

British Alpine Racing Committee – inaugural meeting
3rd June 2001, 2pm at the offices of The British Land Company PLC

Ewen Maclean
Maud Instone
Sarah Robinson
Alan Evans
Bruce Crawford
Fiona McNeilly

We await nominations from the ESC and NISC.

Apologies were received from Dick Taplin.

Ewen Maclean opened the inaugural meeting and explained that this committee will have a very loose agenda. He intends the committee to cover all issues relating to Alpine race organisation. The committee will conduct its business largely by email and will meet only seldom.

Race quotas

FM explained the situation with regard to race entry priority. In about 5% of cases races are oversubscribed and we must have a mechanism in place to prioritise racers with most potential to reach British team level. Until now Home Nation squads have enjoyed level 2 priority after British Team. This has now become unworkable given the large number of athletes now selected to home nation teams and the varying status of these athletes. North American races have proved most problematic over the past season.

We will attempt to publish details of British and Home Nation Team programmes on the website (currently under review) as early as possible, although it is acknowledged that flexibility must be allowed to cope with changes as a result of weather conditions and athletes performing at a higher or lower standard than anticipated at the start of the season.

The committee propose the following priority structure:-

Matrix based on YOB v FIS points. Youth team with the same priority as Home Nation

1. GBR Team – as much notice as possible will be given on changes to the national team programme, but British Team may make changes up until the Team Captain's meeting.
2. Home Nation Squads (HN squad management must nominate 6 athletes whom they wish to prioritise based on greatest potential to progress) and British Youth Team. This should also encourage strong Home Nation programmes.

3. Matrix – based on FIS points relative to YOB

Where priority level 2 results in over subscription, squad coaches are requested to come to agreement on the racers most entitled to start. Failing this the matrix for level 3 priority will be employed.

Post meeting note: FM and JK have begun an analysis of Junior racers points at start and end of season and will propose a suitable loading based on YOB. The new priority system will be included on the FIS registration form, which is currently being reviewed.

Racers should be aware that they might be penalised if they do not submit programmes in good time.

Bone fide university racers will be given priority at FIS UNI events.

FIS Licences

There are currently 3 levels of FIS registration available.

- Full – potential access to all circuit racer
- Limited – British FIS events only
- Ghost – numbers issued for BASS racers at British FIS events. These racers do not appear on any FIS ranking lists.

The 3rd type of licence is time consuming to administer. Should we ask all racers planning to take part in a FIS event to request at least a British Licence. We are reluctant to subject athletes to these additional costs.

SR suggested that we apply for blanket ghost numbers at the start of the season. This does not provide for athletes who register late with BASS. Could athletes with a FIS number (ghost or otherwise) appear on the BASS list under their FIS code. We need advice from the National Seeder on this issue.

Central registration for racers must be aspired to as it would facilitate so many of our operations relating to racers. There are financial and administrative implications however the committee recommends that this issue is revisited. MI and Susie Berry to prepare discussion paper.

Race Calendar

FM reported that the British Championships would take place as follows:-

Seniors – 14 – 21 Jan 2002 in Saalbach-Hinterglemm (subject to resort confirmation)
Junior & Childrens – 1 – 7 April 2002 in Pitztal.

FM reported that Jim Hewitt had declared himself prepared to take on the role of Chief of Championships for Junior & Children Championships. This proposal was well received by the committee.

We must also seek a suitable Chief of Championships for the senior event, although FM proposes that Duncan Lonie stay in position for the 2002 event.

MI appealed for earlier decisions on Championship venues.

The committee should involve itself in the coordination of the British race calendar.

BC reported that cooperation between the British Teams and the Home Nations was improving within the coaching scheme.

BUSA has expressed a desire to hold a UK Champs twinned with a Scottish races. EM has suggested that they choose the North West FIS (2 FIS GS) which are under his management. They will be allowed to compete, but should organise their own prize-giving, etc. They will discuss other financial and organisational issues with Susan Roy, Snowsport Scotland Competitions Director.

FM to distribute email contact list with the minutes.