



London & South - East Regional Snowsports Association

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 2nd March 2009, 7.30
at Bromley Ski Centre

Present:

Sandy Telling – Chairman
Gwenderlyne Southall - Secretary
Kathryn Harris
Suzanne Nightingale
Vince Chan
Jules Golbey

John Curtis - Treasurer
Alan Sandell
Lynda Hickey
Ray Sieber
Keith Evans
Nigel Bran

1) Apologies:

Ann Bushnell
Steve Moss
Royd Southall

Sally Woods
Andy Proudlove

2) Approval of Minutes – 24th September 2008

The minutes were read and agreed to be a true record. Minutes approved by the committee and signed by ST.

2a) Matters Arising

No matters arising that were not already on the Agenda.

3) Finance Update

John Curtis reported that there has been little change since the AGM. See Appendix 1 for financial summary (available on request).

SSE funding (details of which were circulated to all members prior to the meeting) was further discussed as was survey circulated by Syzygy for which LSERSA was thanked. There was general concern amongst the committee about the lack of publicized criteria for this funding. **Post meeting note: Further investigation has revealed that the reason for this is simply because the full terms and conditions of the grant have not yet been finalised. SSE has confirmed that there will be a very stringent and comprehensive reporting system to ensure the grant is administered correctly. See Appendix 2 for Funding Update.**

Action: All Committee

SW has informally chatted with SSE (Tim Fawkes) about possible future funding for the Kent School Races RAKS(s) but whilst he seemed very interested in the Kent Races he was, understandably, unable to make a commitment either way at this early stage – see the above post meeting note.

On a separate note the funding from Roger De Haan for the British Children's Team was also discussed. Current feedback from parents received by the committee indicates a lack of impact on the athletes themselves; this is to be further investigated.

Action: GS/KE/ST

4) Sponsorship

Due to current work commitments Ann Bushnell who has been responsible for a lot of LSERSA press coverage over the last year has sadly resigned. ST has asked for a list of her contacts to pass to her successor and is keen to continue with the work done so far by her and NB to create a generic media pack. No-one on the committee felt able to take on additional duties so it was agreed that this position would be advertised on the website. Other suggestions for the post included Liz Bingle-Williams and Marion Telsing.

Action: AS/ST/RS

Other possible sponsors: At present both James Gambrill and NB are working on new sponsors whilst other committee members are in discussion with previous sponsors.

Action: NB/ST

James Gambrill has been discussing with ST the possibility of running a newsletter for us although we would still need to pull together the relevant information; this maybe of particular interest in the light of AB's resignation.

At the AGM it was agreed that AB/KH and NB would work on the possibility of a sponsor event – due to other commitments this did not come to fruition; however, it was agreed that this may be looked at again later in the year.

5) Summer Race Series Update

Provisional race dates have now been confirmed and during the meeting AS updated the website to reflect this. Before application forms can be up loaded to our website SW needs confirmation of prizing structure (this was voted on and it was agreed to keep this exactly the same as last year) and also sponsor information which ST agreed to forward.

Action: ST

Race Format

After much discussion and various suggestions it was finally agreed to run the races using the following format:

The format of the individual runs will remain the same as last season. The dual slalom will again follow the existing format although the race organisers may need to use their discretion to use the 'knock out' system rather than the 'box' system for calculating the winners if timing becomes an issue – this is no different to previous years.

In addition we will be trialling a 'head to head' competition which will run directly after the individual runs, whilst dual slalom teams are being sorted. Anyone entering the individual runs will automatically be entered into the 'head to head' although can still choose to opt out of the dual slalom event providing they notify the organisers in sufficient time. It should be noted that this is a separate event and as such points will not effect the series results; a separate prize may be available should the committee decided to run at least 3 such events throughout the summer race series. AS to put toward the relevant criteria for this new element of the race and circulate to committee members for approval.

ST to update and circulate the new Race format documents once agreed.

Action: AS/ST

It is hoped that the traffic light system will be up and running this season. **Post meeting note:** RS raised concerns over when/how this would be set up with the head to head event in between individual races and the dual slalom event.

Gate keepers to be given clipboards so that they can record observations/disqualifications in a more formal manner as part of training for Club National Races which our clubs sometimes run.

Action: KE

All officials should be asked to complete a self declaration form – this is needed only once to cover the 2009 LSERSA season.

Action: LH

Tri – Regional Race

A date needs to be set and slope booked.

Action: SW/KE/SE

6) Equipment

Neither SW nor RS were in attendance however SW notified GS that she has ordered 12 pole bases as per the AGM for this series; ST gave GS 6 pole bases plus some raffle prizes for the races.

Bromley have requested use of LSERSA equipment for their Club National on 19th April, 2009. GS to email SW and cc LH.

Action: GS

7) Regional Squad

The purpose of the Regional Squad was again discussed not only for the benefit of new members but to clarify general confusion amongst the committee. If athletes are invited onto the Regional Squad this is purely an opportunity for additional training and also attracts sponsorship in the way of discounted equipment from Ski Bartletts and possible access/discount *to the training camps put on by MT*. It is *NOT* directly connected with those chosen to take part in Inter Regional or Tri Regional events. Whilst previously this idea has worked effectively within LSERSA more recent experiences has highlighted concerns with the selection criteria and general administration. It was agreed that this would need to be mutually agreed by SB/SW/MT.

Action: SB/SW/MT

7a) Inter Regional 19th May – not an agenda item

It was agreed that the Sub-Race Committee needed to meet to discuss this event in full. After considering dates it was suggested by those present that the meeting take place at lunchtime on 19th April during the Bromley Club National as the majority of people would already be in attendance.

Action: MT/KE/SW/AS/
SB/AP

8) Bursaries

It is general practice for existing bursary criteria to be reviewed and if necessary/appropriate updated on a yearly basis. Not all committee members were familiar with these documents and it was agreed that GS would circulate via email so that everyone could look at them before the next committee meeting.

Action: GS
Action: All

9) Adaptive Skiing

Jules Golbey representing SSCS (Southern Ski Club for the Disabled) was pleased to announce that they had finally received their charity status – Congratulations!

SSCS now has a link on our website which AS created after the AGM. ST highlighted that it may be useful to clarify the term “disabled skiing” and passed a document he had come across to JG. It was agreed that JG would look through the document and amend accordingly before an official definition was given.

Disabled skiers in our Region

JG is going to research into two local ‘disabled’ skiers to see if we can include something on our website. These are Jo Willoughby who is reported to have received TASS funding (for *details see copy of the ‘Piste’ magazine in Nov / Dec*) and also Kevin Alderton, who holds the world record as a partially sighted skier.

Action: JG

10) Any Other Business

No Snow Who Cares – freestyle

The dry slope calendar is already incredibly busy but VC felt that a possible date could be found in July to host the above event which was a huge success last year; he hopes to have a date within the next couple of weeks which he will share with the committee.

Action: VC

VC confirmed that 'For Boarders By Boarders' were happy to support/promote the event again this year. KH is working on creating new contacts/sponsors.

The format of the event will be similar to last time although they are hoping to secure an "air bag" for jumps during the jamming session. However, there are some logistical problems as the "air bag" company they have in mind are based in Scotland so the biggest cost will be getting it to Bromley. ST did mention that Welwyn also has an 'air bag' and offered to liaise with the slope.

Action: ST

The Bromley Freestyle club is progressing nicely and is now taking a more formal status. KH was able to report that its constitution has now been drawn up; they have an active committee, a bank account and even criteria for selection into their own squad.

Despite having an actual membership of around 27 there are currently only 7 paid up members - this is something that KH is chasing up.

Sports Development

SN has been busy approaching local schools to promote skiing, not just as a school trip but as a sport that pupils can train and compete in throughout the year. Her experience has shown that most schools are unaware of what is on offer at their local slopes and this is something she wants to address. She is currently working with 2 schools in particular and promoting not just the skiing but also the fitness aspect. One head teacher is keen to develop a fitness programme designed specifically for skiers.

Whilst both schools in question run ski holidays they have not previously considered entering their pupils in ski races. SN is promoting not just school events such as RAKS(s) and ESSkiA but also the regional races and other disciplines so that schools and children can see exactly what is on offer.

SN is currently putting together an information pack for schools – she would welcome information from SSCS (as she has already identified a number of disabled pupils who may like to try skiing as an alternative sport); freestyle clubs and snowboarding clubs. ST offered to send her a copy of "Teachers Guide" and "Skiing in the National Curriculum".

Action: ST/KH/VC/JG

SN mentioned that skiing element of the Sports GCSE is very attainable and should be promoted more widely.

School Races

Whilst Kent still holds its own school ski competitions this is no longer the case for Surrey and it is hoped that by creating new interest with schools demand for such races may significantly increase.

Other

ST is to meet with Trevor Harris to discuss using a TV/Video system for the LSERSA races or certainly the Bromley one.

Action: ST

Many thanks to Bromley Ski Centre for providing the use of their facilities, and to Sally Woods for arranging the refreshments for the evening.

Meeting concluded at 22.15pm

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