



London & SouthEast Regional Snowsports Association

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

14th November 2012 at Bromley Ski Centre

Present:

John Curtis
Emily Evans
Allyson Gaskin
Susie Moore
Alan Sandell
Sue Vale

Brian Davies
Vince Gaskin
Dick Greene
Caroline Neall
Sandy Telling
Rod Woods

Keith Evans
Jules Golbey
John Lewington
Andy Proudlove
Nikkie Vale
Sally Woods

1. Apologies for absence received from:

Dafina Keys

Marc Telling

Juliet Trew

2. 2011/2012 Races – Review

It was felt that the race structure for this season went very well with the 4 out of 5 races counting and the change to the points allocation. The main issue of race days is the lack of volunteers to officiate – it is always the same people who officiate because of lack of volunteers. It was agreed that the clubs needed to sort out their volunteers with a % of volunteers depending on the size of club and racers entered. It was felt that parents who have not officiated before are scared to help – Caroline stated until she had done it the first time she had assumed that you needed to have knowledge previously. Brian felt that clubs could nominate volunteers prior to the race day. KE/ST felt that LSERSA had enough knowledge to run their own Level 1 official course and this should be looked into **Action: KE/SV**

Revenue from the races was £1,000 down from last year. On average there were 90-100 race entries per race.

Sponsorship of Surrey School races and SSE funding has not been forthcoming nor have the £2,200 affiliated fees as the cheque had bounced due to wrong signatories– **Action: Susie Moore to check both payments with SSE.**

Kent Schools – one free race entry was offered to students who have not raced in series before but had entered Kent School race – 8 took up the offer with only 5 actually racing. Surrey schools was too late in the year to offer the same. 230 entrants were in the Kent Schools and 160 in Surrey Schools races, this race has only run for 3 years. Caroline said that prior to the Kent Schools Race Bowles club have double the number of racers turn up for three months and then after the race they never see them again. Susie said that SSE have a development team Go Ski Go Board which has a link into school games and slopes to encourage after school clubs and work with the schools – it was felt that if they run skiing as an after school event parents are more likely to become involved as they have to take them. SSE will find out in December whether they have funding and how much for this from April. There are hub sites in each region.

3. 2012/13 Races

Prices for race entry to remain the same this year and the same format to continue.

DG asked that we change the venue for the last race of the season, preferably Bromley or Brentwood where there were more facilities e.g. dinner at the Chinese afterwards; SW said this was dependent on the dates given to us by the slopes. There were no food facilities at Welwyn slope at end of season apart from the clubhouse which was not good. **Action - ST said he would speak with Graham Dale.**

The traffic light system would be preferable to start the season but concern was raised about newer racers not understanding the system but it was felt this could be handled with explanation from race managers/coaches. The main advantage was that there were then no arguments on false starts. ERSA have used the system for years and has had a successful time with them.

The sponsors this year were Ambition and Bartlett as main sponsors with Elan and also Racer Ready came on at the end of the year with sponsoring a trophy. **Action – SV inform DK of sponsorship for Racer Ready.** All three main sponsors had signed agreements last year and copies given to Sally/Marc and Keith. **Action – ST to check with DF whether she has copies for Ambition and Bartletts** – DG signed them all at 1st race of season and gave them to DK. Elan have their copy and sponsored £2,000 this year on prizes. Logos of sponsors appear on the website and paperwork.

JC suggested that sponsors may wish to sponsor an event – e.g. Dual Slalom.

Surrey Schools – ST explained that Surrey Games were impressed with the event and are considering sponsoring the medals – last year's cost was £876.89. Susie explained they have a national programme and may supply their own medals rather than purchase LSERSA medals – this was agreeable. Surrey Schools may also provide certificates which are currently given to all primary racers. Their aim would be to get racers interested in beginner lessons and help schools become involved.

JC said that having the last race of the season – Surrey Schools – so late in the year causes problems with the accounts which have to be finalised by 31 Oct but there will be debtors and creditors – there was a suggestion to change the AGM date but nothing agreed.

EV was giving thought to a training day prior to the race days where this fit.

4. Purchase of Race Poles

The region needed to purchase new poles – approx 40. Susie had sent SV details, which SV had circulated, about funding opportunities through SSE of £300 to £10,000. To purchase these and have the application considered this would have to be submitted to SSE by end of January. (Susie was on annual leave from 7th Dec to 7th Jan). **Action: SV to talk/meet with Susie to go over application form prior to submission, SV to meet with Exec Committee to prepare application.**

5. Recommendations for Changes to Competition Structure

Ian Findley, SSE, had circulated a paper on 'Recommendation for changes to the competition structure of alpine skiing'. SV had circulated these to the committee and clubs for feedback. SV has received some email feedback. Brian has already sent feedback to Ian.

In summary the recommendations were that all children under the age of 14, whether on snow, artificial or dry slopes, were only to ski stubbies. These national races would not be seeded.

A lot of discussion took place and the feedback of this would be sent to Ian Findley but in summary it was agreed that LSERSA would not change to this format and would continue their races in the same format with a possible trial at one of the races of using the stubbie course for under 11s as it was felt the age group covered by this suggestion was too high.

The feedback to be given to SSE was that LSERSA were not recommending these changes at this age group and that if they were going to be implemented they should look at changing the age group to Under 10s.

All were in agreement that LSERSA should continue their training sessions as they currently did where the courses set included both poles and stubbies as these was considered best practice in training.

6. AOB

- a) Website – AS was happy to continue with the web page this year but we needed to find someone to take this over next year. The page was currently hosted by his workplace; Susie said that she thought SSE might host through them. Susie also mentioned volunteers who might be interested in carrying out the updates as part of their university degrees and maybe willing to be involved – **Action SM to check with SSE whether they could host LSERSA website.**
- b) AS thought that Ray Sieber still had some equipment – **Action: JC to check with Ray**

**Meeting concluded at approx 10.20pm
Thank you to Bromley Ski Centre for allowing us to use their facilities
and to Mags for the catering**