

ALPINE RACE COMMITTEE MEETING - 19 OCT 03

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Present:

Paul Hothersall (PHH) - Chairman
Peter Heath (PH)
Ian Roberts (IR)
Alan West (AW)
Hedley Beavis (HB)
Gillian Gilyead (GG)
David Manns (DM)
Muriel Ryding (MR)

In Attendance:

Sandy Telling (ST)
Gordon Cole (GC)

Apologies:

Steve Lambert (SL)
Denise Fletcher (DF)

Item 1. Introductory Remarks

1.1 The Chairman welcomed Muriel Ryding to the Committee in the capacity as Manager of the Snowsport England Alpine Squads. In addition, Denise Fletcher had agreed to act as Secretary to ARC but was unable to attend the meeting.

Item 2. Previous Minutes

2.1 The previous minutes were approved

Item 3. Matters Arising

3.1 August Item 1.2.

3.1.1 A new Chair was still required for ARC following the current Chairman's indication that he wished to concentrate other Snowsport England activities.

Action All

3.1.2 A specification for the post was being prepared (**Action PHH/MR**).

3.1.3 Recruiting to the Squad Selection Panel continued with a response still awaited from the prime candidate

3.1.4 Marc Telling was to be invited to act as a representative on ARC for athletes. **Action ST**

3.1.5 Dave Richardson was willing to input to a Marketing cttee and other threads were to be followed by ST for possible advisers to key cttees on specific issues and policies. There was a recognised need to provide feedback to sponsors of Snowsport England activities

3.2 Feb 03 Minutes. For athletes wishing to be BASS registered, additional charging for late registration had been dropped. There was a need, however, to monitor income stream and there may be a need to reintroduce the fee in future. Late Registration means that the athlete will only appear in the next published seed list but points may be issued in the interim for draw purposes. **Action PHH**

3.3 August Item 3.1 – Squad Selection. There was a need for a clear finance structure for Sqd Coach to work within. Each coach should know in writing what they may do and for what they were required to get approval in advance. There was to be clear accounting for each activity. **Action PHH/ST**. In addition, **PHH** was to hasten the outstanding minutes of the Squad selection panel

3.4 August Item 6.1 - Code of Conduct. Action carried forward for the new ARC Chair

3.5 August Item 9.1 - PR.

3.5.1 Inputs for 'The Piste' should be submitted direct to the Editor in final format, copied to PHH and ST. A short article on the 04 Alpine Championships was to be prepared for the next issue – copy deadline end Nov 03. **Action GC**.

3.5.2 Steve Lambert was to be invited to be the ARC coordinator of PR inputs and activities. **Action PHH**

3.5.3 There was a need for advanced sight of future copy deadlines. **Action PHH/ST**

3.6 August Item 9.3 – Public Liability Insurance. Advice had been received that it was illegal to insure those overseas. However, an indication has been given that such people could use a UK address. This advice was confusing. **PH** was seeking clarification direct from Perkins Slade (insurers)

3.7 August Item 10.2 – Coaching.

3.7.1 The Coaching Cttee confirm that action is ongoing with Alan Ashfield concerning the organisation of course setter courses. It was necessary to consider whether ARC should lead direct with organising such courses due to the separation of race coaching from development coaching. **It was agreed that PHH was to contact John Gledhill to discuss the issues, whilst ST would contact Tim Fawke to clarify ways forward**

3.7.2 It was considered that additional employment opportunities for the Squad Coach would generate income and encourage the Coach to remain with Snowsport England. No APC courses had yet been organised which was considered to be a missed opportunity, sending the wrong message to Snowsport England coaches who were registering with other Home Nations. **ST would pursue the principles**

3.7.3 It was considered that there should be a forum of coaches to discuss course standards in relation to the standard of events. **HB was to develop planning of such a course, involving TDs**. ESSkiA coaching reps were to be invited to attend

Item 4. Four Year Plan

4.1 Responses had been received from the Squad and STP. The ROTP submission had been prepared and would be passed to the Chair by AW. Coordination work was being done by PHH and ST. There was a need for coherent plans so we can know where we are going. Similarly there needs to be a composite British approach which drives work forward. The bid would go to Sport England from Snowsport England. An Alpine Management Cttee had set up under MR direction.

Item 5. England Team

5.1 Oct half term trg camp would go ahead and trg camps had been held at Xscape. Discussions were being held with Castleford Xscape for access to facilities. Tim Fawke was principal coach with assistance from Dave Renouf/Dave Durgan/Kelly Morris. Muriel Ryding was Team Manager.

5.2 Finances remain a problem as the Squad is underfunded due to liabilities from 03 due to lack of adequate direction to Team manager. Regular employees should be registered with ESC (for free) so that they are properly insured and receive full data flow. Squad must balance accounts by end 2004. There was a need to identify changes to be made to meet this target. **Action PHH/MR**

5.3 Also require from Board a clear statement of sphere of responsibility of ARC. **Action ST**

5.4 The Squad would be brought into line with British fitness/technical criteria.

5.5 Selection panel and criteria require to be set in very near future. Suggestions for Chair of the panel should be submitted to PHH by email. **Action PHH/ST/MR**

Item 6. Finances

6.1 Financial statements derived from the general ledger were circulated. There was lots of underlying information which was not readily evident from the figures; therefore the headline figures should be treated with circumspection. It was pointed out that expense claims have a 3 month time limit for submission.

6.2 Alpine Activities. Overall whilst c£18k is shown as operating surplus there are liabilities for VAT, Office Charges, and Squad Expenses which reduce the balance to £3.5k by end of year. Equipment purchases should be charged to capital account with Board approval so that costs are depreciated and apportioned equitably.

6.3 Squad Activities. Camp costs tend to be travel/accomm and overseas expenditure rather than programme management costs. The Ledger Deficit is c£7k but Oct camp costs to come raise that to -£13k. Whole of 03 subsidy used by Apr 03. Nothing left for remainder of 03 activities. Anticipate that sufficient funds exist in overall accounts to cover the deficit. Forecast assumes that if no programme management fees and no subvention, the End of Year balance would be c - £3k. Unrealistic assumption as programme management must be charged. As permitted until Dec 04 to recover balance, some subsidy can continue to Tim Fawke for trg camps but with target for each camp to break even. Believe that set up costs for each camp should be included in camp costs. **(Action PH/ST)**

6.4 In all activities, there was a need to identify the basis for the Head Office Service Charge - currently £23k for ARC a 93% increase since 2000. **Action PH**

Item 7. ESSkiA

7.1 See attached Report.

7.2 GG reported that Sport England were looking for modernisation in relations with school bodies within overall governing bodies as a criterion for grants.

7.3 British Schools Championships lead should be with England for 2004

Item 8. STP Report

8.1 See attached Report

8.2 Extended Disclosure. It was considered inappropriate for race officials to be subject to Enhanced or Standard Disclosure as their normal duties as race officials do not include unsupervised contact with, caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of children or vulnerable adults. **IR was to** inform the Snowsport England office

8.3 Accident Form. The composite form was approved. **IR was to** send a copy to the Snowsport England office

8.4 Seeding Review. It was considered that there was little that could be done to improve the current seeding system. However, it was accepted that anomalies might occur at races and that TDs need to be aware of the eventuality and make appropriate reports to STP. Where unexplained anomalies occur, STP may decline to seed the race. **IR was to ensure** that TDs were aware of this ruling and write follow up letters to the 2 correspondents

8.5 Equipment. It was considered that the recommendation that FIS rules should be followed for artificial slopes should be made a rule. **IR was to** represent that view to the BSSF TD Forum. Further, there was a need to consider the equipment rules for artificial snow surfaces. **Action IR**

8.6 AW was endorsed as a Snowsport England TD (Artificial). **Action IR**

Item 9. ROTP Report

9.1 See attached Report

9.2 It was agreed that Indoor Races should be charged £100 per race for races to come under Snowsport England. The sum was for TD expenses only. TDs would need to arrange for the correct paperwork to be made available by ROC. **Action IR/AW**

9.3 ARC continue to hold to opinion that indoor snow races should be within the control of the ESC in future. Ideally indoor snow races should occur in a discrete area of the calendar for trg continuity. **Action ST/AW**

Item 10. Alpine Championships

10.1 PSV had been a successful resort. Many late entries meant some entrants had been turned away as it was not possible to amend the race format at a late stage. However, every effort would be made in future to admit as many entrants as possible as a stepping stone to British races. There had been a good officials team. Resort had been very supportive. FIS races successful but the SG entry had been disappointing; the discipline would be held again in 04 when its future would be reviewed. The same format of racing would be used in 04, with the Jun/Sen races first

- necessary for preparation of FIS SG piste. Costs should be the same as 03 but may increase due to exchange rate pressures and inflation

10.2 There was some concern over possibility that the 04 Scots Champs might be held in Alps after British Champs. There was a need to open discussions to allow proper dovetailing of events. **Action: GC to contact** Frank Staddle.

Item 11. AOB

11.1 There was concern at the lack of inclusive action by Snowsport GB, excluding consultation with HNGBs. It was considered that the matter should be aired at the British Congress at Hillend on 17 Nov. There was a need for a coordinated approach across all of GB. **Action: PH/ST**

Next Meeting

The next meeting was to be held at Swadlincote on 6 Dec 03 at 1000 hours.
Members were to email PHH with availability for a meeting in Feb 04

C I ROBERTS
Acting Secretary

Oct 03

Enclosures:

1. ESSkiA Report
2. STP Report
3. ROTP Report