR series races attracting seed points.

Dryslope racing is often thought of as a feeder to alpine races, and many English alpine competitors do begin on the dryslope, however the sport has a dedicated following in its own right, and at the highest level race placings are keenly fought for.

Snowsport England identified the need to recognize the high performance of these athletes, and the vital importance that dryslopes have in encouraging enduring participation in skiing, and created the Dryslope Ambassador Programme in response to that need.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the programme are:

- To promote the sport of Dryslope Ski Racing and to encourage participation in it.
- To recognize the achievements of the highest performing athletes in the Under 16 to Under 21 age categories.
- To provide a pathway and goal for younger athletes to follow.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

Athletes become Ambassadors by invitation only, on achieving the criteria set out below.

- To be eligible athletes must be in the Under 16, Under 18 or Under 21 categories.
- Athletes must have been ranked in the top 3 of SSE registered racers in their age category in the First OBarts list of the season. The points must have come from Dryslope races.
- Athletes must take and pass a fitness test.

Athletes meeting these criteria will be invited to join the programme.

Athletes who wish to accept the invitation must sign and agree to a code of conduct, as must their parents. Copies of the codes of conduct are at the end of this document.

Athletes must undertake duties in support of the sport, including participation in an agreed number of Dryslope races

If athletes do not accept their places, the places remain empty, and are not offered to other athletes with lower OBarts points.

Selection is on an annual basis, athletes must qualify each year to maintain their place on the programme.

Athletes may resign from the programme at any time by informing the relevant contacts at Snowsport England.

Snowsport England reserve the right to remove athletes from the programme if, in the exclusive opinion of Snowsport England, the athlete does not uphold the conduct expected of an Ambassador or the athlete does anything to bring the sport into disrepute.

Once no longer a member of the programme, Ambassadors are expected not to wear their Ambassador clothing or represent themselves as being Ambassadors.

4. FITNESS TEST

From 2017 Ambassadors will be required to pass a fitness test to confirm their place on the programme. Details of the fitness test and the required standard will be published in future editions of this document.

5. AMBASSADOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ambassadors are expected to uphold and further the objectives of the programme. As well as participating in Dryslope races, Ambassadors are expected to actively promote the sport and encourage new and existing racers. They are expected to use social media to promote their activities within the sport and to promote the events they have attended.

Ambassadors are expected to volunteer their services to race organisers, assisting with races in ways which help uphold the aims of the programme. All Ambassadors are expected to attend and get involved in at least one introductory race each season, for example a schools' race or regional race.

Ambassadors are expected to be pro-active in contacting race organisers and offering their services. However, Snowsport England will also promote the programme to race organisers, and regional Chairs, and encourage them to involve the Ambassadors at their events. To this end, Snowsport England will make available a list of current Ambassadors and their contact details to race organisers.

Ambassadors are expected to wear their Ambassador clothing at races where they are undertaking those duties.

Snowsport England will be promoting the identities and activities of the Ambassadors, and the Ambassadors are therefore expected to uphold the highest standards of behaviour at all times during related events. Ambassadors should be role models for younger and less experienced racers.

6. AMBASSADOR BENEFITS

The Dryslope Ambassadors will have their own dedicated web page with their photo and information about themselves

The Dryslope Ambassadors will take precedence over other racers in representing England in any National dry slope races.

The Dryslope Ambassadors will be applicable for reduced rates for level 1 coaching / instructing courses.

SnowSport England will send out press releases to relevant newspapers regarding their appointment to the programme.

Snowsport England will provide relevant letters for Dryslope Ambassadors to support University applications.

Dryslope Ambassadors will receive clothing Ambassador, including a long sleeved top to wear to Dryslope events and event t-shirts for National races. Ambassadors will also have the option to purchase additional items of clothing.

7. NATIONAL DRYSLOPE RACES

The Dryslope Ambassadors will have precedence over other racers in representing England in any National dry slope races. This means that selection for Dryslope events will be made from the pool of eligible Ambassadors before other non-Ambassador racers, even if, at the time of selection, the non-Ambassador racers are higher placed in the current OBarts list.

Selection will be coordinated by a Snowsport England appointed selector.

The current selector is Gareth Case.

8. SSE CONTACTS

All enquiries should be directed to:

Dryslope@snowsportengland.org.uk

SSE Contacts:

Chris Shelley, SSE Director

Tania Barton, SSE Director

Gareth Case, Team Selection Manager

9. CODES OF CONDUCT (Copies for Reference)

Dryslope Ambassador Athletes Code of Conduct 2016

Athletes must:

1. Dress and behave sensibly and responsibly.
2. Follow the instructions of the manager and trainers including those at the venue of any visit.
3. Behave proactively and inform coaches/trainers/staff if any injuries are sustained. The athletes must inform the coach/trainer/staff the nature of the injury, treatment and progress.
4. Not take unnecessary risks. The athlete is reminded that dangerous, reckless, foolhardy or negligent conduct, on or off the hill, will contravene guidelines and may create a serious liability situation. This is particularly relevant where racers are in close proximity to the skiing public.
5. Be sensitive to local codes and customs. This is a matter of particular importance at international events where squad members are present as guests of the host nation.
6. Behave in a positive and supportive way towards his/her team mates and not in any way that will adversely affect another member of the team. Athletes must be aware that any behaviour that may adversely affect a member of the team will not be condoned. The same applies to behaviour that may bring Snowsport England or the nation itself into disrepute. This includes the requirement to behave and write appropriately on social networking or similar websites (e.g. Facebook, Twitter etc), taking care with language and tone and avoiding inappropriate photographs or comments/tags.
7. Not use or condone the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal or prohibited drugs. The athlete must further acknowledge that Snowsport England, the British Olympic Association and the Sports Council have the right to conduct random, no-notice, in or out of competition dope testing, and that he/she has read and will comply with the specific rules on Doping and Prohibited Drugs (available from the BSS office). Snowsport England whole heartedly supports and endorses the 100%ME Campaign.
8. Look out for anything that might hurt or threaten themselves or anyone in the group and tell one of the management team about it.
9. Commit fully to wearing and maintaining team clothing during prize givings

Note that breaches of the general rules of conduct will result in disciplinary matters and may result in you being removed from the programme at the discretion of the Dryslope Ambassador management team.

I agree to abide by the above code of conduct.

Signed _____ (Athlete)

Date _____

Dryslope Parents Code of Conduct 2016
(Applicable for parents with athletes under 18 years old)

1. Parents should be asked to agree that they have read, understood and agreed the attached notice regarding sanctions, and that in the event that an athlete has to be sent home for disciplinary reasons, they will meet the cost.
2. Parents must provide emergency contact number(s).
3. Parents must behave in a positive and supportive way towards the team and not in any way that will adversely affect another member of the team. Parents must be aware that any behaviour that may adversely affect a member of the team will not be condoned. The same applies to behaviour that may bring Snowsport England or the nation itself into disrepute. This includes the requirement to behave and write appropriately on social networking or similar websites (e.g. Facebook, Twitter etc), taking care with language and tone and avoiding inappropriate photographs or comments/tags.
4. Parents must sign the consent form

Athletes must be registered as competitors with Snowsport England.

Signed _____ (Parent)

Date _____