



Spring Coaches Meeting 2014

MINUTES

BC Coach Spring Meetings

Kamloops: May 1-2, 2014

Attendees – Gordie Bowles, Bruce Goldsmid, Bruce Holliday, Justine Parent, Hugh MacNaught, Kathy Stahr, Jordan Williams, Rod Timm, Derek Trussler, Wade Christie, Jorgen Anderson, Trevor Haaheim, Phil Patterson, Drew Hetherington, Johnny Crichton, Bill Rublee, Gregor Druzina, Piero Cicalese, Chris Campbell, John Armstrong, Montana Molyneux, Helmut Spiegl, Tamara Schaupp, Greg Burpee, Kelly Blair, Martin Tichy, Rob Boyd, Sead Causevic, John Trimmer, Jon Blair, Alice Muirhead, Rob Lahti, Raul Anguita, Nick Cooper, Brodie Seger, Dominic Unterberger

1. Club Updates:

- a. **Grouse (Sead, Tamara):** The club pulled together for two great races this season: Tye Cup and FIS Spring Series SL. Working on improving accountabilities @ board and committee vs staff lead.
- b. **VST (Martin, Greg):** A successful third year for VST. Getting better and better; thanks to all for collaboration during the season.
- c. **Sun Peaks (Montana, Bill):** A good season for the club. The club is currently seeking a program director.
- d. **Mt Washington (John Trimmer):** We had no snow this year; was very difficult. But we pulled through and had some good results.
- e. **Hemlock (Kelly):** Club hosted the BC Games this season.
- f. **Silver Star (John Armstrong):** Good growth in the EL programs. The biggest news for us is the launching of a snowsports academy, supported by the local school district (45 entered so far).
- g. **Seymour (Rob):** We had a serious lack of snow but some great interaction with the VST was positive for our racers.
- h. **WMSC (Jordan, Rob, Drew):** Rob: Great season, with some snow challenges and an ever-prominent juggling of personal demands of parents. Jordan: it's great to be part of a strong province. Drew: Great year for the U12 program, the Big White Inter-Zone race was a highlight.
- i. **Cypress (Raul):** Challenging snow year. But training in Whistler was very positive and we had a great atmosphere with our coaches.
- j. **Big White (Trevor, Derek, Wade):** Trevor: Great year for snow and training. Younger kids benefitted. The U12 Inter Zone was excellent and we'd like to host again. Overall a good year for the club. Derek: Some bad luck with injuries. There is a serious lack of numbers coming up through U16 which is a concern. Wade: Some injuries as well with our group but a good year. Highlight was the new track at Purden; a quality hill.
- k. **Apex (Jorgen):** **Our numbers are stable.** Focus for us is getting more kids into the EL programs. We had good conditions and our highlight was the U16 Can-Ams races.
- l. **Black Dogs (Piero):** **Piero introduced himself and program.** We're from Lake Louise, with 80 kids primarily younger from 4-8 years old. We have a great relationship with the mountain and look forward to working with BC clubs.0



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- m. **Kimberley (Jon):** The highlight for us was the FIS speed camp and races. Good for the club to have these races for exposure.
 - n. **Windermere (Helmut):** Great snow as always. We acted as the East Kootenay FIS program with good talent. The EL program is starting to grow.
 - o. **Red Mountain (Phil):** We lost a FIS race and a zone race due to lack of snow, but it was a good year for the club. We had a FIS team of four. Club also has a water plan for the T-Bar and this is looking very good for next season.
 - p. **Prince George (Alice, Chris):** Chris: The U16 Provincials was a real challenge for the club but it was a great year for us. Alice: Rained in December. We had a lot of racing, too much.
 - q. **Fernie (Rod):** All is good.
 - r. **Revelstoke (Gregor):** <Not present during introductions>
2. **Goals for this meeting:** to recap last season and plan ahead for next season; to set the foundation for the calendar (to be firmed up at Fall meeting)
3. **Review of State of Affairs (membership trends and retention):** Gordie reviewed the FIS Attrition Report (page 6) first drafted in October 2013 and intended to be a fluid document as we check off areas of progress each year. **ACTION: Justine** to look up birth rates in BC for specific years of birth; and the gap from U10 to U12. Keven conducted an “exit survey” asking athletes why they stopped ski racing.
4. **BC Club Points System:** open discussion about scoring for the “Club Points System” (results presented are CONFIDENTIAL at this point). It was agreed that the concept is good and this concept will be adopted at the provincial and zone level. **ACTION: all head coaches at the meeting** to take the idea back to their zone and discuss the best zone usage. **ACTION: Gordie** to talk to Keven about including FIS kids in the Club Points System (unlikely that FIS points can be included in the formula). **ACTION: Gordie** will send links to Club Points System scoring by email to be tested in the zones (via Zone Chair) and feedback sent back to Gordie
5. **Provincial Open Series:** discussion about an open race series (for U16, U18 and U21+); questions arose regarding awards & medals – details to be worked out later. **ACTION: coaches in the room** agreed unanimously on the concept of a Provincial Open Series, further discussion required on day two of these meetings. BC Alpine will adopt rules for the series, including equipment. **ACTION: Gordie** to put together program rules and structure, present at Fall Coach Meetings.
6. **FIS Super Series:** Bruce G. gave an overview of the proposed series – trying to identify 3 races per year that would include Americans (PNSA and Rocky), BC and Alberta to increase numbers and level of competition. The idea is to formalize and plan together early so as not to create conflicting schedules. When calendar comes out in June we will have to apply to FIS for double quota. Questions arose regarding “Elite Passes” in the US and CWSAA passes in BC and Alberta to keep costs down. **ACTION: Bruce G/BC Alpine** will negotiate lift ticket prices for FIS events prior to



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awarding an event AND will work with Can West to see about the possibility of 2nd year U16 all area passes in the future.

7. **Calendar Discussion:** ACA has been trying to bring the U16 National Championships back, but we will continue to focus on Western Can-Ams, not a national U16 event. **ACTION: Gordie** will look into dual ROC/Venue at U16 and FIS races in order to successfully manage higher participant numbers (250+). There were lengthy discussions regarding the 2014/15 event calendar. **ACTION: Gordie and Bruce** will take all the decisions back and enter the events on the BC Alpine online calendar. **ACTION: Gordie** will ask Ontario and Quebec about Feb 24 to Mar 1 for U18 Nationals. **ACTION: Gordie** will look into the idea of hosting a super combined race attached to the Kimberley FIS races.
8. **BC Ski Team Update:** Athletes Dominic Unterberger and Brodie Seger, along with head coach Johnny Crichton presented a report on the BC Team's 13/14 season. Five of six BC Team men have been invited to try out for the national development team next week – they will select a total of 5 guys and 5 girls (junior age athletes) from across Canada and will name the development team on May 15th. **ACTION: Gordie** will name the BC Ski Team Training Group after May 15th (by May 20th) following the naming of ACA's development team. **NOTE: TOP 5 HPP MEN NAMED PRESENTED AS BCST INVITEES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS TIME UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF SELECTION FOR THE BC SKI TEAM TRAINING GROUP.**
9. **Descente:** Bruce handed out free stealth tops to all the head coaches for distribution at their clubs. **ACTION: everyone who took some of the free stealth tops** needs to email Monty at Descente monty@descente.ca to say thanks!
10. **High Performance Program:** Gordie introduced plans for the 2014/15 HPP including four projects (Talent ID in Whistler, Fitness Camp in Fernie, Ski Camp in South America and Summer Super Camp in Whistler) **ACTION: Gordie** will announce dates, costs, etc. as soon as available. There will LIKELY be 9 boys and 7 girls named to the HPP. **ACTION: Andrew Lambert** will work with club coaches on dryland programs for any HPP athletes in their clubs. Andrew also plans to revise the field test protocols, standards and targets by age – he welcomes any feedback or suggestions. **ACTION: Gordie** will announce the final HPP group by May 20th and will send the spreadsheet used for selection to Gregor. Gregor stated he plans to appeal on behalf of Revelstoke for HPP and BC Team selection.
11. **Talent ID Camp:** it was a big success, but there were many communication challenges with this project, and a lot of post-selection appeals that lead to expanded numbers. **ACTION: EVERYONE** who receives an email from Gordie WILL FORWARD IT to the appropriate party, whether it is the designated coach, the family of the athlete, or both. **ACTION: Gordie** will communicate directly with the family (athlete) once they have registered, paid online and provided an email address (part of the online payment process). **ACTION: Gordie (BC Alpine)** will create a live link to a page where current and updated camp information/details will be available for all registered athletes to access.



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- 12. General Communication: ACTION: all emails from Gordie and Justine** will be directed to the intended coach (U12, U14, U16, etc.) with a copy to the Head Coach/Program Director. **ACTION: all coaches** to review and update the club admin and club listings to ensure that BCA is communicating with the appropriate person (Timberland club has Sandra Campbell listed; this is nearly 10 year out of date). **ACTION: Gordie and Justine** will communicate directly with the age specific coaches in the province and attempt to cc the Head Coaches on those discussions.
- 13. Snow Stars Review and Update:** Justine asked the coaches for their opinions on the revamped Snow Stars program and why it hasn't taken off as well as they expected in year one. All agreed it's an excellent tool, but identified a few challenges:
- website launched a little too late for the first season
 - coaches need more time to learn and implement it
 - entry level coaches need more guidance from head coaches on how to use it effectively
 - need to re-introduce it to the coaches and continue driving it
 - there is a lot of detail in each level – possibly break the levels down even more
 - first year was an adjustment period, keep educating new coaches and they will find it useful
- 14. Academies, Mentoring and Licensing:** Justine outlined the plan for Academies and Pro-D Club Visits for next season (page 36). **ACTION: Justine** will put a tentative schedule together for presentation at the fall meetings, to be firmed up at that time. **ACTION: Justine** will look into possible sources of funding (i.e. grants) to help with the purchase of safety nets (re: shortage at Revelstoke). **ACTION: everyone's** homework over the summer is to let Justine know what they need from her (i.e. special licensing events for coaches). **ACTION: Justine** will find out if NCCP courses automatically count for licensing credits. **ACTION: Justine** will look into coach access to online speed module. **ACTION: Justine** will reintroduce the \$50 incentive (per certification) to coaches who mentor, evaluate and certify their coaches.
- 15. Events Discussion – Bid Process:** there will be four events up for hosting bids (2 Teck Open Events, U14 Provincials and U14 Can-Ams) – bid packages will be forwarded to clubs when all dates are confirmed. Some FIS events may also require bids. Parsons will be the speed race for the new Teck Open Series. **ACTION: Bruce G** will distribute the Event Hosting documents and selection process via bcalpine.com and as well emails to all Head Coach, Alpine Chair and Club President. **ACTION: Bruce** will talk to Nigel (WMSC) after dates are firmed and will book rooms and food for Parsons – 40 rooms (80 beds).
- 16. July Super Camp:** There are two pricing options were discussed with the coaches, which includes ALL except travel to/from Whistler and coaching costs. 102 have confirmed to-date. **ACTION: firm commitments are required by Friday, May 30th.**
- 17. Teck Open Series:** this new provincial race series will be open to U16 and up (FIS and non-FIS). **ACTION: Gordie** will draft a news release announcing the event structure. It must be packaged and explained clearly to parents and athletes. Only U16 PCC will oversee these events. Seeding will be



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worked out in October. **ACTION: BC Alpine** – the decision was made at the coach meeting to award medals (1, 2, 3) to the overall winners as well as to the top 3 U16's. Ribbons will be awarded to the overall 4th through 10th place finishers. Overall most improved will also receive a medal. **ACTION: Gordie and Bruce** will talk to Keven about points upload.

18. **QRS, PRS, national points, etc.:** seeding for U14 Provincials will be discipline-specific. **ACTION: Justine** will change what is currently stated in the QRS to reflect this. The “number of starts” rule will be more closely monitored and enforced going forward. U12 PCC is still needed though not used this past season; U16 PCC group was very effective this year – all PCC reps will be named in October. **ACTION: Gordie** will work with Christiane regarding Whistler Cup rules, eligibility and timing and inclusion of this info in the QRS. **ACTION: Trimmer and Armstrong** will do a comparison between PRS points and national points.
19. **Osisko Speed Camps:** 4 days prior to U16 Can-Ams at Apex (3-day camp with one day off); PLUS a 3-day speed camp prior to Kimberley Keurig Cup.
20. **Ski Cross:** Willie Raine has taken over for Dave Ellis as head of Ski Cross for Canada. ACA and Willy will be hosting a SX Camp in December in Alberta (likely Nakiska) and all BC U16's are eligible to attend. The camp will also include the SX qualifier for the Canada Winter Games.
21. **Canada Winter Games 2015:** BC Selection for alpine events will be determined by series points in the BC Teck Open Series. SX selection will be determined by the ACA camp (see previous point).
22. **Western Ski Cross Series:** Fernie, Big White and Lake Louise are interested in hosting a ski cross event, and possibly Prince George. **ACTION: Gordie** to discuss with Alberta Alpine the events and timing and create dialogue over the summer to determine the BC events and locations. **Gordie** to also discuss with to the North zone about hosting ski cross event.
23. **Codex Management and Training:** Bruce introduced Keven's idea to use only one codex per day per gender. All agree that ALL BC ALPINE zone races from here forward will include one codex per day. Consensus among coaches was to adopt this policy. **ACTION: Keven** will do a presentation on the subject in the fall, and will create an online tutorial to train race administrators.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm