



# London & South – East Regional Snowsports Association

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 9 pm on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at Bromley Ski Centre

### 1. PRESENT:

Sandy Telling (Chairman)	John Curtis (Treasurer)
Gwenderlyne Southall (Dev Committee)	Sally Woods
Alan Sandell	Dafina Keys (Dev Committee)
Sue Vale (Secretary)	Andy Proudlove
Jules Golbey	Lynda Hickey (Dev Committee)
Keith Evans	Trevor Harris

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from:

Royd Southall	Vickie Pullin
Marc Telling	Nigel Brain
Brian Davies	Kathryn Harris
Vince Chan	Kevin Gibbins
Ray Sieber	Emily Evans
Sally Bartlett	

## Development Plan 2009 - 2013

Latest review of the plan is version A1a. The Committee has spent 2-3 months preparing this document. The plan needs to be discussed so there is input from all committee members, (the first 11 pages giving a brief history will remain the same).

Development Sub Committee set up, members can be opted in or out as appropriate, this would initially consist of:

Sandy Telling  
Gwenderlyne Southall  
Dafina Keys  
Lynda Hickey

Most of the discussion will take place by email or possibly telephone conferencing.

### 1. Feedback from Vicky Pullin (SSE - Sport Development Officer)

Feedback on the plan has been received from Vickie Pullin and she congratulated the committee on a very impressive model and she was keen to use this as a model country

wide; future copies distributed to be in pdf format and password protected. Key points from Vickie were:

Bursaries – we had requested SSE match our funding, approx £1,250, to encourage racers to stay in the sport. Intervention 2 is applicable with a possible clause for 1 Freestyle/1 Nordic coach.

Race Series – SSE acknowledged the decline in numbers and has requested details of race day balance sheet to support this.

Freestyle – VP to help at Hemel for the 2<sup>nd</sup> inter regional training day. SSE to help with bursary support for freestyle coach. VP to give her time.

Adaptive skiing – SSE to look at providing additional courses and equipment; Intervention 2 – suggests 1 grade 2 guide sponsored by SSE.

Surrey Schools Event – requested £1000 initial outlay to get off ground. Good history with RAKS – Interventions 1 and 4. SSE believes this will be successful.

VP has highlighted that this is their initial response to our plan; it is hoped that further help/funding may be available as we work on specific targets.

**Action:** *Development Sub committee to maintain contact with SSE and confirm possible funding.*

## 2. Increasing Membership

An increase of 2% in affiliated clubs was aimed for with at least one in all disciplines: Nordic/Freestyle/Adaptive/Rollerski/ Alpine/Skiercross. We do not currently have a snowboarding club within the Region. VC to set targets for Snowboarding which will then be added to future reviews of our Development Plan. There is a planned Snowboarding event for Dec 09 event and GS has contacted VP to ask for her involvement. Snowboard Club UK gives 100s of good discounts on joining.

**Action:** *VC – set targets and report back to committee.*

Costs were discussed for publication of “Guide to Alpine Racing” booklet; an initial quote of £800 for 1000 copies has been received but with negotiation this could be lower. It was discussed whether we could use a picture from Lui Batchelor on the front cover and whether we approach advertisers to raise revenue; Ambition have said they would advertise and possibly Ski Bartlett. We could advertise at club training sessions. Deadline for publication is 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010. DK to lead on this – she would require technical input on skiing. SSE has a guide on their website. A DVD has been produced by TH which was viewed – a few slight changes to be made in categories.

**Action:** *DK to email KE the copy*

**Action:** *GW to approach Lui Batchelor re front cover*

Discussion took place regarding decline in racer numbers – which has dropped to an average of 115 per event. A target of about 140 racers by 2013 would enable the summer race series to remain viable. Discounts and family offers were discussed. The Race Sub Committee was asked to discuss strategies and report back to committee. Possibility

discussed re use of FaceBook page. TH has contacts in schools and was co-opted onto the main committee as a SDO for Kent. Ravenswood School had two coaches of students at the slope this evening and sub committee to look at promoting Wednesday evening sessions to schools; there is a possibility of having Gads Hill having a race next year. Concern was raised that racers could start racing without the proper basic race training which could be dangerous; racers without adequate experience were an issue at the last RAKS race.

The age groups were changed in 2005 and since the peak in 2007/8 there has been a 20/25% decline in numbers. It was claimed that ERSA currently had approx 200 racers per race (race attendance during 2008 was 194 at the first event and then 144 -160 at all others). It was felt that the price might be an element.

Universities to be contacted regarding team training/racing (Loughborough, Newcastle, Southampton and Canterbury.) A lot of our racers went on to university so they needed to be retained as well as bring in new racers. Possibility discussed of student card = discount.

**Action:** *Race Sub Committee discuss strategies for increasing racers*

Location for Future races and new facilities - This season a race is to be held at Bowles.

Online Race Entries - No one felt they had the skills to look at putting race entries on line with PayPal, plus cost implications were discussed – other options to be looked at. SW said most entries were received by email. AS could put form on website for printing.

**Action:** *Race Sub Committee to consider if online payment had any advantages over current system of using email.*

Superstar Fitness Challenge – look at options to increase participation.

The sponsorship from Snow & Rock with their excellent prizes needed to be advertised more widely and earlier in the season. All clubs should be asked to promote this within their membership and AS to include this within the race timetable as often racers did not know where or when this took place.

**Action:** *ST to coordinate*

**Action:** *AS to include in race timetable*

Tri Region Event – Sourcing funding for this is ongoing. LSERSA need to purchase medals every three years and outlay would be in excess of £1k. T-shirts cost approx £400 – possible look at sponsorship on shirts.

**Action:** *Carry over to next meeting in 2010*

Regional Squad – MT has details

**Action:** *Carry over to next meeting in 2010*

Snowdome Championship – look into whether viable as a one off race. Cost at Hemel £1,800. It was thought racers might enter for the novelty factor.

**Action:** *Race Sub Committee to look at feasibility study*

### 3. Nordic

Nordic contacts need to set targets and we will add these into our plan; this might identify help they require from us. No one leading on this. Now GB is back on board perhaps he could help with this? For rollerski it would have to be IB.

*Post Meeting Note* "Greg Bell was unable to attend the meeting but has subsequently agreed to be the Nordic rep".

### 4. Freestyle

KH will still feed into committee but will be taking a less active part for the time being. VC has planned Air Bag session at Bromley on 15<sup>th</sup> December 7-10pm and No Snow Who Cares? for 2010.

### 5. Adaptive Skiing

3 targets have been set – regular updates to be given. Funding to be followed up.

**Action:** *ST to chase funding.*

### 6. Schools

Two more schools are interested in becoming associate members – no affiliation fee is payable. The constitution states that we can charge to be a member if wanted – agreed not to do this at this stage. SN has set targets for Kent area. Kent county to be split into North and South and TH to be appointed to South due to his contacts with schools. AP volunteered training for Surrey schools - CM is the committee member for this, with SY possibly helping next year.

**Action:** *ST to co-ordinate with CM & Surrey Active Sports*

Numbers at the RAKS races were discussed. Discussions to cap it at 300 but it was felt that we did not have enough bibs and helmets to cater for this number so agreement was reached to cap it at 250.

**Action:** *SW to contact schools interested in being affiliated (names not given at meeting)*

### 7. Expansion of Bursary Scheme

SSE have agreed in principal that they will match any fund raising for bursary awards – need to come up with new ideas for fund raising – more we make, more SSE match.

LSERSA needs to put together a strategy for meeting targets and maintaining the sport in the London and South East Region. It is important to help SSE to maintain their targets and help ourselves in the process.

**Action:** *All with lead from Development Sub committee.*

**Meeting concluded at approx 10.10pm**

**Thank you to Bromley Ski Centre for allowing us to use their facilities**