

# English Ski Council Alpine Racing Committee

## The English Ski Council (ESC)'s duties and responsibilities

As the governing body of the sport of ski-ing in England, ESC has the duty to promote the sport of ski-ing competitively for English athletes and as a recreational activity in England. The sport of ski-ing is practiced, both recreationally and competitively, on a range of surfaces, natural and manufactured snow, indoor snow, various artificial surfaces and grass. ESC has established the Alpine Racing Committee (ARC) to carry out its duties in relation to the Alpine disciplines of Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super Giant Slalom, Downhill and parallel slalom.

### Aim

The aims of ARC are to:

- § encourage participation in Alpine Ski-racing
- § promote the development of excellence by English racers through competition and training.

### Objectives

In carrying out its aims ARC has identified a set of objectives it wishes to achieve, it may undertake these directly or ask other parts of the council to do so on its behalf:

- § The development of an appropriate squad structure that:
  - § Identifies the most talented English junior alpine ski racers
  - § nominates those individuals from that group to appropriate training programmes
  - § is accessible to athletes in every region in England
  - § provides opportunities for those athletes who cannot take up their nominations
  - § progresses elite athletes to the British team
  - § acknowledges achievement in the international arena
  - § acknowledges achievement in the British arenas, at Children, Junior and senior levels
  - § gives a framework within which athletes and coaches can work for success
  - § is open, transparent and fair to all
  
- § The development of an appropriate competition structure that:
  - § creates a participation base sufficient to attract and identify potential elite athletes
  - § raises the levels and participation for all
  - § is differentiated to complement racer development
  - § is accessible to athletes in every region in England
  - § provides a system for comparing performance across all races
  - § produces a ranking system for athletes
  - § is impartial and fair to all
  
- § The development of a pool of experienced and trained officials capable of:
  - § running races on artificial ski slopes and on snow in Scotland, the Alps and elsewhere
  - § progressing through a range of skill and experience levels to British and international levels
  - § mentoring and developing less experienced officials to a common standard
  
- § The development of a pool of experienced and trained performance coaches capable of:
  - § identifying talented athletes
  - § developing athletes to the best of modern practise
  - § devising progression pathways, advising on training and competition programmes and monitoring progress
  - § mentoring and developing less experienced coaches to a common standard
  
- § The development of a stable financial base to support the framework

### Equal opportunities

**Disability.** In competitions held under ESC rules, organisers will be encouraged to offer appropriate prizes that recognise the achievements of disabled athletes. ESC will work with the bodies responsible for developing and supporting disabled athletes to identify strategies for developing excellence. Regions and clubs will be encouraged to work with disabled athletes and the organisations representing them to offer appropriate training and local competition. ARC is committed to equal opportunities in its competition and training activities and processes.

**Competition structure** In general terms the Grand Prix series aims to offer competition for the best male and female athletes in Britain, the Qualifying series aims to offer competition for and encourage participation by

all, including both genders and all ages and abilities. The All England and the English Alpine Championships are aimed at the best male and female athletes in Britain but will include specific categories for all athletes within their broad area of registration.

**Selection** to squads will be on the basis of relative achievement. Squad structures and other policies and practises will aim to maximise the opportunity for all talented individuals to take up their places and to seek additional resources to support all who need it. It should be noted that competitive ski racing requires the input of substantial resources and without the identification of substantial additional resources the participation by some individuals may be limited.

**Gender.** ARC will aim to achieve an appropriate gender balance between male and female participants in competition and in membership of the English Youth and Artificial Slope squads. Squad membership is unlikely to be in ratio to registrations and selectors may choose to nominate more from either group, dependent on relative ability or size of the group. ARC will aim to ensure that seeding systems, entry criteria and prizes in ESC sponsored competitions do not discriminate against either male or female athletes.

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