



SLALOM COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 19 August 2020

Via videoconference

Attendees: Dave Spencer, Chair; Peter Curry; Deborah Catty; Karen Crowhurst; Colin Woodgate; Chris Baillie; Dee Lindesay; Martyn Setchell; Andy Grudzinski (AGz); Mark Abbott

Apologies: Richard Ramsdale; Hazel Ridge; Steve Linksted; Anna Gray (AG); Andy Neave;

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting to be circulated

MATTERS ARISING

A statement regarding holding events was circulated following the meeting of 29 July. No response has been received.

TREASURER

HR has made the decision that she is standing down from the committee with immediate effect. This leaves a vacancy for both the welfare officer and treasurer position.

Action: BC to be asked to cover some financial activities (DS).

2020 BACK TO RACING

At the previous meeting, it had been hoped that activity could restart from 1 August but this was then delayed to 14 August.

Current government guidance is that gatherings with fewer than 30 people are possible, and do not have too onerous requirements.

Events with 30 or more people attending are subject to different requirements. There are further requirements for large events – though the definition of large depends on the home nation.

Given the guidance, the committee agreed that in England an event of 30 or more people would be possible if essential, though sites such as HPP would be difficult to ensure that they were fully compliant.

CB shared the plans that in Scotland, which is subject to different requirements, they are looking to hold a virtual competition at Pinkston where there is only one course set for the

weekend, so that groups of participants can be given time slots to do their runs before departing.

It was noted that there were differing views on events, with sprint and polo moving ahead with running events.

The committee agreed that where possible they should be promoting the sport, and that this was most feasible for gatherings of under 30 people. It was agreed that they would support clubs in England to look at organising competitive sessions for under 30 people (including spectators and officials), subject to venue arrangements, and local requirements.

It was noted that whilst it may be possible to hold events of 30 or more, the requirements became more onerous, with sites required to be covid-secure, be able to report on track and trace, and to have full risk and mitigation plans approved by BC. The decision was taken that the committee would not run the British Open in 2020.

Action: statement to be drafted and sent out to clarify the position on competitions / events (DC)

BACK TO RACING IN 2021

There have been a big increase in numbers expressing an interest in canoeing, which presents a positive

Automatic bib allocation – work was still ongoing on the system, with work being carried out on the front end and the interface with Duncan’s system. It is almost ready to share more widely.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Wales – there is a performance coach vacancy for sprint and slalom. Squads are back training.

Scotland – report attached

Participation – KC’s report to be discussed at next meeting

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

The need to have an increased focus on equality, diversity and inclusion was discussed. There are a number of examples of good practice, including #shepaddles, Slalom Inspires and para slalom. It was recognised however that there is much more to be done. BC are looking at ways to improve EDI, but it was recognised that the committee also need to look at it. Specific areas of focus are: reporting mechanisms; role models; improved awareness. It was agreed to engage with the #she paddles team; review the BC forms for applicability to slalom; and consider how to broaden the welfare officer role to include EDI. It was agreed that this would be a standing item on the agenda.

SUPPORT FOR EARLY 2021 EVENTS

To be discussed closer to the time

2020/21 SEASON CLARIFICATIONS

Pan-celtic events – to be agreed by the pan-celtic committee

Vets, j16 and under championships - it was agreed that England should run the 2021 national champs as they had been due to be run by England in 2020.

2020 ACM

There was discussion regarding the ACM.

It was agreed that the meeting would be held on the previously agreed date (28 November 2020) via zoom.

It was agreed that motions should not be submitted to change rules, rather there could be clarification of the rules for this year.

Positions up for election are treasurer and chair, with nominations for these from clubs or the committee.

Committee members up for re-election are SL, AN and KC

IP UPDATE

The 2021 draft selection policy will be out for consultation soon. It will include how juniors who probably would have been promoted to prem in 2021 will be accommodated. It is also likely that the HPP prem race on 13/14 March will be used for wildcard selection for U23 and senior selection races.

AOB

The 2021 calendar needs to be looked at, and a decision made regarding whether or not to allow clashes. MA noted that the Welsh Div 2 on 19 March has been given up. It was agreed to discuss more fully at the next meeting.

Date and time of next meeting: 23 September 2020 at 7pm

Appendix 1

Report for BC Slalom Committee meeting on Wednesday 19th August 2020

Training at Grandtully

A timetable to help paddlers plan their training at Grandtully has been issued. This isn't intended to set limits, rather to help plan training to make it easier to maintain physical distancing whilst training and also maximise the quality of training. Whilst people are travelling less internationally or nationally, it is anticipated that Grandtully will be quite busy at the weekends.

The campsite is open for caravans, motorhomes and campervans with their own facilities but the shower and toilet block remain closed.

Central Squads

Central Squads are starting back with some limited squad weekends in small groups. Lockdown has made all the older coaches realise that their own time and exercise is important and are not willing to put in the hours that they have over the last 2 years.

Therefore the main aim at present is to enrol and mentor a new generation of young Slalom coaches. There is a lot of interest from the 20-somethings and Maddy Jennings in particular, is taking a leading role. Michael Brown, Morna Campbell and Andrew Douglas have just qualified as Level 2 coaches.

It is hoped to create a training framework for the next 6 months to help club coaches design their training sessions along a synchronised Central Squads programme. The squad will meet less frequently and there will be more coaching from the younger volunteer coaches.

Bridge of Earn – new slalom site

The new site on the River Earn at Bridge of Earn, south of Perth is now complete. It is tidal so an interesting training venue.

It has enticed a number of local people to apply for taster sessions and to date 22 children and 9 adults have applied for membership / introductory courses.

Strathallan hope this will continue and they can convert them into full club members.