

Snowsport England ROTP

Minutes of Meeting held at Swadlincote Ski Centre
10:00 Sunday 8th August 2004

- 2004 2.1a **Present**
Alan West (AW), David Pyle (DP), David Manns (DM), Gordon H Cole (GHC), Gill Hall (GH)
- 2004 2.1b **Apologies**
Tony Archbold (TA), Mandy Orrell (MO), Gillian Todd (GT), Piet Van Kempen (PVK),
- 2004 2.2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
- 2.2a The minutes of the previous meeting 2004.1 were approved as a true record.
- 2004 2.2b **Matters Arising**
- None.
- 2004 2.3 **Feedback from ARC**
- 2.3a Online race entry : AW reported that he had been actioned by ARC to contact Stewart Smith who is looking at online payment systems for SSE for registration and possibly race entry. It was agreed that online race entry is generally a good idea, and could perhaps include automatic addition of late payment fee and link to registration information to check validity. However, some concerns were raised: links to Race Secretary had to be 'slick' and probably on a daily basis; 'insurance' implications of not having parents signature for under-18 entries was unclear; race organisers probably need to exercise control over cut-off dates etc. It was agreed that if the system was developed it would be best to try at Grand Prix events to start with, then extended from there.
AW on-going action.
- 2.3b Personal insurance cover for officials : clarification is being sought over protection for all race officials including those co-opted onto team 'in situ'.
AW on-going action.
- 2.3c Coaches conference and course setters : AW reported that coaches conference had taken place at Hemel, at which it was proposed that the number of gate combinations on Club National courses be reduced to one (one three-gate verticale, remove requirement for hairpin). Another conference was planned for October, date to be confirmed. A course setters course is also to be held in October, possibly 1st. First part of Setters course material, written by Willie Taunton-Burnett, had been received for review by Hedley Beavis.

- 2.3d Entry criteria for Minis : with the increase in numbers of entries from Minis, it was agreed the current regulations for acceptance of all Minis into an event needs to be reviewed. Various options were discussed (first come first served, random draw, preference for local/regional entries) but without knowing scale of problem no decision could be reached.
DM to produce entry numbers for 2004 season for discussion at next meeting.
- 2.3e Indoor snow : draft indoor rules for SSGB (and SSE) indoor snow events have been drafted by Ian Roberts, who will take them to SSGB TD Forum for approval. There will be no British Indoor Championships this year.
- 2.3f Pressure on racers at start : reports had been received of undue pressure being applied to racers to start. It was agreed that the solution should be largely 'educational'.
DM to review course material for Level 2 Officials Course.
Other action will happen through ARC and SSE TD Forum.
- 2.3g Masters : it was reported that there was to be no change in the Masters categories for next season (2005).

2004 2.4 **Race Calendar**

- 2.4a 2005 calendar : DP reported on the current position of the 2005 calendar. Replies had been received from a number of slopes, sufficient to assign Grand Prix dates. Dates for Welsh races fitted in well around these. Some discussion followed regarding spread of events around the country. A proposed list of Grand Prix dates and venues was agreed.
DP on-going action to finalise Grand Prix dates and assign other events.
- 2.4b Pendle : DP also reported that should Pendle be assigned a Grand Prix (assuming successful completion of work and homologation), it appeared likely that there would be no race during August as there had been in previous years as no club had so far asked to do so. DM indicated that Gloucester might request an August date.
- 2.4c Wycombe International : AW reported that ARC had no objection to Wycombe's request to run an International event next season. It was agreed that - assuming this is run as a combination Club National + International weekend - this is likely to reduce the chances of a Grand Prix being hosted at Wycombe.
DP to contact Wycombe to notify them of this position.
- 2.4d Inter-Regional : it was noted that ARC had asked ROTP to include an outdoor Inter-Regional competition in the 2005 calendar. It was agreed that Swadlincote was the most appropriate venue for this event.
DP to include this event in calendar arrangements.

2004 2.5 **Alpine Championships**

- 2.5a Finances : AW reported that ARC had accepted the financial report as presented, including proposal for purchase of equipment and new trophies. AW also requested that any future claims for expenses incurred in the UK should be submitted with VAT receipts where appropriate.

AW to contact PVK to investigate purchase of bibs (in conjunction with GH and Sandy Telling over possible sponsorship) and backup timer units.

GHC to include request for trophy sponsors in item for next Piste magazine (copy deadline 23rd August).

- 2.5b AW reported that ARC had approved DP as next Chief of Championships, to take over from GHC in 2006 after working alongside him for 2005 event.
- 2.5c It was agreed that in order to minimise problems in resort the event bulletin should include a very clear notice that the booking and organisation of training (i.e. not pre-race warm-up) pistes was the responsibility of coaches and not the organisers.
GHC to include this note in bulletin.
- 2.5d It was noted that ARC's view on Children's start order was in line with that of ROTP, and that ARC are to canvass coaches/clubs for their views. It was agreed that it was essential that the SSE representative at the SSGB TD Forum should convey the consensus position of SSE on this subject.
- 2.5e GHC reported that Richard Berry (current British and retired FIS TD) had agreed to take on the role of Chief of Race for the FIS events, and that it was hoped that he would be assigned as Technical Delegate for the Children's events (this would reduce costs to the organisation).
- 2.5f GHC further reported that PSV had been designated as an accredited training location for the next Winter Olympics. This included an investment of €1M from which our event would also benefit. PSV would also be offering training facilities to squads, clubs, etc.

2004 2.6 **All England Championships**

- 2.6a Progress : AW reported that details of officials had been received from all bar one of the assigned Chiefs of Race; numbers of entries won't be known until Denise Fletcher returns from USA.
- 2.6b Sponsorship : GH reported that 'TopQuotes' had expressed interest in sponsorship for the event. It was agreed that £500 would secure the Saturday race (Ch/Jnr/Snr) as the 'TopQuotes English Championship'.
GH to contact TopQuotes to make arrangements.
Post meeting note – it is not TopQuotes but AUL (Agency Underwriters Ltd) who are potential sponsors.

2004 2.7 **Training Courses and Accreditation**

- 2.7a AW advised that the booking for Stoke Rochford for the Level 2 course had been made, along with booking of an initial block of accommodation. Meetings for ROTP and EAC ROC were planned for the Saturday to provide opportunities for 'networking' with course attendees, and to provide participants in 'jury role play' session. Course Tutors were confirmed as DM and Ian Roberts.
All to seek possible attendees.

2.7b Assessment Questions : AW advised that the assessment questions for Level Two accreditation were out of date and required overhaul (Level One questions no longer used as a Level One assessment done by informal review 'on hill').
DM to review and update assessment questions.

2.7c Database : AW advised that the race officials database was now almost up-to-date and in working order, and had been used to identify potential candidates for attendance at Level 2 course or for accreditation assessment.

2004 2.8 **ROTP Duties**

2.8a Duties : Assignment of duties agreed as per circulated list, with exception of Equipment Officer - PVK has agreed to take over this task from AW.

2004 2.9 **Any Other Business**

2.9a Breakage charges : It was agreed that - following a large variation in charges for breakages at events - the cost of slalom poles should be investigated so that breakages could in future be paid for using a standard price.
AW to ask PVK to investigate appropriate price.

2.9b Day Registration : AW reported that the insurers had insisted on restricting the use of Day Registration, and that SSE office had thus instructed that it was only valid as a one-off. It was agreed that our preferred solution was that Day Reg should be available to an individual once per season at an event in their own region.
AW to propose this to office/insurers.

2.9c Photographers : Following various issues with photographers during this season, and mindful of the child protection issues involved, it was agreed that the ORB/Race Manual for next season should include a note that all photographers must seek prior approval from race organisers; and further that parents who do not wish their children to be photographed should make this clear to the race organisers before the event starts.
AW to include in next issue of Occasional Race Bulletin.
DM to include in next update of Race Manual.

2.9d GHC thanked SSE for the award he received for 'services to skiing' at this year's Annual General Meeting.

2004 2.10 **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is to be held at Stoke Rochford on Saturday November 20th, time to be advised.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 13:00.