



## **Minutes of the Avalanche Commission Meetings from October 02 – 04, 2003 in Scotland**

### **1. Welcome**

The president Toni Grab welcomes the participants and introduces his employee Olivia Nohl who will be responsible for the translation and taking the minutes.

### **2. New President Avalanche Commission**

Toni Grab introduces Hans-Jürg Etter who will be recommended for new president of the Avalanche Commission. Hans-Jürg Etter works for the Swiss Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research (SLF), but also was once the rescue supervisor for the Parsenn ski area in Davos. In addition to the theoretical knowledge he has practical experience as well. His supervisor at the SLF sent a letter supporting an election of Hans-Jürg Etter. The Avalanche Commission decides unanimously to recommend Hans-Jürg Etter at the Assembly of Delegates for new president of the Avalanche Commission. (Note: Hans-Jürg Etter was elected president without alternative)

### **3. Program Scotland**

Most presentations will be held in combined meetings of the Terrestrial and Avalanche Commissions. It is decided that this will be continued in the future. Combined meetings with the Aerial and/or Medical Commission should be called as well if the need arises.

A separate meeting of about 1 ½ hours is granted for the dog handlers.

### **4. Diavolezza**

The Swiss Alpine Club (SAC) offers a work meeting from January 16 – 18, 2004 on the Diavolezza. The Terrestrial Commission will join with an additional day. It has not been decided yet whether a day will be added preceding or following the dates mentioned. Although some of the countries will not be able to attend the work meeting the commission decides in favor of holding the Diavolezza work shop. Though following the meeting all members will be oriented in writing about the results and findings.

The meeting will be divided into the following main subjects:

- ?? Probing
- ?? Recovery (Digging Out, Strategy); Transport
- ?? Avalanche Beacons/Recco (Training Park)
- ?? Marking on the Accident Field
- ?? Search from the Helicopter
- ?? Ice Rescue
- ?? Avalanche Dogs (Training, Safety Means)

Participants (including manufacturers) are asked to announce presentations to Hans-Jürg Etter ([etter@sif.ch](mailto:etter@sif.ch)) until November 30, 2003. Special emphasis is given on prevention/safety and practical work. Norway suggests to present a ground radar for the search of people. It is strictly a means for searching and they have had some success using it.

## **5. Avalanche Dog Handlers**

The dog handlers will stay integrated into the Avalanche Commission as is. If required they can ask the commission for a separate meeting.

## **6. Recommendation Avalanche Beacons**

This subject will be discussed during the combined meeting.

## **7. Miscellaneous**

The CD Roms of Malbun are available. Participants are asked to help themselves.

The presentations show that the safety of the rescuers is a more and more important subject. Therefore the annual conference 2004 will have "Safety of the Rescuers" as a motto.

Manuel Genswein talks briefly about linguistic standardization of the terms for the search phase on the avalanche. We will discuss this subject in Poland.

For taking the minutes:  
sig. Olivia Nohl  
Schaffhausen, 10-20-2003

Viewed:  
sig. Toni Grab  
Schaffhausen, 10-20-2003