

British Freestyle Discipline Committee Meeting – Draft Minutes Tuesday 25th Nov2014 – On-line/Telephone Conference

1. Participants, Apologies

Participating:

Iain Mackay (IM) Peter Bates (PB), Kay Bates (KB), Martin Carr (MC), Emily Sarsfield (ES), Sean Curtis (SC)

Apologies: Chris David (CD), Pat Sharples (PS), Lesley McKenna (LM), Dave Edwards (DE), Paddy Mortimer (PM), Gar Trayner (GT),

2. Minutes of September Meeting

The minutes were approved. All actions were completed or formed part of the Agenda for this meeting.

3. Selection Policy

Kay Bates has taken over as Chair of the Selection Panel and had reviewed the policy and selection criteria. The approved strategy is the panel would decide who gets an initial FIS licence and on membership of named British teams. Athletes requesting licences from out-with a home nation or British squad will be subject to approval by the Selection Panel in conjunction with the sub-discipline coach/manager. The week to week decisions would be in the hands of the management group/coach of each sub-discipline and they would decide who entered each event in line with policy. They would be accountable to the committee.

A set of Performance Pathway Charts are being developed which will specify criteria on which to base decisions and with uniformity of presentation across the different events. The Performance Pathway is complete for Park & Pipe and Aerials. The others need some work but should be ready by 12th December. There is a need to clarify the meaning of the coloured bands on the Performance Pathway. The latest Draft Selection Policy needs a few amendments – the “Return from Injury” (section 6.2.7) reworded and references in to a British B Team removed from section 1.11.

Action 1 (Nov 2014)

KB to coordinate finalising the selection policy document and Performance Pathways by 12th December

It was noted that FIS had now specified minimum criteria of 35 FIS SX points or under 150 alpine points for entry into Continental Cup events in Ski Cross. Concern was expressed that historically there had been very few FIS events at a lower level to enable qualifying.

Action 2 (Nov 2014)

KB to ask office to ensure all SX athletes are aware of this ruling

4. BSS Performance Panel

In the absence of PM, IM reported on progress. In the long term, a Performance Pathway Manager was to be appointed to administer. A sum of £33k was currently available to support athletes across BSS who were not already in receipt of funding – so Park & Pipe Athletes would not be eligible. The funding would be awarded to individuals. In the meantime PM would be managing an accelerated process based on current performance, training and competition programmes. There is an urgent need for more information, but meantime athletes in the other sub disciplines should be advised to prepare information to support an application.

Action 3

PM, SC, GT & CD to liaise regarding timescale and criteria involved, suitable athletes to be alerted

5. Sub - Discipline Reports

Aerials

SC gave a summary of current training and plans for the winter. The two current athletes (Lloyd & Elodie) had trained well over the summer and would be training with the Swiss team. Lloyd will concentrate on achieving consistent results, Elodie may only enter a limited number of events. because of lack of funding. Harry Gillam is currently injured.

SC reported he is working with Mike Whealey on a reporting system to better inform the Selection Panel and to engage with the athletes. This was viewed as a very positive move and the committee look forward to seeing the outcome.

No other Sub-Discipline managers were present.

6. World Championships

Selection is a major priority. Kay has seen a long list – Sub-Discipline Managers must engage with their athletes and the Selection Panel to finalise who can and should attend.

Action 4 (Nov 2014)

KB, SC, LM, CD, GT to finalise World Championship selection as a matter of priority

It is currently unclear as to who has overall responsibility for organising the teams and the supporting staff. Last time it was Simon Ashton. Important that as a minimum every athlete has a supporting coach.

Action 5 (Nov 2014)

IM to liaise with DE, CD and consult with Simon Ashton re support staff and organise as wide a cover as possible within financial constraints

CD is working on getting uniforms. Athletes would see that financial support has priority over any payment for uniforms.

7. British Moguls Championships

There are problems running British Championships this year. We have run them for several years with the Germans, but they no longer have the finance and judges to do this. CD has been in touch with Austria – but there is no concrete proposal in place. May have to just run as an indoor event this year.

Post meeting Note

CD is still in contact with the relevant organisers and hopes the event will take place on the back of another nation's competition.

8. FIS Indoor Moguls event

There are reservations about repeating event next year. Needs a discussion out-with this committee for those actively involved.

9. Committee - Structure & Actions

PB checked current committee composition against the Constitutional requirements. It was noted that the structure does not fit the needs of Freestyle

Action 6 (Nov 2014)

PB to circulate updated committee list for approval

The outstanding actions from the May meeting were reviewed. IM reported that there was to be a consultation of members of BSS to review the procedures and results with respect to the Sochi Olympics. This would include the BOA Handback Policy. The following actions were generated.

Action 7 (Nov 2014)

PM requested to send out a report on the Sochi Olympics.

Action 8 (Nov 2014)

PB to check with ES that she has an up to date contact list for all Freestyle athletes and to attach a list of current athletes to these minutes.

Action 9 (Nov 2014)

IM to liaise with PM regarding access to minutes of BOA appeals.

10. D.O.N.M

14th January 8pm

Summary of actions below. Please check any items against your name and ensure the item is completed before the next meeting. You will be asked to update!!

ACTIONS FROM NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING

Action 1 (Nov 2014)

KB to coordinate finalising the selection policy document and Performance Pathways by 12th December

Action 2 (Nov 2014)

KB to ask office to ensure all SX athletes are aware of the FIS ruling regarding Continental Cup entry

Action 3

PM, SC, GT & CD to liaise regarding timescale and criteria involved for funding, suitable athletes to be alerted

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Peter Bates (November 2014)