



London & South – East Regional Snowsports Association

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 25th November 2009 at Bromley Ski Centre

1. PRESENT:

Sandy Telling (Chairman)
Gwenderlyne Southall (Secretary)
Alan Sandell
Sue Vale
Jules Golbey
Keith Evans
Lynda Hickey

John Curtis (Treasurer)
Sally Woods
Dafina Keys
Andy Proudlove
Steve Moss
Trevor Harris

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from:

Royd Southall
Marc Telling
Brian Davies
Vince Chan
Ray Sieber
Sally Bartlett

Vickie Pullen
Nigel Brain
Kathryn Harris
Kevin Gibbins
Charlotte Evans

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM – November 2008

The committee accepted unanimously the minutes as a true record of the meeting –and these were signed by the Chairman. Items outstanding were:

Item F Freestyle - Trevor Harris to provide a promotional DVD – this will be shown tonight.
Sponsors Event – nothing arranged due to work pressures of NB and AB; good idea and look at possibility again in coming year.

Item J Adaptive - Charitable Status has now been obtained by SSCD – Southern Ski Club for the Disabled.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ST distributed copies of the report. He reported that there had been significant changes in the world of skiing recently. The governing bodies SSE and SSGB have had funding changes – SSE receiving more funding and SSGB losing funding which has had an impact on our athletes at the top of the field. The SSE funding should help new skiers coming in to the sport.

Disciplines – ST thanked key people who had taken a lot of weight off his shoulders and were ensuring the smooth running of all areas. Chemmy and Ed had planned to attend some regional events but due to training and fund raising they have been unable to do this.

Development Plans – A large amount of funds has been spent investing in our young coaches to develop the sport. A lot of effort has gone into the Development Plan and ST thanked those who had been involved in it. The Development Plan would be discussed in more detail in the first Committee Meeting to follow the AGM.

ST thanked all the committee members for all their hard work throughout the year and for making the 2009 race season a success, albeit with a reduced income. He wished Steve Moss and other members who have left the committee good luck.

5. **FINANCIAL REPORT** (Treasurer's report, financial balance sheet and full accounts are available on request).

JC distributed copies of the Financial Report and had two copies of the full account available for inspection. The region had total funds of about £8,000 which was £1,500 down on last year. The summer league series was more profitable than last year albeit from reduced race revenue but there was a large creditor who was written off and we did not fund the end of year BBQ.

There is £2,300 in the race account but there were still a lot of creditors to be paid so a transfer of funds was required.

The Bursary fund had a deficit of about £100 and was not adequate to fund any bursaries this year so we had to look at new ways of funding this. There were still some bursaries unclaimed. GS said funding from SSE may be available to assist in the future. Bursary Income was £1,331, expenditure was £2,429.00. The committee needed to consider ways of maintaining our balance which means if revenue remains the same we have to reduce our expenditure or find alternative ways to increase revenue.

There were approximately 25% less skiers at this season's Summer Race series.

Clothing was in stock from last 2-3 years. The value of this is low and reducing.

There were no financial sponsors this year. The only additional money raised by raffling the Canadian holiday donated by Sun Peaks, was presented to Ed Drake to assist him with his training prior to the Olympics.

6. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE)

NAME	POSITION	NOMINATED	SECONDED
Sandy Telling	Chairman (E) 1 st Regional Rep at SSE Council	Wycombe	Folkestone
Gwenderlyne Southall	Vice Chair (E)	Folkestone	Bromley
Position Vacant	2 nd regional Rep at SSE Council		
Sue Vale	Regional Secretary (E)	Bromley	Brentwood
John Curtis	Regional Treasurer (E)	Brentwood	Bromley
Keith Evans	Chair of Race Committee (E) Chief of Race	Chatham	Brentwood
Lynda Hickey	Regional Child Welfare Officer (E)	Bromley	Wycombe
Dafina Keys	Publicity & Press Officer (E)	Wycombe	Bromley
Keith Evans	Chair of Race Committee (E); Chief of Race	Chatham	Brentwood
Marc Telling	Coaching Co-Ordinator (E)	Wycombe	Bromley
Alan Sandell	Chief of Calcs – Timing Webmaster	Wycombe	Folkestone
Position Vacant	Assistant Chief of Calcs – Timing		
Sally Woods	Race Secretary	Chatham	Everyone
Position Vacant	Assistant Race Secretary		
Nigel Brain	Marketing/Sponsorship	Bromley	Folkestone
Sally Bartlett	Regional Coach	Wycombe	Bromley
Andy Proudlove	Assistant Regional Coach	Bromley	Brentwood
Royd Southall	Equipment Officer	Folkestone	Brentwood
Ray Seiber	Assistant Equipment Officer	Sandown Park	Wycombe
Vince Chan	Snowboarding Representative	Bromley	Folkestone
Gregg Bell	Nordic Representative	LRNSC	Wycombe
Jules Golbey	SSCD/Adaptive Skiing Representative	SSCD	Wycombe
Emily Evans	Athlete's Representative	Chatham	Folkestone
Kathryn Harris	Freestyle Representative	Bromley	Brentwood
Suzanne Nightingale	Sports Development Officer (Kent North)	Bromley	Wycombe
Trevor Harris	Sports Development Officer (Kent South)	Bromley	Wycombe
Christine Macaulay	Sports Development Officer (Surrey)	Surbiton	Wycombe

7. A.O.B.

a) Schools Development Report – Suzanne Nightingale

SN has been working with schools and students at two schools in Maidstone. Most students and parents felt skiing was recreational for 1 week on snow and did not realise it was a competitive sport and a big social activity at dry slopes.

She is looking at an event where 1 or 2 students from each school could attend; the difficulty in schools seemed to be to get the staff interested. A meeting to inform parents is also being looked into. The plan is to involve a further 3 schools over the next three years including a junior school.

In discussion it was suggested to contact Head of PE departments in schools and to see if the County Sports Partnership (CSP) could help.

Action: *SN/TH to contact Heads of PE; ST to contact CSP*

b) Sponsorship Report – Nigel Brain

NB had outlined how sponsorship had dropped off this year with both Kia and Premier pulling out. A handful of other sponsors had been approached but none had followed through. NB has produced a generic Sponsorship Pack which was well received by possible sponsors but it was difficult in this economic climate.

A new sponsor this year, "Surefoot" had attended two regional events and gave away prizes totalling £1,200. They had given positive feedback and would be happy to participate in similar events this year. There may be an issue where some slopes have shops and would see their revenue being affected. D₃O – an impact protection company were also a possibility and had been in touch.

DK (PR & Press Officer) questioned the possibility of giving data to sponsors but GS and ST explained this had been looked into last year and there were issues with Data Protection. A trial had been used where racers had to opt in on the race entries for their data to be given to sponsors (Snow & Rock and Bartletts). DK has some knowledge of the legislation and will look into it.

Action: *GS to send DK the information she has.*

c) Freestyle – Vince Chan

VC is organising an Air Bag session at Bromley on 15th December from 7pm to 10pm with the hire cost being £800. GS contacted Vickie Pullen (SDO) to see if they would be able to assist in any way – we are currently awaiting their response.

Action: *VC to contact VP to confirm if help available*

VC is also planning to also hold another "No Snow Who Cares" event in 2010, despite the poor attendance at the 2009 event. It may be held at a different slope next year. Chatham has changed their freestyle night to Friday so numbers were expected to increase at the Bromley Tuesday night sessions.

d) Development Plan – Committee

Vicky Pullen had sent congratulations to the committee for producing a detailed development plan which she thought was very well done – to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Vicky will look at funding schools/facilities to bring new people into skiing in Kent area and at further developing Bowles or Folkestone – she was happy to oversee this.

Action: *GS to forward the email from VP to KE.*

e) Race Series

The committee needed to consider ways to make more money from the summer leagues. Number of racers needed to increase and it was suggested that possibly lowering the entry price to £10 might increase numbers. Also the possibility of having 7 races in the series and athletes having to have points from 5 of these 7 races to qualify for an overall award, as currently racers can enter the first 3 races by the end of May and if they have won their age group, this did not give an incentive to other racers to compete to qualify for end of series trophies and prizes. This meant some racers only competed in the first three races. On the down-side extra races would require extra work by all volunteers, especially SW and AS. The main concern was that the race schedule is already so tight, especially now that there are indoor snow races, that it would be difficult to get extra dates for these races. There were already clashes in the 2010 race calendar.

It was agreed that where the clashes occurred the races were aimed at the higher level racers and this would not be a bad thing and would give the developing racers a chance to get a better position in their age group in these races and this would encourage them to continue competing. Another suggestion to encourage racers was to give out medals to the top 5 – Gold, Silver and three bronzes. It was also suggested that a race weekend would help so two LSERSA races were held on the same weekend.

Action: *It was agreed that the Race Committee would meet, separately, to discuss this topic and detail some alternatives that could be discussed and agreed at a full committee meeting. An analysis of costs would have to be completed. Last season there was an average of 115 entrants at each race. The RAKS school race had attracted 220 racers and was run very smoothly so it was felt that an increase in racers could be managed easily. A suggestion was made to have a schools race evening.*

LH said that some clubs were in two regions which resulted in them having to attend a lot of races already. It was noted that most of the new developing racers do not travel to races and tended to only complete in those races at their home slope.

There would be no Head to Heads in the 2010 race series.

f) Coaching Conference – Andy Proudlove

The Coaching Conference discussed last year did not happen.

Action: *It was proposed that AP, MT and SB discuss and propose some ideas and requirements for this to proceed.*

g) Child Welfare – Lynda Hickey

The current recommendation from SSE is that all officials involved with seeded races should have a full CRB check. It is acceptable for volunteers and officials to complete a 'self declaration form' on the day. However, these 'self declaration' forms are valid only on the day they are signed and are limited to one a year. LH spoke with Tim Fawke at SSE regarding this as for regional races, we rely very heavily on volunteers. It can be difficult enough to get people involved and there would be a concern that expecting people to have a full CRB check, could potentially be used as an excuse not to help out. TF understands this concern and the reliance we have on parents volunteering and has agreed that as long as we are aware of SSE recommendations and try to promote best practice where possible, we can (as a region) continue to operate as we have been doing. We will continue to have a CWO in place at all races. Officials or volunteers should not be left alone with children or vulnerable adults without supervision by somebody who does have a full CRB check.

SSE have a time limit on the CRB checks of three years.

h) Website – Alan Sandell

AS requested any news and other appropriate items for the website.

Action: *GS to send details of a local artist (Lui Batchelor) ski/snowboarding prints and paintings.*

Steve Moss was thanked for all his hard work over the years as Vice Chairman and was wished good luck for the future by everyone.

Meeting concluded at 8.40pm

Thank you to Bromley Ski Centre for allowing us to use their facilities and to Sally Woods for organising the refreshments for this evening