**BUCS Snowsports Dome Series – Scottish Qualifier/Finals Update**

**Due to the recent closure of Snow Factor (Braehead), BUCS have been exploring options for hosting the Scottish Regional Qualifier of the Snowsports Dome Series, ahead of the Finals in Milton Keynes on Wednesday 15th March 2023. Due to several issues with potential venues, we have taken the decision to merge the Scottish Regional Qualifier into the Finals.**

The closure of Snow Factor in Scotland left the below list as potential venues to host the regional event:

Chill Factore (Manchester)

Snozone Yorkshire (Castleford)

SnowDome (Tamworth)

Snozone Milton Keynes

The Snow Centre (Hemel Hempstead)

**Chill Factore (Manchester)**

As one of the two Northern venues, we approached Chill Factore with details of what would be required and the potential dates the event would take place. Unfortunately, Chill Factore would have to split the race and freestyle disciplines into two separate days, which, due to venue availability, could not be consecutive, as the freestyle features would need time to set. This resulted in Chill Factore only being able to offer 2-9pm on 22nd March (later than the date for Finals), for the race discipline only.

**Snozone Yorkshire (Castleford)**

Conversations with Snozone Yorkshire were progressing well, as they confirmed they would be able to accommodate both race and freestyle in one day. However, they were only able to offer half of the slope for the full day, which would result in the competition taking much longer and being difficult to fit in. The price quoted was also extremely high for a half slope hire.

**SnowDome (Tamworth)**

Unfortunately, SnowDome does not have the capacity to host freestyle and race on the same day, which left the same issue as with Chill Factore.

**Snozone Milton Keynes**

This venue has hosted both the ‘Midlands & South’ and ‘North’ qualifiers this season. The issue with this is that we cannot find a time setter who can attend alternative dates, and staff from the Event Management Group are also unable to attend this date. We also feel that asking institutions from Scotland to travel to Milton Keynes twice in two weeks is problematic, due to the increased costs, and that this will not have been budgeted for at the start of the academic year.

**The Snow Centre (Hemel Hempstead)**

This venue is further south than the others, meaning even further to travel for Scottish institutions. This would also cause the same issue of travelling a long way twice in the space of a few weeks.

**Further Options**

In order to reduce travel, and to help with finances for all parties involved, the option we have decided to go with is to extract results from the Finals. This will involve allowing entries from Scottish institutions without a qualifier beforehand, and extracting results from performance on the day of the Finals, to calculate the final results.

This reduces the necessity for institutions to travel a considerable distance twice in the space of a few weeks and prevents any unexpected expenditure for institutions and clubs.

**How will it work?**

**Race**

The Race discipline will consist of two runs.

In run one, all competitors from the Scottish qualifier will compete, as well as the Finalists from Dome Series Midlands & South and North.

Following run one, the top 20 ski competitors and top 15 snowboard competitors (for both men’s and women’s) from the Scottish qualifier will be ‘extracted’ from the results. These are the qualifiers to the Finals and will compete in run two. Any competitors from the Scottish qualifier who do not qualify will not race in run two.

In run two, the qualifiers to Finals from the Scottish qualifier will compete, as well as the Finalists from Dome Series Midlands & South and North.

The winner will be calculated by the fastest combined run time from the two runs.

**Duals**

There will be a preliminary round in the Duals, consisting of just teams from the Scottish qualifier. This will work as normal at a regional qualifier, with a knockout draw. The top 4 ski and snowboard teams will qualify for Finals. If there are 4 or less ski or snowboard teams from the Scottish qualifier, they will automatically qualify for Finals and no preliminary round will be needed.

The draw for the Duals Finals will then be made, with the teams from the Scottish qualifier included with the qualifiers from Dome Series Midlands & South and North. A knockout format will then take place to find the winner.

**Freestyle**

In the freestyle discipline, a standard ‘rail jam’ will take place, where all competitors will have an allocated amount of time to showcase their ability to the judges.

The judging team will then qualify through the best performing competitors to a semi final or final (dependent on entry numbers). The final will be a three-run final.