Minutes of the GBR Alpine & Telemark TD Forum meeting held at the Arden Hotel & Country Club, Solihull, on Sunday 6th November 2016

No.	Item		Action
1	**Present:**		
	Adrian Pery (AP)	Chair	
	David Manns (DJM)	Deputy Chair	
	Julian Adams (JA)		
	Ross Anderson (RA)		
	Mark Berry (MB)		
	Susie Berry (SB)		
	Ingie Christophersen (IC)		
	Tristan Cole (TC)		
	Jamie Davies (JD)		
	Richard Dawe (RD)	(part, invigilating)	
	Richard Ellis (RE)		
	Tim Fawke (TF)		
	Peter Heath (PH)		
	Simon Horn (SH)	(part, after exam)	
	Steve James (SJ)		
	Richard Love (RL)		
	David Mansfield (DM)		
	Derek Metters (DGM)		
	Andrew du Plessis (AdP)		
	John Poole (JP)		
	Frank Staddle (FS)		
	Logan Tannock (LT)		
	Paul Trayner (PT)		
	Gwyneth Watson (GW)		
	Peter Willis (PW)		
2	**Apologies:** Richard James, Martin Leach, Ross McMillan, Ian Roberts (IR), Shell Quaile, Jenny Shute, Kevin Webb		
3	**Minutes of 14th May 2016 Meeting** The Minutes were approved as a true record.		
4	**Matters Arising not already on Agenda** **Officials Courses** PT reported that some 'modular' training has been carried out in Scotland for many roles, but there is lack of material for Race Secretary, Chief of Race and Chief of Timing & Calcs. Responsible person for Scotland is Iain Ramsay-Clapham (IRC). TF reported that some discussion on this had taken place between Snowsports England and Scotland, that the work to place the SSE level 1 course online was almost complete (by Ryan Grewcock (RG)). SB summarised that a lack of substantive progress had been made towards a British official's course. TF re-iterated that SSE were happy to release level 1 and 2 course information.		

	It was agreed that this material could be re-badged as British and then updated and extended as necessary. IR & SB to link with IRC and RG to achieve first draft of British course material by May.	IR, SB
	5.1 Calendar Process	
	TC summarised the calendar situation; some feeling that BSS office are still 'guarding' ownership e.g. about tracking lack of payments; despite earlier indications, no date clashes or other issues needed resolution; some aspects of application (e.g. homologation) were apparently not being checked, which could be improved with an online application form. TC to investigate implementation of online calendar application.	TC
	DGM informed the meeting that BARSC as a constituent group effectively no longer exists, so calendar applications for 2017/18 for some competitions would need to be endorsed via another CG. TF confirmed that many of the organisers involved were already affiliated to SSE.	
	DGM also raised the issue of insurance status for races that are on the calendar for this Winter under the auspices of the now-dormant BARSC. SB confirmed there is no central insurance held by BARSC and each club needs to insure their own event. Entries should be made through other CG.	
	AP noted that Forum TORs appeared to have omitted the remit of the Forum to decide which applications are accepted on to calendar. AP to discuss with BSS to amend TORs to fit with current practice.	AP
	The issue of identifying CORs or other 'responsible' officials for the calendar application was discussed. It was agreed that it was clearly beneficial for ROCs to ensure attendance at the Update Seminar, but that it was difficult to enforce this in the absence of any specific regulations about validation, competency and currency. TC & RA to discuss possible rule changes about responsible person updating appropriately, possibly minimum every two years via update, training course or a TD 'short update'.	TC, RA
	It was further agreed that all Forum members should use all possible opportunities to inform and encourage attendance, and that early distribution of the 'flyer' for the next Update would be beneficial (after altering wording to avoid implying that a separate Referee qualification exists). SB to produce flyer for 2017 update as soon as possible.	SB
	5.1 Artificial Calendar Process	
	Some clashes had occurred during 2016 due to limited availability of slope dates. TF confirmed that SSE still manage the artificial calendar, and it was agreed that this should continue (currently administered by Karen Conde) as the process is generally working as required.	

	The clash between BUDS and the TDF was raised, and it was agreed that the rules should be amended to state that races on published TD meeting dates would not be allowed onto the calendar. TDF dates are always published at least 18 months in advance.	DJM, TC
	DGM raised an issue with one clash already on the provisional 2017 calendar, between the British Outdoor and the Lowlands Championships. DJM to take this issue back to SSE Alpine to see if it can be resolved.	DJM
	5.6 Glencoe homologation MB indicated that this had already been resolved and that there was nothing further to report.	
	6.5 Results Pack and Dongles RD reported that no change to results packs was proposed for this Winter. DJM reported that it was not cost-effective to provide sufficient SkiPro dongles (security keys) across the Forum to allow TDs to correct race results themselves if they were in a situation where they no longer had access to COTC or relevant software. DJM indicated that he held one key on behalf of the Forum, and that he would be able to make any result corrections that could not be achieved any other way.	
	7.1 NPS Process DJM reported that the latest issue (V5) of SkiPro deals with NPS as a valid result status, and that the previous guidance that had been published on methods of indicating NPS with earlier versions of software still stands.	
	10.4 Artificial Slope Homologation DJM indicated that the process of acquiring Event Medical Assessment Forms from artificial slope events had not progressed as quickly as hoped, but would continue through next season.	
5.	**Reports From Delegates.** **5.1 BSS** AP summarised what he had talked about in greater detail at the Update yesterday. Board meeting will take place in 10 days' time, various appointments are being ratified and will be announced shortly.	

	Snowboard and Freestyle forum now in operation, looking forward to the possibility of linking up for joint enterprise in future. AP & MB to take this forward. **5.2 BARSC** SB summarised. Still exists as a limited company, but is not trading. To be reviewed in a year's time. No calendar issues. BARSC hold no central insurance for racing; it was noted that clubs should hold their own insurance for running events. **5.3 UKAFWSA** RA presented report, nothing to add. **5.4 SSE** TF mentioned that in addition to the report that had been circulated, SSE were soon to publish a new online race entry system. Once this was in operation he hoped that other organisations would take advantage of it. **5.5 SSW** GW presented report, nothing to add. **5.6 SSS** FS presented report, nothing to add. **5.7 British Championships** PT presented report. He indicated that other venues will be considered, but there are still strong reasons for sticking with where we are, not least of which was financial. Various future possibilities discussed, particularly relating to support for speed events, and the opportunities for inspiring younger athletes, but no specific tasks were actioned at this point. **5.8 Telemark** JD presented report, nothing to add.	
6.	**Timing and Calculations.** **6.1 BASS** PH highlighted an error in the T&C report, and confirmed that the first official BASS list of 2016/17 will be published via GBSKI. PH will run the first list or two in parallel on the existing database as final confirmation	

	that the online system is operating as required. PH would then retire as National Seeder. The large quantity of archive material currently held by PH was discussed. AP to talk to BSS about how this is best handled to avoid loss of potentially valuable historical data. AP led a vote of thanks to PH for all his hard work across all aspects of Alpine racing over the many years he has been involved. **6.2 BARTS** DJM presented report, nothing to add. **6.3 GBSKI and IT** DJM summarised the situation, highlighting the enhancements that (time permitting) would be introduced over the winter to improve the timely publication of information and reduce the amount of manual intervention. DJM to circulate to all TDs any changes in processes and procedures that occur during the season. JP and others requested a Search facility on GBSKI to be able to locate information more easily. DJM to investigate.	AP DJM DJM
7.	**FIS Matters** **7.1 Update** MB re-iterated his intention to keep Forum members updated with committee minutes and other items of interest as and when they happen. There is still some discussion about whether ICR is to be split into separate books, but for now it will remain as one. **7.2 Medical** Nothing further to report, although attention was drawn once again to the need for vigilance regarding concussion. If you have any doubts, don't take a risk, follow SCAT protocols, refuse participation. **7.3 FIS ICR** Nothing further to the information included in Update seminar. **7.4 FIS TDs for 16/17** season MB reported that two new applicant FIS TDs (RA and SQ) were beginning their journey through the qualification process. They would be mentored by PT and DM respectively.	

	MB also reported that Hannah Hazeldine is continuing development as FIS TD candidate for NZL, and that GBR are supporting this to help her progress as quickly as possible.	
8.	**British TD Matters** **8.1 Contact List** Circulated for update during the meeting. **8.2 Resignations** AP reported that RM had retired as a TD for personal reasons. AP will relay the Forum's thanks for his work as a TD. **8.3 Candidate and Aspirant TDs and Mentors** Lloyd Jenkins — Proposed by Wales as Aspirant, accepted as exception to entry age requirements in BCR VII. Mentor TBC. Andy du Plessis — Passed practical exam to qualify for artificial slope races, needs to identify suitable events for assessment to uprate to snow. Simon Horn (service) — Passed written exam today, except for technical issue with Penalty calculation, to be repeated at event. Aileen Patterson — Unable to take exam today, re-schedule. James ("Heats") Heaton — Proposed by TF, CV received. Gaps to be clarified by KW & IR, return with updated CV in May leading to exam in November. Lloyd ("Dippy") Diprose — Proposed by RA. Gaps in CV to be identified by KW & IR, return with updated CV in May leading to exam in November. Tony Stevens — Proposed by TF as Aspirant, not accepted (BCR VII entry age and significant CV gaps). Steve James — Conversion from Services TD to full GB TD. Mentor Susie Berry. Will officiate at civilian events in 2016/17 **8.4 Sanctions update** AP clarified the rule change detailing the eventual recipient of any money collected as fines or protest fees. RA to include in rule changes. AP re-iterated that all disciplinary actions including verbal sanctions should be recorded on Jury Minute and indicated on TD Report. It was agreed that the imposition of fines is something that should be seriously considered by the Jury as a realistic sanction. The 'message' sent by a sanction must be appropriate for the offence, send a clear	AP ? AP PT KW, IR KW, IR AP RA

	message to the offender and others, but not be vindictive. TDs are reminded to consider jurisdiction when discussing disciplinary measures.	All
	8.5 Child protection, Disclosures & Injury Nothing further to report. See item 7.2 regarding concussion.	
	8.6 Assessment, Competency and Currency AP summarised the current state of the protracted discussion and negotiation with BSS on this topic, including the proposed use of the Cooper test as a means of physical assessment. This was followed by a frank exchange of views on various aspects. The meeting accepting unanimously the principle of verifying competency and currency. The meeting also accepted by majority vote to accept the proposal bar the Cooper test. The meeting further agreed that AP and TF should prepare a paper and report back to the BSS board that the Rockport Walk Test was proposed as a more appropriate physical assessment, and to take back to the board the strength of feeling displayed by Forum members regarding the support for volunteers and officials. Separate to the above issue, insurance cover needs to be raised with the board. SB and TC are already researching insurance options, this to continue and be reviewed in May.	AP, TF AP SB, TC
	8.7 TD Expenses It was agreed that the rules be altered to allow the 'daily rate' for out-of-pocket expenses for TDs to be claimed for all races in the UK (including artificial slope races) as well as overseas. The actual daily rate will be reviewed in May.	RA
	8.8 Athlete Declarations and Unregistered Competitors After a brief discussion about an issue with unregistered competitors at the recent Irish Championships, it was agreed that as the Athlete's Declaration includes a statement about having proper insurance, completion of the AD was the only thing we need for all unregistered competitors. All ROC to be advised. **8.9 Multiple Slopes** The meeting agreed that it is simply impractical for a TD to be responsible for races on a second slope. AP to include appropriate wording to this effect in emails to ROCs confirming TD appointments.	AP

	RA to amend Calendar Application Form and rule wording (602.2.3). TDs reminded that if they encounter this situation on arrival in resort, and measures are taken to appoint a 'suitable person' as per the rules, contact must be made with AP to acquire approval of said person before racing commences. **8.10 TD Integration** AP reviewed what had already been discussed elsewhere, regarding 'cross over' into other disciplines and a potential movement towards qualifying TDs across multiple disciplines or parts thereof. The development between TM and Alpine has been agreed and will appear in BCR Book VII. Cross-over to ski-cross and freestyle will be discussed further with the Snowboard and Freestyle forum. **8.11 Jury Tenure and Sanction** AP re-iterated how the rules work, and reminded TDs that if an incident happens outside the official tenure or scope of the Jury, they can still write a report to the relevant governing body for them to deal with. **8.12 Forum and Update Attendance** Already covered under item 4, point 5.1 **8.13 Jury Minutes** After some discussion about the merits of 'full positive recording', it was agreed that at the minimum the Jury should ensure that the Event Medical Assessment Form (EMAF) is completed and signed, and that any significant decisions or issues (significant delays, disciplinary matters, anything safety related) are minuted.	RA RA
9.	**British Calendar and TD Appointments** With very few exceptions, TDs were appointed to all calendar races (see separate list).	
10.	**Rule Changes** **10.0 BCR / BACR** All changes previously circulated (including proposal by RD to describe the process for correcting results during submission, and proposal by DJM to retire BACR IX and add timing requirements to BACR I) were agreed. DJM agreed to alter the automatic notification of result submission to GBSKI to include notifying the TD of each submission or alteration (if submitted by someone else such as COTC).	DJM

	RA to consolidate all rule changes and circulate prior to publication. **10.1 UKAFWSA Rules** Dispensation to use Masters rules on equipment was approved. **10.2 Telemark Rules** Rule changes as previously circulated were agreed. JD to finalise and pass to DJM for publication on GBSKI. **10.3 Accident Report Form** DJM confirmed that the current form was working as required, no longer needs to be an agenda item. **10.4 Race Structure** MB confirmed that pending various structural changes, including those at BSS and the possible change of age groups by FIS, his proposals for investigating an 'entry level' racing structure would be suspended. Following discussion of existing 'entry level' races which include significant numbers of unregistered racers, it was agreed that all registered racers in these competitions must adhere to all equipment regulations; unregistered competitors must adhere to all safety-related rules (including helmets), but that if the ROC wished to allow those racers the option of using non-regulation skis then the TD can accept this provided the ROC sign a disclaimer accepting the risk.	RA JD, DJM
AOB	**1 Homologation** Dispensation agreed to run technical on upper section of Lauberhorn, Wengen. Dispensation agreed to run technical on part of new constructed piste that will be homologated for Downhill at Villars.	
11	**Dates of Next Meeting** May 2017 — 13th May, Arden Hotel, Solihull, Birmingham. November 2017 — 3rd, 4th, 5th at Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel, Glasgow. (formerly Beardmore Hotel) May 2018 — TBC, possibly 12th May. November 2018 — Proposal to hold in Antwerp to be reviewed in May.	

UK Armed Forces Winter Sports Association (UKAFWSA)

UKAFWSA – Annual Report to the British TD Forum – 6 November 2016

1. The (obvious) name change from the Combined Services to UK Armed Forces WSA took place in June 2016. All the relevant Rules and race documents will be updated to reflect this. The preparation for the 2016/17 season is well under way and Race Organising Committees and athletes have already been busy in the office or on the slopes. Early snow in the Alps has already provided the Armed Forces Para-Snowsport Team (AFPST) with an excellent training camp.

2. Individual Service Championships will be held at the following resorts:

Royal Navy	Tignes, France
British Army	Serre Chevalier, France
Royal Air Force	Saalbach, Hinterglemm, Austria

3. The UKAFWSA Inter-Service Snow Sports Championship (ISSSC) 2017 will be held in Meribel, France between 27 Jan-3 Feb for the 11th year.

4. The development of Service TDs continues with Major Simon Horn (Army) sitting his written exam during the TD Forum (Sunday). If he is successful his practical assessment and exam are planned at two separate Service events in 2017 as a Candidate TD. Captain Lloyd Diprose (Army) has been proposed for consideration as an Aspirant TD. Should he be successful he will sit his written exam at the TD Forum in Oct/Nov 17.

It firmly remains the intent for the Single Services to continue to select individuals capable of becoming a GBR TD (Services) to support their events. Both the RN and RAF continue to develop their officials and are actively identifying those that potentially have the time to start the Training Pathway.

5. The Combined Services rules will be updated, post the TD Forum, on confirmation of FIS Precisions and BCR updates. A separate letter has been sent to the TD Forum Chair to identify the current dispensations from the BCRs.

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Ross Anderson

Major Ross Anderson
UKAFWSA Chief of Race

GB Technical Delegate Forum

Snowsport England Report Nov 2016

SNOWSPORT ENGLAND

The Summer Race Programme

The summer race programme ran in conjunction with the other Home Nations, and as agreed, was divided into the GBR series Indoor, GBR series Outdoor, Club National and Schools competitions. In addition, several regions and clubs ran pre-entry competitions and summer leagues. There has been some increase in entry numbers at outdoor events. Indoor events during the season have also been generally well supported.

There continues to be an increasing number of athletes and coaches who are choosing to focus on either indoor snow or on outdoor races, in particular racers who are regularly training indoor or have reasonable access to indoor slopes are tending to attend fewer outdoor races. This is an issue that needs to be considered in line with SSE's objective of increasing participation across the whole of England is to be met. There are a limited number of outdoor venues that are suitable for racing, and the even smaller number of indoor snow domes are not accessible in certain parts of the country.

There were more indoor race events scheduled during 2016 compared to 2015, following difficulty during 2015 in negotiating suitable slope hire rates with some indoor venues.

GBR (Great British Racing) Races

SSE organised 2 races in the GBR indoor series and 3 in the GBR outdoor series. The aim was to provide an opportunity for the highest ranking British based racers to compete with their peers, and to provide competitions from which ranking lists in age and gender categories can be derived. There were separate series for indoor and outdoor races.

The Indoor Series consisted of five races, two organised by Snowsport England and Snowsport Wales and one by Snowsport Scotland. Snowsport England organized the Anglo Welsh and British Indoor Championships. The Outdoor Series consisted of five races, three organised by Snowsport England and two by Snowsport Wales.

Entry was determined by selecting the racers with the lowest seed points first. All entrants are required to be registered with Snowsport England, Scotland or Wales.
As there are two separate series with different organisers, there is no block entry facility or discount available at present.

A 2-run race was held through a stubbie course for U10/U12 racers at all events with the best time to count for awards. These events continue to be very popular with a strong and increasing number of U10/U12 entries, which is encouraging for the future of the sport.

Racers born 2004 and earlier are eligible for GBR Races (2008 - 2005 for U10/U12 races):
Age Categories: U10, U12, U14, U16, U18, U21, SEN, MAS

Club National Races

SSE regions and clubs organised 12 entry level Club nationals including 4 on indoor snow and 8 on Dendix. The aim of these events is to provide races which will give performers with no seed points, or high seed points, the opportunity to improve. Entry is determined by selecting racers with the highest or no seed points first.

If, at the closing date for entries, a Club National race is not full with entries from registered racers, the organisers may accept entries from un-registered racers.
As with the GBR Series, 2 run races were held through a stubbie course for 10/U12 racers with best time to count for awards.

Racers born 2004 and earlier are eligible for seeded Club National races (2008 - 2005 for U10/U12 races):
Age Categories: U10, U12, U14, U16, U18, U21, SEN, MAS

Other Events
In addition, SSE organised the BASS race series in Landgraaf, which was the most successful to date with 120 entries; and the Inter-regional outdoor race, held in Stoke; the All England BARTS Outdoor Championships and Inter-Club event, held in Gloucester. English schools organised 6 regional qualifying events and the English finals, held at Norfolk.

SSE organised the third Lowland Indoor Championships hosted by SSE on behalf of BSS at Landgraaf. This event, held during September 2016 was run by the British, Belgian and Netherlands ski federations. The event was a success with 265 racers competing from GBR, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxemburg. The event is to be hosted by Belgium in 2017 and it will be held, either at Snow Valley, Peer, or once again, at Landgraaf.

Summer 2016

GBR Races
The season of GBR races was largely successful and we propose to run a similar programme of events in 2017. The outdoor series will comprise of 6 races; 3 organised by SSE, 2 organised by SSW and one by SSS. The indoor series will also comprise of 5 races with 2 organised by SSE; 2 organised by SSW and 1 organised by SSS. The SSS indoor race will be run as a weekend event with the Scottish Indoor Championships. It is planned to hold the indoor championships events at 3 different indoor venues.
The GBR Series will be run using iBARTS seeding.

Championships
The Anglo Welsh/ British Indoor Championships will be hosted by Snowsport in 2017 this event will be held once again at Manchester.

The All England Championships and Inter Club Team event will be held at Norfolk in 2017 and the Inter-Regional Team even will be held at Gloucester.

Club National Races
It is expected that 13 clubs will table bids to hold Club National events in 2017. This is a similar number than 2016. SSE does not propose to impose a limit on the number of Club National events held under its authority in 2017, but this is under review. Confirmation of all seeded events including Club Nationals is however subject to the availability of a TD to oversee the event. Financial responsibility for a Club National event sits with the organising club. SSE is freely available to consult and advise and clubs will be told that mentors are available to help new and experienced race organisers and officials.

Excel Introductory Races
The Excel Introductory Race format was rolled out into the calendar in 2014 on the basis that 1 race could be held within each Region, aimed at attracting new racers into the sport. The format is 3 runs down a single course with the best time to count and the race seeded under the oBARTS system with a minimum penalty of 40 seedpoints. The race is open to racers with seedpoints greater than 40 points and is limited to a maximum of 75 entries to enable such events to be run in a morning, afternoon or an evening. As these are seeded events it is necessary to assign a TD to oversee the events. Only 1 Excel format event has been held during 2016, which is disappointing.

Quality
SSE is responsible for ensuring that all events that are organised under the SSE banner meet quality criteria.
All events should take place on homologated slopes and action is being taken to ensure that where a slope is undertaking major work the venue is subject to re-homologation or inspection by the TD Forum. TD Reports for all seeded events are actively reviewed by SSE Alpine Committees to ensure that the recommendations in the TD report are implemented as a condition of awarding future events to a club or venue.

Award letters for Club National events clearly state that the Chief of Race should be an experienced and qualified Level 2 Official. This requirement will only be waived in exceptional circumstances The Race Secretary for any seeded event should have attended the Race Secretary course or be otherwise experienced. Clubs should be advised that Race Secretary training can be provided on a 1:1 or group basis if requested. A Race Secretary mentor can also be made available to a Race Secretary who is undertaking

the role for the first time.

ENGLISH FIS and U14/U16 Championships

The details of the English Alpine FIS and Children's Championships 2017 will be available online soon, once the re-organisation of SSE web sites is complete. All races will once again be held on either the Stella Alpina or Stelvio pistes for 2017. The week will start on Saturday 12th February with the ever-popular parade through Bormio.

The U14/U16 children's programme will be largely held on the Stella Alpina piste with the two Super G races being held on successive days on the Stelvio piste. There will also be a parallel dual slalom team event. The U10/U12 events will consist of a GS and a Technical Combi race.

The provisional FIS programme opens with two slalom events, followed by the GS events with the speed events taking place at the end of the week. We are pleased to once again be organising an Alpine Combined event consisting of a Super G followed by a single run slalom.

SSE Alpine Strategy and Planning/Alpine Events Committees

Following a review of the wide range of the various activities and responsibilities of the Alpine Race Committee, a revised structure was introduced whereby two committees were created from October 2015; the Alpine Strategy & Planning Committee and an Alpine Events Committee.

The Alpine Strategy & Planning Committee is responsible for development and support of the SSE Strategy for Alpine racing; providing and developing technical support for Alpine racing; setting and managing delivery of the SSE Alpine budget, management and delivery of officials training and liaison with TD Forum and BSS Alpine committees.

The Alpine Events Committee is responsible for; organising and administering SSE Alpine ski racing events on snow and artificial slopes; supporting other SSE alpine events such as training on snow and artificial slopes; liaison with Regions and Clubs as needed for the running of their events; and recruitment and allocation of officials and other volunteers to events.

Training

Level 1. The development of an online/electronic Level 1 course is still being progressed, although the existing 1-day classroom course will continue to be offered for those that would prefer that option.

Level 2. The current level 2 course has been revised and is more active and it will comprise about 1½ days in the classroom. Candidates will be expected to volunteer at race events putting the theory into practice with assistance/guidance from a mentor. Two Level 2 courses have been held in the past year and a further course is scheduled to take place during November 2016. This will be the first modular course providing an option to delegates to split the Level 2 course over two separate sessions or to do the full course in the weekend

Calcs course. To be provided on an ad-hoc basis and as a formal course where demand is sufficient.

Race Sec. This course will be provided on an ad-hoc basis and as a formal course where demand is sufficient. No courses were held during 2016.

Mentoring. Alpine committee will maintain a list of approved mentors with photos and contact details on the SSE website.

Re-validation. Officials can currently re-validate by attending the November TD update at least once every 3 years. This will continue.

Lloyd Jenkins

Alpine Strategy & Planning Committee/Alpine Events Committee

Snowsport Cymru/Wales Report to the TD Forum Nov 2016

Artificial Racing

SSW have completed our summer season of artificial events. This year entry levels seem to have stabilised at about 100 racers per event. However we are seeing a continued growth in the numbers participating in our schools and entry level events.

In September we volunteered to hold the British Championships at Pontypool on our Welsh Championship weekend to avoid a clash between the English & Scottish Championships. During the weekend we had a film crew present from BBC Wales filming the race and interviewing some of the winners.

The Welsh Schools' Championships took place at Llangrannog Ski Centre in October. The races were fully subscribed with an entry for the event of over 150 racers, with Welsh primary schools making up a third of all entries.

Our confirmed artificial skiing events for 2017 are as follows;

- 22/23 April SSW Club Team Event & Excel Event, Pembrey
- 6/7 May GBR Indoor Races, Chill Factore Manchester
- 1/2 July GBR Outdoor Races, Pontypool
- 9/10 Sept Welsh Championships, Pontypool
- 8 Oct Welsh Schools Championships, Llangrannog

The dates of the GBR races in Pontypool have had to be changed from the original weekend, as we discovered that the Velothon cycle race is due to take place on the original date. We would like to extend our thanks to Gloucester Ski slope, and Midland & Gloucester Ski clubs who agreed to swap weekends with us.

Alpine Racing

The Welsh Alpine Championships will be returning to Champery Les Crosets, Switzerland for the 11th year of the event. The races have proven very popular and we have some great support from clubs and academies as well as from the resort. Each year these races have provided excellent opportunities for athletes to gain early season points.

The four days of competition will include two days of international FIS-CIT races followed by two days of BASS races. The CIT races are part of the Arnold Lunn series, and will be followed by 2 more CIT races in Vilar organised by Aiglon. The Swiss are obviously planning to take advantage of the proximity of the two events as they have applied for & been granted a special entry of 60 men & 60 women for these races. We are therefore hoping for increased numbers this year.

- 24 Jan 2017 – FIS-CIT GS
- 25 Jan 2017 – FIS-CIT SL
- 26 Jan 2017 – BASS SL & U10/U12 SL (using stubbies)
- 27 Jan 2017 – BASS GS & U10/U12 GS

Landgraaf Camp

During the summer an Alpine training camp was held at SnowWorld in Landgraaf for athletes from both the Wales national squad and Dragons Alpine club. Each year has seen the camp grow in

numbers, and this year we had 35 athletes, six coaches, one ton of kit, 17 hours of training time, 105 timed runs, 73,500 gate hits all fitted in to four days. For next years camp we hope to increase disciplines and run a Freestyle and Snowboard camp alongside the Alpine camp.

Plas y Brenin and the future of Snowsport Facilities in Wales

The artificial ski slope at Plas y Brenin had been scheduled for closure but Sport England, who provide funding and the Mountain Training Trust who manage the facility, reached an agreement with the North Wales Snowsports Club to allow the slope to remain open longer than expected. The long term future of the slope will be determined as part of the review of future investment at Plas y Brenin, but all parties have agreed that the operation can continue until at least March 2017.

Wales has been lucky to benefit from some excellent artificial slope facilities built over the last 40 years. However with limited development of facilities in the past 10 years SSW have embarked on a project to carry out an audit of existing facilities in Wales. Once completed the data will be used as a mapping document to help facilitate funding applications (where appropriate) to upgrade facilities.

Structure changes within SSW board

At the SSW AGM in September a resolution was passed to restructure the roles of the board of directors of SSW. This will put in place discipline directors for each discipline of snowsports (Alpine/Freestyle/Nordic/Snowboard) as well as a Disability Snowsports director. We hope this will encourage wider representation on the national governing body across all snowsport disciplines, geographically throughout Wales and to promote inclusion.

An EGM will be held in December to appoint directors under this revised structure of the board.

Gwyneth Watson

SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND
The national governing body for skiing and snowboarding in Scotland

REPORT TO THE TD FORUM BIRMINGHAM 2016

ALPINE CALENDAR 2017

THE ALPINE SEASON 2017 WILL BEGIN
WITH THE ANGLO SCOTTISH CUP 3rd -5thJANUARY 2017 IN CREVACOL ITALY

THE GORDON SKIERS OPEN FOLLOWS AT LECHT 21st -22 JANUARY

ABERDEEN SNOWSPORTS CLUB FOLLOW WITH THE OPEN AT GLENSHEE

4th - 5th FEBRUARY

CAIRNGORM SKI CLUB FOLLOW WITH THE HILTON COYLUMBRIDGE OPEN

AT CAIRNGORM SKI CENTRE 25th -26th FEBRUARY

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS SSS HELD AN EARLY SEASON FIS EVENT ABROAD

BUT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO PLAN FIS RACES ON HOME SNOWS FOR THIS SEASON

THE DATES ARE

SCOTTISH ALPINE FIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

13th -16th APRIL

SCOTTISH ALPINE FIS RACE

20th - 23 rd APRIL

SCOTTISH CHILDRENS SPRING RACE CAIRNGORM

29th - 30 APRIL.

FRANK STADDLE.
GBR TD

FRANK STADDLE GBR TD



Delancey British National Alpine Ski Championships 2017 (FIS)
Report to the November 2016 TD forum - Solihull

It has been a rather turbulent year for our flagship event and after a great deal of head scratching and negotiation we find ourselves back where we started heading to the same resort and with the same programme (see below).

I would like to thank my team again for delivering all of the events and for working through often difficult situations in their usual professional manner. We were helped by conditions and hindered by technical and personnel issues from the resort side but overall the event was deemed a great success.

BSS have received assurance that all of the timing equipment, although not the cables, has been replaced and that this was the source of the problems in 2016. Dave Edwards, Rory Tapner, Maud and I met with the Mayor of Tignes in May and he has guaranteed his personal oversight of events in 2017.

As we all know Maud has resigned in her role as Chief of Championships of the Children's event and also sadly as a TD. I would like to add my thanks to the many others for the time Maud devoted to the sport.

For 2017, the Chief of Championships role for the Children's event will be split between Lloyd Jenkins and Andrea Grant. The programme for the Children's has kept the same 5 day duration but with a programme stripped back to SG, GS and SL. The Tech events spread over 4 days it gives the ROC much more opportunity to put on the calibre of race that the Children deserve

This will be our 3rd year in Tignes and we are getting to know the place now and I suspect that the logistical arrangements will look rather similar to 2016. I plan to keep the same core personnel in the ROC, however, there are always opportunities so please don't be afraid to volunteer.

Kind regards



Paul Trayner
Chief of Championships (FIS)



Race Programme

(PROVISIONAL – SUBJECT TO LOCAL CONDITIONS)

Draft Programme 2017
26th March – 2nd April 2017

Saturday 25th March	Arrival of Competitors *Team Captains' Meeting for NC Super G* (M and L) */ DH inspection*	2000hrs
Sunday 26th March	The British NC Super G (M and L) The British NJC Super G (M and L) ****2 SG Race runs and Downhill Inspection Prize-giving in finish area Team Captains' Meeting for Downhill Training	1700hrs
Monday 27th March	Downhill Training (M and L) Team Captains' Meeting for Downhill Training	1700hrs
Tuesday 28th March	Downhill Training (M and L) *Team Captains' Meeting for NC & NJC Downhill*	1700hrs
Wednesday 29th March	The Sir John Ritblat British Men's Downhill NC The British Ladies Downhill NC The British NJC Downhill (M and L) ****2 DH Race runs Prize-giving in Finish area Team Captains' Meeting for NC GS Men & NC Slalom Ladies	1700hrs
Thursday 30th March	The British NC GS Men The British NC Slalom Ladies Prize-giving in Finish Area Team Captains' Meeting for NC Slalom Men & NC GS Ladies	1700hrs
Friday 31st March	The UVEX British NC Slalom Men The UVEX British NC GS Ladies Prize-giving in Finish Area Team Captains' Meeting for the NJC Slalom Ladies and NJC GS men	1700hrs
Saturday 1st April	The British NJC Slalom Ladies The British NJC GS Men Prize-giving in Finish Area Team Captains' Meeting for the NJC GS Ladies and NJC Slalom men	1700hrs
Sunday 2nd April	The British NJC GS Ladies The British NJC Slalom Men Prize-giving in Finish Area Junior National Championship Prize-giving in Finish Area	



TELEMARK DISCIPLINE REPORT FOR TD FORUM UPDATE – 5 NOV 16

1. The summer saw another successful indoor series run through the UK Snowdomes. A 3 race series in Manchester, Glasgow and Hemel was run with a good turnout at both the Telemark festival and race. For 2016 Tamworth withdrew from hosting a race as the slope was undergoing significant redevelopment. It is hoped that in 2017 the event will be re-established pending a review of the course homologation. For the most part the races ran smoothly, however it became apparent at the final race of the season that the prior events had evolved from the prescribed maximum penalty value detailed within the series rules which caused some discussion amongst the competitors at the end of the event. This rule will be reviewed prior to the 2017 series to ensure that all races run to a similar set of standards.

2. The British Telemark Championships will once again be hosted by the Army Telemark ski Association. The event moves from Murren, Switzerland to Pralognan la Vanoise, France and will comprise of the British, RN and Army Telemark Championships. The RAF single Service Championships have returned to Saalbach Hinterglenn, Austria for 2017, this is due to a reduction in funding and it is hoped that for 2018 they will return to the British Championships.

3. The recent change in the BSS constitution has permitted a standalone committee to represent the Telemark discipline. Representation from the Officials cadre should be achieved with both Adrian Pery and Jamie Davies applying to hold separate committee roles. Final committee elections will take place in mid Nov 16.

Telemark Rules update.

Since the May meeting the following developments have occurred:

- 50th FIS meeting in Cancun, Mexico issued a completely revised and rewritten TICR.
- Significant amendments included the creation of a generic “Rules specific to all Telemark events” section which removed a significant chunk of rules previously detailed in each race category and relocated them to one area. This removed duplication and provided clarity across all events.
- A full review of the BTR book 1 has been conducted to address the TICR rewrite and several rules have been amended. The BTR Book 1 is now ready for endorsement from the TD forum and publishing ahead of the 2017 season.
- Future development of the BTR includes a full review of BTR Books II-IV, with the intent to present in May 17. The BTR indoor series will also undergo a full review prior to the start of the 2017 indoor series.

Jamie Davies

GBR Telemark TD

BASS Seeding and Registration Report to TD Forum Nov 2016

1. Processing and Publication of BASS lists and official race results

David plans to publish the official BASS lists and results on GBSKI this winter.

However, he has asked me to run in parallel with him for the December and January lists as a final check on accuracy.

2. F Values unchanged for 2016/17 Season:

SL 720; GS 980; SG 1080; DH 1250, Alpine Combined 1150

Only versions 3, 4 and 5 of SkiAlp-Pro default to these values.

3. Submission of Results for publication and BASS seeding

Please send SkiPro or XML files to import@gbski.com immediately after each race for online publication on GBSKI.

The full TD results pack including SkiPro files go to results@gbski.com

For the early races, please also send the full TD results pack to pheathski@aol.com.

Once David is satisfied that his system is working correctly, I will stop publishing results and BASS lists, and stand down as BASS seeder.

4 Registrations

	ENG	SCO	WAL	RAF	Total
Dec 2014 1st list	774	395	48		1217
May 2015 5th list	1046	494	101	112	1753
Dec 2015 1st list	708	281	33		1022
May 2016 6th list	1004	426	118	97	1645
As at 30th Oct 2016	591	218	44		853

PH 30th Oct 2016

British Alpine Skiing
BARTS: British ARTificial Seeding
Report to GB Alpine TD Forum November 2016

David Manns
02-Nov-2016

1. 2016 Season

Figures for participation in 2016 look like they are reduced from last year, over the same number of races.

2016		Male			Female			Total		
		Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS
Indoor	Total:	923	806	40	603	532	36	1526	1338	76
17	Avg:	54	47	2	35	31	2	90	79	4
	%:	60%	87%	4%	40%	88%	6%		88%	5%
Outdoor	Total:	1301	1019	51	799	653	29	2100	1672	80
26	Avg:	50	39	2	31	25	1	81	64	3
	%:	62%	78%	4%	38%	82%	4%		80%	4%
All	Total:	2224	1825	91	1402	1185	65	3626	3010	156
43	Avg:	52	42	2	33	28	2	84	70	4
	%:	61%	82%	4%	39%	85%	5%		83%	4%

2015		Male			Female			Total		
		Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS
Indoor	Total:	1107	949	50	634	554	30	1741	1503	80
18	Avg:	62	53	3	35	31	2	97	84	4
	%:	64%	86%	5%	36%	87%	5%		86%	5%
Outdoor	Total:	1371	1055	44	733	587	27	2104	1642	71
25	Avg:	55	42	2	29	23	1	84	66	3
	%:	65%	77%	3%	35%	80%	4%		78%	3%
All	Total:	2478	2004	94	1367	1141	57	3845	3145	151
43	Avg:	58	47	2	32	27	1	89	73	4
	%:	64%	81%	4%	36%	83%	4%		82%	4%

2. Seed lists

BARTS lists from the beginning of 2016 onwards have been generated using the online system on GBSKI which is now performing as required.

Some issues were experienced with ‘day registrations’ at the Irish Championships being issued registration numbers by Snowsport Wales due a misunderstanding, which delayed the input of the results into the system, but this did not cause any delays in seed list production as these races fall in the long period between list 5 and the end-of-season list.

BARTS SEASON 2016

				Male			Female			Total		
Event	Date	T	Venue	Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS	Ent	QLF	DNS
BUISC Finals	02/03/2016	i	CAS	47	30	16	46	30	15	93	60	31
Champery Slalom	16/04/2016	o	PEM	36	33	1	29	27	0	65	60	1
Excel Event	17/04/2016	o	PEM	16	15	1	20	19	1	36	34	2
Telford CN Race 1	23/04/2016	i	CHL	47	44	0	25	21	2	72	65	2
Telford CN Race 2	23/04/2016	i	CHL	47	41	0	25	21	3	72	62	3
Manchester CN Race 1	24/04/2016	i	CHL	52	46	0	25	23	2	77	69	2
Manchester CN Race 2	24/04/2016	i	CHL	52	50	0	25	21	2	77	71	2
GBR Outdoor Series	30/04/2016	o	NOR	58	47	1	30	24	0	88	71	1
GBR Outdoor Series	01/05/2016	o	NOR	56	45	0	30	23	2	86	68	2
GBR Indoor Series	07/05/2016	i	CHL	73	66	2	42	37	0	115	103	2
GBR Indoor Series	08/05/2016	i	CHL	68	54	0	44	39	2	112	93	2
Ravens CN	14/05/2016	o	SLK	40	30	4	19	18	0	59	48	4
NESA Club Race	15/05/2016	o	SLK	32	22	2	15	12	0	47	34	2
Norfolk CN	21/05/2016	o	NOR	68	59	4	33	29	3	101	88	7
Vikings CN	22/05/2016	o	IPS	63	51	5	38	29	2	101	80	7
Twin Peaks	04/06/2016	o	FIR	50	42	1	26	21	1	76	63	2
Twin Peaks	05/06/2016	o	HND	70	46	2	35	22	2	105	68	4
Snowsport South CN	05/06/2016	o	SOU	51	48	0	37	29	5	88	77	5
Hemel CN Race 1	11/06/2016	i	HEM	69	57	6	49	47	2	118	104	8
Hemel CN Race 2	11/06/2016	i	HEM	69	56	3	49	46	3	118	102	6
Avon & Western Counties CN	12/06/2016	o	MDP	40	29	3	20	16	1	60	45	4
ERSA CN	18/06/2016	o	BWP	41	36	2	28	22	3	69	58	5
GBR Indoor Series	18/06/2016	i	BHD	70	62	3	47	44	0	117	106	3
Scottish Indoor	19/06/2016	i	BHD	76	69	3	53	44	4	129	113	7
Midland CN	25/06/2016	o	GLO	77	60	3	51	46	0	128	106	3
Gloucester CN	26/06/2016	o	GLO	79	61	4	46	39	1	125	100	5
GBR Outdoor Series	02/06/2016	o	STO	69	62	3	31	27	1	100	89	4
GBR Outdoor Series	09/07/2016	o	PON	50	45	4	33	29	0	83	74	4
GBR Outdoor Series	10/07/2016	o	PON	48	37	4	32	26	0	80	63	4
GBR Indoor Series	16/07/2016	i	CAS	42	39	0	30	30	0	72	69	0
GBR Indoor Series	17/07/2016	i	CAS	44	37	2	30	25	0	74	62	2
Anglo-Welsh Champs	13/08/2016	i	CHL	43	37	2	30	26	1	73	63	3
British Indoor	14/08/2016	i	CHL	46	42	1	33	28	0	79	70	1
All-England Champs	03/09/2016	o	GLO	82	50	2	50	39	0	132	89	2
Scottish Outdoor	03/09/2016	o	HND	53	28	0	26	15	0	79	43	0
Welsh Champs	10/09/2016	o	PON	48	38	1	39	34	0	87	72	1
British Outdoor	11/09/2016	o	PON	49	36	1	37	32	2	86	68	3
SCI International	01/10/2016	o	KIL	40	36	1	35	31	2	75	67	3
Irish Champs	02/10/2016	o	KIL	40	33	0	35	28	2	75	61	2
LSRA Classic	02/10/2016	o	HND	45	30	2	24	16	1	69	46	3
Lions CN Race 1	09/10/2016	i	CAS	39	38	1	25	25	0	64	63	1
Lions CN Race 2	09/10/2016	i	CAS	39	38	1	25	25	0	64	63	1
BUDS	05/11/2016	o	HND							0	0	0

British Alpine Skiing
Timing and Calculations Sub-Committee
Report to GB Alpine TD Forum November 2016

David Manns
TDF T&C SC
30-Oct-2016

BARTS Seeding

After switching production of BARTS lists from desktop to online at the beginning of the season, seed lists have been produced at intervals with only minimal correction and coding adjustments.

BASS Seeding

Work has continued with processing the BASS results from last Winter and cross-checking against the official lists from the desktop system. Some differences were found, largely due to incomplete or inaccurate information in the results in the GBSKI database but one or two corrections were also needed to the official BASS lists.

As indicated in the BASS Seeding report, the intention for this coming Winter is to continue with the production of official lists from the existing desktop system whilst running the online system in parallel in real time. Once we are happy that everything is lined up, the online system can take over as master.

GBSKI - Next Steps

Document Publication

To help speed up document publication (which currently requires manual distribution of every file received via the Results mailbox into the right folder and then uploading to the web site), a method to allow race organisers and other appropriately designated people to post files to the web site will be developed.

This is likely to use the same email-based system as is already in use for other data, by processing files that arrive as email attachments in the "Results@" mailbox. Current thinking is to use a standardised file naming convention to designate the purpose of each file, following a similar line to that in use by USSA, with an alphabetic part for the file type combined with the race codex or competition number.

This will facilitate automatic distribution of files such as invitations, acceptance lists, bulletins, results and penalties directly to the online system, effectively providing instant publication for race organisers. Some level of security will need to be built around this, to prevent any random people from posting files to the results system. This is likely to be done via pre-registration of ROC email addresses for a given competition.

This facility will be designed and developed over the Winter using specific competitions as a test-bed. It is hoped that this will be in full operation by the start of the 2017 artificial slope season.

TD Reports

Online submission of TD reports is also planned to be developed over the Winter. This should make it to fill in reports as a lot of the background information can be inserted automatically from the underlying race data.

Site and Data Administration

Administration of GBSKI is still a one-person activity, but the intention is that now the main results handling and seed list generation is operational, attention can turn to improving the administration side. This includes improving the existing data entry forms to catch errors, and extending the forms to include those areas not yet covered.

The plan is to be able to 'farm out' at least the following areas to other people or groups: calendars; competitors; forms; homologation files; news; rules; seed lists; race officials and organisers; underlying data such as age categories, race types and race venues.

Documentation will need to be written so people know how to take on these jobs!

Ski(Alp)Pro

Version 5 of SkiAlp-Pro is now available, with quite a long list of changes since last Winter, including: support for snow seeds; Final Ranking printouts display run times if they exist for those who were DNF, DNS or DSQ in other runs; quite a few changes to support particular methods used by USSA; restoring events can opt to overwrite an existing event; training runs for DH and SG as distinct event with own codex; support for NPS status; checking of F factors and min/max penalties according to FIS race level.

Updating to this version costs CHF 320 for those who already have a dongle, or CHF 540 to purchase from new.

Timing Systems

An informal enquiry has been received about our earlier decision not to approve Brower wireless timing systems for use in seeded competitions. On reviewing the reasons given for rejection last time, it seems that the equipment itself has not changed in any way that would resolve the issues, so this looks unlikely to proceed to a formal request for review.

Rule book IX ("Timing and Communications") in BACR looks long overdue for review. This book is an informal guide to suitable systems for timing and comms on artificial slopes, and has not changed since its introduction in 2006. The original idea was to provide a kind of framework around specifying suitable systems without going as far as imposing an 'only homologated kit' rule at a time when many clubs and slopes were still operating unlisted systems.

The most appropriate course of action could be to withdraw this book altogether and adopt a 'homologated kit only' rule, although there may be some issues relating to wireless connections that need to be considered. If exceptions to the FIS rules on timing setup are needed, these could be added as precisions to the relevant rules in BACR I.

FIS Medical Committee Report – Cancun and Zurich 2016

Jenny Shute, November 2016

1. Safeguarding The GBR proposal to develop safeguarding policies and procedures was agreed in Cancun; there is likely to be a workshop in spring to assist nations; UK Sport was thanked for their support for this.

2. Concussion – guidance published in the FIS Medical Guide is currently unchanged, but will be updated following world consensus meeting (this took place last week). Children are more susceptible than adults. ***If in any doubt, remove from the field of play – remember that concussion may very well happen without loss of consciousness.***

3. Anti-Doping – much discussion following recent well-publicised high profile cases in NOR (especially Sundby; the Johaug case broke after the Zurich meeting). Retesting of Sochi samples (currently ongoing) is likely to produce more positive results in skiers. The FIS anti-doping structure (using external independent testing) is held in very high esteem by IOC and WADA; The IOC and Sport Accord recommend The FIS prototype to all their member organisations.

Asthma - The use of a nebuliser to administer salbutamol was previously 'not advised' by WADA, but the wording is now very clear – *nebulisers shall not be used*. (Sundby case, NOR CC world champion)

New WADA list – recently published

4. FIS Medical Supervisor for WNSC Lahti FIN Feb/Mar 2017 appointment – Jenny Shute GBR

5. FIS Injury Database – The Alpine Equipment WG regarding the project status of the online injury database has welcomed a new database to be run by FIS. This will cover all FIS registered athletes, ie from age U17 upwards.

6. Project Group – The aim of creating a smaller group within the membership of the Medical Committee is to increase its productivity. It will probably replace the current ISS group.

FIS Youth & Children Report (Cancun and Zurich meetings, 2016)

Jenny Shute, November 2016

1. Safeguarding /Human Rights proposal from GBR was presented to Congress and adopted unanimously. I am aware that Michael Huber (Chairman of Alpine Rules SC) questioned whether the ICR was the right place for this, but our instructions for insertion in Statutes and ICR came from the highest levels in FIS.

UK Sport is very strongly in support of this, to the extent that funding is to be provided by them to support implementation across the nations. We await model plans from the IOC, and will then move forward, probably starting with a workshop in Portoroz in May.

BSS is very grateful to UK Sport for financial and logistic support, and to the CPSU for advice.

2. Speed Discussions, Cancun & Zurich

Cancun: Concerns re limited number of opportunities to train and race DH. Increasing concerns re limited number of opportunities to train and race downhill. A review of FIS registrations since 2005/2006 has shown 40% decrease in ladies DH results. Reasons: very few calendared events, leading to reduction in level of ability/experience (athletes and event organizers); low participation, Ski Clubs are reluctant to organize for events with fewer than 40 competitors.

Actions: OPA (a group of 7 European Alpine nations) is to run a Ladies Speed week in AUT, January 2017; normally just for the OPA nations, but others could apply. The two FIS DH events at the end of the training are open FIS competitions.

Zurich - Presentations from 4 World Cup organisers who also run Continental Cup events; these provide opportunities for COC athletes to get used to the WC tracks; finances discussed but actual event loss considered an investment in the future.

Can we set training camps, e.g. on glaciers? Where can we train in speed? NSAs should try to work with each other to run joint training camps for athletes to pool resources, share learning, and cut costs. Speed events are run over several days, and athletes often prefer to opt for technical events that are completed in a shorter time. Winter is perceived as the racing season by athletes, but should also be used for training. Free skiing – at least 3 DH training runs on training days. SG should also be used as a training tool. Further flexibility suggested for technical standards – for example, lower the VD from 350-300m to introduce young athletes; we are fighting to find organisers; sprint format is good. There was agreement that gender balance needs to be addressed – having more top level female coaches and organisers may help to retain Ladies in the speed disciplines. Need to educate: parents believe DH is dangerous; many coaches now lack experience - have to build their confidence, importance of thinking long-term. There is a need to encourage experienced organisers of Speed events to work with less experienced OCs.

3. Experts Group finalised – for next two years; 10 members

4. Rules Update

- New helmet regulations apply for U16 and under this season
- Following collaboration between SRS, the Equipment Committee and athletes, there will be an evolution of the Men's GS ski to 30m. The reason for the change is related to the feeling on the skis, the attractiveness of the sport, and the desire to retain young Juniors in the sport; there has been no statistically significant change in injury figures between last season and the previous. New men's GS ski regulations apply from July 2017.
- **FRA proposal: ICR 802.3.1** - to increase learning in young racers if have more combinations in Slalom – now 2 hairpins max for U14 – propose 2->4, and for U16 3-> 6. VD limits the number of combinations. Aim – to increase learning**The proposal was unanimously supported**
- **Proposal to eliminate ICR 608.4 – Limits on Competitions for CHI competitions -** There has been no way of monitoring the rule, as U16/U14 athletes are not registered, and no sanctions. **Proposal to delete ICR 608.4; supported unanimously, effective immediately**.

FIS Age Range

Discussion raised by AUT: From 1998, the proposal to increase the upper limit of the younger age categories by a year was discussed, and finally approved for implementation in season 2013-14. The aim was to better coordinate with education systems, to provide more skill development through training and less competition and to be more closely aligned to physical development of the athlete. However, with the experience of three seasons, the drop out rate has dramatically increased since this; coaches feel that the old age range coincided better with athlete development. A number of NSAs support lowering the FIS age by one year, but several other NSAs remain undecided, feeling that the school system works best at present. It was noted by ARG that the reduction in men's GS radius to 30m will make it easier for younger men.

Action: AUT was asked to produce a formal proposal for the spring meeting; it was noted that the earliest implementation would be 2018-2019.

This will come up in Portoroz, and I have little doubt that it will be agreed.