

Snowsport South

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 27 November 2014 – Aldershot Ski Slope

1. Attendance

Roger	Caldwell	Snowtrax	David	Hathway	ASRC
John	Calvert	ASSC	Nigel	Hilliard	Bowles
Mary	Calvert	ASRC	Jane	James	Berkshire
Peter	Calvert	ASRC	Linda	Miller	Berkshire
Tracey	Clarkson	ASRC	David	Ross	Snowtrax
Brian	Davies	ASRC	Darren	Speed	ASRC
Tim	Fawke	SSE	Nigel	Vincent	Snowtrax
Nigel	Greenfield	SASA	Matt	Williams	SASA

2. Apologies

John	Kovacs	Snowtrax	Helen	Schmidt	Snowtrax
Darren	Schmidt	Snowtrax	Jacky	Wilkey	Surbiton

3. Minutes from last meeting

There was one correction to the minutes of last year's AGM held on 24 October 2013. Item 8.2 should have read *David Ross and Simon Bannister agreed to come up with a proposal*. The minutes were approved and signed by Brian Davies (Chairman).

3.1 There was one matter arising relating to item 8.2. David Ross reported that it had not been possible to arrange an out-of-region training day due to the lack of available dates between the snow and artificial calendars.

4. Treasurer's report

Nigel Vincent presented the following report and accounts which were accepted.

2013/2014 has been a successful year for Snowsport South both on and off the slope. We were able to run a Regionally sponsored Course Setters Course and put on a successful Club National race. The Summer Series of races continues to push from a strong position and has once again seen outstanding attendances.

We benefited from the receipt of the closing balance of the Southampton Alpine Club to the tune of £1,476.70 with the protected caveat that these funds are to be used for the broad benefit of the regional competitors.

Financial Summary

- ✍ Financial Accounts run from 1st September 2013 through to 31st August 2014
- ✍ Opening Balance was £7,225.47
 - Total Inflows: £18,966.50 (including transfers)
 - Total Outflows: £14,913.06 (including transfers)
 - Net Total: £4,053.44
- ✍ Closing Balance: £11,278.91

- ✍️ **Race Fees:** Income from race fees this year was **£9,932.57** – the difference between takings and fees charged are the PayPal fees.
- ✍️ **Snowsport England Grant: £937.55**
- ✍️ **Miscellaneous Income: £1,822.05** – This is primarily the closing balance from the Southampton Alpine Club plus the cash paid in at the end of last year. There is also a transaction for £240 which was paid into the account and reversed out by the bank. The source of this transaction is unknown.
- ✍️ **Club National:** The Club National venture produced a net loss of **£135.12**. It is likely that the reduced number of competitors would have been impacted by the time of year of the competition and the fact that the overall results for the Club National Series had been concluded. The date for the coming Season's Club National has been moved forward to encourage more attendees.
- ✍️ **Courses:** The region laid on a "Course Setting" instruction course for representatives from each of the clubs in the region. The region subsidised the course using funds from the SAC funds to the tune of **£240.80**. Each attendee (or club) was required to part fund their attendance. The event was deemed a success.
- ✍️ **Equipment:** Equipment purchased this year included a tripod for the display board for the timing equipment and printer ink and paper which is used on race day for the printouts. Total outgoings were **£46.81**.
- ✍️ **Merchandise:** T-Shirts for the Tri-Regions cost the region **£395.48**.
- ✍️ **Miscellaneous Outgoings: £405.22** – This included the reversing out of the miscellaneous £240 transaction and the procurement of the font used in the Snowsport South logo in order to re-create the logo in higher definition.
- ✍️ **Prizes and Trophies: £2649.80** - This covered medals for all competitions, Cash prizes awarded at the end of the season and the Glass Trophies used for the Season long competition. It does **not** include the prizes for the Club National as these fees are covered under that heading.
- ✍️ **Slope Hire: £4693.75** – The slope hire covers Aldershot (£850), Bowles (£700), Bromley (£1,000), Snowtrax (2013) (£543.75), Southampton (£750 for the Summer Series and £850 for the Club National).
- ✍️ **Website: £71.75**

In summary, the region remains in a sound financial position and it is assessed that the current holding is sufficient to meet its needs.

Following the report, there was some discussion on the size of the current balance held by the region. It was accepted that in the coming year there would be a need for some investment in timing and technical equipment. There were sufficient funds for this without any need for increased income.

Snowsport South Account Summary

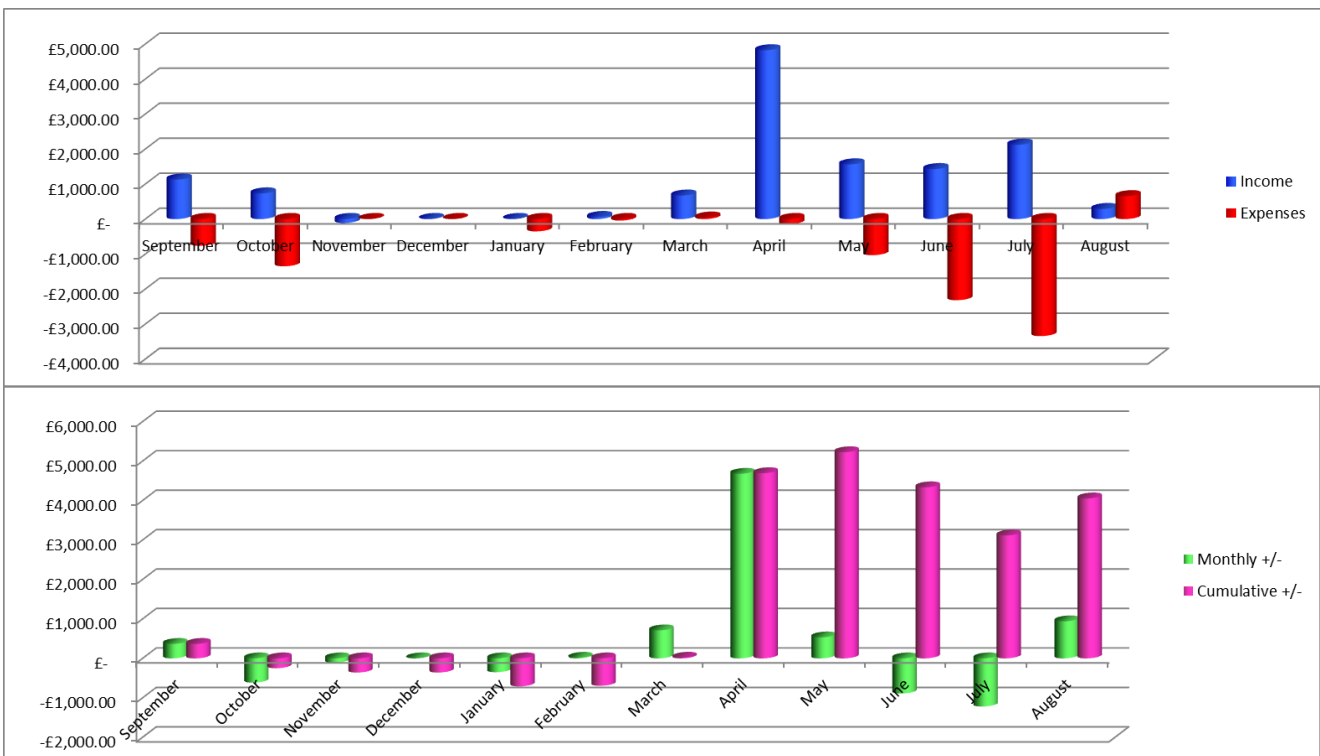
01-Sep-13 through 31-Aug-14 (in U.K. Pounds Sterling)

INCOME	
Miscellaneous Incoming	£1,822.05
Race Fees	£9,932.57
Snowsport England Grant	£937.55
Sponsorship	£0.00
Total Income	£12,692.17

EXPENSES	
Club National	-£135.12
Courses	-£240.80
Equipment	-£46.81
Merchandise	-£395.48
Miscellaneous Outgoings	-£405.22
Prizes	-£250.00
Slope Hire	-£4,693.75
Trophies	-£2,399.80
Website	-£71.75
Total Expenses	-£8,638.73

Overall Total **£4,053.44**

Snowsport South Income/Expense by Month



Attendance Figures

The table below shows some information about the number of racers registered (and paid) for each round.

Club	Total Competitors	AST	BRO	SOT	BOW	SOT	TSN	Total Competitors	Ave Racers
Aldershot	41	39	24	17	16	15	20	131	21.83
Aldershot Senior	9	9	7	5	5	6	6	38	6.33
Berkshire Race Squad	32	23	22	15	14	15	18	107	17.83
Bowles	20	3	9	2	17	3	2	36	6
Bromley	26	11	20	2	11	6	6	56	9.33
Chatham	12	10	12	6	8	9	10	55	9.16
Folkestone	14	2	11	3	3	4	1	24	4
Independent	4	3	3	1	1	4	1	13	2.16
Sandown Park	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	5	0.83
SASA	28	19	7	22	10	13	15	86	14.33
Snowtrax	66	41	27	40	30	36	60	234	39
Surbiton High	44	30	35	13	15	8	11	112	18.66
	300	194	178	126	130	119	150	897	149.5
Region	Total Competitors	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Av Racers
SSS	300	194	178	126	130	119	150		149.5
L&SERSA	153	72	104	69	76	61			80.25
ERSA	357	153	188	145	162	126	109	97	140

5. Communications officer's report

Mary Calvert presented the following report.

Races There have been a total of 897 racer entries this year which is a 12% increase on 2013 and a 50% increase on 2011 (the previous low point for entries). The average number of racers per race was 150.

The first 2 races had almost too many entrants (194 and 178). We tried to stick to the previous year's format but heavy rain and lack of time meant that the team races were curtailed. Subsequently (via email to the "info" list), we asked the

racers, parents and clubs to give feedback on the team events and how they would like them to be run. Although we only had 36 responses, the majority were very definitely in favour of having the fun team races. As a result, for the remaining 4 races of the season, we held fun team races and no club team races.

The Club Team Championship was decided using the same system as the SSE CN Series. For the Under 11 event, a club's best 3 "stubbies" racers' times were summed. For the 16 & under and Open events, only "poles" racers were included and the best 4 in each category summed. The competition was much closer than in previous years – the Open being decided by one point at the last race.

If entry levels continue to be high, I would favour sticking to the current format of 3 x individual runs, individual head to head races (3 runs each) and fun teams. Time is tight, but it is possible.

I'm sure Brian will be thanking various people for their support later, but can I particularly thank everyone who has helped me in the hut – especially Thirza Speed, Tracey Clarkson, Nigel Vincent and Carolyn Dance who have helped even when it wasn't their club running the event.

Website I'm not aware of any issues with the website. The vast majority of entries have been made (including payment) this way – only ~6% being cash or cheque

6. Chairman's report

Brian Davies (Chairman) presented the following report for 2014.

This year was my first in the chair at Snowsport South and with possible changes likely to come as a result of Snowsport England re-organisation I deliberately avoided making any significant changes in the way the region runs. We have still focussed heavily on alpine racing; running a six race summer series and participating in the Tri Region event. Disappointingly we were unable to enter a team for the Inter Region as it was held in the middle of the exams and we could not get enough interest.

Starting with the summer series this was very successful with a significant number of racers attending. Highlights for me were the 194 entries for the Aldershot race, a superbly run Bowles race and a great end of season event at Snowtrax. The lowlights were the race at Bromley where timing issues blighted us during the individual timed slalom and the heavens opened during the dual slalom so we had to cut both events short and similar timing problems at one of the Southampton races. Because of the number of racers we also had to choose between team races and scratch team races and rightly or wrongly the majority decision was to go for scratch team races so we did and intend to do so next year. I must thank all those who helped make the series an overall success including all the volunteers who helped throughout the series, the parents who did all the driving and especially Salomon and Ski Bartletts for their support. The prizes at the end of series events were once again superb and well received by those who won them.

The region also chose to step in and take over the running of the Club National at Southampton this year. Although we held it very late in the season at the point that a lot of people headed off on holiday we had a reasonable number of racers and only made a small loss. It also did not help that the club championship had already been won by Pendle at the Welwyn race so we did not benefit from any uplift there. The race could not have taken place without the enthusiasm and hard work of Angela and Matt Williams so we are very grateful to them for making the race a success. Thanks must also go to Nigel Greenfield from Ski Bitz for his support of the event.

In terms of the regional squad, as I said earlier we did not enter a team for the inter region race due to lack of numbers but I am hopeful we will have sufficient racers at the Inter Region in Pendle this year to pull together a team. We did participate in the Tri Region and our A team were unlucky not to have beaten the overall winners in the semi-final so ended up third overall which was an excellent achievement. I was a bit disappointed with the number of people interested in taking part but I think this was down to communication rather than lack of interest. The organising region wanted to enforce the first named club's first named region rule and while the other two regions did not agree it was a bit late to change things so we went with it for this year and I had to point this out in the invitation. I believe a number of newer parents thought this meant that everyone had to be registered with SSE which is not the case but it did stop them from putting names forward.

Before we go on to the election of the new committee I would like to thank Matt Williams for having agreed to step in to the secretary role last year at the AGM. He has agreed to stay on the committee to represent SASA but is standing down as secretary. My thanks to Matt for his help over the year.

One thing I would like to change is club representation on the committee. I am not proposing any formal changes ahead of any changes that come about from discussions with SSE but I would like to see representation from each of the key clubs on the committee. If no club representatives step forward at the AGM I will send a note out to the regional clubs asking for nominations.

Following Brian's report and partly as a follow up to problems of representation in team events, the issue of "first named club" was raised by several clubs – particularly SASA and Snowtrax. The meeting felt strongly that a racer should be able to name different clubs on the indoor and outdoor BARTS lists. (Currently, the same club appears as first named on both lists.) Any racer training at Hemel is obliged to give Hemel as their primary club. This means that at events such as the All England Teams, Inter-regional teams and Tri-regional teams the racer is only able to race for Hemel or ERSA. At the All England event in 2014, SASA had sufficient racers present to field a team (and these racers were not selected for the Hemel team) but the team could not be entered because the racers' first named club was Hemel. Tim Fawke agreed to look into this problem. He pointed out that any changes would need to be agreed with SSW and SSS – who do not have the problem.

7. Election of new committee

The 2014 committee stood down. The following committee was proposed en bloc by Darren Speed (ASRC) and Seconded by John Calvert (ASSC). It was unanimously voted in by all the clubs present.

Chairman	Brian Davies
Vice Chairman	David Ross
Treasurer	Nigel Vincent
Communications officer	Peter Calvert
Secretary	Mary Calvert

Additionally, Matt Williams agreed to stay on in a non-executive role as SASA representative and to coordinate the regional CN event at Southampton. Peter Davies will remain as Social Media Manager for the region.

8. Any other business

a) **Tim Fawke** reported on the SSE governance review which had been approved at the SSE AGM in November and voted in by the SSE Board at their meeting last week. SSE will be sending out invitations to Regional Chairs to attend a meeting on 17 January where they will be given an opportunity to give feedback on the proposed changes. The main drive behind the changes is that SSE wants the Regions to be more accountable for the money which they receive from SSE. Some of the points he made were:

- SSE wants to see a broader delivery of snowsports. This will be through initiatives such as GoSkiGoBoard and GoRace. It also means more input into other disciplines eg Freestyle and Nordic.
- Consideration will be given to standardising the names of the regions.
- SSE are in the process of appointing new Directors to the Board. These are from candidates from inside and outside snowsports. In the new year, they will consider appointing a director from the membership to enable better feedback to take place from members.
- The voting rights of clubs and individual members have not yet been clarified. A general letter will go out by 6 December outlining the next steps – but these will not be effective until the next AGM. The organisation needs to be more commercial and needs to move towards one member one vote.
- There are plans to restructure the Key Committees of SSE. For Alpine, it is proposed that ARC and ROTP merge. Lloyd Jenkins will be giving a presentation on this to the SSE board in January. The Schools/Youth committee will be changing slightly and be renamed Youth and Development. In the future, the Coaching committee will include a director on its technical panel to help provide governance.
- The current Alpine Squad is well managed but there are concerns that the Dry Slope Squad has not been adequately managed. There was strong support from several of those present at the meeting that this squad should continue and that additional help should be provided if necessary. Tim reported that SSE were looking into this.

- A whole sport plan is given to SSE by Sport England. The development team at SSE is the delivery vehicle for this to be passed down to the regions. Sport England funding to SSE is £1.5million. Of this, £1.3million is for mass participation and £0.2million for elite training.

b) Summer Race League

The provisional dates were agreed as:

Sunday 26 April – Snowtrax

Saturday 9 May – tbc (possibly Welwyn or Aldershot)

Saturday/Sunday 23/24 May – tbc (possibly Welwyn or Aldershot)

Saturday 6 June - Southampton (this is the day before the regional CN at Southampton)

Sunday 5 July - Bowles

Saturday 26 September - Snowtrax

The slope at Southampton have expressed an interest in organising onsite camping for the weekend and running a BBQ on the Saturday evening. Mary Calvert suggested that it might be an opportunity to stage a freestyle or roller ski fun/"try out" event on that evening.

c) Nigel Vincent asked if there was to be a **winter league**. Brian Davies said there would not be one as such. Aldershot would be likely to hold a club race just before the start of the season which would be opened up to other clubs from the region.

d) Nigel Vincent pointed out that the extra funding which the region had received from the closure of Southampton Alpine Club should be used within 2 years. It could be used for equipment and Matt Williams emphasised the need to have robust timing gear available particularly for the CN event.

e) Matt Williams reported that the TD at last summer's regional CN had recommended that there be a level one officials course in the region. Tim Fawke said that these would be available online and could be coordinated by the region.

f) Nigel Greenfield offered to sponsor the regional CN at Southampton through SkiBitz and to course set for it.

g) Nigel Greenfield said that he had been approached by LSERSA (Keith Evans) to run a joint training camp at Landgraaf 13 – 17 April 2015. The details will be circulated soon and will be available to put up on the regional website

h) Peter Calvert said that he would be developing the website over the winter. He asked what the meeting felt about the option of racers being able to enter without specifically logging in. This would mean anyone could enter anyone as long as they paid. After some discussion, it was agreed that this would be fine.

There were no further points raised and the **meeting was closed**.