

Stubby Poles

In the absence of a FIS specification for Alpine stubbies (there are some homologated for Snowboard but apparently not currently for Alpine), all that we are able to do at this stage is to offer some guidance. This needs to be backed up by feedback from coaches.

Firstly, we are all in agreement that a stubby is most definitely not a sawn-off standard flex slalom pole. These are too stiff and represent a significant risk of injury.

Secondly, we have a list of poles offered by various manufacturers that appear to be suitable:-

SPM "Boy" gates

<http://www.spmspa.it/sport/catalogo.aspx?codice=pago&language=en>

Liski Soft Slalom Poles or Gummy

<http://www.liski.it/EN-en/catalogo.asp?Catalogo=SKI%20SLOPE%20EQUIPMENT%3Cbr%3EAND%20PROTECTION%20SYSTEMS&CatalogId=22&Categoria=Slalom%20Poles&Categoriald=1&sottocategoria=SOFT%20SLALOM%20POLES%20FOR%20TRAINING%20AND%20RACES&sottocategoriaid=5&tipologiaid=709&tipologia=GUMMY>

Break-A-Way

<http://www.frاندl-sports.com/Break-A-Way-Slalom-Poles:::1.html>

There may be others, but the over-riding principle is that they have to be 'designed for the purpose'.

Finally, it is important that ROCs ask well beforehand if they have any doubts about whether what they are considering using would be suitable. Advice can be sought either from David Manns (Chair of SSE STP) or Ian Roberts (Chair of British TD Forum), but in the absence of a defined standard for this equipment any advice given can only be that, "advice".

David Manns

Chair SSE Seeding & Technical Panel

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