

Snowsport England

Alpine Racing Committee

Minutes of a meeting held at 10:00 on 6th March 2005 at Swadlincote



Present:

Gill Hall (Chair) (GH)
Muriel Ryding (MR)
Peter Heath (PH)
Gillian Gilyead (GG)
Alan West (AW)
Sandy Telling (ST)
Stewart Smith (SS)
David Manns (DM)
Trish Ball (TB)
Hedley Beavis (HB)

Apologies: Sally Cadman (SC), Ian Roberts (IR), Steve Lambert (SL).

1. GH welcomed Stewart Smith and Trish Ball to the meeting.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting on 5 December 2005 were approved.
3. Matters Arising
 - 3.1 (3.1) Coaching Committee: HB attended meeting mid-December, but missed meeting in January. Next meeting due 23rd April and HB will report back from there. SS confirmed that APC courses will run as planned, and Coaching will take the cost even if course(s) cancelled or under-subscribed. MR to prepare invoice for Tim Fawke's time for APC courses (including reasonable preparation time and appropriate rates should more time be required), and send to David Hart (Coaching) copied to SS, HB and Office.

ACTION MR
 - 3.2 (3.2) Inter-Regional, Milton Keynes: It was agreed that approaches to this and other venues would more appropriate coming from Board level. ST was able to confirm that discussions had taken place with developers of Oasis (Ipswich) in preparing a 'wish list' of slope criteria for SSE use. TB to review Office copy of All England Championships 'slope contract' for additional information on slope requirements for holding races.

ACTION: TB
 - 3.3 (3.4) Thomson Sponsorship : ST confirmed that Thomson will be sponsoring the Grand Prix series as last year with bursaries for Children, plus two additional trophies for overall series winners. Thomson is also contributing 50% of cost of new sets of bibs.

- 3.4 (3.5) Paul Hothersall : 'missing' minutes - it was agreed to close this action as minutes were unlikely now to be forthcoming after almost 12 months.
- 3.7 (3.7) Alpine Championships : Insurance Master policy - ST confirmed that the insurance policy would provide Third Party liability cover for all those officiating at the Alpine Championships, including those co-opted onto the team (e.g. volunteer gate judges).
- 3.8 (3.8) Course Setters' Forum : HB voiced concern over apparent lack of co-ordination and lack of response to proposals made by HB. HB to re-send proposals to David Hart copy to Office. ACTION: HB
It was also reported that the planned course in May was already full and people were being turned away. GH to send request for another course to be held to David Hart copy to Office. ACTION: GH
- 3.9 (5.5) School Membership: GG sought clarification of insurance status for member schools. TB to check. ACTION: TB
- 3.10 (8.5) Masters: GH confirmed that the position for 2005 is clear.
- 3.11 (10.3) Athlete's Only Meeting: GH reported that ARC responses had been fed back to Marc Telling. Apparently not all responses were well-received; MT is canvassing further input from athletes before coming back to ARC. It was agreed that such meetings and dialogue were to be encouraged.
- 3.12 (10.5) Snoasis : TB thanked those who had responded to request for comments. Report has now gone to Snoasis.

4. Financial Report

- 4.1 PH presented Alpine General accounts to the meeting. The Squad account currently showed a reasonable surplus; however the account does not presently include any head office costs, the current winter season has not yet finished, and the account also includes the grant which may not be forthcoming in the next year. It was agreed that the existing 'tight' controls on squad finances should be continued. Budgets for 2005 are being prepared.

5. Alpine Squad

- 5.1 MR updated the meeting with squad report. It was agreed that efforts should be made to generate enough 'in house' work for TF that it would no longer be necessary to seek outside work to cover salary and other costs.
- 5.2 TASS funding: the meeting thanked TB for her efforts in securing TASS funding for a number of athletes. This funding is for 'services', and should include over £500 contribution towards coaching costs for each funded athlete. TB is continuing to work with SSGB in securing on-going funding.
- 5.3 Sponsorship: MR reported success from Sarah Wyer's efforts in securing sponsorship from Five Seasons and Swix; although there had been some technical difficulties along the way, the meeting recognised the valuable work done in this area.

- 5.4 Selection: all relevant information now available on the web, and completed applications should be sent to the office. Selection meeting to take place Saturday May 7th at Wycombe. TB to check that list of names of applicants is sent to selection panel prior to Alpine Champs, and copies of all applicants paperwork is sent to panel before the selection meeting. ACTION: TB
6. STP Report
- 6.1 Gordon Cole retiring as TD - it was agreed that Gordon's contribution to the sport should be recognised. AW to arrange suitable purchase. ACTION: AW
- 6.2 Course Setters List: it was again agreed that the existing Course Setters lists were out of date and needed to be reworked. HB to talk to IR about proposal to 'pull' all but those who had recently set courses. (see also 3.8 above) ACTION : HB
- 6.3 Course Setters Course : there still exists the desire to involve TD's in the course setters courses, so that TD's can increase their knowledge of what coaches were trying to achieve in setting courses. IR to contact TF about involvement in next course, being mindful of TD role, impact and costs that might arise. ACTION : IR
- 6.4 British Artificial Championships: it was generally felt that the proposal from SSSc was too complex, involving several different seeding systems and presenting a logistical nightmare for Chief of Calcs. This will need to be fed into the discussion at the May GB TD Forum. ACTION : IR
- 6.5 Minis Snow Races: the meeting felt that there was not necessarily a need for an additional/separate TD for Minis events (with the associated costs involved) as long as the organising team/jury were sufficiently experienced. Better instead that such events were made more 'low key'. The labelling of a race as a 'Championship' event could be proscribed by the rules, but in practice the winner of the Minis race at a National Championship is going to be regarded *de facto* as the British Champion. Should two or more Minis events be run at the same Championships, it may even be better to identify which is the Championship race to avoid disputes.
7. ROTP Report (AW)
- 7.1 Official race calendar for 2005 has now been published, and is being updated as additional information is added. A clash of dates between ESSkiA and Irish Champs was brought to the attention of the meeting, but it was agreed that this would not cause a conflict due to the very small overlap in entrants between the two.
- 7.2 Inter Regional: it was made clear to the meeting that the existing rules for this competition would be used at this years I-R events. AW indicated that the full complement of 3 I-R events may not take place depending on how re-surfacing work at various slopes progresses..
- 7.3 Alpine Champs: total entry numbers by the closing date were up from last year, although Minis entries were down by about 15. The Organising Committee were making every effort to 'compress' the event into five days to allow the Children an additional non-race day before competing in the British, but it was again made clear

to the meeting that this could not be guaranteed and would not be finally decided until arrival in resort.

- 7.4 Officials Training: AW reported that despite the fire at Stoke Rochford which affected the availability of meeting / function rooms, they were still accepting bookings. A provisional booking had therefore been made for this year's Level Two training course.
- 7.5 Equipment: the hand-timing units have now been purchased, and their insurance position clarified. AW to formalise the procedure for controlling access / handover of these and the other equipment (bibs etc) between races. ACTION: AW
Bibs are to be ordered, and Thomson has agreed to cover 50% of the cost in return for their logo being included on the bib. It was confirmed that these bibs would be used for the Grand Prix series and the All England Championships.
AW to discuss with Andrew Jolly the possibility for capitalisation of equipment (notably the timing units). ACTION : AW
- 7.6 Online Race Entries: SS summarised the progress so far on the online race entry system. Some 25 testers have been using it, and it is almost ready to go 'live'. SS to send AW and DM updated/replacement logins to allow further testing of admin features this week. ACTION : SS
9. ESSkia Report (GG)
GG reported the results from the ISF event in Sweden. Boys finished 4th in both categories, Girls 7th.
Plans are in hand for 2005 National Championships with dates fixed on calendar with venues to be finalised due to slopes re-matting.
The date for the 2005 British Championship is 19 November, not 3 December as might previously have been published.
10. Any Other Business
11. Date and Time of Next Meetings:
Sunday 24th July 2005 at 10.00 am, Swadlincote.
Sunday 30th October 2005 at 10.00 am, Swadlincote.