**MSC – RACE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2021**

In attendance: Bryan Arnott

David Beech

Toby Carver

Roger Cromblehome

Alan Edwards

Gerry Elgy

Joe Feiven

Brandon Fennell

Di Fennell

Paul Johnson

Dave Lee

Richard Newboult

Andre Tchakotine

Bryan Thomas

Apologies: Abbey Ward

Gill Weeks

1. Approval of prior minutes - approved
2. Covid update
   1. The Gov’t timetable appears to provisionally allows Training from 29th March.
   2. While we may be able to ski, the “only local travel” rule appears to exclude those who do not live “close” to a slope – parents will be responsible what this means for them
   3. The Outdoor Dry Slope Race season seems unlikely to start before June and this will mean some GB outdoor races will not happen – the current thoughts are that the English and Welsh Champs will double up as National Champs AND GBs.
   4. Ackers have announced that they will open on the 29th, on the same conditions as when they closed in December.
   5. Swad are thought likely to open on the 29th but this is not yet confirmed.
   6. Roger will be looking to run some Easter camps, provided this is permitted.
   7. Roger comments that there are a number of Academies touting for business already for the Dry slopes at Swad, Glouc’s, Norwich etc. This may limit our ability to assemble numbers to make an economic case. The Academies are, however, working on the basis that travel (other than local) will be permitted – which seems far from certain. They may be jumping the gun. Adam will email Bryan with details for consideration by SSE as these may be breaching reg’s.
   8. The status of indoor races is still up in the air.
3. CN
   1. Midlands – Saturday 10th July; Stoke; Jane CoR
   2. Telford – Sunday 11th July; Stoke; Nick Broomhall CoR
   3. CESA – Saturday 24th July; Swad; Jane CoR
   4. Inter-regional – Sunday 25th July; Swad. Still do not know who is organising this race although no “organiser” has yet been named (by SSE) – Note, Adam has run the last two. It may be possible that this could be changed to a GBR and the inter-regional scrapped – Bryan thinks that the SSE thought is that CESA region will take a large role in running this (IR) if it goes ahead.
   5. Midland really only need to be concerned about the 10th as Telford will be managing the 11th and CESA will be doing the 24th (albeit with Mid members participation)
   6. SSE have not yet allocated TDs as there is too much uncertainty around matters but when they do, we can start appointing officials.
   7. SSE will be issuing a note on race timings next week – but looks as though ours will be OK, although everything is potentially changeable.
   8. Covid protocol – it is not clear what version of protocols will be required to maintain social distancing and other Covid control requirements. SSE are working of developing / modifying existing requirements and are expected to issue these in March.
   9. Medals – Gill has proposed buying them and having them engraved but not with a date in case matters are delayed.
   10. Bibs – we will need to organise this to cut down queuing and maintain distance. Can we ask Dave to provide / make a rack where we can hang bids for individual collection. Note: Dave Hanlon has already run a race under Covid compliant rules but his method has been to have the racers turn up in small groups and then go – which may not be acceptable but is being worked on by SSE. Watch this space for official guidance from SSE – see h, above.
   11. For CN we need dedicated, on site Medical Support, we can’t use site staff if they are not “dedicated”. Jane would like to talk with Abbey about what this might look like (but not for Abbey to do this).
   12. Jenni would be happy to be Welfare Officer for the CN (per Di)
   13. The race fee to be same as CNs, £24 per entry – now locked and loaded.
4. Timing Gear long-term strategy
   1. Most critical item is the “Timy”. This is the box that manages the timing (with additional till roll and buttons). Ours is many years old (version 1, circa no. 250), has been repaired on a number of occasions and can only be considered increasingly at risk of further failure. Homologation has been extended to 2027 but is not expected to be further extended beyond this – even if we were not already concerned about failure – it is a critical element in the timing chain.
   2. We have been offered a “new” Timy 3, latest iteration with Homologation until at least 2031. It is already in the country and so no issues with import VAT / duty etc and has been offered to us at £753, inc VAT and delivery, around £250 (plus delivery and duty savings) below list as, while new with full warranty, this is a returned item.
   3. The RSG opinion is that we should acquire this immediately to eliminate risk and before it goes as any future replacement (considered inevitable in the short to medium term) would be considerably more expensive.
   4. Another option for acquisition is a key-pad unit which would allow timing to be controlled from the top of the slope for training timing purposes. The cost of this is believed to be circa £600 (+ VAT?)
   5. Other requirements would be more flight cases that could be dedicated to specific sets of kit and include associated charge packs etc to ensure simplicity of transport and certainty of charge.
   6. Establish a sub-group comprising Adam, Andre, Brandon, Dave and RN to work on this and prepare a submission / plan for the RSG. Zoom call to be Wednesday 3rd March at 8:30 p.m. – Gerry to send out Zoom invite and welcome callers in.
5. Clothing update (Di)
   1. Club merchandise is now “sorted” and we can issue
   2. Only the Coaches Jacket needs finalising. Has selected the Matrix jacket and now only need to agree the appearance of the logo – underway. Di will finalise and agree costing – currently circa £1,380 for 6 jackets with embroidery and 6 sets of Ts / hoodies etc are another circa £200 – so just under £1,600, or £267 per coach.
   3. General view is that this is OK, Gerry to get early Committee approval.
6. Club questionnaire (Roger)
   1. Has had 11 responses – out of 14 sent out.
   2. OK to send out to all club members for their completion. Roger has not yet been able to send out on a merged mailing list, only send individually. John will look into options here.
   3. Go with what we have.
7. Other
   1. Officials / Club members
      * Club needs to approach Officials who are not a Club member and agree how to fix this on an individual basis, as appropriate to each, with a view to retaining their participation (and membership).
        + Can we have a race Officials membership – for non-skiing, only officiating activities.
        + Officials membership at SSE is FREE and this will give them all the cover needed although they would need to send a copy of their SSE acceptance to the Club.
        + Do we change membership requirements such that a child must have an associated family adult member.
        + Gerry, Paul, RN to come up with some (pricing / membership) options that work for both the individuals and Club.
      * Jane is having an Officials zoom call with SSE on Friday (26th) with 15 cub members + 1 guest. Andre will try and join list as part of Officials training.
        + There will be more Zoom training in March – Jane to publish dates
        + For each race Jane would like a race Officials list prepared which can be checked to Club membership
      * Given Andre’s experience with running Kings, Dave proposed that we train him up in a Race Manager role (involves most areas of race knowledge), something he appears to have largely done in the past but needs the Official paperwork / certificates to follow. This will incorporate timing coverage – where Brandon also needs to train for appropriate certification.
   2. Rob Taylor - new manager @ Swad
      * Ex Army, Swad and Snowdome.
      * Gerry, Roger, RN talked with Rob a couple of weeks ago and he was keen to continue with and build on relationship with Mids on mutually beneficial basis.
      * He is happy to continue on same cost basis, at least immediately
      * He is looking for our input on improvements he wishes to make, such as location of (new) timing hut.
      * He will be talking to John about Eola system
   3. Safeguarding – Joe and Abbey have both previously offered to be Welfare Officers and SSE recommends that we have two where possible. Committee would need to ratify this – Gerry would put them forward. Joe and Abbey would need to demonstrate that they have required, appropriate certifications
   4. Joe has arranged for club members to have discounts at Solutions for Feet. To include in Club Newsletter. Also need to establish where else we still get discounts – e.g. if show club membership should get 15% off at Cotswold and Snow & Rock – but also discounts at SRS and Ski Bartlett etc
   5. Abbey has thought about publicity ideas (with Joe?) for building Club membership for the future.
   6. Provisional date of next meeting – Thursday 18th March @ 19:00.
   7. Timing group call date (Dave, Adam, Andre, Brandon, RN) – Gerry to issue Zoom and kick us off. Wednesday 3rd March at 20:30.