

British Freestyle Discipline Committee Meeting – Draft Minutes Wednesday 7th December 2016 – On-line/Telephone Conference

Note that the word “event” in these minutes refers to the subdisciplines of Freestyle skiing (i.e. Ski Cross (SX), Aerials (AE), Moguls (MO), Slopestyle (SS), Halfpipe (HP) Big Air (BA (or last three combined as Park & Pipe (P&P))

1. Participants, Apologies

Participating:

Iain Mackay (IM), Kay Bates (KB), Peter Bates (PB), Dan Brier (DB), Martin Carr (MC), Emily Sarsfield (ES), Pat Sharples (PS),

Apologies: Sean Curtis (SC), Dave Edwards (DE), Dan Hunt (DH), Lesley McKenna (LM), Chris David (CD), Stevi Campbell (STC), Becky Hammond (BH),

2. Minutes of Meeting 14th Sept 2016

Corrections previously notified had been included in the latest version. These were approved.

3. Matters Arising (not on Agenda)

Action1 (Sept 2016)

IM to request that Sophie makes the pricing information for Action Jigsaw available to all licensed Freestyle athletes.

Action Complete

Action2 (Sept 2016)

DE, DB and IM to attempt to sort out the SX and SBX manager situation.

Action Ongoing – new action:-

Action1 (Dec 2016)

IM to report on SX& SBX manager situation at next meeting

Action3 (Sept 2016)

IM and ES to discuss pre Christmas SX Tour and report back to this committee

Results of this discussion brought to this meeting.

Action4 (Sept 2016)

IM, KB and LM to contact Mahdi at BOA to complete the OWG selection criteria documents.

Ongoing - Agenda Item

Technical Delegate Approvals

It is clarified that the approvals for Dave Tozer, Dennis Ledger and John Craig in terms of Freestyle Skiing events were for SX, BA, and P P (not MO & AE). The committee also endorsed the addition of Kenny Craig to this status.

4. SkiCross Pre Christmas Tour

IM spoke against the introduction of “reserved places” in the final for the top ranked competitors in the pre Christmas Alps Tour at the FIS Freestyle Committee in September, but his input was not supported by others. ES reported that contrary to expectations athletes were not allowed any discussion at the preliminary meeting. The committee is concerned that depending on the way this new procedure is implemented, it could be contrary to existing FIS rules and in the year of OWG qualification leads to a dichotomy of pathways with different rules to achieving the necessary OWG standards.

Action2 (Dec 2016)

ES to solicit views of participating athletes and IM to pursue with appropriate FIS Committee.

5. Chairs Report

All items were covered under other Agenda headings.

6. BSS Constitutional Changes

As reported in at the last meeting, changes to the composition of the Board, arrangements for athlete consultation and arrangements for discipline committees were passed at the AGM on 26th September. For our committee the main differences will be that the discipline chairs will not automatically be Board members. The new Board will be tasked with finding more effective means of gaining athlete involvement. The new Performance Director will be a board member. In future the composition of Discipline Committees will be decided by the Discipline Chairperson, rather than having to fit a particular pattern. UK Sport are wanting these changes to comply with their governance recommendations.

Action3 (Dec 2016)

IM to review committee structure and appoint any new members

5. Performance Director Appointment

Dan Hunt has been appointed and intends to be present at future meetings of this committee.

6. FIS Restructure

IM had previously circulated the current details of the new structure. Freestyle Skiing and Snowboard are combined. Each committee and subcommittee. has voting members and conference (non voting) members .In summary GBR representation is as follows:-

Snowboard Freestyle Freeski Committee:-	John O'Grady (conference)
SkiSnowboard Cross Subcommittee:-	Iain Mackay (conference)
Park & Pipe Subcommittee:-	Lesley McKenna (member)
Moguls & Aerials Subcommittee:-	Iain Mackay (member)
Snowboard Alpine Subcommittee:-	no representative

The judges and T.Ds. Subcommittee/representation has yet to be set up.

7. Event reports

The Committee was delighted and very grateful to learn that both Lloyd Wallace (Aerials) and Emily Sarsfield (Skicross) have been awarded Olympic funding

All athletes are now preparing for the start of the season

8. Athlete Insurance

An incident concerning a GBR athlete has raised concerns regarding ensuring that athletes are adequately ensured. While FIS rules state that it is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that this is in place, there is also an obligation on national organisations to ensure that this obligation has been met. DH has been notified that there is a need to get a common view across all disciplines in ensuring that all athletes have adequate insurance when selected by BSS. It was noted that a Nation can withdraw a competitor from a competition and this is mandatory on the organisers. This committee has considerable concerns regarding this matter and expecting that a report on the incident will be received by BSS, ask that they get sight of it

In the past the predecessor to BSS sourced suitable insurance, but this is no longer the case.

9. Selection Update

Selection policy for the OWG is almost complete, but a question has risen regarding whether the Freestyle Selection Panel actually select athletes which is then endorsed by BOA or whether they make recommendations to BOA or final selection.

Action4 (Dec2016)

IM, and KB to liaise with Mahdi at BOA to complete the OWG selection criteria documents by December 16th 2016

11. AOCB & DONM

DB enquired whether any new funding would be forthcoming to support athletes during the forthcoming Olympic Qualifying Year.

Action5 (Dec2016)

IM to take this matter up with DH

Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday 21st February 2017 and Wednesday 3rd May 2017

12. Summary of Actions:-

Action1 (Dec 2016)

IM to report on SX& SBX manager situation at next meeting

Action2 (Dec 2016)

ES to solicit views of participating athletes and IM to pursue with appropriate FIS Committee.

Action3 (Dec 2016)

IM to review committee structure and appoint any new members

Action4 (Dec2016)

IM, and KB to liaise with Mahdi at BOA to complete the OWG selection criteria documents by December 16th 2016

Action5 (Dec2016)

IM to take up the matter of any additional funding being made available with DH

Peter Bates (December 2016)