



BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

DATE: Saturday 21st January 2018

TIME: 1:00pm

VENUE: British Canoeing Offices, Lee Valley White Water Centre.

Minutes

Attended:

Committee: Alan Laws (AL) Chair, Cathy Wynne (CW) Secretary, Louise Clive (LC), Roland Lawler (RL), John Hoile (JH) Regatta Chair, Margaret Chapman (MC), Michael Bannister (MB) Treasurer, Phil Caisley (PC), Imogen Collins (IC), Nicole Williams (NW).

Visitors: Jim Rossiter (JR) SE Region Sprint Rep (JR), Anna Gray (AG) British Canoeing and David Joy (DJ) British Canoeing CEO

Item

1. Apologies:

Ann Hoile (AH), Paul Dimmock (PD). Justine Wilmott (JW) Team Manager PD and Guin Batten (GB) British Canoeing

David Joy was welcomed to his first SRC meeting.

2. Declaration of Interest

Two more forms were presented for signature, PD's outstanding.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting (26 / 11 / 17)

Item 14a. The date should be 2018 not 2017.

J R thought that he had sent his apologies.

With these 2 amendments the Minutes were approved. Proposed: M B. Seconded: P C.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

For information: 15a) ITO nominations have been submitted to the ICF & ECA by British Canoeing. No other actions were reported on.

5. Chairman's Report. AL

Previously circulated. AL added that he had sent a Sprint report for the BC AGM.

Cotswold Water Park. AL met with their team plus Ben Seal from BC and James Palmer from HPP. It was a positive meeting. Earthworks ongoing, yet to decide what building needed. A recreational canoe club (150 members) established on another lake will be approached to consider move, in time, to this lake. A trial sprint regatta in 2019 is the aim

Regatta Organisers Workshop.

Notes on running a sprint event produced by Di Lawler in 1985 were to be updated.

Before the end of May it is hoped to hold a Workshop for interested canoe clubs to run a regatta.

Laura from BC will help with organising, presenters etc.

Actions: CW to send notes to LS & GB: AL, LS & GB to plan workshop.

There were no further questions.

6. Treasurer's Report. MB

Reserves were noted with a few recent expenses to be paid.

Yearbook has been delivered. Ordered 250 copies, should just about break even.

Limited numbers are being pre-ordered these days. SRC members will take a few back to their clubs to sell on. To publicising more as available in print as well as the download version.

Actions: MB will invoice for books taken to clubs 'on sale or return': LC to promote on fb: CW to promote via SRC website, how to order handbooks and distribute by post:



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Minutes Cont'd

Our grant support for this year from BC was discussed at length at our last meeting and was followed up with a conference call meeting. Discussions are still ongoing.

The Treasurer has concerns for the coming years as the reserves will deplete quickly if we continue with the current spending plans with no means to replenish them. Last year we were told it was supposed to be a last minute, one off reduction to the normal level of grant.

DJ for British Canoeing stated their position that as from the Strategic Plan, priority has been given to Non-Olympic disciplines. The funding from UK Sport & Sport England for the Olympic disciplines supports the Performance Programmes. Which leaves, the SRC with it appear no planned BC financial support for SRC, either for this or the foreseeable years.

The SRC does have significant reserves, which were due to the committee's good management of their budget plus fundraising in the past. The reserves had been accumulated over many years for significant 'one off' planned developments.

A long discussion took place regarding the position of BC, their budget priorities plus the SRC development plans for this and future years.

Regattas at Nottingham are costly events, both for the SRC / RC in the cost of the venue and running of the regatta and for the paddlers and their families who must pay for race fees, travel expenses, parking, accommodation etc over the weekend. Any increase in costs for paddlers will have a negative effect, very probably put off competitors from attending.

Positive support is looked for from BC.

A grant to cover basic administration costs plus support for the non-Olympic event paddlers was requested, discussions are still ongoing. DJ raised the idea that possibly the Performance programme could support the cost of selection regattas.

SRC felt that feedback from BC could have been raised earlier and asked that next year the committee be informed before a proposition goes to the Board.

Action: MB / AL / DJ / AG / SH to continue to discuss a solution to this year's grant and feedback to SRC

MB thought that the SRC should set a longer projected budget.

7. Update IT Projects 'in hand and planned: PC

The Regatta Management System – work promised over new year hadn't been done but it is hoped there will be a new release over the next 2 weeks.

Replacement timing system – At the next regatta officials workshop officials will be asked what they think is needed from an ideal timing system. Their opinion is invaluable to develop the functionality of a system.

Replacement of HPP hardware is being investigated. CW reported that there is a lack of spare parts to enable repairs to be made during regattas. The mobile timing systems camera wouldn't really help in the event of photo finish breaking down as it would take too time to setup. It would mean officials going back to a manual system with stop watches.

DJ asked if Serco were involved in the possible investment for hardware etc. Part of the equipment could be joint ownership with British Rowing. PC has spoken to GB who has given him a contact. Suggested that a long term strategy to be looked at with funding from various sources.

A long discussion took place about what is needed and if fixed at HPP or mobile. It was noted that BC and the Sprint National squads etc are based at Nottingham. Investment needs to be made for major development to the NWSC to bring it up to international standards. The problems with HPP are not only financial but with large issues around the service provided.

Action: PC / DJ to contact Serco with a view to looking at needs & costs together.



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8. Outstanding Committee Roles / posts etc:

The requested clarification of responsibilities for Committee Event Safety Officer is on hold as a review of event safety procedures as a whole, is underway. Committees and Regional groups will be update after the review is finished.

Action: Defer looking into the role until the October meeting

Committee's Safeguarding Representative – CW who will cover this role for now was unable to find the current role description on the BC website. **Action: AG to send to CW.**

It is mainly a monitoring role to ensure the committee is always aware of their safeguarding duties and updating training. The previous Committee Safeguarding Rep deleted the records she held of members training on leaving the SRC, this record will need to be started again.

Action: AG agreed to compile a record of members training along with renewal dates.

9. Autumn Social Event: NW

There was a discussion about moving the ACM from the September Regatta. Along with awards presentations to be given a higher profile and having interested parties all together for a social event. Agreed this would not to be a fundraiser, but a level funds or small profit would be desirable. Possibly the event could be held in Oxford alongside the coaches' conference as there is nothing in the evening. Mike Chandler to be the contact. BC offered to help with administration if needed.

Action: NW to come up with options to forward for next meeting.

Committee Admin Rules state that the ACM is held at the Sept regatta, therefore the SRC will need special dispensation from BC Board to change the date to later in the autumn.

10. Terms of Reference: MC & CW

MC had sent the suggestions T of R to the committee with various points to be considered. Many points were spoken about in detail. Some were quickly dealt with while other points had more discussion. Proxy voting at the ACM received mixed opinions. Minutes being published was discussed. It was agreed not to use a precis anymore but to upload the minutes once they had been agreed by the committee. This could be done by email before the next meeting when there was a long gap between meetings.

Items around committee size, elected or co-opted places and terms of office need to be considered further.

Some parts of the T of R will be the same throughout all discipline committees. It was agreed that DJ would forward his thoughts on these standard parts of the T of R paper to MC & CW for the next SRC meeting. The completed T of R needs to be agreed by 1st November 2018.

Action: MC / CW / DJ to compare thoughts and a revised version to come to the next meeting.

11. Development Plan – Responsibilities / Points of contact updates

Any further points on this are deferred to the next meeting

12. Development Plan – Priorities

Priorities were clarified at the last meeting and are still ongoing.

DJ informed the committee about the Talent Club Programme, funded by Sport England. Investments will be made into coaching etc at the clubs. Some clubs have submitted proposals, most of whom have already produced talented athletes. There will be meetings with those clubs over the next 4-5 weeks to agree investment for the next couple of years. More information will be available at the next meeting.

JR spoke about clubs going into schools to deliver canoeing as an option for PE. This has been an option for some years and a few points were clarified, this is not a SRC responsibility but is up to individual clubs



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13. SRC K4 Loan Strategy review:

It seemed that the general opinion is that the K4's could be used more outside of the regattas, it was pointed out that they are loaned out to various groups and clubs for training mainly through the winter months with some competition use during the regatta season.

There is a notice in the handbook notifying clubs that boats can be borrowed but it could be better publicised. The priorities are that they are looked after and returned in time to be used at regattas. There is an agreement that must sign to borrow the boats. At the moment there is no charge.

The committee agreed in principle it was a good idea to use them more, most of the difficulties with increasing the use are practical problems. The boats must be checked in and out for condition, they must be transported correctly and stored securely indoors. It was noted, it is the Commanders or Rockets that are loaned out in the majority of cases as Plastex are reserved for top end athletes. Clubs possibly have access to small grants to help to buy K4's if they have the number of paddlers to train in them. When clubs have a more casual need for K4's, then charging clubs rather than loaning for free could be looked at by the SRC so that income could be built up to be used for replacements boats

The possibility of some boats being stored at Dorney over the winter months where IC would be responsible for them, but different clubs would be able to use them was discussed.

Action: JH& CW & IC to look into it further and options to be considered at the next meeting.

14. English Council Meeting 25th March: SRC Rep

AL is unable to attend. A volunteer was asked for. CW volunteered with possibly JH.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Sunday 18th March, 1pm at Lee Valley

The meeting closed at 4.25pm