



## **BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
**TIME:** 10.30  
**VENUE:** Meeting Room  
British Canoeing Offices  
Lee Valley White Water Centre  
EN9 1AB

### **Attending:**

Committee members: Alan Laws [AL] (Chair), Cathy Wynne [CW] Secretary, David Lawrence [DL], Ian Wynne [IW], Louise Clive [LC], Margaret Chapman [MC], Paul Dimmock [PD] –(from 11.00am), Roland Lawler [RL] Mally Johnson [MJ] -via conference call –(from 11.15am)

Visitors Kevin Hipkins [KH] (Sprint Competition Review Working Group), Holly Fairclough [HF] (PD Sprint Team Manager) & Jim Rossiter [JR] (Vice President).

### **Item No:**

### **Minutes**

- 1 **Welcome and Introduction of: Holly Fairclough, Kevin Hipkins,**
- 2 **Apologies:**  
SRC members: Edward McKeever [EM], Michael Bannister [MB], Imogen Collins [IC], British Canoeing: Anna Gray [AG],
- 3 **Declaration of Interests:** The annual renewal of all members declarations forms was commenced, with 4 forms being signed off as completed.
- 4 **Approval of SRC Minutes for 29 June 2019:**  
The minutes as circulated prior to the meeting were proposed as correct: **Agreed**
- 5 **Matters arising from SRC Minutes not on the agenda**  
Item 8: The Development Plan Rolling Update: - on hold until change of BC volunteer email addresses are completed.
- 6 **Agree Draft Minutes 2019 Annual Consultative Meeting:** held over to next meeting
- 7 **Any Matters arising from ACM Minutes not on the agenda:**  
ACM 2020:
  - a)
    - The Format; starting with a formal meeting to conduct the business of elections, reports, consultation and discussions with the Sprint Clubs. Followed by the annual Award Presentations, then conclude with an informal meal, appears to work well; it was proposed this be repeated next year. **Agreed**
    - The Venue; the location of the 6 clubs who had offered to host the ACM were considered. With the last 2 ACM having been held in the London/Thames area, it was suggested, as the SRC would like to move the ACM to a different part of the country each year, LC would contact WOR for further talks. **Action: LC**
    - The Date; on hold until venue is known.



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- b) Review of new processes implemented for the ACM, under the Terms of Reference: With the introduction of a proxy vote, used for the first time in 2019, MC asked if there could be a review of the wording for registering a Proxy vote.  
To be held over for now, to be considered later.
- c) Terms of office for committee members elected at the ACM: A report from CW was circulated prior to the meeting explaining why it was necessary to divide the 6 members elected at the ACM into 2 different terms of office. The aim is to achieve a regular rotation of 3 members elected at each year's ACM, as per our new Term of Reference. LC; PD & IC, a 2 year term; MJ, DL & IW, a 3 year term. **Agreed**

**Items agreed electronically since the ACM meeting:** The 3 items below ratified:

- a) ITO nomination  
b) Handbook – Printed books  
c) 2020 Budget and submission to BC

### **9 Chairman's report: AL**

- The Chairman confirmed that MB had now formally resigned with the completion of the 2018/19 accounts presented to the SRC today. AL thanked MB for his excellent contribution to the SRC over the past 6 years.
- Also, he was sorry to add that unfortunately EM, who had intended to take over the Treasurer's role, finds his workload has increased, leaving him no time for the SRC, therefore he has also resigned. (See also Item13)
- Following the ACM, Alan is pleased to welcome 2 new members to the SRC.
- The ACM was generally successful, with the Award Presentation well attended. For the formal business it was disappointing that out of 56 clubs only 20 voted.
- The SRC Budget has been submitted to the BC office, followed by a meeting on the 6th Dec to discuss the coming year's SRC grant. (See also Item 14 c)
- The addition, by the ICF of Canoe Sprint Non-Olympic Event World Championships will add to the SRC budget when supporting Athletes not on a funding programme. It is unclear to what extent, if at all, the Performance Department will support this new ICF event. (see also Item 15)
- Alan proposed that Kevin Hipkins be invited to join the SRC as a co-opted member. **Agreed**
- There is good news on the progress being made at the South Cotswold Water Park. A visit and a meeting with the Trustees are being planned in the new year.

**Action: AL +DL**

### **10 Racing Coach Courses Support:**

Due to several reasons the MRC Admin process for sharing the funding support with the SRC was changed in 2019. This change, for the SRC proved confusing and resulted in us overspending our budget allowance. While the SRC wishes to continue to support the uptake of these courses for 2020, our approach to implementing that support is to be reviewed and clarified. It was suggested IC be asked to take on this role for the SRC and to put forward a proposal of how best the SRC could continue to support the coach's courses. The Secretary to contact IC to ask if she will take on this job?

**Action: CW + IC**



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### **Minutes Cont'd**

**11 Review of SRC Terms of Reference wording:**

It had been noticed there were a couple of errors and an omission, requiring correction in the new SRC Terms of Reference approved by the board for 2019.

These changes were highlighted in the document circulated prior to the meeting.

The SRC were asked to approve these amendments.

**Agreed**

**12 Terms of Reference: SRC responsibility etc: - combined with Item 13**

**13 Committee roles, posts and representatives' appointments:**

- A list of possible positions or roles was circulated for members consideration before the meeting. The primary roles were agreed as per the list, plus some new roles agreed. Additional roles and work groups were suggested for consideration at the next meeting.
- With EM standing down from the SRC, LC will take on the Treasurer role in addition to the Regatta Committee's Treasurer. MB to be asked to arrange the transfer and change of signature from himself to LC on the bank account.

**Action LC+MB**

Susan Hicks, BC Office has offered their help with the admin if required by LC.

**14 Treasurer's Report & Budget Update:**

a) MB has completed the SRC 2019/20 End of Year accounts to be approved by the SRC before submitting them to BC.

**Agreed**

b) LC presented the Regatta Committee 2019/20 End of Year accounts for the SRC information and approval.

**Agreed**

c) AL reported that at his meeting with Susan Hicks regarding the BC grant to the SRC, it was agreed the grant will be 'held open' for the time being until more is known about the extent SRC may be required to fund the team attending the ICF Non-Olympic World Championships.

d) It was noted with thanks and much appreciation by the SRC that the Performance Dept will be donating a Plastex K4 to add to the SRC boats for use at the National Regattas

**Action: HF**

**15 Selection Policy Wording & Process for Non-Olympic World Championships**

AL as chair of SRC & PD as chair of the International Panel had previously corresponded about issue of including the Non-Olympic World Championships in the Selection Policies, soon to be finalised. Talks had also taken place with the Performance Department regarding what funding or involvement and assistance they might offer any GB Team for this event.

AL proposed that IW on behalf of the SRC, contact the Performance Dept and IP to offer to assist in clarifying the SRC involvement with the Non-Olympic World Champs before the Selection Policies are finalised.

**Action: IW**

**16 National Regattas' proposals for 2020:**

The report from the Regatta Committee Chair was circulated prior to the meeting, plus 3 addendums with more details on 3 items. Part of the report covered items for the SRC information, the remainder were the Regatta Committee recommendation for the National Regatta in 2020, they were: -

- Focus/Titles for each of the 5 National Regattas **Agreed**
- As a trial for the Lightnings K1's 200m at 2 alternative regattas with 500m at the other 2 alternative regattas. This trial to be reviewed at the end of the season. **Agreed**



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- Event schedules for each of the regattas (Addendum A) **Agreed**
- RC ask if the SRC would support the principle that a charge could be levied for the 'buffer periods' requested by the Performance Dept before some of the events at the March regatta. Providing this 'buffer time' will reduce the number of events that can be offered at the regatta and likely to reduce the entry fees. **Agreed**
- To trial replacing the Under 12 classes with 'Intermediate' Classes restricted to Under 14's. For K1 sprint boats only, crew boats would be with Boys or Girls D. When the standard time is achieved for Boys D or Girls D, the paddler would be promoted to appropriate Junior D class. To be reviewed at the end of the season. **Agreed**
- As a trial, separate (amended) Womens Standard times - (Addendum B) These times have been adjusted from the original proposal. This is to reduce the impact to the lower band of the slower times originally proposed. The original times would have significantly lowered the entry standards to race at National Regattas. The Regatta Committee will be monitoring this trial closely and will review at the end of the season. **Agreed**
- As a trial, the Womens Masters classes to be increased to 4 (from 2) with the WVAK to be aligned with WBK: WVBK with WCK: WVCK with WDK & WVDK with GDK. The 2019 WVAK will be re-ranked to WVBK and the WVBK to WVDK. To be reviewed at the end of the Season. **Agreed**
- As requested at the 2019 ACM, an explanation of the promotion process to be published: The RC propose the wording for this explanation in Addendum C. If agreed, this page will be included in the Handbook and under the FAQ section on the SRC website. **Agreed**
- The Regatta Committee propose that two trophies be reassigned:
  - i) The Dexter Trophy for the Best Mens B performance at the National Championship to, Best Mens Under 23 performance etc. **Agreed**
  - ii) Lee & Joan Davies Memorial Trophy for the Best Womens B performance at the National Championships to, Best Women Under 23 performance etc. **Agreed**

### **17 Handbook, Timeline for content:**

- The MRC have confirmed they will be re-joining us in using a printed handbook for some of their information. They will require approx.100 books for their use.
- The final deadline for the content will be 3<sup>rd</sup> January, with as much as possibly to be supplied before Christmas.
- It is expected that the completed books will be printed in time for our next meeting.
- The costs per book is expected to be similar to 2018, therefore CW suggested the cost reverts to £6 (same as in 2018). **Agreed**
- The handbook title to revert to that used in 2018. **Agreed**
- LC has been successful in interesting a few new advertisers for the Handbook and is also in contact with the past regular advertisers. Hopefully this will result in an increased income from advertising in the Handbook this year. **Action: LC**

### **18 Club Consultation Meeting of the Sprint Competition Review Group Report:**

During the ACM, club member requested, and it was agreed that the SRC would facilitate a meeting for the sprint clubs to question and discuss the recommendations in the report. AL proposed that a working group of 3 SRC members be set up to lead and arrange a meeting for the sprint clubs. AL asked IW+DL+PD to do this

**Action: IW + DL + PD**



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Minutes Cont'd

- 19 **Sprint Competition Review Group report- 1<sup>st</sup> on-line Consultation summary:**  
The summary of the consultation survey conducted since the ACM, was reviewed with interest and some issues were discussed in general terms. With the purpose of establishing the SRC views on the various recommendations before the Sprint Clubs Consultation meeting, at this meeting the in-depth discussions centred on 3 issues:
- a) The recommendation for more regional and local sprint events; this has been an issue the SRC has been trying to encourage for many years. The 'how' is the prime question. As a start it was suggested that the Talent Clubs might be asked to hold a sprint event. AL agreed he would investigate if that was a possibility. **Action: AL**
  - b) Event promotion: establishing a Subcommittee; currently the competition is the dominate issue for the Regatta Committee. The report recommends a separate subcommittee to focus on the 'Event' promotion and social activities to run alongside the competition. During the discussion considering this recommendation a suggestion was raised that to 'get the feel' of how this might work, the SRC to ask a club to take on the arrangement of a social event at a regatta, for example as a 'Fund Raising event'. Possibly to trial this at a couple of the 2020 National Regattas.
  - c) Recommendation to switch from Ability Classes racing to Age Groups racing; with both systems having advantages and disadvantages this was a major and hotly debated issue with no ready outcome or a consensus reached at this time.
- 20 **Wey Coaches proposal:** A wide ranging and thought-provoking proposal concerning the re-structuring of flatwater racing. JR + PD had raised the related parts of the proposal throughout the meeting when areas being discussed had any connections or related in some respects to the items under discuss. Questions were raised over some points, with no conclusions being reached.

**Next Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020

**Venue:** possibly Lee Valley, to be confirmed

**Time:** to be confirmed