

BC Slalom Committee

Safety and Competition Management report

2020 has been spectacularly abnormal and we have managed little actually ranking activity. The Committee has concluded that 2020 and 2021 ranking races will be considered a single season.

There was earlier in the year some hope we might manage some racing late in the year but this has not transpired and as I write this England is in Lockdown, Wales has just exited a fire break and the majority of the Scottish Population are in near lockdown.

What now seems clear in spite of some positive news about vaccines that we will not have “normal” events as we restart ranking races and must expect to still be needing to comply with rules designed to limit viral spread.

We need to focus on the competition elements of racing and be understanding that the social element of events which I fully appreciate is very important to many needs to be very restricted.

Clubs will hopefully have COVID officers in place and trained. If not there is training available in all the various parts of the UK and will be a clear requirement of any events going forward.

Risk assessments still need to be completed to confirm a place in the race calendar but it is accepted that the mitigations in respect of COVID will have to wait for an update of plans much closer to the date of racing accepting that the rules are changing frequently both with time and geography. Since events are likely to need to consider risks and mitigations for which there is no standard provision it would be prudent to remember that a COVID Medical Officer may be able to help with the assessment of the appropriate mitigation and even whether it may be required.

Going forward events need to consider how best to manage and minimise the number of persons at an event at any one time and if possible the reduction of the number needing to book and use accommodation. This may involve alteration of the normal format of events.

As yet it is not clear how our sport and participation has been or will be affected e.g. with those who may have been infected, developed Long COVID or suffered from the consequences of redundancy or other issues arising from this challenging economic environment. My sympathy to all of these.

Financial plans and entry fees will need to be cognisant of potential reduced participation and some increased costs and they may need to be more than the minimum set fees.

I will be available to discuss further at the ACM and also thereafter at any time if I can help with plans and what might be needed.

Peter Curry
Safety and Competition Management
BC Slalom Committee
10th November 2020