**MSC – RACE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY 29th APRIL 2021**

In attendance: Nick Broomhall

Roger Cromblehome

Alan Edwards

Gerry Elgy

Brandon Fennell

Di Fennell

Jenni Fennell

Paul Johnson

Adam Lee

Dave Lee

Jane Lee

Richard Newboult

Andre Tchakotine

Apologies: David Beech

Joe Feiven

Bryan Thomas

Abbey Ward

Gill Weeks

1. Approval of prior minutes - Approved
2. Change in Welfare Officers to meet SSE role separation requirements
   1. big thank you to both Joe and Jenni for helping fix this
   2. Sally Giles has indicated to Jenni that she will be an assistant Welfare Officer – all attendees approved this. Jenni will get her through the process.
3. Race Managers – we should look to invite all onto RSG
   1. **Children Squad Race Manager** (Squads created from children under 12): Les Jones as lead, Andre Tchakotine to support
   2. **Junior & Senior Squad Race** Manager (Squads created from juniors over 12 years): Andy Orzel
   3. **School Squad Race Manager** (Squads created from a specified individual school): Alan for his school, Julie Jones and Andre are in communication with Solihull School, would need to identify others for other participating schools
   4. **Fun Race Manager** – Race Manager (Squads created for members racing in non-seeded races): Andre Tchakotine, supported by Dave Beech
4. CN item A – event organisation – RSG and Telford club
   1. Gill should buy trophies for the 10th, without date – and maybe stickers we could add at the last minute.
   2. Probably won’t be able to feed any officials but we should at least give bottled water. Officials need to be advised in advance of absence of club catering.
   3. Marketing of Race and MSC – to members and outside the club. Joe and Abbey are doing Social Media and we need to agree what this message(s) is and when it should be sent out. Advertise the weekend as a whole as may be more powerful in aggregate.
   4. Any persons that help do not have to be club members but should be registered with SSE (or other club). Jenni will send an email to those on the call, received from SSE, re who can be an official.
   5. Insurance for Officials / Racers
      * For a club race officials get insurance as part of membership, either club membership of any SSE affiliated club or registration as an official with SSE (or SSW). Membership must be renewed each year to keep insurance
      * For an SSE race, officials get insurance through registration as an official, free and renewable each year. In addition, each CofR completes an officials list for each race and this is submitted to SSE and covers the insurance requirement for all officials named for the race.
      * Esskia are currently discussing insurance for officials.
      * This year's rule for day entries to races is that the race ROC must satisfy themselves that each day entrant has insurance cover for racing. We will do this by checking proof of current club membership.
   6. Sponsorship – RN to follow up with Terry Bartlett, Pete / Ollie, Geoff Elmore, Chill Factore (nick). Need to ensure that we have current logos. Scott at Dynastar. Ellis Brigham, Snow & Rock, Cotswold Outdoors, Dare to B, Solutions for Feet (Colin). Who is running the Birmingham ski Show – this may be a good shop window for them.
   7. In the past, we have had stuff from Decathlon – Nick will see what / if anything might be available there. The MSC contact with Decathlon is via Geoff Elmore.
   8. Nick will approach Amazon for prizes.
   9. A suite of trophies for our CN is circa £400 for the race (ours are generally viewed as amongst the best). Jenni is going to see whether she can come up with a company to sponsor the prizes.
   10. Ski Evolution – do not invite this year due to potential numbers issues plus they are increasingly competing directly with us.
5. CN item B – race organisation – CofR update
   1. SSE suspends CN Series – announcement below (and see Addendum 3)

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* 1. Under the Covid ’19 restrictions we can only run races in squads of up to 20. We would then have to run multiple squads of 20.
  2. Under the Covid ’20 rules (assuming post 21 June expectations apply) – is this a standard CN but with Covid overlay (i.e. no feeding of officials but may be allowed water).
  3. Beak-even point at Stoke is circa 100 racers. Not currently known how many we might expect -could be large if there is a release of pent-up demand (we are one of the first outdoor races post 21st June or small if people remain cautious and are waiting to see how things develop.
  4. Not known if there are any limits on overall numbers of racers - it is all up in the air and we should be making loose, alternative options depending on what is required at the time.
  5. Jane and Adam will be talking with other CofRs as to what their thoughts are and how we might be proceeding.
  6. Jane’s thoughts are that Stoke and Swad should be considered as full with 150 racers under “Covid 20” but only 100 under “Covid 19”. We also need to be prepared with a strategy if we have late restriction arising. Non-registered / day entries are knocked out first and then move down taking out the fastest first.
  7. Need to consider rules about parents attending. Under Covid rules there must be one or someone appointed in loco parentis. Parents, in general might not be allowed slope side and not at top of slope. Not sure about whether more than one adult is permitted per family of children. In any event, we will be following the SSE rules, depending on what is published at the time.
  8. The guidance is that it is the Stoke slope’s responsibility to manage the social-distancing and other Covid compliance of the non-racing attendees. Notwithstanding it seems that we need to ensure that the requirements are properly communicated by Stoke and ourselves to the non-racing attendees. It looks like the Norwich / Ipswich (5th / 6th June) races are likely to be the first outside CNs this year and so we should have some visibility of what does and doesn’t work. We are 10th / 11th July.
  9. Brandon is available for timing duties on the 24th July – but not the 10th
  10. Jenni is available for the 10th July
  11. Still need to find a First Aid person for the 10th July

1. Club Policies
   1. Welcome letter – very simple and needs to go to all new starters. Jenni will talk with Gerry / John about this (from a technical perspective).
   2. Statement of care – this is a simple statement to be published on noticeboards at Ackers / Swad.
   3. Equality policy – to be updated and to include vulnerable adults etc. and account for single parent families and other matters.
   4. Photo policy – existing membership form does not include specific compliance with the photo policy and so in the absence of this we have to ask all members (and others) to stop posting pictures of children and adults on Social Media. The Photo policy does require this but it needs to be more prominent and “in your face” on the membership document. We need to get all members to ratify agreement with this – Gerry will get hard copy documents printed and circulated at Ackers / Swad for members to sign, acknowledging compliance and retrun. The only exception is for parents posting pictures of their own children / themselves. The general rule is that Children must not be named unless specific permission given by the parent / individual. Coaches are specifically permitted to take photos / videos for training purposes.
   5. Social Media policy –
      * our website administrator needs to do the SSE safeguarding course; as best practice the rest of the RSG should also do it. Can we organise an event for just MSC – RSG members and any others (parents etc) who wish to attend. Jenni will follow this up with Bridget at SSE.
      * ALL coaches must understand that they must not be and should not exhibit “friendship” towards any member children and ex-member children under 18 on any Social Media platforms. All relationships with children under 18 must be entirely professional.
   6. Jenni has asked all coaches to send DBS clearances to her so she can validate them with SSE – they need to be the coaching specific clearances, not any others that the individual has. The DBS clearances need to be Enhanced Clearances – these can be done through SSE. BASI are, currently not doing DBS clearances. If a volunteer does not have contact with children then they can be risk assessed by the Club.
2. Parents new to racing
   1. Race Calendar looks very full nowadays, but advice would be to start with local races, to minimise parental transport and look to starter races such as GSRL and Stoke series – and MSC WRL as these offer new racers the chance to be competitive in the absence of very low seed point racers (can be demoralising to some). These are also useful as there are normally a range of other club parents from new starters to 2nd and 3rd (and more) year veterans who can advise / instruct on basic ski prep and what to else pack (chairs / pop up tents / food / hot and cold drinks). Having said this, any club member, including RSG members, would doubtless be happy to advise (for hours) if asked.
   2. In terms of on slope support, the Coaches will aim to attend many of the races to provide support but if not there, or other assistance on course inspection (a very important learned skill) is required, it is normal for senior club skiers to support junior members in this activity. This is an important activity in passing down learned skills through the club and builds relationships and club identity.
   3. Once skiers are ready / wish to move to the CN and then National level events the Coaches are able to advise whether they are ready but of the child is keen most parents acquiesce, subject to geographic constraints. It used to be that skiers had to be registered to compete at more than 1 CN each year although that had now been removed and skiers can enter without being SSE registered. Having said this, for first races, some locations are probably best avoided as:
      * Hillend – located on the outskirts of Edinburgh, so a 300 mile journey each way from Brum, is the longest dry slope in the UK and very steep and as such can be terrifying, even to experienced skiers. Home skiers have a huge advantage here.
      * Sunderland – long way to go.
      * Pontypool – frequently used for Schools and national races and so will need to be skied eventually but bottom of slope is not visible from top and finish is round a right-angle turn, steep and with large tree in the middle. Long walk from Car Park and limited parental space at bottom.

Better slopes are:

* + - Stoke / Swad / Gloucester and local and likely already know to skiers – although Gloucester slope is long, steep in places and with variable matting.
      * Norwich – while 3 hours away (on a good run) is widely viewed as the best slope and club on the circuit with a decent Premier Inn only 4 to 4 miles away. Often run as a double header with Ipswich, which is also a nice slope, although will probably need to change hotels to one near Ipswich as the cross-country drive is slow and the start early. There is also a steep walk from the car park (top of hill) to start / parental area but not long and used to be a LandRover to carry very heavy kit (if lucky).
      * Pendle is also a nice race but not if the weather is anything other than fine, in which case it can be miserable an a lottery with lighter skiers being blown backwards (even for top skiers, run times can be hugely affected by weather conditions changing from instant to instant).
    - If in doubt just ask.

1. Any Other Business
   1. Schools Race 2022 – Alan can’t organise next year. Discuss at next RSG.
   2. Taster sessions – discuss at next RSG
   3. Possible training trip to Peer in August – discuss at next RSG
   4. Provisional date of next meeting – Friday 21st May @ 8 pm and keep to the hour.
2. Update on Club Questionnaire – defer to next RSG
3. Back to Training – already implemented but defer any desired discussion / feedback to next RSG

**Mondays - Swadlincote Snowsports Centre**

* 1. 6:00 to 7:30pm
     + **Skier Development** - Open training aimed at all skiers looking to improve
     + **Children Racer Development** - children under the age of 12, and less experienced skiers
  2. 7:30 to 9pm
     + **Junior & Senior Racer Development** - Open race training aimed at U14s and older age categories who race around full gates.

**Tuesdays - Ackers Adventure:**

* 1. 6:00 to 7:30pm
     + **Skier Development** - Open training aimed at all skiers looking to improve
     + **Children Racer Development** (children under the age of 12, and less experienced skiers)
  2. 7:30 to 9pm
     + **Junior & Senior Racer Development** - Open race training aimed at U14s and older age categories who race around full gates.

**Wednesdays - Swadlincote Snowsports Centre**

* 1. 6:00 to 7:30pm
     + **Skier Development** - Open training aimed at all skiers looking to improve
     + **Children Racer Development** - children under the age of 12, and less experienced skiers
  2. 7:30 to 9pm
     + **Junior & Senior Racer Development** - Open race training aimed at U14s and older age categories who race around full gates.

**Thursdays - Ackers Adventure**

* 1. 6:00 to 7:30pm
     + **Taster Session**  - Aimed at all newcomers to the club at all levels except beginner
     + **Children Squad Performance** (invited children squad members under the age of 12 that are registered national racers)
  2. 7:30 to 9pm
     + **Junior & Senior Squad Perfomance** (invited junior and senior squad members who are in U14s and older age categories that are registered national racers)

**Fridays Ackers Adventure**

* 1. 6:00 to 7:30pm
     + **Skiing FUN'damentals** (Core skills and skiing fundamentals. Minimum std: ability to ski in control from the top of the slope and to use the button lift.)
     + **Get Parallel** - Progression to Steered Parallels For those skiers wanting to refine their turns.
  2. 7:30 to 9pm
     + **Adult 'All Round Skiing' Development** - For all levels of adult/teen skiers and instructors/coaches who want to improve their general skiing abilities and explore ski teaching.
  3. Note: In the Winter, we hold monthly race events on Fridays and on these dates there is no training 6-9pm.

**ADDENDUM 1 - THURSDAY SQUAD MEMBERS**

**Age categories u10/u12:**

* Archie Tchakhotine
* Bryoni
* Delphine Tchakhotine
* Hattie Taylor
* Holly Margree
* Jasmine Price
* Joshua Currie
* Nicholas Evans
* Olivia Graham
* Sacha Tolley
* Tommy Jones

**Age categories U14, U16, U18, U21, SEN, MAS**

* Amber Fennel
* Abigail Ward
* Adam Orzel
* Anya Hemming
* Bella James
* Charlie Deem
* Claudette Povey
* Dan Giles
* Elena Blaikie
* Ella Giles
* Emilia Orzel
* Emily Currie
* Emma Lawton
* Ethan Hemming
* George Brown
* Georgia Blaikie
* Gianluca Capelli
* Hannah Dennison
* James Hodge
* Joe Feiven
* Kristian Kott
* Lorenza Chapman
* Lucy Sainsbury
* Marnie Taylor
* Ned Kendall
* Ollie Weeks
* Phil Wigfield
* Reece Pike
* Robert Jones

**ADDENDUM 2 - THURSDAY SQUAD MEMBERS**



**ADDENDUM 3 – SSE ALPINE RACE BULLETIN APRI1 2021**

**Alpine Race Bulletin April 2021** 

**Rule Change – Concussion**

Concussion continues to be an area where significant effort is being made at FIS level and this of course can affect the races we run.

The TD Forum continually reviews its position and rules regarding recognition and treatment of concussion, noting that concussion is a serious injury and the risks of a second injury leading to significant long-term effects are extremely high. As a result, TDs and Juries should not permit competitors with a suspected concussion to start unless the competitor can provide a certificate of fitness to race from a recognised licensed medical practitioner. A rule to formalise this has been agreed with the HNs and is issued as a precision to be included into BCR, BACR and BTR with immediate effect.

The agreed precision for BCR,BACR and BTR, as article 627.3.1, is:

“A competitor with a suspected or confirmed concussion will not be permitted to start (NPS) unless a certificate of fitness to race, signed by an appropriate licensed medical practitioner (doctor, medical practice or hospital), is provided to the Jury.”

This item is included in this Bulletin to make racers, parents and coaches aware if they have not noticed the above precision.

**Artificial Calendar**

Following announcements made by the English, Scottish and Welsh governments on their proposals for easing Covid lockdown restrictions in the coming months, the Home Nations met to review the potential implications for the scheduled 2021 Summer Race Calendar and published a joint statement in mid- March 2021

Taking into account Covid restriction timelines for the opening of snowsports facilities and the easing of travel and other restrictions such as opening of hospitality and hotel accommodation, and the need to ensure that athletes are able to train prior to the resumption of seeded racing, the HNs have taken the decision to not recommend the resumption of national seeded race events until the 17th May at the earliest.

Some early-season races have been therefore cancelled during May. Details were included in the statement and it was agreed that other Championship races scheduled later in the season will be classified as qualifying for GBR Series points. Details will be updated and included in the relevant Race Invitations.

**Club National Races and Formats**

You will be aware that some Club National races have been re-scheduled to later in the season in the hope that they can avoid any restrictions to how the races can be run, which based upon government announcements at the time of writing, mean that some restrictions are likely to impact how races can be run until 21st June 2021 at the earliest.

The Alpine Committee developed a proposal last year to develop CN format ‘races under covid measures’ to enable such races to be seeded and this was was developed into an amended set of BACR Covid measures rules and signed off by the TD Forum in September with the intention of running some seeded events during October/November. Sadly, due to lockdown measures being introduced, but was not possible to proceed with the races at that time. However, the revised format is still available for use.

For the early CN races there are two formats available to Race Organising Committees (ROCs). These are described in the following:

The standard CN format which is in the BACR as described in :

https://www.gbski.com/docstore/BACR/BACR%20IV.pdf

Alternatively, the revised format can be used, which was developed last year for running under Covid measures and these are described in :

https://gbski.com/docstore/BACR/BACR%20Precisions%20Sep%202020%20-%20V3.pdf

The latter format allows a revised start list order and allows some changes in how the race is executed and as a result the minimum penalty is set at 20 points for this format, as opposed to the standard indoor CN format , which has a minimum penalty of 10 points.

ROCs will need to involve the clubs/venues hosting the races to determine venue-specific controls and protocols which may apply in addition to national restrictions. Details of the intended format to be applied and any specific control measures will be included in the relevant Invitation Bulletin for a given race.

**Race Entry Fees – Indoor Races**

Dur to Covid, it was not possible to hold any seeded artificial races during 2020 and it was the intention to freeze entry fees for both outdoor and indoor races for the 2021 season. This will be the case for Outdoor races, where the entry fee will remain at a maximum of £24. However, due to some increasing costs for Indoor events, the entry fee has had to be increased from £32 to £34 for the 2021 artificial season.

**Cancellation of Scheduled Races – Entry Fee**

If a planned race has to be cancelled due to unforeseen consequences, such as Covid measures, and the race is unable to be re-scheduled then Race Entries will be refunded, subject to a deduction of 2.5% administration fee.

Lloyd Jenkins  
Chair Alpine Committee