



BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY 7th October 2020

TIME: 19.20

VENUE: on -line virtual meeting

Attended:

Committee members: Alan Laws [AL] (Chair), Cathy Wynne [CW], David Lawrence [DL], Ian Wynne [IW], Louise Clive [LC], Margaret Chapman [MC], #1 Paul Dimmock [PD] and Roland Lawler [RL].

Item No:

Minutes

- 1 **Apologies:** Committee members, Kevin Hipkins [KH], Malcolm Johnson [MJ], Imogen Collins [IC] and British Canoeing, Anna Gray [AG].
- 2 **Declaration of Interests:** No new declarations added
- 3 **Approval of SRC Minutes for 7 September 2020**
Minutes proposed and approved as circulated prior to the meeting. **Agreed**
- 4 **Matters arising from Minutes not on the agenda:**
08/12/19 Item 19: Good Governance Processes: DL – Held over again
- 7 Sept Item 6 b) **Royal Paddling Challenge:**
 - i) Requested, as required under Rule 21.5: A special dispensation for the 10 Kilometre and 5K Kilometre National Championship course, as not as specified under rule 21.04: The proposed course diagram was circulated prior to the meeting for the committee to consider a special dispensation. **Agreed**
 - ii) Arrangements are progressing well, the impact of changing Covid rules and forecast of possible flood condition on the Thames are being monitored. If required, a decision to cancel will be made on Monday 12th Oct., although the expectations are that the event will be held.
- 5 **Event Presentation: MJ**

MJ had circulated prior to the meeting a written report of his and Gemma Wiggs's meeting with GB Sport Media. The GB Sport Media platform will be handling the media promotion of the 2021 April National Selection Regatta, with a limited number of races, interviews, and medal ceremonies to be filmed. This will be promoted to a wide audience for video streaming & television. GB Sport Media and British Canoeing will have a funding budget for this venture. Depending on the overall cost the SRC is to note they may be required to contribute if there is a shortfall. **Noted**

ACTION: LC include in Budget
- 6 **ACM On-Line preparation. CW**
 - a) A written report detailing the processes leading up to and for the on-line meeting including the protocols and voting systems, was circulated prior to the meeting. A full 'rehearsal' has been held where the voting systems were tested successfully.
 - b) The preparation for the meeting has been greatly assisted by BC Staff, who the SRC acknowledge and thank, in particularly Anna Gary and Richard Stacey-Chapmen for the extensive support they and other BC staff have provided. Especially with designing the forms, which has been most appreciated.



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6 **ACM On-Line preparation: Cont'd**

- c) The ACM agenda, meeting reports including the election candidate's Pen Portraits were emailed to the Sprint Clubs, 3 weeks before the meeting. All the documents are also on the SRC website. The information explains the process for clubs to register their club's 'Voting Representative, the link to do so and the deadline (18.00 14th October) when registration close. Also included was the link to request an invitation to attend the ACM
- d) No 'Items for discussion' were received from clubs for the agenda.
- e) The Meeting will start with a Roll Call of the Voting Representatives attending the meeting; this will also be used to test the 'raised hand' function.
- f) The number of Proxies and who is holding them will be noted at the end of the Roll Call.
- g) Tellers will be appointed at the start of the ACM. With votes being cast electronically, ideally the Tellers (or at least some) should be familiar with the process to count the votes. Two tellers were used during the 'rehearsal', that worked well, and they were comfortable with the technology. The rehearsal tellers were Anna Gray BC who has acted as a Teller at the past 2 ACM's and John Hoile. It is suggested that they are proposed as tellers at the ACM **Agreed:**
- h) There will be a 'show of hands' vote for some items: Approval of the Tellers, Approval of the 2019 ACM minutes and Approval of the 2018-19 accounts. A proposer and a seconder will be required for these items. Committee members agreed to offer if no one else speaks up at the meeting. **Action: SRC**
- i) A 'show of hands' vote will be required to elect the Treasurer with a sole candidate for the position.
- j) The elections of committee members and the committee chair will be via a ballot with votes being cast on-line during the meeting. There are 6 candidates as committee members, and three (see item 6i) below re RL) for the Chair's position. The Chair's vote will be held first as the result of the Chair's election could affect either the number of committee member positions available or the number of candidates.
- k) It is proposed the Chair of the meeting will continue throughout the whole meeting, that is if all the candidates for the chair's position agreed. **ACTION: AL**
- l) Roland Lawler announced that he is withdrawing his nomination as a candidate for the position of SRC Chair. His nomination as a committee member is to remain. The Sprint clubs are to be informed of RL withdrawal by email. **ACTION: AL +CW**

7 **Joint MRC/SRC Sub Committee – Update report: KH**

Unfortunately, at the last minute KH was unable to attend this meeting to expand further on a written report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report outlined a new 'Speed Series' of local events that will offer a 'new format'. The emphasis would be on racing to achieve a fast boat speed over a short distance as a possible series of events that combining short, sprint races in the morning and short tactical long-distance races in the afternoon. The SRC raised concerns over introducing a new series into an already packed calendar but agreed the speed series is an interesting and innovative concept which aligns with proposals emerging from the Performance Strategy Competition Group. AL proposed he will respond to KH with the SRC thanks and comments with reference to Performance Strategy Competition Group.

Action: AL + KH

#1 left at 20.25



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8 Regatta Committee Chair's: PC

The Regatta Committee Chair's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and asked the SRC to note several items:

- a) The Regatta Committee report for the ACM, includes: -
 - i) Responses and action following the 2019 ACM
 - ii) Changes implemented for the 2020 racing season validated by the SRC to be carried forward for the 2021 racing season.
 - iii) The planned 2021 National regatta dates.
- b) The Royal Paddling Challenge, including National Championship Sprint events at Senior 10K and Junior 5K which will be held under the Sprint Racing Competition Rules.
 - i) Therefore, at the SRC request the RC will provide 2 Regatta Officials to be part of the Competition Committee on the day.
 - ii) Boat weighting scales will be required and provided.
 - iii) There will be 10 National Championship medal classes, 5 per gender, Senior, Masters, U18, U16 and U14 which the SRC will fund.
- c) The Regatta Committee Budget, projected costs for 2021 include:-
 - i) Increased expenditure for COVID awareness health and safety measures.
 - ii) Reduction of entry fees due to Covid restriction changing the racing format by limiting the number of competitors and events per regatta.
 - iii) Move to fewer events to allow for medal presentations and other format changes resulting from the Performance Strategy Review.
- d) 2021 Season and Officials: the need to increase the number of officials who have the skills to operate across several different roles to provide flexibility when working under Covid secure conditions.
 - i) To run a Training day to include practical as well as theory training at HPP.
 - ii) Possible introduction of a separate Marshalls team and investigate approaching local volunteers outside of the sport.
 - III) Update and produce new style 'At a glance' Volunteer checklists
- e) 2020 Season 'Thanks: for the work and support in preparing for events which ultimately weren't held. Including amongst others, the Regatta volunteers, British Canoeing staff, SRC and Alan Laws for the support and their significant input over this difficult season.

9 Discipline Chair's meeting: IW

- a) Having recently attended the Discipline Chair's meeting IW reported that David Joy was delighted to confirm a very welcomed upsurge in memberships, both new and retained members. Membership is at a record high.
- b) Discipline committees were asked to consider how to engage with the new members, many of whom are not part of the club systems. For the SRC, this aligns with an aim of the Strategy Review Competition Task Group. That of introducing a 'grass roots' level racing format for non-club members. This would engage the new individuals and family memberships who have taken up canoeing as a Covid secure form of exercise.
- c) Information and updates were also given on various other ongoing issues: - Including work on updating the 'Day Ticket. A new process will be in use for next year.
- d) DJ also warned committees that the BC Travel insurance does not cover Covid -19 cancellation of trips.



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9 Discipline Chair's meeting: Cont'd

- e) One announcement directly affects all discipline committees; BC will, for this year relax the fixed deadline of 31st October to submit the annual grant application for the forthcoming financial year. Each committee will have one on one discussions with BC in the coming couple of months. Long term budgets can also be considered in addition to next year's Budget. (See also Item 12d) **ACTION: LC + SRC**

10 Chairman's report: AL

The Chairman reported that he had attended a Sprint International Selection Panel meeting. AL confirmed the 2021 Selection Policies would be published for consultation by the end of October. All other updates and reports are included in an agenda item.

11 South Cerney Update: DL

- a) A meeting is planned between DL, Ben Seal (BC) and the Trustees, Development Director, to consider a 'demand study' along with facilities options for both competitive canoeing and casual recreational paddling etc. DL also hopes to build on and strengthen the canoeing relationship with the Trustees and will be meeting with the Chair shortly. **ACTION: DL**
- b) The SRC has made the agreed grant payment of £2,500 for the Welfare/Vanity Unit, which has been ordered and should be on site.

12 Treasurer's Update: LC

- a) **2019-20 estimated End of Year position for both SRC & RC:** LC presented the estimated financial position for the current year, ending 31st October. Again, we will be using funds from our reserves. If the grant application to BC is successful, this might reduce before 'Yearend'
- b) **Grant 2020 re-application.** Submission has been made; we are awaiting a formal response from BC office. Informally AL has had an indication of a positive response of around 50% of this year's shortfall. **Action: AL + LC**
- c) **Treasurer's report for ACM:** LC expanded on the Treasurer's report and the 2018-19 End of Year reports (SRC & RC) which will be presented at the forthcoming ACM.
- d) **2021 Budget:** Preparations for grant submission, held over to after ACM: (see Item 9e)

13 2021 Handbook Plans

CW asked the committee whether to continue with a hard copy handbook for 2021? Following a short discussion, it was **Agreed** we would go ahead. **ACTION: CW**

The Marathon Racing Committee are to be asked if they are interested in again contributing content for a combined handbook for 2021. **Action: CW**

Adverts - LC proposed that the 2020 advertisers be allowed 50% reduction in the 2021 Handbook if advertising again. Plus offer an option to advertise at no charge, for this year, in the regatta programmes or possibly the website. **Agreed: ACTION: LC**

Next Meeting: ACM 17th October Venue: Zoom on-line Time: – 18.00

The meeting will be open from 5.45. for people to sign- in

Before the Chairman closed his last SRC meeting, members thanked Alan Laws for his, guidance, enthusiasm, knowledge, and wide-ranging contribution, over many years and hoped to continue to see him and Christine at sprint racing events.

Meeting finished at: 20.35