

Minutes



Sport Commission - 010

Monday 26th January 2026, Online, 19.00-21.00

| Item | |
|------|--|
| 1 | <p>Welcome, introductions & apologies</p> <p>Apologies from Zosia Martin, Andrew Littlejohn, Colin Chisholm</p> <p>In attendance: Howard Perkins, Mark McGhee, Alastair Webb, Ian Fraser, Aaron Johnson, Lorna Breetzke</p> <p>HP started the meeting</p> |
| 2 | <p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>No declarations of interest.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Approval of previous minutes (3a) & review of actions (3b)</p> <p>Minutes from previous meeting were approved.</p> <p>Review of actions</p> <p>TF ran us through the review of action points with updates:</p> <p>TF: Action 8 - Good progress on recruiting trainees, more interest than there is capacity to train currently. New NEG coordinator leading a plan to get everyone trained. Long term view will save organisers money. HP asked if now there are more NEG will there be less issues. TF explained it is a step towards solving issues around NEG availability however the training does take time.</p> <p>HP: Action 8 does not need to stay on list but will be kept in background.</p> <p>TF: Action 9: Code of conduct graphic, ongoing</p> <p>TF: Action 10: Standing item will discuss later in meeting</p> <p>TF: Action 22: Clyde Cycle Park had very positive meeting with SC West on how to sustainably build the circuit, schedule, booking etc. Not at stage of being able to confirm race dates but progressing quickly. WLLC crit dates for summer youth and senior all in place for 2026. Dates allocated to midweek crits at other circuits to avoid clashes. FJ: Positive chat about CCP, difficulty remains with FCP as no community of clubs keen to work together to put of events and no council resources. Still needs work. Clyde feels enthusiastic for an adult and youth series this year, hopefully new officials and volunteers off the back of this. CCP is a standalone charity with lots of drive to see it succeed. HP asked whether this action still sat with CC. To be checked with CC, but suggestion is that Scottish Cycling support coordination and action to be revisited in 6 months.</p> <p>TF: Action 23: TF has shared data for discussion later in agenda. The events data set does not allow for more granular analysis of specific age groups in any discipline other than closed circuit. The annual licence holder participation data enables some of this, which AW has shared ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>TF: Action 26: TF has reached out to British Cycling for support on a “cancellation framework” but not heard back yet.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Staffing update – BC & SC</p> <p>TF: Gave updates to both SC and BC Staffing. Events Team changing again, Eilidh has left, Lucy is back, Ruth is leaving for 6 months secondment to G2026. FJ explained how the TdF roles will work with SC.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>Victoria (lead) has been in post now for a month, Sophie project coordinator also started (2 weeks ago), 2 additional roles currently out for advertisement. Victoria keen to get out and about may attend next sport commission meeting to share overview.</p> <p>TF: Chloe (BC officials) has changed roles, also recruiting permanent WFO. There are some appointment delays for British Series events, and it is anticipated that developments that had been progressing well may be impacted.</p> <p>HP: Asked that a question for Victoria when she attends the next meeting will likely be how the social impact of the TdF will be measured?</p> |
| 5 | <p>BC Project Competition</p> <p>FJ: Explained the new BC competition framework and where that sits for SC, with consistency across the disciplines. Timeline: Test events for Discover, Engage and Challenge will take place this summer with the plan being to transfer to the new digital system for the Winter season, starting with the ,membership system, learning system, then event system.</p> <p>HP: How do the different levels relate to bike racing in Scotland? HP noted Scottish series events often aim to cater for grassroots riders and provide appropriate competition for those looking to progress to British and international level. FJ explained the new framework will allow events to include different levels of races alongside each other, for example a taster race alongside the Scottish series race. The new framework could provide more protection to discover and engage level races to ensure they remain truly grassroots, and should make it clearer what the requirements are for organising event at each level. Scottish Series event will likely sit in the Challenge tier, with Scottish Championships potentially sitting in Advance.</p> <p>AJ: Questioned if there will be sufficient training for organisers when it is out. FJ said it has been designed to be simpler and easier to use and training for organisers is expected late summer.</p> <p>HP: Asked whether a registration system for managing volunteers was being considered, as a major challenge within the sport. FJ confirmed it had been fed into the workgroups, however was unsure if it had made it past discussion and will enquire. HP noted it would be a missed opportunity if it wasn't implemented.</p> <p>FJ: Internal workgroups to focus on results and rankings and test events initially. External consultation is expected Feb-March, with a second draft of the competition framework including more info on impacts to affiliation etc. in spring.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Strategic Review Discussion</p> <p>2025 Q4 Data analysis</p> <p>TF: Gave update. Overall entry numbers are tracking in a good direction. Enduro, gravel and pump track data has been added manually where events have been registered on the BC system, backdated to 2023. HP asked what the impact was from these disciplines, and whether the picture would look different without them. TF noted the trend was the same but not as high without these disciplines. There was some discussion around the crossover between similar disciplines. TF explained that Gravel and Enduro regulations were added to the BC Handbook in 2025, and that ultimately the distinction in some cases comes from how organisers choose to market the event rather than the terrain itself.</p> <p>HP: Does the relative health of disciplines help inform where interventions will have most impact? TF: The data helps inform calendar compilation and conversations with event organisers.</p> <p>TF highlighted cyclocross had an increase in number of events, but riders per event had dropped. HP added that there is a max number of events that is financially viable for riders, families and organisers. AW asked if focused attention was needed in CX to raise number of events. TF noted there are adjustments being made to the 26-27 calendar led by the British Series, and discussions have been started with the SCX. Cyclocross could also benefit from the new BC competition structure,</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>however this year may be too soon to implement. Work is needed to consolidate events we have and grow participation to make events more viable, rather than create more events. The lack of British CX series next season was flagged as a concern, and this may reflect in the data. FJ noted that this years British Series had lower attendance than some SCX rounds and this could be an opportunity to focus on getting the Scottish calendar right.</p> <p>TF: Number of gravel events registered with SC has increased, along with the number of participants, helped predominantly by the Scottish Championships. Officials pool remains a limiting factor to encouraging more weekend Gravel events onto the calendar, but there is hope that the new competition structure will open up more opportunities. LB noted that Gravel events in the North region is attracting new individuals, not just more entries from the same audience.</p> <p>Action: TF to circulate another data set with Road separated out from TT and Circuit.</p> <p>TF: Numbers low in Pump Track but attracting an audience not seen at other SC events.</p> |
| 7 | <p>2026 Calendar update</p> <p>a) Comparison with 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2026 vs 2025 calendar compilation shows the number of event days are down in some disciplines, reflecting the SXC dropping from two to one day, and six to four events. Olympic TT and Senior Closed Circuit are remaining priority Scottish Championships to add to the calendar, however no organiser has come forward as yet. <p>AW: noted drop in number of events and asked whether SC were comfortable by the position vs 2025. TF noted that the calendar had been well received and it was felt it provided the right opportunities at the right time for domestic competitors. There are likely additions at grassroots level and this is a focus area, with a strategic approach to encourage activity where there are gaps, for example the off-road youth racing offer in the North East. There are very few weekends free of racing, with officials availability and field sizes key constraints for further expansion of the calendar. AW noted that the same number of weekends existed as when there were many more events on the calendar. Tarn reiterated the demand for racing had changed considerably, and capacity was more dictated by official availability and number of riders. FJ noted that the new competition framework may allow for more events at some levels without relying on officials, as whilst there has been progress supporting development of new officials, the training process takes time.</p> <p>b) Youth Circuit racing update</p> <p>TF confirmed 5 round Scottish Youth Circuit Series was in place with a couple of rounds confirming details, and Richard Moore Tuesday night series at West Lothian have decided dates. Momentum is growing for mid-week racing at Clyde Cycle Park with dates earmarked for when the circuit is up and running. FJ noted that YTOS opens for entries tomorrow, returning to a three day format.</p> <p>c) Remaining gaps being worked on</p> <p>Scottish Olympic TT Championship and Closed Circuit Championship yet to be confirmed. Some distance TT's not included on the calendar, however less of a priority to plug.</p> <p>d) Timeline for Winter 26/27 planning</p> <p>TF: conversations have already started around the CX calendar with the SCX following confirmation of the British CX Series. Track calendar is quite established so don't anticipate much change, however will need to wait for British Track dates to confirm</p> |
| 8 | <p>Preparations for Summer disciplines</p> <p>a) Cancellation framework (TBC)</p> |

| | |
|----|--|
| | <p>Waiting on feedback from Nigel (at BC) about what can be put together without SC/BC taking on risk. TF to update in due course.</p> <p>b) Online workshops</p> <p>TF introduced workshops being delivered to prepare for the summer season of events. General event organisation workshop pre-Christmas seemed to be well received. Plan to record sections to make available to organisers via the volunteer hub in due course. Next workshop is on Monday (2nd February) covering events on the highway, which will also be recorded. In MTB XC SC are working closely with organisers to help with courses and ensure consistency across the rounds.</p> <p>Workshops had also been run for Officials in Track and online for CX ahead of the Winter season. HP noted that a season debrief call with officials was planned with the SCX to also look ahead to next season.</p> <p>c) Officials conference</p> <p>TF highlighted Officials conference programme was included in the meeting pack and that it is an exciting schedule that should address some of the development .</p> <p>d) Equipment update</p> <p>TF noted there was kit in central store that need updating, as well as additional long sleeve lightweight hi-vis jackets to meet legislation for Class 3 Hi-vis on high speed roads (trousers are not required).</p> <p>AJ: Asked who would be enforcing these hi-vis requirements going forward. TF explained that ultimately event organisers have responsibility to provide volunteers with appropriate PPE and advise them. Commissaires would be made aware of the requirements and should work with organisers to ensure briefings are to standard. The hope is lightweight hi-vis will hopefully create less hassle than the thick long sleeve options.</p> <p>TF mentioned conversations are ongoing around electronic timing kit following Martin Harris wrapping up Pedal Motion. Analysis on previous and future usage being conducted, but SC do not anticipate increasing stock from 150 live chips.</p> <p>HP noted the increase in prices for MyLaps licences, and SCX are looking at other options. LB noted the North region are struggling to justify keeping their timing kit (mylaps) and discussions were ongoing around sharing a stock with Grampian, and suggested there could be scope to work with CX (North don't use the kit in winter).</p> <p>e) Communications</p> <p>Due to time, this item was not discussed.</p> <p>Action: All to feedback on suggested communications to prepare the community for the upcoming season.</p> |
| 9 | <p>RSDf update</p> <p>HP asked how much money is left in each pot? FJ informed everyone on how much was left in each pot approximately and told group three applications would be circulated for approval following the meeting.</p> |
| 10 | <p>Culture of the sport</p> <p>HP: This is a standing agenda item. Asked if we were all ok with this and if we going in the right direction? To help manage time of meeting HP asked if there were any specific concerns?</p> <p>No concerns from group.</p> |

| | |
|----|---|
| 11 | <p>Any other business</p> <p>AW referred to previous discussion around substantiate challenges and asked how this would be fed back to the SC Board. FJ explained that challenges would be escalated for discussion at D&P Committee, along with updates on XC, Scotia Series and Officials.</p> |
| 12 | <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>HP wraps up meeting and group agree on 27th April for next meeting</p> |