



## BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

### SPRINT RACING SECTION ANNUAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING

**DATE:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**TIME:** Meeting Commenced at 14:25

**VENUE:** Reading Canoe Club, The Warren Caversham RG4 7TH

#### Minutes

##### Attended:

**SRC:** Alan Laws (Chair), Cathy Wynne (Secretary), John Hoile (Regatta Chair), Roland Lawler, Michael Bannister (SRC Treasurer), Imogen Collins, Philip Caisley. Paul Dimmock

**BC:** David Joy, Anna Gray, Guin Batten, Kristina Medovcikova, Rene Olsen & **SCA** Jon Schofield

From the Attendance sign-in list, 32 members of sprint clubs attended the formal business part of the afternoon with others attending the Award Presentations which followed.

**Attendance list circulated**, 14 Sprint Club' Voting Representatives attended plus other club members. Votes Registered: Total 20 including 6 proxy votes. from clubs unable to attend (out of a possible 56 UK sprint clubs). Two Proxies are assigned to the Meeting Chair and 4 Proxies to another club (1 to each of 4 clubs).

Appointment of Tellers: Anna Gray and Paul Edwardes were appointed tellers for the afternoon.

A show of hands was requested to approve the appointment;

**Agreed unanimously**

#### 1. Notification of Absence:

SRC: Louise Clive (Regatta Treasurer), Malcolm Johnson, Margaret Chapman, Ed McKeever,  
Vice Presidents: David Green, Tim Brabants & Jim Rossiter.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes from the ACM, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018:

The Minutes, available to view on the SRC website and circulated to clubs prior to the meeting.

The approval of the minutes was proposed by J Hoile and seconded by M Hook

A show of hands was requested to approve the Minutes;

**Agreed unanimously**

#### 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

#### 4. Chairman's Report (Alan Laws)

The report had been available on the website and circulated with the meeting papers. Alan had highlighted his thoughts on the role of the Chair of the committee, along with the continuing work of its members to move our sport forward. He wished to thank all the committee for their hard work, as a mark of appreciation presented flowers to Cathy Wynne for her contribution as Secretary and Chief Official for the National Regattas. Also, to Imogen Collins for her assistance arranging the ACM at Reading Canoe Club. Thanks also goes to the Performance Dept for the donation of the K2 which will be presented later this afternoon to the winning club of the National Inter-Club Medal Competition. Congratulations are extended to all our GB team members, some of whom the SRC have supported financially and especially our World medal winners, more news on that subject under item 10. Finally, thanks went to John Hoile, accompanied by the presentation of a glass vase, as a memento on his retirement from the SRC and as Chair of the Regatta Committee, John will be continuing as part of the Regatta Committee. The report was closed with an appeal for more people to come forward as volunteers, the sport is reliant on volunteers, the more people involved then more can be achieved to take the discipline forward.



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**N.B. Pen Portraits of all candidates for the elected positions were included with the papers distributed at the meeting and had been available prior to the meeting on the SRC website.**

### 5. Election of Committee members

Six nominations for 6 available places on the committee. Three members will be elected for a term of 2 years with the other 3 for 3 years. This is to enable the change from the previous system to the new system of 3 members being elected each year.

The candidates being: Louise Clive, Imogen Collins, Paul Dimmock, David Lawrence, Malcolm Johnson, Ian Wynne.

A show of hands was called to agree the election of the 6 candidates: **Agreed unanimously**

### 6. Election of Secretary:

For a term of 2 years; with one nomination, Cathy Wynne, the only candidate for the position

A show of hands was called to agree the election of the sole candidate: **Agreed unanimously**

N.B. at this point John Hoile as SRC Vice chair took over from Alan Laws as the meeting Chair for agenda item 7. John thanked Alan for his work over the past year.

**# Roland Lawler Statement:** as a candidate for the Chair's position Roland asked to make a statement before the election. The meeting Chair agreed this request.

Roland stated that if he was elected Chair of the Sprint Racing Committee, he would use the position to prevent what he sees as mistakes made in the past 4 years by influencing the appointment of coaches, the selections, the selection policies and re-instating minimum standards of performance for selection to the National Squads. For the clubs, through him as SRC Chair to be at the forefront of all decision making including managing national coaching, training and team logistics. His aim would be for Sprint and Marathon clubs to integrate and for the clubs not the Performance Department, to arrange and direct the use of funds from the external funding bodies.

**Response from the floor:** The external funding bodies – UK Sport and Sport England, have fixed criteria attached to their funding streams to support sport performance structures. Roland's proposal that he could divert this into other 'arrangements', without having any indications from the external fund bodies of their support, would put us in danger of losing all external funding and having to rely upon resources generated from within our sport to fund squad coaching and international teams.

### 7. Election of Committee Chair:

For a term of 3 years; 2 nomination, the candidates being: Roland Lawler and Alan Laws for the Committee Chair position, a poll was held. Voting slips were collected and counted by the tellers. Results of the poll.

Roland Lawler 7 votes: Alan Laws 12 vote with 1 abstention

Alan Laws is re-elected as Committee Chair: **Agreed by a majority vote**

N.B. John Hoile handed back the meeting Chair to Alan Laws

### 8. Treasurer's Report:

#### a) SRC Treasurer report: (Michael Bannister)

The 2017/18 accounts had been circulated via the website prior to the meeting and at the meeting. The BC grant was £10,000, broken down as £2,000 for 'admin' plus a total of £8,000, an estimated £4000 for supporting non-funded athletes to compete internationally and £4,000 for the RC towards the cost of the Start Gates. On the understanding that athlete support had priority, if more was required for the Athletes this would reduce the Regatta Committee grant towards the Gates. A total of £5,700 was used for support GB Team Athletes not within the funding programme. The remainder (approx. £2500) was granted to the Regatta Committee to decrease their deficit for 2018.

The SRC also supported the further development of the Live results at the national regattas plus assisting with the introduction of the L2 Race Coach, subsidising course costs (jointly with MRC).



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Some expenditure planned in our budget was put on hold, even so, we spent in excess of our income with £1645 used from the SRC reserves. The reserves now stand at £90,344.00.

No questions were raised on the accounts, but it was queried how the reserves were accumulated and were there plans for their use. Michael confirmed the SRC planned to use the reserves for items to support the SRC development plan, not annually recurring costs. The major aim is to have a bespoke and integrated Regatta Management System, Timing and Results package that could be used at HPP as well as other venues.

As the reserves were accumulated before Michael was SRC Treasurer, he asked the former Treasurer, who was at the meeting, to explain how the SRC held such reserves. The meeting was informed that for many years the SRC ran a small number of minibuses that were hired out to others for trips and international events, this made a profit which was built up over many years.

MB also spoke about the budget for 2019; with our BC grant plus from our reserves we continue to support the L2 Coach courses. The Regatta Committee had benefited by the full £8,000 towards the starting system costs. The SRC main commitment was helping the non-funded athletes selected to compete for GB Teams, providing over £10,000 for athlete support this year.

The site at South Cerney is being developed as a possible regatta venue, the SRC are committed to help financially, although this has been deferred for a year because of delays at the venue.

### **b) Regatta Committee Treasurer report: (John Hoile for Louise Clive)**

The 2017/18 accounts had been circulated beforehand and audited by BC.

A grant of £2,786 was received from SRC for the year. Nearly £29,000 was paid to Serco to use the Nottingham facilities. With IT being supported and updated, an ongoing cost. The regatta budget finished with a small profit of £1,298.43, although fees from entries were down on the previous year. John explained the various items of expenditure for the year, there were no questions raised.

2019 accounts were spoken about, as they were close to be completed. They will be better than originally expected, in part because of the full £8,000 support from SRC, the increase in entry fees and to the efforts of the Regatta Committee to increase income from other means. Income from the Stand-Up Paddleboards at 2 regattas and merchandise being sold has helped to end the year with a positive balance. Part of which, over winter will be required for maintenance and/or replace of old and worn out equipment and other items used at the regattas.

**The meeting voted by a show of hand to accept the SRC and the RC 2017/8 accounts.**

### **9. Regatta Committee Report: (John Hoile)**

- JH thanked the volunteers who help at the regattas, but more volunteers are needed each year.
- The introduction of the 'Check Clean and Dry scheme' manned by the Wildlife Trust in conjunction with British Canoeing has been successful, it is hoped that this will continue in 2020.
- Stand Up Paddle Boards were incorporated into our March and June regatta with National SUP title being competed for as mentioned in the Treasurer's report.
- Following negative feedback of the inclusion of volunteer points as part of the MacGregor Challenge a separate competition has been introduced, the Regatta Volunteers inter-club Trophy for 2019.
- The Band Together regatta was again trialled in 2019, it was disappointing that following last year's favourable comment, there were fewer entries this year.
- Although some of the Masters Championship events were affected by weather and had to be re-scheduled to the September regatta we were able to complete the annual National Regatta Inter-Club Medal Competition, where points from all medals won at the National Regattas across all events are calculated, including Paddle-Ability, Paracanoe and the Mini Sprints. We are once again grateful to the Performance Department for donating a K2 as the prize to the winning club.
- British Canoeing hosted an ICF Technical Official training seminar and exam during our March National Regatta, I am pleased to report that three of our officials were successful and are now qualified ICF officials.



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- The Regatta Committee provide feedback about the poor condition at the venue to the manager at HPP, in this we are supported by British Canoeing and will continue to push for improvements.
- As this is my last year as Regatta Chairman, looking back over the time I have been Chair I believe we have made changes to the regatta which have made them both more enjoyable and competitive.

### 10. Performance – Canoe Sprint: (Justine Willmott/Rene Olsen)

The report was on the website previously and included with the meeting papers.

As Justine is no longer with British Canoeing her report was presented by Rene Olsen.

- Rene comments on the detailed list of the International canoe sprint results contained in the report and confirmed we have qualified one Olympic boat, this was achieved by Liam Heath, who the International Panel has named for Tokyo 2020 Games. Further qualifying events will be contested at the European and the World Olympic Qualifying events in May 2020.
- Steve Train highlighted the Paracanoe results also detailed in the report and was delighted to confirm the Paracanoe team had confirmed 7 out of 9 possible Olympic boats, with strong hopes to gain 2 more places in the 2020 Olympic Qualifier events.
- Selection, this season (2019) were conducted on 'the first passed the post' process for all domestic selections and the international selections for the World Championships. Lessons were learned from the extreme weather condition at the April Regatta and these will be incorporated in the Selection policies for 2020.
- This May a buffet celebration event was held to recognise the World Championship Team and to mark the achievements of former members of the international team including a tribute to Jon Scholfield who having retired from competition this year to become Head of Performance and Pathway for SCA.
- Talent Club Partnership Programme continues with Charlie Barwis joining the team last January, as the Talent Club Partnership Manager for English clubs. With the aim of enhancing the talent pool at club level as well as extending club coach development.
- Performance Wellbeing has also moved forward with the creation of the Mental Health Team for British Canoeing. The Team will be developing a Mental Health Strategy for BC and are available to give advice and support to the WC Programme and Talent athletes.
- Coach Development is building for the long-term development of coaches at each of the stages of the pathway, from the basic technical skills, through to the expertise needed for coaching elite athletes.
- Justine Willmott since preparing this report has left British Canoeing to return to Badminton, her original sport. Holly Fairclough will be taking over the role of Sprint Team Manager as from 20<sup>th</sup> October

### 11 Sprint Competition Work Group Review – Established in 2018

The main points of the report were presented by Kevin Hipkins via a power point presentation.

Including among other recommendations: -:

Find ways to increase local and regional sprint events.

To consider replacing Ability class racing with Age groups

Adopt the ICF progression system including semi-finals

Reducing the number of National Regattas

More enhanced presentation and social events to run alongside the competitions.

- The full report and data can be seen on

<https://sites.google.com/view/sprintcanoedata-community/home?authuser=0>

This will be open for the sprint community comments and consultation via the websites within the month. People were asked to visit the website to add their concerns, questions and comments via the survey.

There were many questions on the recommendations, for which there wasn't the time for a detailed discussion. Everyone was asked to visit the website and submit their concerns that way.

- There was a request from the floor for a further meeting to give sprint clubs the opportunity to



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discuss the main points raised by the Working Group's Review. – **The Chairman agreed the SRC would arrange a meeting for clubs to discuss the recommendation raised within the Report.**

### 12 **Item for Discussion:**

#### a) **Introduction of 200m K1 races for Lightning and Under 12's**

A request from Norwich CC to consider 200m rather than 500m races for the under 12's.

In general, there was some support for the suggestion although others were okay with continuing with 500m.

#### b) **To Change the qualifying times for Women's Masters B**

To align the Women's Masters B standard time to be the same as Girls D, similar to the Men's Masters D being in the same band as Boys D.

This suggestion had the support of most of the sprint community at the meeting. The question was also raised (from a past ACM) that the Women's Masters still only have 2 classes (A & B) whereas all other groups had 4 (A to D). Support was shown for there to be 4 classes

#### c) **To publish an explanation for the promotions system:**

For the Handbook to contain an explanation of how the promotions are calculated at the National Regattas.

The consensus was in support of this suggestion as many did not understand how promotions between the classes take place, it can be useful to have a description to refer to for clarification.

### 13 **The Chairman:** Thanked everyone for attending and their contribution to the discussions and feedback of ideas and comments which the committee will consider.

#### **Announcement of the winner of the Junior Racing Canoeist of the Year**

To close the meeting Alan asked Rowland Jones as the trophy sponsor to announce the result of the vote and present the Junior Racing Canoeist of the Year trophy to the 2019 winner: **Daniel Atkins of Reading Canoe Club.**

The official business of the meeting closed at 4.30pm

The 2019 Trophy Presentations would start after a short break at 5.00 with an introduction by Guin Batten followed by keynote speakers Jeannette Chippington, Jonny Schofield and Anna Hemmings, with the trophy presentations being made in between the talks.

## Addendum - 2019 ACM Minutes

Trophy Name	Event	Winner 2019	Winners Club	Presenter
The Jones Cup	Junior Racing Canoeist of the Year Voted for by The Junior GB Team Athletes	Announced at the end of the ACM  Daniel Atkins	Reading	Rowland Jones

### Trophies and awards presented after ACM 19.10.19

Compere: Guin Batten

Introduction by David Joy	In celebration of winning the 2019 World Championship Gold medal	Liam Heath	Wey Kayak Club	Paul Dimmock
	Talk by Jeanette Chippington			
The Sam Rippington Trophy	Women's C1 200M	Emily Hewitt	Southampton	Jeanette Chippington
The Boulogne Cup	Women's A K4 500M	Abi Burgess, Talitha Farrant Samantha Martyn, Sophie Thompson	Wey Kayak Club	Liam Heath
The James Cup	Masters K4 National Championship	Adrian Butt, Damon Grimsey James Hinves, Richard Kent	Southampton	Liam Heath
The Rhodes Trophy	Boys Under 18 K1 500M	Parents of Philip Miles	Royal Leamington Spa	Jeanette Chippington
The Dennis Smith Trophy	Girls Under 18 K1 500M	Kate Hipkins	Longridge	Jeanette Chippington

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The Andy Bonham Memorial Award - Introduced by Steve Train	C4 500m memorial race	Matt Lawrence, James Styan, Roger Weir, Iain Weir	Leighton Buzzard /Fladbury/ Banbury	Mrs Jill Bonham
		Talk by Jonny Schofield		
The Barry Murray Trophy	Boys Under 18 K1 1,000M	Parents of Philip Miles	Royal Leamington Spa	Jonny Schofield
The Marsport Trophy	Mini Sprint Series Top Scoring Club	Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club		Jonny Schofield
The Volunteer's Paddle	The MacGregor National Volunteer Inter-Club Award	Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club		Ian Wynne
The MacGregor Paddle	Inter Club Challenge July Regatta	Wey Kayak Club		Jonny Schofield
The Dexter Trophy	Best Mens B Paddler at the National Championships	Andras Kovacs	Wey Kayak Club	Ian Wynne
The Adjutants Cup	Best Junior Boy C1 Paddler at the National Championships	Thomas Lambert	Lee Valley Paddlesports Club	Jonny Schofield
National Regattas Inter-Club Medal Competition	Club with the highest points for National Regatta medals	Norwich Canoe Club	Prize of a K2	David Joy
		Talk by Anna Hemmings		
The Bruce Lucas Cup	Womens K1 500M	Emily Lewis	Worcester	Anna Hemmings
The Lendenkamp Trophy	Womens A K1 200M	Emily Lewis	Worcester	David Joy

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The Dewar Cup	Senior Men's C1 200M	Joseph Hayman-Joyce	Wey	Anna Hemmings
The Femina Trophy	Women's A Meritorious Performance at the National Championships	Emily Lewis	Worcester	David Joy
The Henry Thelen	Boys Under 18 K1 200M	Daniel Atkins	Reading	Anna Hemmings
Not able to attend				
The Sidney Rowe Cup Doug Saxby Trophy	Senior Men's C1 1,000M Senior Men's C1 500M	Arthur Leech Arthur Leech	Richmond Richmond	
The Phillips Plate	Girls Under 18 K1 200M	Zoe Clarke	Royal	
The Skinner Salver	Best Junior Girl C1 Paddler at the National Championships	Alix Aithinson	Nottingham Kayak	
Ken and Eileen Phillips Memorial Trophy	Men's K1 200M	Stelian Naftanaila	Nottingham Kayak	
The Unwin Bowl The Farnham Cup	Men's K1 500M Men's K1 1,000M	Tom Lusty Tom Lusty	Solihull Solihull	
The Lee and Joan Davies Trophy	Best Women's B at the National Championships	Melisa Johnson	Chelmsford	