



BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday 14th April 2020

TIME: 18.05

VENUE: via GoTo Meeting

Attended:

Committee members: Alan Laws [AL] (Chair), Cathy Wynne [CW] (Secretary), #1 David Lawrence [DL], Imogen Collins [IC], Ian Wynne [IW] (Vice Chair), Louise Clive [LC] (Treasurer), Margaret Chapman [MC], Paul Dimmock [PD], Mally Johnson [MJ], Kevin Hipkins [KH]

Visitors: Anna Gray [AG] British Canoeing

Item No:

Minutes

- 1 **Apologies:** Roland Lawler [RL]
- 2 **Declaration of Interests:** A further 2 of the annual updated forms were completed and signed off. **Action: CW+IC+DL**
- 3 **Approval of SRC Minutes for 2nd February 2020** – circulated prior to the meeting
Approval of the minutes as circulated was proposed: **Agreed**
- 4 **Matters arising from Minutes not on the agenda**

08/12/19 Item 7b): Review of the new processes implemented for the 2019 ACM - Held over

Item 15: SRC processes for a Non Olympic Worlds GB team – Following the latest ICF statement, the event could either be cancelled or postponed until September 2020, date TBC. It is proposed a sub-committee of LC+ IC+IW be formed to quantify this process if the event goes ahead later this year. **Agreed**

Actions will depend on the ICF announcement expected on the 15th May.

02/02/20 Item 18: Development plan- **Held over**

Item 19: Good Governance Processes: DL – **Held over**

5 **British Canoeing Update: AG**

The SRC was briefed on the general staff situation since 'lockdown' with most staff working from home but some are on furlough.

The whole of the HPP country park is closed including the BC officers.

No training is taking place at HPP, with all athletes remaining at home.

David Joy will be writing to all Discipline Committees shortly with information on the BC situation under the current pandemic, including the financial implications.

- 6 **National Regattas' Chair' update report:** PC report circulated prior to the meeting
- a) Due to the Government directives for COVID-19, the March and April regattas are cancelled. The remaining 3 regattas are still scheduled to run although it seems unlikely the June regatta will take place.
- b) Serco have invoiced us for the cancelled March (100% of cost) and April (50% of cost) regattas. The invoices are being disputed, as HPP was shut down, therefore unable to deliver the events. **Actions: CW+JH+A Maddock+ R S-C**
AL asked that AG contact the BC legal team for their input to this dispute. **Action: AG**



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- 6 c) The RC are considering contingency plans for possibly holding 2 regattas later in September if the sports event ban is lifted. The RC asked for SRC's agreement that under the current circumstances, no ranking demotions will be enforced at any 2020 National Regatta which might be held? **Agreed**
- d) 2021 planning: Serco is pressing for provisional dates for the 2021 season. With the postponement until 2021 of the Tokyo Games, international events in 2021 will change which will affect selection dates and our national regattas. The RC are liaising with the Performance Dept/IP to build a provisional season of events to put to the SRC.
- e) With the cancellation of the 2020 events and to allow planning for 2021; the RC ask that the SRC approve continuing with the status quo for 2021. That is, for 2021 to be similar to 2020 with 5 regattas and a mix of age group and ability classes events? **Agreed**
- f) A Regatta Officials' workshop was held on 8th March, one of the items discussed, was ways to improve the 'Social and Sport presentation side of our National events'.
- g) This included a presentation of the new National Regatta branding format and colour scheme. With a NR logo, page headers and frames for news and social media posts. The design work was completed by Reading University students in time for the March regatta, a programme cover was circulated with the RC Chair's report.
- h) An on-line Quiz night will be held on 25th April at 7.30 for Regatta Officials and Team Leaders to which the SRC are cordially invited. **Action: PC**
#1: DL joined the meeting
- 7 **Treasurer's Report & Budget Update:** LC report and budgets circulated prior to the meeting.
- i) SRC Budget – Unpaid advert invoice for the Handbook, LC following up. **Action: LC**
- ii) Regatta Committee Budget – The VAT refund for 2019 does not appear to have been received, LC is investigating **Action: LC**
- iii) Update Treasurer's report – Gave the current financial situation including the bank balances etc. Due to the effects of the pandemic restriction, the Budgets for both the SRC and the Regatta Committee will require revision. **Action: LC+SRC+ R C'tee**
- 8 **Coaching Courses Funding Support:** IC written report proposed a fresh approach to the method used by the SRC to offer funding support for the L2 coach's courses. For the last 2, plus years, since the introduction of the L2 course, SRC has been part of the joint scheme with the MRC. The proposal is to clarify and update the process, with the SRC having a standalone funding support scheme. Funding applications to be submitted by the trainee coach, before taking the course rather than the course provider applying after the course has taken place. **Agreed**
Actions: a) IC to liaise with MRC (SH)
b) IC to prepare funding application form/details etc for the next meeting.
- 9 **Proposal to encourage more local Club Regattas:** AL Written proposal + T/L letter was previously circulated for members comments prior to meeting, see T/L letter Version 5 There were no further questions on the proposal as outlined in AL's updated paper to encourage clubs to hold local sprint events. **Agreed:**
Action: For AL to contact Sprint Club's Team Leaders, inviting their club to host a local sprint event.



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- 10 **SCR Work Group report: Consultation with the Sprint community** – IW report was circulated prior to the meeting, summarising the results of the meeting held following the British Canoeing's AGM on 14th March.
- a) Only a limited number of club representatives attending the meeting, possible the escalating approach of the pandemic played a part in that.
The debate was both interesting and productive, providing direction and ideas for SRC consideration when planning the future sprint competition structure. The meeting focused on Recommendation 5 from the Competition Review: - racing in Age groups or Ability classes. The situation is complex, each system has its merits and downfalls. A way forward would be to define the objective and purpose of each level of competition, then apply the most appropriate method to achieve the defined desired outcome. Probably with different systems used at different levels of competition.
- b) The SRC will soon be focusing on developing a new 4 year sprint plan, with the opportunity to consider changes to revise and build a structure which will expand and best serve all levels of competition. From local events to regional events to national regatta each with a clearly defined purpose for every level of competition, each using a system best suited for that level. Creating a whole structure that provides the best experience for all paddlers, irrespective of their level of competition.
Action: The SCRW report and Sprint Club Consultations feedback, be used as an integral part and focus within the next 4-year Sprint Development plan.
- 11 **ACM Update: 17th October** at Royal Canoe Club
- a) DL confirmed the venue arrangement are in hand, with facilities on both sides of the island available. The Royal Paddle Challenge will be taking place in the morning. The start time for the Challenge will affect the start of the ACM. DL to confer with RCC to firm up a time for the ACM to formally open and this time to be added to the ACM notice on the website. **Action: DL +CW**
- b) For the Award Ceremony, AL confirmed one speaker is booked. If possible 2 more would be best for the Presentation part of the event. **Action: DL**
- c) The question was raised, given the current 'lockdown' it was possible there could be no trophies to present. In that situation, the suggestion was made we go ahead with guest speakers and the social gathering after the formal business of the ACM even if there are no or only a limited number of trophies.
Action: SRC to review if it becomes probable there will be no National Championships this year.
- 12 **Chairman's report:** AL report was circulated prior to the meeting; all comments or questions from members had been covered by email replied prior to the meeting. AL gave a brief update on the situation at the Cotswold Lakes and hopes to have a meeting with the Trustees and BC as soon as possible. **Action: AD +DL**
- 13 **ITO Appointment summary:** CW report of all the ITO appointments was circulated prior to the meeting. We are fortunate to have an ITO appointed to every major 2020 international, including the Tokyo Games. Although some events have already been either postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, as noted in the report.
- 14 **Next Meeting: ...Tuesday 5th May** **Time: 6.00pm**
Meeting finished at: 19.20