

Snowsport England

Minutes: Chairs, SSE Regions

Tuesday 24th May 7.00 – 8.30pm by conference call

Attendees

Rob Joyce (RJ)	North East (NESA)
Stuart Robertson (SR)	South West (SWSA)
Brian Davies (BD)	Snowsport South (SSS)
Stephen Metheringham (SM)	Eastern Region (ERSA)
Bernard Wright (BW)	Eastern Regions (ERSA)
Bryan Thomas (BT)	On behalf of Central England (CESA)
Jeremy Eaton (JE)	SSE Chair
Tim Fawke (TF)	SSE CEO
Chris Shelley (CS)	SSE Members Director
Will McGlynn (WM)	SSE Participation & Regions Lead

Apologies

Andy Proudlove (AP)	London and South East (LSERSA)
David Henery (DH)	Yorkshire (YSF)
Karen Conde (KC)	Central England (CESA)

TF welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced all the people on the call and thanked them for giving up their time and joining the conference call.

Matters arising from previous minutes

1) Sport England – Towards an Active Nation Strategy & 2017 – 2021 Funding Application

TF updated the Chairs on the latest information regarding the upcoming funding submission to Sport England. The full strategy can be found on the following link

<https://www.sportengland.org/media/10554/sport-england-towards-an-active-nation.pdf>

The key points are:

At the heart is how publically funded sport can work better for the tax payer, benefitting people across the country and is built around the following outcomes which success of the strategy will be measured on:

- Physical well-being
- Mental well-being
- Individual development
- Social economic development
- Economic development

Recognising the need for sport to attract and programmes tailored for people from the following under-represented groups:

- Women and girls
- People from lower socio-economic groups
- Older people
- Disabled people
- People from particular ethnic groups
- Those with long-term health conditions

Maximising sporting success at home and internationally

- Get more people from every background regularly and meaningfully involved in sport to deliver a more productive, sustainable and responsible sport sector

With all the above in mind and underpinning any shaping of our application the following key points need to be considered:

1. 25% of Sport England budget for the next 4 years will be focussed on getting the inactive active (triple the current amount)
2. 80% of funding will be awarded to deliver Sport England outcomes (listed above). 20% will be awarded to test new ideas.
3. Sport England will not however compromise on basic standards of governance that will be required to receive public funding
4. Sport England will collaborate and fund where there is a genuine common purpose (linked to an organisations strategy and aims)
5. Investment decisions will be made on demonstrating how we can influence the following behavioural changes - Tackling inactivity - Creating regular activity - Helping those with a resilient habit stay that way

Sport England will set its budget on the following 7 investment programmes:

1. Tackling Inactivity - 13%.
2. Children and young people - 17%
3. Volunteering - a dual benefit - 3%
4. Taking Sport and inactivity to mass market - 6%
5. Supporting sport's core market (including talent) - 29%
6. Local delivery - 16%
7. Facilities - 16%

Over the next few weeks we have further meetings which will help clarify what the strategy will mean for NGB's. We will also be receiving a NGB guidance document from Sport England in July and based on this we will be putting our recommendations to the SSE board of what areas we will be putting in a submission for. Any areas we are bidding for will need to align with the SSE strategy which we are also updating. The funding submission has to be the priority over the next few months until we submit in September. So we will have to do less in other areas over this period of time so please be understand with all staff. We will however need to engage with the committees and regions as we develop our submission and your help in this is much appreciated.

2) Regions update – WM gave a brief overview on the current state of play in Regions on engagement and delivery of plans

- All regions received their £600 core funding in February 2016. Plans were submitted and approved by 4 regions (ERSA, CESA, NESA, SSS). These regions will receive their allocated secondary funds at the end of June following their engagement with their Snowport Development Officer and delivery of their 2016 plan.
- Of the 4 regions, there is great work happening in engaging new disciplines and those linking well with the facilities in their region are reaping the benefits with increased competition entries and better relations. There have been some logistical challenges which have delayed some activity plans, however these activities have been pencilled in for later this year.
- Even without a plan in place, activity is still informally happening via clubs at LSERSA (London Schools Race), SWSA (Torquay Schools Race) or by the YSF (Yorkshire Championships).

- There are challenges with facilities in LSERSA, following the closure of Bromley, Brentwood is becoming an important hub. However, SSE has helped keep Gosling open, it is shortly being taken over by GLL Leisure and in the Meantime being managed by Mike Danbury.
- [Updated since call] As discussed, we are looking to try and get the NW region up running again, Mike Frith is still in agreement for a chair and there is a proposed committee in place. SSE are to push for remaining committee positions at the SSE Slopestyle Championships and at the Stoke GBR weekend.
- In 2017, areas where a region is not actively functioning and submitting a plan, we will look at other routes to make sure activity is still supported.

3) Regional Feedback and Ideas for 2017

- **NESA & SWSA Comments**
 - a. Difficult to convert the plans into reason 12 months in Advance.
 - b. Emphasis should be on justification and outcomes, with the review process determining the success of the plan. Funding would then be based on this premise influencing what we get next year.
 - c. Could there be a loose plan to submit against a list of outcomes each region should be trying to achieve.
- **ERSA**
 - a. SSE looking at regions to do a little bit more to spread disciplines around, so it is a regions responsibility to balance what is in any plan vs what is realistic to achieve.
 - b. As a region we think we should be pushing for new events to grow the membership and reach outside of the current snowsport community/normal audience.
 - c. Would be good if SSE can incentivise this output against year on year race entries and club membership growth.
 - d. There is room for SSE to be more prescriptive with plans and areas they would like each region to be working on.
- **Snowsport South**
 - a. Element of business as usual, the region is essentially self-funded through races.
 - b. Expect a region to have the ideas to take to SSE to get the funding for this.
 - c. If SSE could provide feedback such as “there’s a snowboarding lack in your area” or we “need to target more females” this would be really useful guidelines.
 - d. The concern is that with the current process, sometimes we need some capital cost to get events down.
- **General Feedback**
 - a. All chairs in agreement that more support is needed on the participation side. A Regions’ speciality isn’t about bringing new people in, but bringing the pathway to life after new people have taken up the sport.
 - b. A clear spreadsheet that shows the registered clubs against the region with membership numbers in them would be good. SSE will investigate this.
 - c. A suggestion to take Dry Slope Ambassadors a step further to involve Coaches as well as Athletes – Alex Reid could be a great example of this.

4) Future Timelines & Meetings

- a. WM to meet with SM and SR (somewhere in the Midlands) to draft up 2017 plan template and timings by the start of July.
 - a. This is aimed to then be finalised and communicated to Regions in August ahead of next call.
- b. WM to circulate dates in November for face-to-face meeting in Loughborough.
- c. Once meeting with SM and SR has taken place, WM to circulate documentation and dates for a conference call to run through the plan process with all chairs.

5) AOB

- a. TF provided an update on ESSKIA relations. A meeting has taken place between Mark Vernon (ESSKIA Chair) and SSE. Agreed to work together to build a document detailing a schools pathway, and where ESSKIA fits into it. Our aims of developing & growing school skiing are shared and we will work to align both organisations schools memberships.
- b. Discussion around problems with Snow Facilities and rising costs were discussed along with the trend of clubs and regions travelling across to Laandgraaf as it provides better value.
- c. Regional Welfare Officers were discussed:
 - a. General consensus that all regions tend to use Club Welfare Officers, with ERSA, SWSA and NESA also having a Regional Welfare Officer for events the region itself runs.
- d. ERSA can make documents publically available to other regions following their official's course last month – not perfect but ERSA is working with Ryan Grewcock (SSE Workforce Lead) to develop this.
- e. BW asked for responses to ERSA committee questions sent through aside from this meeting.
- f. TF updated Chairs on Board Director Applications. Application window closed on May 23, with interviews due in June and early July. The calibre of people involved in the sport and outside the sport was second to none and an announcement will follow when appointments are made.
- g. Chairs agreed to AP suggestion of a Facebook group for Regional chairs to network, discuss and aid communication from SSE in limiting amount/length of e-mail updates.
- h. SSE to clarify their support for regions in the form of participation.

Next Meeting Dates proposed for August (Conference Call) and November (Annual Chairs Day)

Amendments: Andy Proudlove sent his apologies via a call with WM for his attendance at the meeting the morning after the call which has formed part of the LSERSA update in minute Item 3.