

British Freestyle Discipline Committee Meeting – Minutes Thursday 15th May 2014 – On-line/Telephone Conference

1. Participants, Apologies

Participating:

Iain Mackay (IM) Peter Bates (PB), Kay Bates (KB), Martin Carr (MC), Chris David (CD), Dave Edwards (DE), Paddy Mortimer (PM), Emily Sarsfield (ES), Pat Sharples (PS), Lesley McKenna (LM)

Apologies: Simon Ashton (SA), Becky Hammond (BH), Gladys Marr (GM) Ian Barclay (IB)

2. Committee Composition

Given the imminent retirement of Simon Ashton as Chair, DE outlined the constitutional position for committee members. Iain Mackay had put his name forward for the position of Chair and there being no other candidates there was no need for an election. Any change of office in midterm can be filled by decision of the committee. The position of vice chair would be vacant and could be filled by decision of the committee until July 2016. Several changes were in progress and the allocation of names to the constitutional (voting) committee positions will need clarification. In this connection it was noted that Ian Barclay (IB) had been approached and approved by the committee to join (with a view to strengthening fund-raising and sponsorship), Sean Curtis had been approached to manage an aerials working group and Lesley McKenna (LM) to be a permanent invitee as manager of the "Park & Pipe" disciplines. Pat Sharples to remain on the committee as overall coaching representative.

Action 1 (May 2014)

IM in liaison with committee members to allocate constitutional and other committee positions.
PB to maintain record of outcomes.

3. BSS Corporate Matters

DE reported that Elections were ongoing for the Alpine Skiing and Snowboard Committees. Discussion ongoing with UK Sport with respect to funding – until the outcome was known, a budget could only be set for 5 months. In the interim IM requested to represent Freestyle at BSS Board meetings

Action 2 (May 2014)

DE to inform IM of dates of board meetings

PS asked if the Reeves sponsorship money could be used to fund athletes and to buy a new camera for video analysis. IM asked to be appraised of sources of funding for freestyle so that he and DE could discuss whilst at Barcelona.

It was noted that any unspent UK sport money did not get rolled forward to the following year.

Action 3 (May 2014)

DE and IM to discuss freestyle funding at Barcelona

4. Actions and Minutes from March Meeting

Action1 (March 2014)

SA to add relevant sections of charter to Dropbox
Complete

Action 2 (March 2014)

Superseded by events - **Action Ended**

Action 3 (March 2014)

ES & MC to arrange access for Emily to Dropbox
Complete

Action 4 (March 2014)

PM to liaise with Lesley McKenna and report to back
Complete

Action 5 (March 2014)

PM to liaise with ES re expert manager for Ski Cross

Ongoing – discussion minuted below

Action 6 (March 2014)

PM to provide MC with emails for inclusion on freestyle committee once at conclusion of each of actions 4 & 5

Complete

Action 7 (March 2014)

DE to investigate whether BSS office can pass each entry to Kay Bates to ensure follow up in recording of results

Complete

Action 8 (March 2014)

ES to remind athletes of the importance of updating information to committee re their programmes of training and competition. ES and BH were using social media to contact athletes but needed contact details of all freestyle athletes..

Some progress but also dependent on discipline managers being in place - **new action**.

Action 4 (May 2014)

IM to ask BSS office to pass contact details of freestyle athletes to ES and BH

Action 9 (March 2014)

PM to circulate report re UKS and UKAD update

PM reported that UKS & UKAD would present report to panel on 19th May – confidential until then. A person (Matthew Perry) had been seconded from UKAD to structure Anti Doping policy. Main impact will initially be on “Park & Pipe” athletes.

Complete

Action 10 (March 2014)

PM to feedback results of Sochi reviews to next meeting.

Deferred to next meeting – **new action**

Action 5 (May 2014)

PM to feedback results of Sochi reviews to next meeting.

Action 11 (March 2014)

PB to add analysis of injury occurrence to next meeting agenda

BSS board had sanctioned having an independent company to review selection criteria for Sochi. Report will be made public. It was felt that the number of injuries in slopestyle had been exaggerated in the press. The matter of slopestyle course building standards was one of concern for FIS. Some previous courses (not Sochi) had not been safe and there needed to be written specifications and training for course builders.

There would be data available from FIS at the Barcelona meeting re injuries and also being raised was a question of different helmet standards for different disciplines.

New action

Action 6 (May 2014)

IM to feedback from FIS Barcelona meeting re injuries course safety and helmet policy.

Action 12 (March 2014)

DE to contact Chris Robinson to confirm request for IM to have seat on FIS Freestyle Committee.

Action complete – outcome not yet fully known

Action 13 (March 2014)

IM to draft a discussion paper re non programme athletes for topic to be raised at future meeting. Matter discussed as part of agenda.

Action 14 (March 2014)

IM to scrutinise BSS policy on return from injury and prepare a draft for next meeting

This policy to form part of ongoing work on selection procedures – see below.

Action subsumed in ongoing work

Action 15 (March 2014)

ES to ask athletes to nominate possible candidates for skicross representative for selection panel.

A forum had been formed, but further action needed and will be part of next meeting agenda.

New action

Action 7 (May 2014)

PM to circulate Ski Cross Coach job description to committee.

Action 16 (March 2014)

ES to send comments re ski cross selection to IM

Action addressed in this meeting (see below). **Action complete**

Action 17 (March 2014)

ES to ask interested athletes to submit information re BOA Handback Policy for consideration and action by this committee. The March meeting had expressed a strong view that Handback places should be accepted.

ALL to submit views to IM or PB.

No further information received – **new action**

Action 8 (May 2014)

ALL to feedback to IM or PB information on BOA Handback Policy and to be addressed at next meeting

Action 18 (March 2014)

ES to forward information and statistics re skicross to PM

Complete

Action 19 (March 2014)

SA to forward PMs email to ES

Complete

Action 20 (March 2014)

CD and IM to take proposal for International Moguls Competition at Chill Factor further
Ongoing – **new action**

Action 9 (May 2014)

IM & CD to keep committee informed – agenda item next meeting (PB)

Action 21 (March 2014)

CD to take proposal for International Children's Moguls Competition further.

Nothing more heard of this proposal – **action ended**

Action 22 (March 2014)

IM to investigate and report location of the minutes of the BOA selections and appeals.

No action reported – **new action**

Action 10 (May 2014)

IM to investigate and report location of the minutes of the BOA selections and appeals.

Action 23 (March 2014)

IM and CD to report on Junior World Championships at next meeting.

Action completed – see below.

Minutes of March Meeting

The minutes were approved.

5. Selection Policy

IM reminded committee members of their role in signing off selection policy generated by the Selection subcommittee after input from them.

CD had circulated a draft moguls selection document for Snowsport England. This should be aligned to BSS selection criteria.

Action 11 (May 2014)

ALL to review and comment if appropriate

The following areas were identified for future development/consideration:-

- In general terms selection needs to be based on both results and measurable skills.
- The inclusion of athletes based abroad and on another nations programme.
- The problems associated with disciplines having no coach/team structure.
- Importance of athlete readiness when moving up to a higher level of competition.
- Each discipline needs individual structure.

Individual areas of concern noted were:-

- urgent need for person to manage/lead SX and be representative on this committee.
- Ellie Koyander taking year out of competition to work on areas of improvement – selection Panel to take this into account in future selections
- Policy re returning from injury

6. Report from World Junior Championships

CD reported back on performance at this event.

7. Athlete's Rep. Matters

ES reported that she was using social media and email to communicate with athletes but lacked contact details for some.

8. Freeski Update

Currently UK based training but there would be summer training at Whistler.

Updates on injured athletes would be circulated as appropriate.

LM plans to merge Freeski & Snowboard into a British Park & Pipe squad.

Action 12 (May 2014)

LM to update on progress of merger at next meeting

9. Sochi Olympics – post event review

Deferred to next meeting.

Action 13 (May 2014)

PM to send out a written report on Sochi Olympics prior to next meeting

10. Barcelona FIS Meeting

IM had previously circulated papers and all were asked to comment on areas of interest.

A proposal to include Big Air and Dual Moguls in the Olympics was supported by the committee.

Action 14(May 2014)

ALL to comment on areas of interest in FIS proposals by 1st June.

11. Moguls Including Proposed International Competition at Chill Factore

CD had completed a presentation for presentation at the FIS Congress

Action 15 (May 2014)

IM & CD to liaise on Chill Factore proposed FIS competition

12. AOCB and DONM

ES announced she was running SX camps during the summer.

Next meeting to be mid-July

Action 16 (May 2014)

IM & PB to liaise on DONM and offer selection of dates

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 MAY 2014 MEETING

Action 1 (May 2014)

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PB to maintain record of outcomes

Action 2 (May 2014)

DE to inform IM of dates of board meetings

Action 3 (May 2014)

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Action 4 (May 2014)

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ALL to feedback to IM or PB information on BOA Handback Policy and to be addressed at next meeting

Action 9 (May 2014)

IM & CD to keep committee informed re agenda item next meeting (PB)

Action 10 (May 2014)

IM to investigate and report location of the minutes of the BOA selections and appeals.

Action 11 (May 2014)

ALL to review and comment if appropriate on moguls selection proposals for Snowsport England

Action 12 (May 2014)

LM to update on progress of Freeski Snowboard Prk & Pipe merger at next meeting

Action 13 (May 2014)

PM to send out a written report on Sochi Olympics prior to next meeting

Action 14 (May 2014)

ALL to comment on areas of interest in FIS proposals by 1st June.

Action 15 (May 2014)

IM & CD to liaise on Chill Factore proposed FIS competition

Action 16 (May 2014)

IM & PB to liaise on DONM and offer selection of dates

Peter Bates (May 2014)

Any amendments, comments and corrections to be emailed to PB either directly (pjbates@blueyonder.co.uk) or via bss.committee@carrs-silverware.co.uk