



# London & South – East Regional Snowsports Association

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at Bromley Ski Centre

### 1. PRESENT:

Sandy Telling (Chairman)  
Gwenderlyne Southall (Secretary)  
Alan Sandell  
Sue Vale  
Jules Golbey  
Keith Evans  
Lynda Hickey

John Curtis (Treasurer)  
Sally Woods  
Dafina Keys  
Andy Proudlove  
Steve Moss  
Trevor Harris

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from:

Royd Southall  
Marc Telling  
Brian Davies  
Vince Chan  
Ray Sieber  
Sally Bartlett

Vickie Pullen  
Nigel Brain  
Kathryn Harris  
Kevin Gibbins  
Charlotte Evans

### 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM – November 2008

The committee accepted unanimously the minutes as a true record of the meeting –and these were signed by the Chairman. Items outstanding were:

Item F Freestyle - Trevor Harris to provide a promotional DVD – this will be shown tonight.  
Sponsors Event – nothing arranged due to work pressures of NB and AB; good idea and look at possibility again in coming year.

Item J Adaptive - Charitable Status has now been obtained by SSCD – Southern Ski Club for the Disabled.

### 4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ST distributed copies of the report. He reported that there had been significant changes in the world of skiing recently. The governing bodies SSE and SSGB have had funding changes – SSE receiving more funding and SSGB losing funding which has had an impact on our athletes at the top of the field. The SSE funding should help new skiers coming in to the sport.

Disciplines – ST thanked key people who had taken a lot of weight off his shoulders and were ensuring the smooth running of all areas. Chemmy and Ed had planned to attend some regional events but due to training and fund raising they have been unable to do this.

Development Plans – A large amount of funds has been spent investing in our young coaches to develop the sport. A lot of effort has gone into the Development Plan and ST thanked those who had been involved in it. The Development Plan would be discussed in more detail in the first Committee Meeting to follow the AGM.

ST thanked all the committee members for all their hard work throughout the year and for making the 2009 race season a success, albeit with a reduced income. He wished Steve Moss and other members who have left the committee good luck.

5. **FINANCIAL REPORT** (Treasurer's report, financial balance sheet and full accounts are available on request).

JC distributed copies of the Financial Report and had two copies of the full account available for inspection. The region had total funds of about £8,000 which was £1,500 down on last year. The summer league series was more profitable than last year albeit from reduced race revenue but there was a large creditor who was written off and we did not fund the end of year BBQ.

There is £2,300 in the race account but there were still a lot of creditors to be paid so a transfer of funds was required.

The Bursary fund had a deficit of about £100 and was not adequate to fund any bursaries this year so we had to look at new ways of funding this. There were still some bursaries unclaimed. GS said funding from SSE may be available to assist in the future. Bursary Income was £1,331, expenditure was £2,429.00. The committee needed to consider ways of maintaining our balance which means if revenue remains the same we have to reduce our expenditure or find alternative ways to increase revenue.

There were approximately 25% less skiers at this season's Summer Race series.

Clothing was in stock from last 2-3 years. The value of this is low and reducing.

There were no financial sponsors this year. The only additional money raised by raffling the Canadian holiday donated by Sun Peaks, was presented to Ed Drake to assist him with his training prior to the Olympics.

6. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE)

| <b>NAME</b>          | <b>POSITION</b>   | <b>NOMINATED</b> | <b>SECONDED</b> |
|----------------------|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Sandy Telling        | Chairman (E)<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Regional Rep at SSE Council | Wycombe          | Folkestone      |
| Gwenderlyne Southall | Vice Chair (E)  | Folkestone       | Bromley         |
| Position Vacant      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> regional Rep at SSE Council                 |                  |                 |
| Sue Vale             | Regional Secretary (E)                                      | Bromley          | Brentwood       |
| John Curtis          | Regional Treasurer (E)                                      | Brentwood        | Bromley         |
| Keith Evans          | Chair of Race Committee (E)<br>Chief of Race                | Chatham          | Brentwood       |
| Lynda Hickey         | Regional Child Welfare Officer (E)                          | Bromley          | Wycombe         |
| Dafina Keys          | Publicity & Press Officer (E)                               | Wycombe          | Bromley         |
| Keith Evans          | Chair of Race Committee (E);<br>Chief of Race               | Chatham          | Brentwood       |
| Marc Telling         | Coaching Co-Ordinator (E)                                   | Wycombe          | Bromley         |
| Alan Sandell         | Chief of Calcs – Timing<br>Webmaster                        | Wycombe          | Folkestone      |
| Position Vacant      | Assistant Chief of Calcs – Timing                           |                  |                 |
| Sally Woods          | Race Secretary  | Chatham          | Everyone        |
| Position Vacant      | Assistant Race Secretary                                    |                  |                 |
| Nigel Brain          | Marketing/Sponsorship                                       | Bromley          | Folkestone      |
| Sally Bartlett       | Regional Coach  | Wycombe          | Bromley         |
| Andy Proudlove       | Assistant Regional Coach                                    | Bromley          | Brentwood       |
| Royd Southall        | Equipment Officer   | Folkestone       | Brentwood       |
| Ray Seiber           | Assistant Equipment Officer                                 | Sandown Park     | Wycombe         |
| Vince Chan           | Snowboarding Representative                                 | Bromley          | Folkestone      |
| Gregg Bell           | Nordic Representative                                       | LRNSC            | Wycombe         |
| Jules Golbey         | SSCD/Adaptive Skiing Representative                         | SSCD             | Wycombe         |
| Emily Evans          | Athlete's Representative                                    | Chatham          | Folkestone      |
| Kathryn Harris       | Freestyle Representative                                    | Bromley          | Brentwood       |
| Suzanne Nightingale  | Sports Development Officer (Kent North)                     | Bromley          | Wycombe         |
| Trevor Harris        | Sports Development Officer (Kent South)                     | Bromley          | Wycombe         |
| Christine Macaulay   | Sports Development Officer (Surrey)                         | Surbiton         | Wycombe         |

## 7. A.O.B.

### a) Schools Development Report – Suzanne Nightingale

SN has been working with schools and students at two schools in Maidstone. Most students and parents felt skiing was recreational for 1 week on snow and did not realise it was a competitive sport and a big social activity at dry slopes.

She is looking at an event where 1 or 2 students from each school could attend; the difficulty in schools seemed to be to get the staff interested. A meeting to inform parents is also being looked into. The plan is to involve a further 3 schools over the next three years including a junior school.

In discussion it was suggested to contact Head of PE departments in schools and to see if the County Sports Partnership (CSP) could help.

**Action:** *SN/TH to contact Heads of PE; ST to contact CSP*

### b) Sponsorship Report – Nigel Brain

NB had outlined how sponsorship had dropped off this year with both Kia and Premier pulling out. A handful of other sponsors had been approached but none had followed through. NB has produced a generic Sponsorship Pack which was well received by possible sponsors but it was difficult in this economic climate.

A new sponsor this year, "Surefoot" had attended two regional events and gave away prizes totalling £1,200. They had given positive feedback and would be happy to participate in similar events this year. There may be an issue where some slopes have shops and would see their revenue being affected. D<sub>3</sub>O – an impact protection company were also a possibility and had been in touch.

DK (PR & Press Officer) questioned the possibility of giving data to sponsors but GS and ST explained this had been looked into last year and there were issues with Data Protection. A trial had been used where racers had to opt in on the race entries for their data to be given to sponsors (Snow & Rock and Bartletts). DK has some knowledge of the legislation and will look into it.

**Action:** *GS to send DK the information she has.*

### c) Freestyle – Vince Chan

VC is organising an Air Bag session at Bromley on 15<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm to 10pm with the hire cost being £800. GS contacted Vickie Pullen (SDO) to see if they would be able to assist in any way – we are currently awaiting their response.

**Action:** *VC to contact VP to confirm if help available*

VC is also planning to also hold another "No Snow Who Cares" event in 2010, despite the poor attendance at the 2009 event. It may be held at a different slope next year. Chatham has changed their freestyle night to Friday so numbers were expected to increase at the Bromley Tuesday night sessions.

### d) Development Plan – Committee

Vicky Pullen had sent congratulations to the committee for producing a detailed development plan which she thought was very well done – to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Vicky will look at funding schools/facilities to bring new people into skiing in Kent area and at further developing Bowles or Folkestone – she was happy to oversee this.

**Action:** *GS to forward the email from VP to KE.*

e) Race Series

The committee needed to consider ways to make more money from the summer leagues. Number of racers needed to increase and it was suggested that possibly lowering the entry price to £10 might increase numbers. Also the possibility of having 7 races in the series and athletes having to have points from 5 of these 7 races to qualify for an overall award, as currently racers can enter the first 3 races by the end of May and if they have won their age group, this did not give an incentive to other racers to compete to qualify for end of series trophies and prizes. This meant some racers only competed in the first three races. On the down-side extra races would require extra work by all volunteers, especially SW and AS. The main concern was that the race schedule is already so tight, especially now that there are indoor snow races, that it would be difficult to get extra dates for these races. There were already clashes in the 2010 race calendar.

It was agreed that where the clashes occurred the races were aimed at the higher level racers and this would not be a bad thing and would give the developing racers a chance to get a better position in their age group in these races and this would encourage them to continue competing. Another suggestion to encourage racers was to give out medals to the top 5 – Gold, Silver and three bronzes. It was also suggested that a race weekend would help so two LSERSA races were held on the same weekend.

**Action:** *It was agreed that the Race Committee would meet, separately, to discuss this topic and detail some alternatives that could be discussed and agreed at a full committee meeting. An analysis of costs would have to be completed. Last season there was an average of 115 entrants at each race. The RAKS school race had attracted 220 racers and was run very smoothly so it was felt that an increase in racers could be managed easily. A suggestion was made to have a schools race evening.*

LH said that some clubs were in two regions which resulted in them having to attend a lot of races already. It was noted that most of the new developing racers do not travel to races and tended to only complete in those races at their home slope.

There would be no Head to Heads in the 2010 race series.

f) Coaching Conference – Andy Proudlove

The Coaching Conference discussed last year did not happen.

**Action:** *It was proposed that AP, MT and SB discuss and propose some ideas and requirements for this to proceed.*

g) Child Welfare – Lynda Hickey

The current recommendation from SSE is that all officials involved with seeded races should have a full CRB check. It is acceptable for volunteers and officials to complete a 'self declaration form' on the day. However, these 'self declaration' forms are valid only on the day they are signed and are limited to one a year. LH spoke with Tim Fawke at SSE regarding this as for regional races, we rely very heavily on volunteers. It can be difficult enough to get people involved and there would be a concern that expecting people to have a full CRB check, could potentially be used as an excuse not to help out. TF understands this concern and the reliance we have on parents volunteering and has agreed that as long as we are aware of SSE recommendations and try to promote best practice where possible, we can (as a region) continue to operate as we have been doing. We will continue to have a CWO in place at all races. Officials or volunteers should not be left alone with children or vulnerable adults without supervision by somebody who does have a full CRB check.

SSE have a time limit on the CRB checks of three years.

h) Website – Alan Sandell

AS requested any news and other appropriate items for the website.

**Action:** *GS to send details of a local artist (Lui Batchelor) ski/snowboarding prints and paintings.*

Steve Moss was thanked for all his hard work over the years as Vice Chairman and was wished good luck for the future by everyone.

**Meeting concluded at 8.40pm**

**Thank you to Bromley Ski Centre for allowing us to use their facilities and to Sally Woods for organising the refreshments for this evening**

# London & South-East Regional Snowsports Association Chairman's Report 2009



## INTRODUCTION

What a year!! So many things happening!! Many of them outside the influence of the region but which could affect us all.

- Ø Snowsport England (SSE) announced the provision of additional funding from Sport England – just under 1 million pounds has been provided to assist in the development of the sport. During July there was a meeting of the regional chairs with SSE plus their consultants to determine where the key focus areas were at regional level.
- Ø Will this provide more funding for the future where it is needed?
- Ø Snowsport GB (SSGB) on its knees financially and having to be rescued by the goodwill of many within the snowsport fraternity. This caused a lack of continuity for our best athletes on the international circuit and a huge loss of confidence as well as no programme in a year leading up to the Olympics.
- Ø Will this affect the way Snowsports at the elite level is organised in future?
- Ø SSGB's problems resulted in the top athletes and all involved down to the smallest club finding ways to help the individual athletes. Ed Drake has been assisted by club involvement in raising funds any way they can, regional involvement running an Invitation Slalom Race at the newly opened Hemel Snowcentre to raise money and commercial organisations who support Ed such as Scott Dunn and the Ski Club of Great Britain running a highly successful corporate event during October.
- Ø Will this be a continuing trend with athletes having to spend time away from training to obtain their own funding?

## **DISCIPLINES: (ALPINE/NORDIC/FREESTYLE):**

The past 12 months have, yet again, seen the standard of performance of our skiers in all disciplines at club, regional and national level rise even higher. We had another successful regional series during the summer months, although the numbers were down slightly; Freestyle ran their second event at Bromley – “No Snow Who Cares-2?; Nordic has had similar success stories with roller-ski events and trips abroad. The success of all these events is due to the hard work and organisation of many people but especially a few key people within each of the disciplines. You all know their names.

In alpine I would like to thank Sally & Rod Woods, Alan & Jean Sandell, Keith Evans and Royd & Gwenderlyne Southall. These along with a host of other volunteers, parents and of course the athletes can be proud of the events which have been put on and enjoyed by so many. Please bear that in mind it is always good to have more helpers and new people willing to learn some of the skills needed to run these events.

Also I must not forget to mention, Kathryn Harris, Vince Chan and Nigel Brain all of whom have work tirelessly to improve and maintain the running of both the Freestyle club nights and Freestyle/Snowboarding events. Equally, in Nordic skiing we have Gregg Bell, Iain Ballantyne and Paddy Fields, to name just a few, who provide the energy, resources and organisation to ensure cross country skiing and roller skiing is available for all who want to have a go in our region.

One other group needing special mention is our friends and fellow athletes in the Southern Ski Club for the Disabled. They have been involved with the region in various guises for several years. They have recently achieved charity status and I know their goal is to increase the numbers of disabled athletes they can help. I would like to congratulate Jules Goble and Ian Edwards for all their hard work and thank them for keeping us abreast of developments in Adaptive skiing.

As is usual with these things the organisation is provided by the few for the many. I sense that now is a time when we need to be looking to train some new people to take over some of the roles since quite a few have been working in the sport for a long time and now have no children to support at the races and possibly other hobbies to follow. I would like to take this opportunity to ask those who have younger children to step forward and offer to take on some of the roles so that the sport can continue for years to come. I believe this applies to all the disciplines and all the committees.

I had hoped early in the season that both Chemmy and Ed would be able to attend at least one event, but as you all know they have had to busy themselves with fund-raising and publicity events to ensure they have enough finances and sponsorship to pay for a full programme of training and racing prior to the Olympics. Hopefully Ed will be able to visit some clubs when in the country to advise on coaching and to tell us how his training is coming along.



## **DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

As usual John Curtis, our regional treasurer, has done a sterling job and will provide us with the yearly financial summary in his report. The SSE receives a copy of the accounts each year and I hope they notice that this year we have spent a large amount of money investing in our coaches since without them the sport has no future. L&SERSA Development plans have been put in place to tie in with the SSE Development plans which, are supported financially by Sport England. Hopefully some of that money will come to our region to assist in further development. For those of you who want more detail do visit our website - [www.lserasa.org](http://www.lserasa.org)

I'm sure I will have missed out several key aspects of a very busy year, but I hope you all feel, as I do, that the region is moving in the right direction and opening the sport to a wider audience, through our clubs and affiliated organisations.

I hope our efforts will enable us to develop better contacts with other organisations and so provide more opportunities to expand and improve the sport. Thanks to everyone who supports our clubs and the region, in whatever capacity, many thanks for all your hard work. It has made my job so much easier.

Sandy Telling

Nov 2009



## London & South – East Regional Snowsports Association

### SPONSORSHIP REPORT for 2009 – SUMMARY

#### APPENDIX 3

Sponsorship in 2009 has been an interesting year with many companies closing their doors to sponsorship completely, or selecting activities that will pull in the best return for their investment.

For example, both KIA motors and Premier (Hyundai dealership) decided to pull out of most of their sponsored events this year. KIA had been sponsoring Bromley Race club for a couple of years, and talks were well underway with Premier about sponsoring the newly formed LSERSA Freestyle club based out of Bromley.

Both companies, plus a handful of others that we have been talking to this year decided not to sponsor any of the ski events within the region. Feedback with reference to the LSERSA sponsorship pack and LSERSA summary pack from all companies we have spoken to were very positive, but maybe a combination of not selecting the right sponsors and/or the economic climate that we are in at the moment has meant that securing new sponsors this year has been very difficult.

On a positive note Surefoot (a boot and fitting specialise) based in London supported two LSERSA backed events this year, No Snow Who Cares II, based at Bromley and the LSERSA ski race at Welwyn Garden City. Surefoot gave away about £1,200 worth of prizes over the two events, and gave very positive feedback saying they wanted to support LSERSA in 2010. Further talks are planned with Surefoot in the next couple of weeks to see at what level they want to support LSERSA, such as free foot analysis which normally costs around £30.

Unfortunately this has led to a new problem in where sponsors such as Surefoot are not welcome at some slopes that have their own shop selling ski wear and ski services. So on one hand we have companies that want to sponsor either at a club or regional level such as Surefoot and d3o (impact protection), but are prevented to show off their products during events at some slopes, and non ski related companies that currently would rather invest their money elsewhere.

Let us hope 2010 proves to be an easier year with potential sponsors.

Nigel Brain



# London & South - East Regional Snowsports Association

## Schools Development Report

Oct 2009

I have been working with two local schools to promote the sport of skiing, I have met with P.E. teachers and discussed how we can interest young people to take an interest in a sport not widely participated in at school. We have looked at the level of fitness that can be achieved by students, and teachers have agreed that a fitness programme designed for new skiers could be added to their P.E. lessons.

Most local schools take students on a February ski trip and many of these children have said that although they enjoy the experience, they have little or no information on how they can continue to ski when they return home, many are unaware that dry slope skiing is an option and therefore are limited to school trips once a year, if their parents are non skiers as in many cases, they do not ski again until they are much older.

At present we are working to inform parents and students of their nearest facilities that will enable them to learn how to ski at a better standard and we are also informing families that races take place that their children can take part in.

We are having some difficulty at the moment over the issue of transport to the slope, most parents are working and there are often younger siblings to be cared for in the home. The schools do not have the use of a "school bus" and this would mean having a volunteer driver to take the children to training, this entails extra insurance and the cost of a CRB check. However it may be possible to enlist the help of a teacher who can be accompanied by a volunteer.

Many students I have spoken to view skiing as a recreational pastime and are ignorant of the fact that it is a highly competitive yet social sport.

The aim now is to set up a meeting with parents to give them as much information as possible. There are many that are keen to let their children try skiing as an extra sport, added to this is the fact that many students are booked onto trips taking place next year.

Two local gyms are allowing children of 12+ to use their facilities for 30-minute sessions of ski fitness. A trained instructor will undertake a fitness assessment and give a training session on use of equipment; this programme is specifically designed for the age of the students and ski fitness.

At the moment we are dealing with two schools where students range from 11-18, I am in the process of getting in touch with another school whose children are the same ages. However the aim for the next three years is to broaden the spectrum and work with three more schools approaching at least one junior school.

Suzanne Nightingale

20-10-09