

British Freestyle Executive Meeting - Minutes

Thursday 28th February 2013 – On-line/Telephone Conference

1. Participants, Apologies

Participating - Simon Ashton (SA), Kay Bates (KB), Peter Bates (PB), Martin Carr (MC), Iain Mackay (IM), Gladys Marr (GM), Chris David (CD), Neil MacGrain (NM), Paddy Mortimer (PM)

Apologies: Ian Findlay (IF), Becky Hammond (BH)

2. Committee / BSS Structure

There was discussion of who could fill the required voting and non-voting positions required by the BSS constitution to arrive at the following:

Voting members

Chair	Simon Ashton
Vice Chair	Iain Mackay
Athlete Rep	Becky Hammond
Athlete Rep	Craig Robinson
HN England	Martin Carr
HN Scotland	Neil MacGrain
HN Wales	Chris David
Subdiscipline (SX)	Iain Findlay
CEO	Dave Edwards
Performance Director	Paddy Mortimer

Non-voting members

Coach (HP/SS)	Pat Sharples
Coach (AE)	Gladys Marr
Competition results	Kay Bates
Non-exec (secretary)	Peter Bates

It was agreed to have a minimum of 4 meetings per year but to aim for 6 (i.e. every 2 months) which allowing for times when people are away would probably end up with 5 meetings a year. Meetings should be shorter like this one, with the agenda items sent out well in advance so members could prepare their thoughts and hopefully speed up discussion.

Action 1 (Feb 2013) SA to contact HN Wales to hopefully confirm CD as their rep.

Action 2 (Feb 2013) PM to contact HN Scotland to hopefully confirm NM as their rep.

3. Selection Panel Terms of Reference

All agreed with the document written by Iain, the only discussion point being whether the word "company" or "country" was appropriate in 1.2.1.

The document is for the selection panel and parents so the selectors have more backing in what they do. SA said there was an important message that selection is to generate medals at the Olympics. PM stated that this was the No 1 priority for funding. Parents want participation but this is not the aim. The mission statement of BSS is being reviewed with the new chair. It was agreed to have further discussion at the next meeting especially concerning selection at the lower levels.

Action 3 (Feb 2013) PB to add Selection Panel Terms of Reference to next agenda

4. Current Athlete Performance review

Half Pipe / Slope Style (PS)

James Woods won 2 WC in SS and 10th in Silverplana, He is currently number 1 in the world and also qualified number 1 in the X Games and in Utah.

Katie Summerhayes was 2nd in the Austrian Open and in a WC in SUI.

Anna Vincenti has moved from HP to SS and doing well, 6th in Austrian Open.

James Machon was in top 20 in New Zealand WC HP.

Murray Buchan was in top 20 in Sochi HP.

Rowan Cheshire has had a top 10 and Emma Lonsdale top 20.

James Woods has already qualified for Sochi and several others are likely. He is the first ever British WC Champion.

Moguls (CD)

A great result from Leonie Gerken Schofield who was 1st in her 1st EC recently. Hard not to be disappointed at WC results.

Aerials (GM)

There are now 3 males on the WC and there is an additional spot for GBR at WC. Elodie Wallace will start EC this month and 2 aerialists are eligible for the World Junior Championships.

There is a grass roots project with 20 youngsters on cross training.

Ski Cross

SA commented that IF was doing a great job. After 2014 we need a centralised programme as at present we have 3 different coaches for 4 athletes which leads to problems with accreditation.

IF sent a report before the meeting inserted here.

Positives

WC best this season from Emily Sarsfield of 21st in Sochi. Counts as 1/3 OQS results needed.

Pam Thorburn achieving 24th place in Megeve World Cup.

Ed Drake engaged and motivated for ski cross.

Highest number of active and engaged athletes we have ever had in ski cross.

FIS podiums for Liz Stevenson (Sweden) and Emily Sarsfield (Czech)

Uniform deal with Dare2b

Young athletes Laurence Willows and Scott Garvie making quarter finals in FIS races in Sweden.

Negatives

Serious injury to Peter Whelan sustained in Val Thorens in December 2012.

Retirement of Craig Robinson

WC athletes all on individual programmes

Priorities for me are;

Keep lines of communication open with WC athletes

Monitor and report on WC results

Develop HN programme and continue engagement with new athletes and transfer athletes.

Work with PD on developing athlete tracker for ski cross

Investigate with PD opportunities to work alongside Dutch alpine base.

5. Actions From Last Meeting

CD was actively working on talent transfer from alpine skiers into Moguls

Action 1 (Aug 2012)CD & GM- ONGOING

Action 2 (Aug 2012) KB to pass contact details of former GBR Freestyler in Avoriaz to CD to try & establish link with Chatel - **ONGOING**

Action 4(Feb 2013) SA and PM to open dialogue with various bodies. KB and PB to brief SA, PM and CD on their meetings with French at recent EC.

Some discussion on selection criteria resulted in the Selection Panel being empowered to review and incorporate changes in liaison with BSS Performance Director.

Action 3 (Aug 2012)IM-COMPLETED

Pat Sharples has been working on results analysis. KB has carried out some analysis and is asked to complete and circulate

Action 4 (Aug 2012)KB- COMPLETED

The BSS performance director needs to set strategic goals so that the Selection Panel can respond appropriately for Olympic Selection.

Action 5 (Aug 2012) IM to establish dialogue with performance director and ensure discipline managers are involved – COMPLETED

The report from the Korea Meeting had not been circulated to all the executive.

Action 6 (Aug 2012) IM to circulate to the executive.- COMPLETED

Very probable that a well known name will sponsor suits & other clothing for athletes and coaches (not halfpipe or slopestyle)

Action 7 (Aug 2012) IF to pursue – COMPLETED

Dare2b have sponsored suits. Team managers and coaches need to be in contact with the company.

They will look after GBR teams also next year and possibly England and Scotland at low cost.

BSS have published a constitution and structure for their discipline committees of which the Freestyle Executive is one. There are major implications for this committee.

Action 8 (Aug 2012) All to study implications – COMPLETED AS PART OF THIS MEETING

MC highlighted the need to review the structure of team/licence structure as England were currently reviewing theirs. IF urged that as simple a structure as possible be established.

Action 8 (Aug 2012) IF to follow up as part of his new job – ONGOING, NEEDS FURTHER INPUT

6. AOB / Agenda For Next Meeting / DONM

AOB

1. PM has used UK Sport money to buy an airbag for use indoors and on dryslopes. Also a trailer to transport it.
2. Lots of pressure on athletes leading up to Sochi so we should keep comments to ourselves.
3. MC is updating the list of those on the email loop. Please check your email address with MC.
4. SA will be updating from World Championships via Facebook and blogs.

Next Agenda

Selection Panel Terms of Reference

Selection Panel Policy for Oct 2013

Licence Structure link with HN

DONM

PB to circulate possible dates at end of March for meeting in April 2013.

Peter and Kay Bates

March 2013