

## **USEFUL INFORMATION - FAQs**

### **Is my son/daughter good enough to attend BSA ?**

The answer is 'yes' if your child enjoys fast skiing and is at all competitive by nature. BSA attracts many of the very best young ski racers in the UK. Also BSA often provides the first experience of "racing" for students aged 11 and under. Such students will have skied frequently with families, done very well in ski school, and have a zest for skiing fast! They are probably good at other sports. Students aged 15 and over would already be "known" ski racers, who can be assessed by their race record. You can imagine a sliding scale between these extremes for students aged between 11 and 14.

Ideally BSA will meet potential students, and assess their ability, before either party has to make a commitment. This can be done at artificial slopes in Britain, on summer/autumn snow camps, or on "taster" days in Les Houches during the winter. If this is not practicable, BSA will make a judgement based on available information. Nine times out of ten, if people contact us, they are suitable.

### **Do we have to belong to a ski club?**

It is customary, but not compulsory. If you have a natural allegiance to a club due to location or training/holiday habits, then the choice is easy. If BSA is your main contact with the sport, you are welcome to nominate BSA as your club. You can nominate one or two clubs when registering as a racer (see below). BSA supports members of all established ski clubs. Racers nominating BSA as their club do not receive any

preference on the academy programme. If you would like further advice about Ski Race Clubs, please ask.

### **What is registering as a racer all about?**

To take part in an organised ski race a competitor must have a national start licence. This is issued by the English, Welsh or Scottish Ski Councils (English Ski Council tel: 0121 501 2314, Snowsport Wales tel: 02920 561904, Snowsport Scotland tel: 0131 625 4408). Registered racers are listed on "seed point" lists. Minis (under 11) are not eligible for seed points, but it is useful to register anyway.

Registration takes time, so please register well before your first race of the season. Likewise all registered racers are required to re-register each year. You will be prompted to do this by the registering authority.

### **What do we do about insurance?**

Each student must have personal medical insurance cover, which includes "ski racing and race training".

### **What clothing and equipment will we need to bring?**

Ski, fitness and casual gear. If you are in doubt please speak to us. Uniform items are NOT compulsory, but options are available. An order form is also attached. BSA can always buy something that is needed and recover the cost later. That is one reason for BSA to hold a deposit.

### **What documents must we provide?**

Obviously "Passport"! Please also obtain a form E111 from your Post Office. This makes it possible to recoup certain medical costs. Please also provide passport size photographs for ski passes etc. Finally please remember that we must be in possession of Application Part II (Acceptance) before we can take charge of your son/daughter.

### **What about pocket money?**

BSA can either hold pocket money for safekeeping and issue according to instructions, or issue pocket money against the bill. We do not recommend students to hold large sums of money themselves.

### **What about telephones?**

Students can always have access to a phone if they need one. Calls are logged and charged on the bill. Students increasingly have their own mobile phones. This is OK, but BSA must know if a student has a mobile phone. And students must not use them unreasonably (eg during lessons or late at night).