

Midland Ski Club

Committee Meeting March 27 2019

## Minutes

1/ Apologies

Apologies were received from Bryan Thomas

2/ Minutes of Previous Meeting

Noted

That in the competition results section no mention had been made of the achievements of Kingsley School at the British Schools Championships where they had done well. It had been reported in the Newsletter

Resolved

The minutes were accepted as a true report of the meeting.

3/ Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4/ Club Assets

Noted

The secretary reported that he had drawn up a spreadsheet of club assets.

It was unsure how comprehensive the list was regarding assets held by individual club members.

Resolved

The spreadsheet would be circulated to the committee and to the RSG for checking

5/ Club Notice board

Noted

The club notice board covered very little material about the work of the Race Steering Group such as upcoming races

Resolved

The club notice board will contain material from the RSG and from Snowsport England

6/ Club Website

Noted

The club website was an excellent asset and was very important in the running of the club. However its maintenance is causing concern to the committee.

Recent events such as the Winter Race League results are not being uploaded.

The current website manager, Rob Weeks, wrote to the club saying he no longer had time to dedicate to it.

Updates to the website can only be made when the website manager is informed about the data.

It was thought to be written in raw html.

Without specific expertise it was thought difficult to maintain in this format

Consideration should be given to completely rewriting the site

The use of content management such as Wordpress or Joomla! to be considered (A technical discussion about the merits of GPL software is not included here)

Mike Thomas had mentioned in discussion with a member of the committee that he knew someone willing to do web development for the club

Resolved

John Elgy to approach Mike Thomas and meet with his contact.

7/ Snowmark

Resolved

Gerry and Paul will meet in early April to update the Snowmark accreditation

8/ Publicity and Membership Growth

Noted

Currently the only way to join the club is via the website. It was thought that a paper form at the Ackers would be useful to ease the application process at taster days

The use of club membership software was discussed

It was difficult to confirm who club members were when they attended training sessions at the Ackers

Josef Feiven wondered what was done with the register collected at the Ackers

The taster session have gone well and we have recruited some new members

Gerry has been in discussion with Sport Birmingham and Handsworth Grammar School about becoming a satellite Club A sum of £3500 was mentioned

Some skiers on benefits had difficulty paying for training

Lots of useful information is presented on the MSC Facebook page administered by Josef

We currently have 286 club members

Resolved

John will supply Josef with a list of current members that he can check off against those attending training

Some way of maintain registers for the coaches will be devised

Gerry with the assistance of Bryan Thomas and Alan Edwards will prepare a proposal for Sport Birmingham establishing Handsworth Grammar School as a satellite Club

John to prepare a paper on Club Membership packages for the AGM

Roger to advise people on benefits how to apply for grant aid towards training

Anyone wishing to join the club is entitled to 2 free introductory training sessions at the Ackers

9/ Preparation for AGM

Resolved

Paul will send out the notice of meeting and request nominations for the posts of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer

All three current officers say they will stand again

Free food and a drink will be provided for all attendees

Presentations will be made on:

- Gerry – general activities and Snowmark
- Brian – accounts and finance
- John - Membership
- Roger – training and racing
- Catherine - Social

There is no need to increase membership fees

An overhead projector will be available for all presentations

## 10/ Finances

### Noted

Bank balance is currently £9,543

Expected changes to this are expected to be an income of £1,000

We are expecting to have a balance of £10,000 at the end of the year

Training at the Ackers will result in an operating loss of £2,800 over the year, which was better than last year

The Winter race series made a profit of £1289 this year

There are 36 skiers currently on contract

The club holiday made a surplus of £100

The Club training week made a surplus of £281

The High Altitude Training Weekend made a surplus of £475

### Resolved

That £1360 will be allocated to buy 50 new slalom gates

That a grant of £100 be made to each coach to buy coaching uniform

That for this year all racers will pay their own entry fees to the Gloucester Summer Race League

That the club will pay the entry fee to the first race of any skier outside of our own club races, either a club national, a Stoke fun race or the GSRL

## 11/ Holidays

### Noted

On a recent trip to Hintertux during a period of poor visibility a party was descending off piste when one member of the party peeled off and was lost to the rest of the party causing considerable concern to the other party members this gave rise to a number of questions:

- Skiing off piste is a hazardous activity, especially on a glacier where there are the potential of covered crevasses and other hazards
- Should the leader of such a group be a qualified mountain guide?
- Our club holidays split into groups who ski together – who designates the leaders, do they designate themselves, do members sign a disclaimer absolving the MSC from legal liability for these groups, do such disclaimers have any legal effect?
- These leaders are not nominate by the MSC
- Have our members taken out appropriate off piste insurance?
- Each member must be responsible for their own actions
- Not all members carry or use mobile phones

### Resolved

The club will prepare some recommendations for how members behave on club holidays, which will include:

- Carrying a switched on and charged mobile phone,
- Sharing your mobile phone number with your room mates and other members of the party
- Having appropriate insurance cover
- Acting with consideration of others in your party – e.g. not leaving them without telling them where you are going

Roger will share his liability disclaimer with other holiday organisers

Members must sign the disclaimer saying they will observe the guidelines and they are going on a holiday organised by the MSC but which does not include any mountain guides

Next year there will be a club holiday to Ischgl, deposits are being collected and it will be formally announced in the Newsletter

The Club Training week 18-25/1/2020 in Champoluc

Roger will be organising a family training week after Christmas 2019, exact date and location to be decided, but will depend to some extent when the Anglo Scottish Championships are

Gerry is organising a summer training camp in Landgraaf w/c July 22 2019 The cost will be circa £600 per person +transport

#### 12/ Racing and Coaching

Noted

A lot club members have been racing have been racing on snow over the winter and producing some very good results

Oliver Weeks was 33<sup>rd</sup> in the European Youth Olympic Festival slalom

Their successes are recorded in the club Facebook page and in the newsletter

Organisation for the Club National is going well

Ski Evolution will be presenting awards at the club national

Roger will run coach programme during the summer with Joe working towards his BASI level 3, Dave, Paul and Stuart doing their BASI level 1 this spring

#### 13/ Social Events

Noted

There will be a social presentation on April 3<sup>rd</sup> about cycling across America

A Bluebell Walk will take place May 10<sup>th</sup> with a meal afterwards

June 15<sup>th</sup> a walk along the canals near Lowsonford

July 13 Summer walk

Special Olympics talk September

October presentation – Japan revisited

#### 14/ Newsletter

Noted

The next newsletter will be published at the end of April. Could we have articles please?

#### 15/ Welfare

There was no report

#### 16/ Any Other Business

Noted

Jeff reported that he is negotiating sponsorship with a company Two Seasons

#### 17/ Date of Next Meeting

Noted

Annual General Meeting May 1<sup>st</sup>

Committee meeting June 19<sup>th</sup>