

**Sk8scotland Board minutes
Sunday 27th February
Dundee Ice Arena**

Present:

Bryan Morrice	(BM)
Judy Clinton	(JC)
Lorele Mackie	(LM)
Simon Briggs	(SB)
Noel Grimshaw	(NG)
Erica Woollcombe	(EW)

1.11 Apologies

Archie Marshall (AM)

2.11 Minutes of previous meeting were approved

3.11 Matters arising

BM updated confirmed to the Board that a further meeting is being planned with Sport Scotland which would be attended by himself and AM. **(Action BM)**

Other matters are covered in the main agenda.

4.11 Agree any other business

It was agreed that the focus of this meeting should be on a strategic plan for Sk8scotland from 2011-2013.

All board members have submitted individual reports on their section for future consideration.

5.11 Finance Report.

BM explained there was a differential in the current financial account due to SAGE reports not yet returned.

All estimates are extremely fluid currently due to very busy transaction period, ie organising flights for officials travelling to Trophy D'Ecosse.

The NISA account holds £22,145 for Sk8scotland which can be made available for future outgoings.

A major investment in future would be for IJS equipment, or to investigate newer touch screen systems which may reduce costs (currently £15,000)

Bryan also mentioned administration costs in our election year of £1500.

A concern over extra insurance cover for Trophy d'Ecosse has led Bryan to find an extremely good deal from an independent broker, as opposed to Towergate., £50- £100 more rather than £3000.

A resulting consequence is to perhaps remind synchro teams to check their own insurance, as Sk8scotland can only cover its own losses due to cancellation etc. and are not liable for other losses. **(Action JC – agreed to include paragraph on this matter in future Announcements)**

An application has been submitted to the ISU for development funding for the Trohpy D'Ecosse. The event will also attract funding through the development camp immediately following the competition.

6.11 Strategic Plan - Events strategy, including Scottish Championships.

The current availability of ice time leaves three rinks only without a curling season, Aberdeen, Murrayfield and Dumfries.

BM explained that the redevelopment in Dumfries, as well as their previous contribution to successful competitions, makes Dumfries a natural choice for Sk8scotland events but other venues must also be considered.

Figure: **(Action SB)**

Simon has several proposals in mind for Scottish Championship competitions.

Further types of events are being considered.

A Novice/Junior/Senior championships is proposed for this August, with the venue to be decided between Dumfries, Dundee or Aberdeen.

Synchro: **(On Going Action JC and BM)**

The Trophy d'Ecosse is progressing well, with the closing date for entries, Friday 4th March. JC and BM have been extremely busy organising this very large event with a potentially huge response. This is Scotland's first Synchro International.

Dance: **(Action NG)**

There is no time to fix a date for a stand alone Scottish Dance Championships before the British Solo Ice Dance Championships in June. This will now be scheduled for 2012.

It would also be desirable to have a pre BSIDC workshop, possibly but not necessarily just for Scottish skaters.

No conclusion was reached about a dance event later on this year, unless possibly attached to an adult championships. **(Action LM and NG)**

Speed Skating: **(On Going Action AM)**

There are developments for speed skating currently with the transfer of NISA barrier pads from Nottingham to be stored in Dumfries. This will allow the progression of a short track development project, including a transfer from Ayr to newly refurbished Auchendarvie. Come and try sessions will be scheduled. Elise Christie will visit.

There is a proposed Short Track weekend club international for this autumn. There is currently little progress in Short Track elsewhere in Scotland. One solution might lie with the introduction of off ice skates. Simon was taking a course with the

company who developed the prototype. This could facilitate the introduction of Short Track to schools directly. This could also be a benefit to synchro teams short on ice time. Simon has a course in mind which would enable qualified Level One coaches to be paid for teaching off ice.

Adults:

LM proposed holding a Sk8scotland Adult Championships in early November prior to the British Championships.

An IJS seminar for adult skaters was also suggested.

7.11 Dumfries Service Level Agreement and potential for Regional Centre of Excellence- update

Having attended several meetings with rink management, sports development personnel and Dumfries Council, Bryan and Archie are hoping to construct a service level agreement which can potentially be used as a model for other rinks in future.

(Action BM & AM)

The current timetabling in the refurbished rink facility, allows for weekend competitions and workshops, as this is club time. The majority of public sessions are weekday and are used by schools also as PE lessons.

8.11 Scottish Coach Development Issues.

Mentoring:

Simon has suggested that the current format for mentoring coaches is under constant review.

There is a concern that there are not enough locally distributed Level 3 coaches to mentor Level 2 trainees throughout Scotland.

Recent discussions have developed with regard to the possibility of separate modules.

Mandatory Seminars:

Dissatisfaction has been expressed by many Scottish coaches about the travel and time constraints of annual mandatory seminars. There are no Scottish venues for Dance or Synchro seminars. Some coaches may have to attend three or at least two.

A suggestion has been put forward to consult Sk8scotland coaches during our events. **(Action SB)**

9.11 Sk8scotland Website Update

The Content Management System is now in place.

The board members will have their own passwords and will be able to access a user manual. **(Action All once information is delivered)**

LM would like to prepare a calendar of events for the web site, now with capacity to amend or update regularly. **(Action All to deliver information to LM)**

All British events will be posted, including any provisional forthcoming club/open competitions. **(Action LM once calendar up and running)**

10.11 Home Countries Forum- the board will communicate with nisa regarding the home countries forum. (Communication to be prepared and issued by JC)

11.11 NISA cup- Still under review and not taking place this year.

12.11 Rinks Update.

Magnum is due to close shortly and Auchenhavie is due to reopen following refurbishment.

13.11 Paralympic Ice Skating Project.

This project is still under development.

Sk8scotland has been asked if it would be prepared to work with the project team to organise a pilot event. The Board are keen to pursue this but will defer to NISA with regard to Association policies in the deliverability of such an event. **(NISA Communication JC)**

14.11 Any other business

Due to pressure of time and amount of business to cover a further meeting is set for 20th March at Murrayfield at 13:00 hrs at which time these minutes will be continued as one document.

**Sk8scotland Board minutes
Sunday 20th March
Murrayfield Ice Rink**

Present

BM
LM
SB
NG
JC

16.11 Apologies

AM
EW

17.11 Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

18.11 Matters arising

Sk8scotland, following consultation with the NISA board, would be interested in supporting a paralympic ice skating event. **(Ref. Communication Action JC)**

19.11 AOB Item noted

20.11 Finance update

BM gave the Board an update on the Trophy D'Ecosse financial situation. A full picture will be available and presented at the next meeting.

21.11 Communications with NISA Board

It was agreed that the Sk8scotland Board would offer direct Communications to the NISA Board for inclusion on their board agendas following recent communication between JC and Keith Horton regarding events and IJS in Scotland.

The first of these communications will include:

Scottish Championships
NISA Officials
Test Organising
NISA Policy Changes/Home Countries Forum
Paralympic Events

(Action JC)

With regard to the BITA email re Coaching – the Sk8scotland Board will wait for the NISA response before further discussion.

22.11 Strategic Plan 2011-2013 Continuing discussion form 27th Board

LM submitted a first class events and special projects strategy plan which will now form the basis of the overall 3-year strategy for Sk8scotland.

It is intended to include:

- Championship events
- Guidance and support to clubs and regional event organisers delivering IJS
- Elite and Development level camps and seminars
- A general open day programme on ijs, coaching, and all aspects of figure skating in today's world.

The Board will purchase IJS equipment and aim to deliver a full and partial events programme per the NISA event policies.

24.11 AOB

It was agreed to donate £100 to Ayrshire fliers in recognition of their donation of barrier pads to sk8scotland / Dumfries.

25.11 Next meeting

The next meeting will be the AGM and take place on May 22nd at 12:00 noon to be followed by an Open Day Event where all Scottish members will be welcome along with parents and interested parties. There will be informative and interactive seminars on IJS and as mentioned above – figure skating in the world the today
(Action SB and BM)

AGM 22nd May 12:00 - open day follows with follow – full details will be posted on the website.