



London & SouthEast Regional Snowsports Association

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 7 pm on 30th June 2010 at Bromley Ski Centre

1. Present:

Sandy Telling (Chairman)	Gwenderlyne Southall
John Curtis	Keith Evans
Jules Golbey	Kathryn Harris
Emily Evans	John Lewington
Andy Proudlove	Lynda Hickey
Alan Sandell	Ray Sieber
Sue Vale	

2. Apologies for absence received from:

Trevor Harris	Dafina Keys
Sally Woods	Sally Bartlett
Vicky Pullen	Marc Telling

3. Approval of Minutes 3 March 2010

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by ST.

Matters Arising from Minutes

The amended minutes of the Development Plan meeting of 25 November 2009 were agreed and signed by ST.

Skiers X event has not yet been organised but was still hopeful for 2011.

Policy documents as agreed at the last meeting were now published on the website.

4. Development Plan

Q2 updates are required to be added to plan. GS is finding it difficult to obtain updates from various disciplines and individuals. It was agreed that she should phone for updates if people do not respond to emails. Once updates received copies will be distributed which will show progression.

Whilst the development plan is time consuming it is a valuable document and has already helped secure funding. £2,500 funding to date has been achieved: £1,500 match funding from SSE for our bursary scheme; plus £1,000 has been promised by SSE for the Surrey Schools race with possible further funding in 2011 and 2012. This is primarily due to the success of The Kent Schools Race evidenced within our plan.

GS has recently received Sports Unlimited funding of £480 to start an after school club and has now submitted a further bid of just over £4,000 to introduce skiing to Folkestone school children who have never skied before; hopeful of retaining 104 skiers out of 150 introduced. If successful this will meet a number of our development targets much earlier than anticipated.

SSE capital funding

Comments were made about the capital funding information recently provided by SSE. It was felt too much information was provided for regions to sift through and this put off several people. SSE needs to condense/summarise information before sending out to ensure better take-up. After liaising with VP two bids for capital funding have been made in-line with the region's development plan which involved completing a simple one sided A4 document; something that had not previously been clear. Individuals from the respective clubs have now been contacted to confirm that they can match any SSE funding.

Bids:

Adaptive: £2,700 for a Sit-Ski - SSE are keen to support if SSCD can prove they are able to match SSE funding.

Nordic: 20 pairs of roller skis at £200 per set – again requires match funding from club.

Some areas, which were not in the original development plan, have been developed or received support/funding and it is important to update the plan so that it fully reflects the region's progress.

It was agreed that the development plan sub committee should meet more regularly – perhaps at races. GS will bring document to races to speak with members.

GS to contact committee members for update to plan and bring to next race.

5. Financial Update

Three races have been held so far with turn out lower than last year. £1,500 was received from SSE for match bursaries and £1,650 is still due from Aosta Valley. This was delayed due to non VAT registration, invoice has now been resubmitted: **Action: JC to chase Aosta for payment.** Post Meeting Note: This has now been received.

6. Disciplines Freestyle

KH has participated in three competitions with Southern region which went really well with LSERSA members getting some podium positions. Membership has increased and some racers are joining freestyle sessions on Tuesday evening.

AP is now coaching Dani Freeze for Skier X. Two LSERSA freestylers are in England Team – Dani Freeze - Skier X and James Bisset - Moguls.

Action: KH to send details of new members to SSE for insurance.

Currently 22 members, target this year 25, 35 by end of 2013. No Snow Who Cares event is still in the pipeline but funding is needed. VP is keen on snowboarding events and should be contacted through region to see interest. **Action: KH to contact VP.**

KH is looking at a training week in Einhoven, Holland. AP is the Co-ordinator/Manager for the English Squad Skier X and is on the Committee of SSE Freestyle. Skier Cross Project club affiliated to the region was contacted but no reply has been received from Max Hardy or Ian Findley. Skier X event being looked at by Ambition Club and is still being considered for 2011.

Adaptive

Weekend of 26/27 June a Grade 3 Guide training event was held with 10/11 people at Knockhatch Ski Centre.

JG explained how helpers tend to progress to guides and said there was a possibility of some guides considering racing. ST has a wish list from Ian Edwards, Chair of SSCD for equipment they want – 14 items. **Action: JG to contact VP with requirements for club and see what match funding may be available, highlighting priorities.** Some items are not capital e.g. stationery. If requirements are for funding any project should start with all the items required to ensure project success even though funding maybe available for only part of the list.

Alpine

Ed Drake Invitational Race at Hemel on 24th July – KE is COR.

Andrea Grant, Chair of ASC, is involved with SSE England Team. The selection of Juniors into the GB Development Team is the responsibility of the BSS. Ambition Race Academy are putting together a training programme for Junior full time skiers. Ambition provides academic support for Children and part time Junior athletes. BSS have Children and Junior Coaches in place but there appear little structure in place apart from for the Senior team.

7. Bursaries

Bursaries feedback forms were received from 8 out of 9 applicants. Martin Nankoo was outstanding SV gave KH a form for her to get him to complete at Freestyle evening.

Action: GS to add details of bursary success and monitoring to Development Plan.

All those who had bursary awards are helping in the region by running/help run training sessions and helping youngsters on race days with course inspections. Keith Evans was given money for LSERSA Poles – this is not a bursary award and should not be shown as such – **Action JC to show in accounts.** Ed Drake and Aaron Tipping to be contacted as they too received Bursary awards – **Action SV to contact – find out bursary amounts from SW.**

8. Regional Coaches Conference

AP thanked ST for his help with the conference. Action points from minutes were discussed:

Aa) List of coaches and tutors – AP collating but to ask another coach to assist e.g. Lucy Stephens. **Action: GS to send list of clubs/points of contacts to AP.**

Ab) More coaching conferences required – Spoken with Pete Gillespie re conference Eastern Region – possibility for November after SSE Coaching Conference.

Ad) Parent workshops – Action: **AP to contact attendees** at conference to investigate what's on offer in their area. Dave Lynch recently held workshop to parents on servicing skis at Folkestone slope; **AP to ask whether he will produce DVD** – VP may fund.

Ae) Website area – AS has created area for coaches. **Action: AP to email coaches to advise them and to send AS info for page.**

Af) Communication through website – **Action All: items for the website**

Ag) Promote Piste/Race Ready – already done through various means

Ah) Parent-mail/FB – **Action: AP to ask Lucy Stephens to look into similar to parent mail for coaches.** 3 administrators on FB policing comments are confident nothing inappropriate on our page.

Aj) List of coaches affiliated to region. **Action: AP to send contact details to SV to set up register**

Ba) Policy documents – completed these are now on website

Bb) Timing of courses – **Action: AP to speak to Tim Fawke**

Bd) Course availability **Action: AP to speak to Tim Fawke**

Be) Courses at slopes – information to be given to region to add to their website. Possibility of registering interest on website.

Bf) Programme of visiting slopes – SSE have National coach and could be used to meet up with other coaches – **Action: AP to speak with Tim Fawke.**

Bm) Schools co-coordinators. Christine McCauley helping SW organise Surrey Schools Race. Surrey have emailed ST with list of all Sports for Schools Coordinators – need to identify people in each region to take responsibility; help needed from Chairs of all clubs which could generate extra funding. Funding has to be through SSE. **Action: KH to ask TH whether he will take on role for Kent. Action: SV to maintain list.** Surrey is a priority and SW may have contacts from Surrey race being held in October at Aldershot. Sandown Park has been helpful.

9. Athletes Feedback

EE joined the meeting to give feedback from the racers.

Racers were concerned that there was not enough time between runs at any race format to prepare skis for the next run and they could therefore not ski their best.

More opportunity needed to be given to racers to reach the England Dry Squad.

Applications are due 1st July and this needs to be advertised more.

The criteria has changed this year for the England Dry Squad and races for consideration between August 09 and August 10 at races with 5 points or less and racers below 50 seed points. Not a lot of 5 point races are held in this region with the nearest one being Norwich.

Races that were traditionally low points were Celtic Cup/GPs/All England/Welsh/British and Scottish championships. This had been raised that the Regional Meeting by ASC, although the emphasis appears to be on artificial snow, half of the country cannot access a snow venue easily. The GPs on plastic are running at a loss. £3-4k is required to hold a snow race and approx £1k on plastic. £1 of each SSE entry is subsidising snow races. GPs next year will increase to £18 entry fee. All indoor races were well attended this year.

The committee thanked Emily for her help on Wednesday's training sessions, the younger racers look up to her and appreciate the emails and video/photo feedback. Folkestone skiers have increased their number of podium positions due to the Wednesday training sessions with Jim, Emily and Dan.

10. Regional Meeting at Gloucester

Action - SV to send minutes to Committee members

- a) Review of Racing 2010 so far – attendance low at some races. The participants were split on whether to reduce race entry but more than half wanted to hold or increase prices. LSERSA suggested GP sponsorship to Aosta Valley of the GP series and they have a two-year deal. This covers the cost of a snow race or several races on plastic. Discussion had taken place to make the GP more of an event with prizes, bursaries and cash awarded. Parents and racers raised concern that snow races were not good for socialising and therefore difficult to retain interest. South East region do not easily have access to snow facilities therefore the plastic races had to be retained; dry slopes were more accessible to lower income families. Snowlife Awards introduce children to skiing/racing. GS, through Sports Unlimited funding, has provided an 8 week course at Folkestone for 116 children at £8 each.
- b) Club Nationals – Possibility of 7 GPs next year 4 indoor and 3 outdoor and attaching a CN at the same venue on the same weekend. Possibility of 19 CN races indoor and outdoor. Possibility of looking at smaller clubs combining to put on 1 CN event – less races in year but hopefully higher attendance. Race Calendar to be published in August, so race committees can schedule their races with less clashes with hopefully all races being shown e.g. regional and schools. Possibility of arranging CN and regional race on same weekend. To increase participation in races more space needs to be given to run races in the calendar. Consideration to be given to running races for non registered racers and introduce them to SSE race formats.
- c) Championship races – Discussion whether to move some of these races to the beginning of the season.
- d) ST raised a point regarding time of course inspection when the race is full – it was agreed that it was at the discretion of the CoR but should be extended when the field is very large.
- e) West Midlands and East Midlands have combined to form CESA – Central England Ski Association. 8 regions now. New map needed LH offered to produce if ST can provide the regional split. Action: **ST send LH region boundaries.**
- f) Email received from Andrea Grant who was pleased with the meeting with good ideas being raised. ASC meeting next weekend. Possibility of another meeting to be held at the All England in September.

11. SSE Strategy for 2011-14 (Participation and Profile)

This is now a rolling document. 7 Goals – need working group to look at specific goals and report back to Board. (goals encompassing Participation, Profile, Access to Sport, Support, Structures for parents and athletes, Facilities, Recognition and Partnerships). Directors have been appointed to each goal – Participation Jennifer Denning, Profile Peter Stratton. Committee members to consider whether they want to be in working groups. Initial discussions were positive

Action ST to send details around to members.

12. A.O.B.

a) Press & Publicity

- i) Facebook – Currently 3 administrators – if anyone else wants access ask Dafina. Concerns over inappropriate material were raised and if this happens then site to be closed.
- ii) Improvement in Communication – AS to look at adding page to website listing all documents when sent to clubs etc. **ACTION – AS.** Members could then look there for the latest version etc.
- iii) Guide to Alpine Skiing – RS/ST and 1 other to go through and review document. 1st few pages already out of date. Goal set on development plan. SSE also wish to produce similar document - ST has asked them to fund and we will put together; SSE like the document, currently 26 pages SSE have produced 3. AP volunteered to assist in the guide.

- b) Alpine Squad Selection
This is for athletes to aim for. Racers only eligible if LSERSA named as primary region. **ST to distribute list to committee.**
- c) Inter-Regional Championships – a parent had complained at the selection criteria and it is a regional race and regional points were not taken into account; their child was not able to compete at Saturday CNs. It was agreed that the current criteria should remain and is simple to administer. There are some CNs and GPs held on Sundays where a racers points can be reduced and you are only required to compete in two in the year. On this criteria team selection can be made by Regional Secretary and sent to race committee for checking.
- d) 10th July race – AP requested that St Johns Ambulance be in attendance – it was agreed that this is slope responsibility but designated first-aider could be issued with a radio.
- e) JG had been given a raffle prize of Skismo signed by Chemmy Alcott. Agreed to split raffle or auction profits 50/50. **ST to ask Chemmy if she is available to attend a race.**
- f) Email from SB re coaches from Austria coming over. **Action: AP to respond back to SB and copy Bernie Wright, John Ready and Darren Schmidt.**

Meeting concluded at approx 10.30pm
Thank you to Bromley Ski Centre for allowing us to use their facilities
and to Mags for the catering