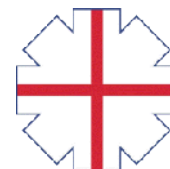


SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

Race Organisation Technical Panel



Alpine Racing Bulletin 2008

Welcome to the Alpine Racing Bulletin for 2008. Aimed at racers, parents, coaches and officials, the bulletin is designed to draw your attention to key issues for the forth-coming season, with links to the places where you can find more information.

Information for Racers

On Line Race Entry

The online race entry system continues to operate for Club Nationals, the Grand Prix series and the All England Championships at <https://www.freestyleweb.co.uk/compentry/index.asp>. We would strongly recommend that all entries be submitted via the online system.

Grand Prix Series

We are proud to welcome Inghams as the sponsor for our Grand Prix series this year. Their generous support will allow us to award cash prizes at Grand Prix races this season, both for each individual race and as part of the overall series. See www.britski.org for more details on how the prize money will be allocated.

Following feedback from athletes and coaches, changes have been made to the Grand Prix series rules for 2008. The top group of 15 racers will now be drawn as two separate groups, with the top 7 drawn and running last, preceded by group 8-15 drawn separately. Changes to the points system should also help ensure that the series as a whole is a more exciting spectacle. Details of these changes are in edition 8 of the Snowsport England Race Manual (see gbski.com).

Club National Series

New for the 2008 season is the inter-club series that will be run as part of the existing series of Club National racers. Again thanks for sponsorship from Inghams, a cash award will be made to the top three performing clubs in this series. Details of the rules governing this series are in edition 8 of the Snowsport England Race Manual (see gbski.com).

Guide to Rules

A "Guide to the Rules of Ski Races" was been issued in November 2007 and has been widely welcomed as a good introduction to the rules governing ski racing. If you haven't read it, we strongly suggest you do so now - it can be to your advantage to know the rules too!

Information for Race Organisers

Race Packs and Race Forms

Following feedback and consultation with race organisers, printed race packs will no longer be sent to Race Secretaries. Instead, race forms can be downloaded from gbski.com, or a CD copy of all the forms and other documentation is available on request. This should allow race organisers to print off and photocopy only the exact type and number of forms they require, thus reducing wastage.

Please note that several of the forms have changed for this season, and all forms have been re-branded as 'British' so that they can be used across all events regardless of nation. The latest edition of forms will always be available on gbski.com.

Vola Ski and SkiPro Software

The new SkiPro program – the replacement for the 'Ski' program that we have been using to run race calculations – is now ready for use in all Snowsport England events. The latest edition – version 1.06 at the time of writing – should cope with all 2- and 3-run races in all disciplines we

cover. No software or hardware key needs to be purchased, except where direct connection to non-TAG Heuer timing systems is needed.

To help ease the transition for race organisers and Chiefs of Calculations between the two software packages, either Ski or SkiPro can be used for SSE events in 2008, and event files in either format can be sent for BARTS seeding. Care should however be taken when using the older program that the correct F factors are used, as the software is no longer being updated each season. The use of Ski vs SkiPro for SSE events will be reviewed at the end of the 2008 season.

Officials Training Courses

The Level 2 Race Officials course will be held once again this year. The best location and dates are currently under review, and further details will be released as they become available.

We are still looking to continue the development of race officials by holding Level 1 courses. The Level 1 course is aimed at providing an introduction to officiating at races, and is popular not only with budding race officials but also with coaches and parents who need to know a bit more about how races are run. If your club or region would like to take advantage of a course please contact Alan West or any member of ROTP.

SSE Equipment

Snowsport England has two Alge timing units for back up timing. These will be transported with the bibs, boards, banners and officials high-viz jackets to each race by an ASC or ROTP member who will be able to demonstrate how the units work. These units must be used for Grand Prix and All England events.

For Club National and other club events, equipment is available for hire, providing it is transported to/from the event by (i.e. under the control of) an ASC or ROTP member. The following equipment is available for hire: backup timing units; set of radios; bibs.

Child Welfare Officer

A suitably qualified Child Welfare Officer / Child Protection CoOrdinator must be present at all races. The CWO for an event will be the point of contact for on-the-day accreditation. For further information or assistance visit <http://www.snowsportengland.org.uk> or contact Snowsport England office.