

MIDLAND SKI CLUB – RACE STEERING GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 11th November, 2009 **(at Sally's house)**

In attendance:

Sally, Guy, Adam, Bryan, David, Carron, Rob, Jeff, Jane

Apologies:

Roger & Nigel

1. Minutes of last meeting

Approved

2. Matters arising and actions taken

It was decided not to increase the number of members on this committee at the present time but if necessary additional members could be co-opted to join the group.

Guy had circulated podium statistics and Adam had helped by putting the information in bar chart form. It showed how MSC members are really improving and the figures endorse an improving trend.

Roger had circulated the MSC Skiing Skill Development and Training Programme to the group. It outlined a clear and concise training programme for the members.

Carron had produced an excellent report on racing to be included in the new MSC brochure.

3. Race Manager

Adam agreed to take over the role of Race Manager from Guy. Guy had already produced a job description and will be on hand to help in any way to aid handover.

Sally agreed to continue to chair the meetings until Adam was fully settled into his new role. The group agreed that minute taking would be shared by all members of the group on a rotational basis.

4. Lockwood Cup – Friday, 6th November, 2009

Nigel was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a report of how he felt the event could be improved. One of the main problem areas seemed to originate from registration. Sally explained that she was meant to help on registration but due to personal reasons had to pull out last minute which meant this area was understaffed and battling against the clock. Next year we would like to have all current members information already input into a spreadsheet with date of birth etc and then on arrival it would just be a matter of registering their

attendance, this would eliminate mistakes and cut down on input time. We felt it would have been beneficial to distribute a list of volunteer helpers prior to the event to ensure all areas were adequately staffed. Running the event in two halves meant that the younger skiers did not get a chance to see or mix with the older skiers – this interaction between both groups would have been really helpful to let the younger less experienced racers aspire to the older more experienced skiers. Sally proposed to consider running the Lockwood Cup during the day on a weekend next year. This would help to make it a real occasion and bring all the skiers and parents together from Tuesday, Thursday and Friday night coaching sessions. It would offer a perfect chance for everyone to meet, socialise and celebrate the MSC Championships. This idea was fully supported by all the committee.

Action: To get a date in the Ackers diary for the first weekend in November 2010. Jeff/Rob to liaise with Lockwoods to see if they wish to continue sponsorship of Lockwoods Cup.

5. Fun Race – Sunday, 29th November, 2009

Carron reported that Ellis Hall cannot attend the event but was willing to lend MSC the timing board for the race. A few entries have already been received from MSC and Telford members but nothing from Stoke to date. Val Waller has confirmed that she will be able to do the BBQ.

Action: Medals to be ordered by Nigel. Carron will put out a request for volunteers and this list of responsibilities will be distributed prior to the race. Unfortunately Guy cannot attend the fun race but Carron will speak to Roger and Dave Hancock regarding setting the course.

6. Schools Race – Sunday, 21st March, 2010

The date has been set for the Midlands Schools Race for Sunday, 21st March 2010. Jane confirmed that she will not be organising the race this year but has produced a fully comprehensive report of what needs to be done. Dave agreed to take on the organisation for the schools race next year and will ask Phil Care and Paul Lawrence if they would be willing to join his team to help. Jeff will liaise with both Dave and the Ackers to ensure as many schools as possible are informed about the race and also investigate sponsorship opportunities. Format of race to be discussed at next meeting.

7. Schools Race Training

Jane will liaise with the Ackers to arrange some dates for Schools Race Training. This training will be open to all Midlands school children who need some race training to enable them to form a schools ski team. Jane is available to coach for a session during February half term and

Guy will hopefully be able to coach for another session during the Christmas/New Year holiday.

Action: Dates to be advised at the next meeting.

8. Coaching/ Training

MSC Skiing Skills Development and Training Programme needs to be slightly amended and then will be fully available to view on the website, all members of the committee received a draft copy via email prior to this meeting.

The racers will soon be informed of changes in groups on Thursday evening. More young racers who have recently registered or about to register will be invited on the earlier Thursday session (6.00 – 7.30pm). The later session (7.30 – 9.00pm) will have two groups with two coaches (Roger and Guy) who will rotate on an eight weekly basis. The groups have been split by using seed points and the entry seed point for this later session will be less than 200 for males and 160 for females. It is hoped to organise a formal monthly standing order for the coaching fee for this session – members will be informed shortly but it is expected to be £15.00 per month per person and this will be payable whether a member can or cannot attend all the sessions each month.

8. Training Days

The following dates have been booked for training days. Coaches will be Roger, Guy and Benn if available:

31st January, 2010, 14th March 2010 at Rossendale

18th April, 2010 at Pontypool (provisional) to be confirmed

9. MSC Brochure

Rob plans to take the brochure to the printer within the next couple of days and it should be ready to distribute within the next 2 weeks. The committee thanked Rob for all his hard work and dedication.

9. MSC Awards

Bryan has ordered three shields – Best boy, Best girl and 'Skiers Skier', these will be awarded at the Christmas Party. Adam will arrange to take votes from the children from Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings and hopefully we will get a unanimous result. Jane will organise the Friday night awards which will be take place on a separate date.

10. Ski Prep. Sessions

Adam and Nigel offered to give some demonstrations to new members on ski sharpening/preparation.

Action: Adam will be at the Ackers on Thursday, 3rd December 6.30 – 7.30pm to explain and demonstrate ski preparation/ sharpening. Nigel to confirm but it is hoped he can be available to do another demonstration on Tuesday, 1st December.

11. Ackers

Nothing to report from Ackers

12. Any other business

It is planned that MSC will make wearing of helmets during an MSC coaching session mandatory from February 2010. This ruling will apply (in brief) to all 18 year olds or under and anyone training through poles. Full rules will be distributed soon.

Action: Jane has arranged a company specialising in ski equipment to visit the Ackers on Friday, 4th December to supply and fit helmets to any member wishing to purchase a new helmet. Jane to send out email advising members to come along prepared with money if they wish to purchase a helmet.

Jeff and Guy reported that the change in GP and CN format is of great concern to many clubs as often the CN only break even financially if they are followed by a GP. As this arrangement is to be changed many clubs may decide not to organise CN as they could risk making a loss.

Action: Jeff and Guy will report back to the committee next time with further information.

A change of venue for the Christmas Party has been arranged although is still pending final confirmation but is hoped it will be at the Landrover Social Club on Saturday, 12th December. It is hoped more children will be able to attend this year as it is now on the weekend and not a school night.

13. Next Meeting

Action: To take place on Wednesday 2nd December at Sally's House