

Board Meeting – Covid -19 Communications

Friday 23rd October 2020 – Online via Zoom

Action Note

Directors: Brian Shackleton (President & Chair); Jonathan Binny; Nigel Clark; Jo Dytch; Lucy Fraser; Steve Gough; Ron Neville; Ron Neville; Nigel Clark; Alistair Todd; Steve Gough

CEO & Company Secretary: Stuart Younie.

Observers: Alistair Todd (Associate for Snowsports Touring),

Apologies - Jennifer Cardno

Key points and note of actions

Actions from meeting on 18th September

- All agreed actions were completed.
- SY provided update on work being undertaken by NGO's and Govt in relation to tourism management following strategic summit meeting and raised concerns that recreational organisations have not been involved in the working groups following the initial meeting. SY will continued to monitor developments and identify opportunities to re-engage in the work.

Items for discussion

1. Covid- 19 Communications

1.1. First Ministers announcement & letter

No response to letter from First Minister.

Action:

- Direct email communication to be sent out from BS and SY early next week to update members on action which had been taken to date. Additional communication specifically to clubs to follow.

1.2. Cancellation of courses

Night Nav courses in the Campsies and Pentlands cancelled due to new restrictions. 36 members affected and all will be sent a 50th pin badge and have first option on rebooking on a future course.

1.3. Research Report Covid – 19 and Mountain Sports

Summary paper circulated and full report now available on the MtnScot website and has been shared with sportscotland and Active Scotland Division of Government

1.4. Further correspondence with the FM /Scot Govt

Latest document suggests exemptions for travelling for outdoor exercise is permitted, although request for minimal travel at levels 3 and 4. Note request for some exemptions for travel for young people to travel to participate in organised sport.

Action:

- SY & staff to review latest guidance document from Scot Govt, analyse implications for members and feedback a response to sportscotland which includes any comments from Directors.

1.5. #Thinkwinter

Discussions with ScotGovt on inclusion of mountain safety messaging as part of the Ready Scotland national winter safety campaign and possible inclusion of reference in FM national daily briefing.

2. Financial update

First 6 mths of this year are better than forecast due to strong performance with individual members and cost controls to limit expenditure. The FAG has agreed to retain a prudent approach to planning to year end based on a continued worst-case scenario with club income adjusted down to reflect drop in student members. This needs to be adjusted to reflect any changes in insurance income however is now looking like the out turn position will be closer to break even than budget.

3. Insurance update

3.1. Rebate

SY updated on discussions with Howdens, a rebate is still anticipated however Hiscox are looking at the type of formula which they will use to calculate this and the suggestion has been to base it on loss of income rather than a reduction of risk during lockdown.

3.2. Pubic Liability

Confirmed that should there be a material change in the level of risk as a result of adjusting the level of cover in the policy this would be grounds for reviewing the long-term agreement. Two options under discussion include the removal of indoor climbing from the policy with the potential to purchase cover for indoor climbing as a "bolt on" and a restructuring of the membership to offer different levels of cover. The latter option would be a significant piece of work.

Action: SY to continue discussions with Howdens to identify workable options and examine the impact of the year 2 increase on the budget for 2021-22.

4. AGM / EGM

4.1. Club question about reduction in fees

Query received from one club asking whether the board had considered a potential reduction in membership fees.

Action: SY to respond to the club query outlining the rationale as to why that is not being proposed.

