

**CHAIRMAN'S NOTES ON THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BRITISH TECHNICAL DELEGATES' FORUM**

Held at 12.30 hrs on 6th May 2006 at Bentley, Halland, East Sussex

1. Attendees noted.
2. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting at Bentley and thanked Ingie for providing such a delightful setting. He also thanked Susie for the November Minutes and for agreeing to take them again today.

The Forum wished to send their congratulations to Maree on the birth of her daughter Emma.

3. **Minutes of last meeting** – 6th November 2005. These were agreed to be an accurate record.

4. **Matters Arising:**

4.1 Rotation of the British Indoor Championships – The Chairman had contacted Graham Bell but no definite response had been received. It is reported that Braehead is the location for this event on Sunday 20 August 06 and will be organised by the Lions Ski Club. Ian Roberts asked about the principle of rotation made by SnowsportGB. This has been brought to the attention of the Alpine Executive and is closed as far as the TD Forum is concerned.

Post meeting note: Paul Trayner will act as TD for this event.

4.2 TD Forum Minutes – production of Chairman's notes. The Chairman stated that he intended to continue this practice when appropriate.

Action: Chairman

4.3 Entries – British entries to British-run races. It was agreed that the system had worked better this year. However, concern was expressed over the question of sanctions. As individuals enter directly, competitors under sanction might try to take part, which could jeopardise the event and the ROC. Under FIS rules all entries should be on the green form and be signed by the SSGB office. After discussion it was agreed that a system should be instigated where the Race Secretary sends a list of GBR entries to the SSGB office (GBR office), who will return verification and notification of any sanctions to the ROC.

Action: Derek to contact the SSGB office.

4.4 Children's SG Skis mismatch between ski regulations – the BCR has been amended accordingly. **N.B.** there is no relaxation on radius, only on length.

4.5 Report on Children's start order season 05/06 - It was reported that the trial had been a success and that both the Alpine Executive and the Coaches Forum were in favour of the trial rules being adopted for the coming season. SSE reported that there had been some problems at PSV when the results of the first race were demanded before the start of the second. The Forum agreed that although this might be desirable there should be no requirement for it. The Forum further agreed to adopt the new rules and the BCR will be amended accordingly.

Action: David & Susie to amend BCR

4.6 Standards for Entry to SG Races. The working group has not yet made a proposal on this question although it is agreed that Championship Programmes should allow for the running of the GS before the Super-G. The Forum noted that the Coaches Forum had requested that a training day for Super-G is included in all children's championship programmes.

Action: Ongoing at Alpine Exec.

4.7 Mixed gender events. It was agreed that, although this might help club races it would cause major problems at championship events – particularly with seeding. It was decided that, having just agreed a new system for children's racing, it was too early to make further changes. This item could be considered in the future.

4.8 Realign children's seed points. The proposals from the National Seeders (see National Seeders report to the TD Forum 6 May 06) have been included in the new BCR.

4.9 New FIS TDs needed. It was agreed that we should be actively seeking TDs of the right calibre to go through to FIS. It was further agreed that funding should be sought to help with the expenses of qualifying. Major British events should be asked to help by assigning prospective FIS TD candidates as chiefs of race to maximise their experience. Funding could be requested from the Skiers Trust and the UK Sport programme for officials' education. The Forum agreed that it was in the interest of GBR's international standing that we kept up the numbers of our TDs. It was also noted that language capabilities were highly desirable.

Action: Duncan to contact Jason about funding

Mark Berry stated that he had approached Martin about becoming a FIS Aspirant and that Martin had given him some suggestions as to how to achieve this. The Forum agreed that Martin should be asked to provide a simple and encouraging guide for Aspirant/Candidate British FIS TD on how to go about getting on to the FIS TD System and this to be included in the BCR. It was also proposed that a costed development programme, for a Candidate, be considered.

Action: Chairman to contact Martin

4.10 ML to provide FIS TD appointments to British FIS events – this had been done. It was noted that Helga (SSGB Office) should be asked to send Martin a list of the GBR FIS calendar events so there was no confusion.

Action: Chairman to contact Helga

4.11 New TD Development Structure for BCR. - Now included in the BCR as per previously agreed document.

4.12 Separate TD exams for snow/artificial and assessments and TD reports. This is an ongoing action to ensure that GB TD exams contain some questions pertaining to artificial slope events and that a separate exam is available for anyone wishing to qualify for artificial slope events only.

Action Chairman to consult Martin, Ian R and Dave P.

Some problems had been encountered by TDs using the MS Excel format TD report form (notably trying to write more than one line in the comments section). Both the Snow and Artificial report forms will be available in Word format for season 06/07 on the Britski/GBski websites.

On the Chairman's proposal, it was agreed that the Referees protocol forms should be included in the standard documentation of race results as submitted by the TD and this is noted on the TD Report forms.

Action Susie & David to add to BCR

4.13 Assess 3 prospective TDs. Frank reported that, despite reminders, he had still not had CVs from the individuals concerned. (Charlie Wright, Ross Green and Wayne Glasse-Davis). He had also been informed that Ronnie Naismith and Tom Hutchison wished to be considered but he had not heard from them either. Susie confirmed that she had been approached also by the latter two in Meribel and had asked them to contact Frank, immediately, with a CV.

4.14 Race Officials database proposal. It was noted that no progress had been made on this proposal (possibly because it was unclear who should lead it). The Chairman is not convinced that this database is necessary but some other members feel strongly that it is required. It will be investigated further by a working group, possibly using the existing SSE database.

Action: Alan West to lead/ G.Watson/ Larry/Alun/ Susie

Jenny Shute felt that such a database would be valuable and could also flag up those who had valid CRB checks. She reminded the Forum that these checks had to be renewed every three years and that many were up for renewal in the near future. It is the duty of Child Welfare officers to police the activity of suspended coaches and officials and a list of those accredited to an event must be seen by the appropriate officer. A list of suspended individuals is not published and the question was asked "how does this protect children if nobody knows?" Answer; the Child Welfare officers know and should therefore be at the event in person. Jenny reported that the cases that have been investigated and those that are still ongoing are not about sexual misconduct (which is easy to deal with) but involve verbal abuse etc, and complaints from parents. There are external consultants available. The Forum asked whether she felt the Act could be used for personal vendettas or as retaliation for non-selection etc. She felt the case management group were realistic and would pick up such cases. She also reported that some CRB checks have a positive return and are then subject to a risk assessment.

Action: All to check CRBs are in date

4.15 Accounts for TD subsidies –

A proposal made by Martin at the November meeting was still on the table and after discussion it was agreed that GB TDs should receive a daily allowance in the same way that FIS TDs do.

This will only apply to events outside the UK and will cover the required working days plus two travel days at a rate of £20 per day. FIS TDs currently receive 80 CHF per day – approx £35. Susie will produce a form to show claims for travel and the daily allowance. (*see attachment*)

Action: Susie & David to include claim form in BCR 602.5

4.16 Log Books/ID cards for TDs. The Chairman circulated a sample of a TD license, which he had designed, to be laminated and to fit into an easily available holder on a lanyard. It was agreed that these should be produced for all GB TDs.

Action: Chairman to produce licenses

4.17 BCR Update - Finalise. It was agreed that the BACR should be published immediately as the artificial slope events had already started. The draft BCR would be amended as a result of today's meeting and re-published by David Manns as before on his website. This will allow time for the Forum to make further comments. Any changes needed as a result of the FIS Congress will be included by June 15th when the draft will be published for all to see and it will come into effect on December 1st.

N.B. the second draft is already up on www.gbski.com but the June 15th date will be delayed by a few days as David is on holiday until that date.

Action: Susie, David and Peter

5 Reports from Delegates

5.1 BARSC *circulated*

5.2 CSWSA *attached*

5.3 SnowSport England *attached*

5.4 SnowSport Wales *circulated*

5.5 SnowSport Scotland *attached*

5.6 SnowSport GB – Coaches Forum & Alpine Exec. *reports attached*

6 Seeding and Registration

6.1 Reports by the BASS Seeder *circulated*

Peter highlighted that he was still having problems with the results of GBR FIS races. He also reminded TDs that the results of non-registered competitors must be excluded from the penalty calculation. He also queried the rule which allows only 2 races in each discipline to be run in the same resort in the same week. In the light of the new children's rule this would mean that, for example, if a Super-G was cancelled another seeded GS could not be held instead. After discussion the Forum agreed to amend the rule for children to allow up to four single run races in each discipline in the same week and resort.

Action: Susie & David to amend BCR

Under point 6a of the report the Forum agreed with Peter's proposal to keep the children's point level at 150 for the coming season but to keep the level under review.

Under 6b the question of participation in some Calendar events by non-registered racers was considered to be a big issue which should be considered at length and discussed further in November. With specific reference to the LSC Schoolgirls event, the question was asked whether

They required a TD for safety or seeding purposes. Sarah Robinson said that it was for both. She was of the opinion that if the races were not considered for BASS seeding they would still continue and would wish to have a TD appointed. The Chairman asked whether the team start order affected the BASS seeding. Peter felt it was "apples and pears" With a graded start order' in whichever direction, the best will still win. With a random start order, where the two best can start at opposite ends of the list it is unfair.

Item deferred to November meeting

The Forum noted that BSA had informed BARSC that it intended to run seeded races at the same time as the Schoolgirls/schoolboys events. BARSC had welcomed the inclusion of more races in

the Calendar but had asked that they should be held either immediately before or after the existing events. If the dates did clash then in no circumstances should they be schools races.

The Forum also noted that BSA has applied to run a FIS Super-G for men and ladies on 21st January 2007. It appeared that this had been made directly to SSGB and not via any MG.

Action: Susie to check with Helga

6.2 Report by the BArtSS Seeder *attached*

Under item 5 of this report, Derek stated that the ARC of SSE did not want to change the rule concerning the number of seeded races per slope. They had looked at the geographical layout of the remaining available slopes and concluded that there were still sufficient for the time being.

Proposal to be discussed in November

7 FIS Matters

7.1 Report by GBR FIS Commissioner

Martin was not present. It was noted that the FIS Congress would be held in Portugal between 21 – 27 May.

Jenny reported that the children's Kombi races had been a great success and the children really enjoyed them. The Coaches' Forum had asked that they be considered for inclusion in British races. The international races had been run on GS slopes and the competitors had worn GS skis. The courses had consisted of open slaloms, followed by a bit of Super-G and some GS rollers. They had lasted around 50 seconds. Ingie was asked to check with her FIS committee on whether any rules or guidelines were likely to be drawn up.

Action: Ingie to ask FIS Children's Committee

8 British TD Matters

8.1 Contacts List update

A list was passed round for updating. TDs are reminded to inform the Chairman of any change in their contact details.

8.2 Candidate TDs

Susie made a confidential report on her assessment of Paul Trayner which had been carried out during the BARSC children's races. The Forum unanimously agreed that Paul be accepted as a GBR TD qualified for all disciplines. They congratulated Paul on his successful qualification.

Ian Roberts reported that Lucy Pyle would be ready to do her assessments during the 2006/7 season.

8.3 Aspirant TDs

Davie Austin and Logan Tannock are ready to take the exam in November 06.

Eddy Guest (Perth) wishes to become an Aspirant. He requires a mentor.

Action: Chairman to remind Martin about exams and nominate a mentor for E.G.

9 British Calendar and TD appointments – season 2006/2007 - Early season events.

The following appointments were made:

16 -17 / 09 / 06 British Artificial championships, Sunderland - Richard Dawe

07-14 / 12 / 06	Welsh Championships, Oppdal, NOR	- Richard Dawe
03-05 / 01 / 07	BARSC Championships, Les Menuires, FRA	- Ian Roberts
29-30 / 01 / 07	LSC Schoolgirls, Flaine, FRA	- Paul Trayner
29-30 / 01 / 07	DHO Schoolboys, Les Menuires, FRA	- volunteers by August please

Action: all

Frank reported that owing to the variability of Scottish snow conditions in recent years there are now a great many calendar changes. This often means that the designated TD is not available. He asked that a system be put in place where a TD was appointed for a specific weekend rather than for a race, so that whatever event was held, regardless of location, it would increase the chance of being covered by a TD. The Forum agreed in principle but noted that it might not always be easy especially in the busy Easter period where TD were in action in many ROCs. The TD Forum agreed to draw up a list of TDs willing to act as standby for a particular weekend should Scottish events have to change dates.

Action: November meeting

10 ICR update

The Forum noted that some changes to the ICR would come as a result of the FIS Congress. The most certain one is concerning the compulsory wearing of helmets in all disciplines.

11 BCR update

11.1 State of BCR update. – *see item 4.17*

The Forum thanked David Manns for all the work he had done on updating the BCR.

11.2 BCR Title.

The Chairman proposed that the title of the BCR should be changed. Rather than “competition rules” he preferred “guidelines” or “manual” now that everything was under one cover. Many differing views were expressed but the consensus was that the ICR was not just a book of rules either and that people were used to the title. It was agreed that we would consider further and discuss again at the next meeting.

Action: all to consider

11.3 Minis’ catsuits

The Forum noted that the Alpine Executive and the Coaches’ Forum had both discussed the question of minis wearing catsuits and (with a few exceptions) were in favour of implementing an outright ban immediately rather than phasing it out as planned. The Forum agreed that, from 1st December 2006 all minis will not be allowed to race in catsuits.

Action: Susie & David to amend BCR

11.4 Eligibility

Susie asked for the Forum’s permission to renumber some of the articles in the BCR Eligibility section and the Championship Regulations. These were confusing where they were currently placed. No rule changes were proposed just a sorting out of the two sections. The Forum agreed.

Action: Susie & David to amend BCR

11.5 MG reference

Susie expressed her disappointment that many of the proposed changes to the BCR contained new references to MGs. She felt that the Forum had taken such a positive step in making all TDs to GBR level and becoming responsible for their appointment to all races (sometimes via a sub-committee) that this was a step backwards. She felt that the Forum should be trusted to form

appropriate working groups to deal with matters which were specific to any MG. She asked to be allowed, in consultation with David, to remove references to MG wherever possible and appropriate. The Forum agreed.

Action: Susie & David to amend BCR

11.6 Helmets

In view of the likely outcome of the FIS discussions and Jenny's paper from the medical committee, the Forum agreed that from 1st December 2006 the wearing of safety helmets will be mandatory for all disciplines and for all ages of competitor. It was also noted that, although the rule could not reasonably be enforced immediately in the BACR, many slopes already enforced their own rule for insurance purposes and therefore most competitors wore helmets at all events. The proposal to make the wearing of helmets compulsory for TDs and race officials was rejected. Dave Parsons reported that in Oppdal all the Norwegian officials were wearing them.

Action: Susie & David to amend BCR

12 AOB

12.1 Electronic results

Mark asked the Forum to consider allowing race results to be submitted to the Chairman, SSGB and the Seeder in electronic rather than paper format. Most Chiefs of Calculations would have the ability to convert results and supporting documents into PDF files and virtually everyone now has the ability to read these. It was agreed that providing all the documentation could be sent electronically and the Jury members could apply an "E" signature, then this was acceptable.

12.2 APC 2

The Forum noted that it was now a requirement of the APC 2 qualification that candidates set courses at British Calendar events. TDs should note that they may be asked to "sign off" an APC 2 candidate.

13 Date of Next Meetings

Sunday 5 November 2006 (in conjunction with TD Seminar on 4 November) – Location to be decided but likely to be Bovington Camp Dorset

Saturday 12 May 2007 (avoiding May Bank Holiday w/e on 4-7 May 2007) – Location to be decided.