

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE BRITISH TD FORUM
09 November 2003
Downing College Cambridge

Welcome to the Chairman's Report of the GBR TD Forum and Seminar for Nov 03. It was another record turnout for the Seminar on Saturday 08 Nov and I express, on everyone's behalf, thanks to Martin Leach our GBR FIS Commissioner for his tutorial presentation and to Downing College for their facility and hospitality. The Seminar was extremely informative and everyone joined in with the syndicate work and test questions. The whole event reinforces the need for annual refresher training and safety updates, which are becoming more and more pertinent and crucial in how we run ski races at all levels. I therefore encourage all who were present to formally pass on the information to those unable to attend and to extend the invitation to all interested parties for future Seminars.

The TD Forum was held on Sunday 09 Nov 03 and those present were; 3 FIS TDs, 10 GBR TDs, CSWSA, BARSC, SNOWSPORT England, SNOWSPORT Scotland and SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES Member groups were represented, BASS & Artificial seeders, Chief of Championships for GBR & BARSC Championships and 2 representatives from SNOWSPORT GB.

Below is a summary of the GBR TD Forum minutes for your retention and general distribution:-

1. Ski Lengths For Artificial Races - Verbal report

SNOWSPORT England reported back as requested. 3 Manufacturers had responded to their document and it is recommended that the snow rules remain in place as advisory for all artificial races.

2. Reports From Delegates

2.1 BARSC - Verbal report

- Successful Summer and Autumn Camps.
- Kandahar Masters has moved to Megeve.
- European SNOWSPORT Masters will be held on 6th/7th March in Verbier.

2.2 CSWSA - Verbal report

- Championships were moved from Megeve to Saalbach-Hinterglemm and were very successful; this will be the venue for 2004.

2.3 SNOWSPORT ENGLAND - Verbal and written report

- Continuing with officials training at Level 1 & 2.
- Two new SNOWSPORT ENGLAND TDs – D Manns and A West.
- Racing has been successful over the summer and autumn with increased participation.
- More use of indoor snow venues and 4 races in Inter Regional Format.
- There has been one allegation of competitors skiing intentionally slowly at one Artificial Club National.

2.4 SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES - Verbal and written report

- British Artificial held at Llandudno. Used the recommended seed point cut-off at 250.
- Two new SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES TDs – A Evans and M Hunt.
- SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES would like to exchange TDs with SNOWSPORT ENGLAND for Artificial Races.
- British Schools held this month.
- Alan Evans is new Chairman of SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES

2.5 SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND - Verbal report

- Successful Artificial Season.
- Scottish Seniors will be moved to Alps in 2004 if Scotland has no snow.
- East Childrens will be returned to the Calendar.

2.6 SNOWSPORT GB - Verbal report

- British Senior, Juniors and Childrens Championships will be moved to Meribel for 2004.
- Anyone wishing an SNOWSPORT GB Year Planner should request one from office.

3. Seeding and Registration - Verbal and written report

- Currently 400 registrations from SNOWSPORT England and SNOWSPORT Scotland.
- Draft dates for seed lists included in report.
- Reminded all that £2.50 was agreed for all Member Groups registrations

The Services will discuss the merits of continuing with registration of their competitors and report back.

4. **FIS Matters**

4.1 **Verbal report by GBR FIS Commissioner Martin Leach**

- GBR had been involved in 24 Competitions at 11 venues.
- St Moritz - Proposal of Age Limit for National Organising Committees. This would have major implications on most countries and will run into problems with European Law. To be discussed more fully at Miami.
- Ski Equipment will only change after every Winter Olympics. The Ski Manufacturing Industry and FIS will be involved in discussions on all aspects, prior to any changes being implemented. There will, however, still be major problems with Children's equipment. Most skis & boots will now bear markings.
- Homologation Flags are now mandatory.
- There is a new 1 Page FIS Timing Report which can be viewed and downloaded from FIS website.
- Finish photocells must comply with criteria laid down in Timing Booklet, also available from FIS Website.
- Timing Sheets must be returned in order for the race to be processed.
- New FIS TD report form also available on FIS Website.
- Kitzbuhel – Much discussion on walking up and rejoining course. There is a proposal for Miami to change the definition of passing a gate.

4.2 **FIS TD Assignments to British Races for Season 2003/2004**

BARSC	Hans Seestaller (GER)
NE FIS	Jan Beckman (SWE)
NW FIS	TBC (AUT)
SNOWSPORT GB Seniors Speed	Paul Chalvin (FRA)
SNOWSPORT GB Seniors Technical	TBC (AUS)
SNOWSPORT GB Juniors	Phillippe Laissus (FRA)
Scottish Seniors	Inge Botten (NOR)
SNOWSPORT ENGLAND	Sylvain Dao-Lena (FRA)
British Masters	No Allocation Yet

4.3 **Children's FIS Races**

Problems being experienced by competitors with dual nationality, especially in France. They are being told they cannot compete in GBR races if they wish to continue training with their local club. This matter was raised in Zurich with the Children's Committee. A French representative had assured that these issues would be dealt with. However, parents of competitors have not had success in contacting him or resolving the issue. A communication will therefore be sent on SNOWSPORT GB headed letter to him and copies to all relevant clubs.

5. **British TD matters**

5.2 **Revalidation of TDs**

- Written Rules - GBR TDs must attend a Nov TD Forum and Seminar at least every two years.
Unwritten Guidelines - The Forum should attempt to allocate each GBR TD an assignment per year.
- The Forum should avoid allocating the same event to the same TD for more than 2 consecutive years.

GBR TDs who are not allocated an annual assignment are to be Chief Of Race at an event entered in that season's Race Calendar and record this appointment in their logbook to be produced at the next TD Forum.

5.3 **Candidate TDs**

Ewen MacLean was adopted as a British TD.

Mark Berry is to attend a practical exam at the British Schoolboys races.

Richard Ellis (Aspirant TD) to conduct written exam before April with a practical exam later.

Bob Moore highlighted as a name for future. (Yet to become CSWSA TD)

5.4 **Sanctions Update**

No major issues. Sanctions should be recorded and reported at all times.

Maree Rudd has been asked to sit on Alpine Executive, which has the ability to form disciplinary sub groups when required. The Forum felt that the Chair of TD forum should have been invited to attend the Alpine Executive meetings.

5.5 **Children's Start Order**

A brief outline of Working Group Discussions over the summer was given. The Forum discussed the following concerns:-

- Safety of competitors. Fast racers and slow racers would be mixed up and in GS and SG especially this could result in a catch up situation. DNFs and DSQs could have been injured in a fall and Should not compete in 2nd run.
- Confusion. Running a race in a foreign country. Hill Team and Timers would not know what was going on.
- Fairness. If the events not seen as fair then the results would mean nothing and competitors may remove themselves to other sports.
- Racing / Coaching The Races should not do the coaches job for them. That is, if they need to ski bad conditions and ruts these should be simulated in training.

5.6 Positions and availability of Medical and Security Services

Doctors must be appointed in advance of Competition. Doctors are required to check with their insurance, this generally this allows them to work with casualties Worldwide with the exception of USA and American citizens. They should be positioned as stated in Art. 704.4 and 603.39.

5.7 High Altitude Medicine / Children

Refer to paper written by Jenny Shute and presented to the Forum. This information to be given to all Race Organisers who should be aware of the potential problems and report if necessary.

5.8 Indoor Championship Rules

Rules for addition to BCR will be forwarded to the SNOWSPORT GB Board for approval and then ratified at May TD Forum. However, a new draft will include Entry Level Races.

5.9 Certificate Of Enhanced Disclosures

- SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND reported that volunteers could be checked for free.
- SNOWSPORT ENGLAND reported that they will administrate Disclosures but not on a blanket basis. A fee of £5 for SNOWSPORT ENGLAND members and £50 for non-members will be charged.
- SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES reported that Criminal Record Bureau had stated that it was not required for current SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES Race activities.
- SNOWSPORT GB stated that at last Alpine Executive it had been agreed that all Race Organisations members would have to be Disclosure checked.
- In the main members did not object to being Disclosure checked, just questioned the necessity of it.
- As all present were volunteers it was felt that a fee levied at the individual was inappropriate.

5.10 Qualification Of Forerunners

- COR are only to appoint forerunners who meet the criteria of Art. 607, have signed an Athletes Declaration and are from the same age groups as the racers.
- No competitor, from Run 1 who has been DSQ or DNF can be appointed as a forerunner for Run 2.

6. British Calendar and TD Appointments

Calendar and TD Appointments have been distributed to all present.

7. Arrival Of Mark Tilston (Performance Director)

7.1 Children's Start Order - revisited

Mark Tilston was given a brief summary on the Forum's concerns with the proposal.

It was outlined the reasoning behind the proposal as follows:

- Racers are ill prepared for the jump from Children 2 to International FIS events where they start at the back of the field in very difficult conditions.
- It would remove the incentive to chase points.
- Racers would focus on performing well and not just getting down a course and producing a result.

There was some discussion over the various concerns of the Forum. The safety issue of catch up and the inclusion of DSQ and DNF was one of the main stumbling blocks. However, it was agreed to have two trial events where most athletes would be present.

7.2 Agreement - The following trial will take place at the BARSC Childrens' Races as detailed below:

- SG To Remain unaltered.
- SL/GS 2 x 1 Run Events (To Count for seeding)

Randomly drawn start order within age groups.

Children 1 Girls / Children 1 Boys / Children 2 Girls/ Children 2 Boys

1st Race will be drawn randomly.

2nd Race athletes will keep their bibs and will race in reverse order of their first run. Still racing within their age/gender groupings.

There will then be a meeting of those present (TDs, Performance Director, Members Of Alpine Executive and any other relevant personnel) on the last day of the Championships. This meeting will make comments on the trial and suggestions for improvement. The trial will then be carried forward to SNOWSPORT GB Children's Championships. Any changes to the trial, which will be implemented at SNOWSPORT GB Children's must be communicated fully to TD Forum, Alpine Executive, Home Nations, Clubs, Coaches and Parents.

C of C for BARSC and SNOWSPORT GB Children's races raised a number of practical and safety concerns, which were answered and will endeavour to facilitate the trial at both events.

This decision MUST be communicated fully. The following channels MUST be used:

SNOWSPORT GB Website

SNOWSPORT GB Children's Website

Britski Website

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND Website

SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND Website

SNOWSPORT CYMRU/WALES Website

BARSC Website

BARSC Acceptance

SNOWSPORT GB Children's Invitations

7.3 Separation Of Children and Junior Seed Points

BASS Seeder's paper was circulated. All agreed that Children and Junior Seed Points should be calculated separately in line with this proposal. Additionally, the Trial Events at BARSC and SNOWSPORT GB Children's Championships confirmed that they should be allowed for seeding as 1run events.

8. ICR Update

Draft precisions available now and will come into effect as from 18th December 2003.

All to check FIS website for updated paperwork. There is now an updated 1 page FIS TD Report, which includes the make of homologated flags.

9. BCR Update

A summary equipment regulations sheet, including indoor snow and artificial events will be made available to all present along with a new 1 Page British TD Report.

12 AOCB

There was no other business

13. Date of Next Meeting

08 May 04 Edinburgh

14 Nov 04 Cambridge