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