

J1 Nationals (Feb/Mar 2009)

Minutes of Meeting

Course Crew Chiefs

Jan. 24, 2009

Present: Gary Taylor(Chief of Race), John Benbow (Chief of Course), Boris Duff, Lockie Brown, Roger Tremblay, Ed Jones, Dave Moore, Natalie, Pereman (Chief of Equipment), Murray Wood (Chief of Gates), Andree Janyk (Chief of Slippers), Bob Amos, Karen Vagelatos, Gerry Longson, Phil Hunt, Diane Nelson, Bob Miller (Chief Dispatch).

The meeting was convened at 3:40 pm at the Whistler Mountain Ski Club, Whistler, B.C.

Introduction: Gary Taylor welcomed everyone and thanked them for their time.

Course Report: John Benbow reported the following:

1. A probe of the snow depth on the Dave Murray track has been done and excellent snow density currently exists. At this point in time, we are race ready.

2. The start locations are as follows:

SG: Top of Weasel - men and women (alt at the top of the tunnel)

GS: Top of Tunnel - men and women (no alt start)

SL: World Cup start - men and women - may be high road but pending conditions

SC: the slalom will be at the pumphouse on the World Cup ladies track (this is the IPC slalom start) or even lower at Boyd's Bump. To be determined.

3. **Crew Chiefs and Crew Sizes:** There will be 28 Crew Chiefs with smaller crews of 3 or 4 people. A list of signed up people was handed out and crew chiefs in attendance were asked to identify their crew members. Crew Chiefs

not at the meeting contact Pat. All list editing sent to Pat at pat@carneywaste.com please. Do this immediately. **Note:** There is no accommodation provided for this event so people with beds are a must.

4. **Ski Patrol:** Boris reported that he is organizing the necessary patrol staff from volunteers and a doctor. However **crew chiefs should notify him of anyone on their crews who is a nurse or doctor so he can speak to them about extra responsibilities.** Send names and emails to Boris who is at bmduff@moody.bc.ca.

5. **Feb 21/22:** Vanoc is putting up the A nets with slip screen at this time and we should have 20 to 25 people on **Feb 21 and 22** to help install one line of B systems to make the work load less at the start of the event. Please let John know asap who on your crews can help on this weekend. His email is jbenbow@telus.net. John will inform where and time the crew will meet.

6. **Feb 26:** The army shows up. First meeting will be at the **Beer Tent on the parking lot for the Creekside Market.**

7: **Vanoc:** They want to do a sign-up at the J1 event for those who have not registered yet for 2010. The time for this activity will be announced and it is being confirmed if training will be included. Benbow to confirm but it was suggested that either the Thurs or Fri morning of Feb 26 or 27.

Slipper Report: Andree asked what the duties of the team would be and it was confirmed they will work with the course setter to set the course.

Andree reported the importance of every Crew chief adopting and training all members to refrain from yelling at the slippers. She reported on data that confirms that the distraction from the job of slipping increases the chance of accidents to the slippers. Her recommendation is that all crews adopt the practice of using a bamboo to point to the area of attention that may differ from an initial direction that a slipper may have received at the start of their slip down the course.

John added that there will be 4 section bosses: Gerry Longson (Weasel to Fall-a-way); Dave Moore(Fall-a-way to top of Sewer); Roger Tremblay (Sewer to Powerline) and Willy Bassin (Powerline to Finish).

Doug Campbell will be John's assistant Chief of Course.

Equipment: Natalie reported that equipment will be distributed from the cans at the bottom of the Orange chair or where the soup tent was last year. She is not in charge of radios – Vanoc is.

Crews will be signed out a drill and gate key for which they are responsible for the duration of the event. You will get two batteries and can bring back uncharged ones to be replaced. Natalie and BC will be on duty there. During games time there will be a spot on the shelf for each crew chief.

Other distribution areas are Garb hut, Varnet Rd; Women's start (IPC)

It was noted that section chiefs will also need the same equipment.

Gary noted that the radios will likely be distributed as last year's world cup – a radio and charger for the duration and to be handed back at the end.

Gates: Murray reported that the crew is organized and gave the list of names to Pat. He asked the location of the panels and who is bringing them. Gary responded that ACA will supply the panels and gate poles via Dan Gallagher for gate poles and Chris Colpits for panels. Murray has a plan in place to ensure efficient placement of the panels.

Murray also asked that course crews ensure that they **DO NOT** make any calls to athletes whether or not they made a gate. This is particularly important in the slalom event. Athletes are to get direction **only from the gate judge** as to whether or not they passed through a gate or if they need to go back. Anyone else responding or directing confuses the athletes because they are trained to look for the gate judge's response.

National Team: Note that the National team will be training on the course from **Mar 23 to and including Mar 27**. They will be on the hill early and off by 10 am. We will have to work around this.

It is also anticipated that set up for the IPC will most likely start on the women's track on Mar. 3rd.

Volunteer Appreciation: As per our custom there will be a refreshment tent and on Mar. 1 there will be beef and bun night at 5pm (approx) for all workers. Other perks may be announced.

Other Information:

1. This event is considered a test event for snow making, grooming, radios and timing.
2. Slipping will be like World Cup for Super G. GS and SL to be discussed.
3. Load times: This will depend on the confirmation of start times by Swiss Timing but early loads will be at 6:30 am **via the Village Gondola**.
4. The gate judges will have a group of strong skiers that can work together as a team to help with course prep.
5. There will be 4 coordinators (Ron Hunter, Dave Shefly, Bob Miller and Brad Keates as an alternate or for relief). There will be two roaming coordinators and they will be Dave Oser and John McCucheon.
6. Bob Miller asked that once crews are built that she send them out to coordinators to help with their organization of things.
7. **Please Note:** Course Crew Chiefs should ensure that all their crew has a bed to sleep in. The ROC is not providing assistance to find beds for this race. Check your list over for crew who may not have beds. You may have to find an alternative.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.