



British Canoeing – Sprint Racing Section Annual Consultative Meeting



Saturday 17th October 2020

On-Line via Zoom

at 18.00

Minutes

Attending:

.SRC: Alan Laws (Chair), Cathy Wynne (Secretary), Louise Clive (Treasurer) Roland Lawler, Imogen Collins, Paul Dimmock, Kevin Hipkins, Margaret Chapman, David Lawrence. Ian Wynne, Malcolm Johnson.

BC: David Joy, Anna Gray, Richard Stacey-Chapman, Charlie Barwis, Paul Darby Dowman.

Signed-in: 14 Non-voting club members signed-in via the 'Chat' function

Roll Call: A 'Roll Call' using the 'raised hand' function, confirmed 35 Voting Representatives attended the meeting to vote on behalf of the clubs.

Proxy Votes: 5 Proxy votes had been registered, 2 assigned to the Meeting Chair, 3 to another club (1 to each of 3 clubs).

A total of 40 clubs voting (out of a possible 56 UK sprint clubs). See Addendum A for list of voting clubs.

The ACM Chairman, Alan Laws opened the meeting by commenting on the exceptionally difficult year this has been. Also, he was sure all would wish to send their thoughts and heartfelt condolences to David Green and family following the recent death of Molly Green. Many would have been touched by Molly's kindness and good spirit, she will be sorely missed.

Alan warmly welcomed the large numbers joining this on-line meeting, including clubs from all 4 home nations. In addition to the sprint clubs, he was pleased to welcome, British Canoeing's CEO, David Joy, President, Ivan Lawler and Vice president, Jim Rossiter, Talent Club Partnership Manager, Charlie Barwis, Sport Development Manager, Anna Gray, Event Officer, Richard Stacy-Chapman, CANI, High Performance Coach, Kieran Dews and MRC Secretary, James Smythe. Before starting the formal business, he thanked the staff members who have assisted with the preparations for this on-line ACM.

1. Apologies for absence:

The Chair offered an apology from Paul Ratcliffe, WC Performance Manager. No other apologies were received from the meeting.

2. Appointment of Tellers:

Anna Gray, Charlie Barwis and John Hoile were proposed by David Lawrence: seconded by Wendy Dodson to act as the Tellers for the meeting. A show of hands was requested via the 'raised hand' function to approve the appointment: **Agreed**

3. Approval of Minutes from the ACM, 19th October 2019:

The Minutes were on the SRC website prior to the meeting and circulated to clubs with the ACM agenda.

The approval of the minutes, as circulated, was proposed by Ian Wynne and seconded by Imogen Collins. A show of hands was requested to approve the 19th October 2019 Minutes. **Agreed**

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Item 11 Sprint Competition Workgroup Review: "The Chairman agreed that the SRC would arrange a meeting for clubs to discuss the recommendation raised within the Report"

A question was raised, asking if the meeting noted in the minutes had taken place? It was confirmed a "Sprint Competition Review meeting for clubs to discuss further the report's recommendations was held on the 7th March 2020, after the British Canoeing AGM. The Workgroup report recommendations were discussed, focusing on the pros and cons of age group racing versus ability class racing but without any firm conclusions. The Sprint Competition Workgroup Review report has since been incorporated into the still ongoing Sprint Performance Strategy Review.

Minutes Cont'd

5. Chairman's Report: (Alan Laws)

The Chairman's report was on the SRC website prior to the meeting and circulated to clubs with the ACM agenda. Alan offered his condolences to all who have lost family or close friends to this terrible pandemic. Such a difficult year for many and a hard time for athletes, their families and coaches, Alan sincerely hoped 2021 will see us in a better situation.

On a positive note, developing canoeing at South Cerney Lake has moved forward this year. Kevin Bowerbank and the Wiltshire Youth CC are thanked for their input to this progress. It is hoped the lake will be able to play a part in the current drive to increase local and regional sprint events. An action the paddling community requested as reported by the Sprint Competition Work Group and forms part of the on-going Sprint Performance Strategy Review.

Alan acknowledges he had so many people to thank including members of the Sprint Racing Committee and Regatta Committee who have often gone beyond the call of duty. Alan appreciated and thanked them all for their support, help and guidance to move the sport forward. The role of the Chairman is not only to lead and guide but also to follow the advice and democratic decisions of the whole committee. Alan said it had been a privilege to be Chairman of this committee.

6. Election by on-line ballot of the Committee Chair.

For a 2 -year term with 2 candidates for the position of Committee Chair being:

Tim Scott and Ian Wynne.

The voting was conducted via on-line poll, with a total of 40 votes submitted,

The results of the poll: Tim Scott - 28 votes Ian Wynne – 11 votes Abstention – 1

Tim Scott is elected as Committee Chair.

N.B. It is proposed Alan Laws continues as Chair for the remainder of the ACM. An arrangement both candidates agreed to, prior to the meeting. Alan requested that the meeting confirm its agreement to this arrangement by a show of hands via the 'raised hands' function. **Agreed**

David Joy, congratulated Tim Scott on his election and looked forward to working with him in the future. David then asked the meeting to pause for a moment for him to comment on Alan's long commitment to canoeing. Over 50 years working on racing committees, international as well as at home, benefiting thousands of paddlers over the years, while always moving the sport forward. Alan has played a part in the emerging Strategy Review and will be leaving the committee, with the support of the clubs, in a positive position to further develop sprint racing over the coming years. David, on behalf of the British Canoeing Board and staff, offer Alan, British Canoeing's grateful thanks for the extensive contribution made by Alan to the sport.

John Hoile on behalf of past and present committee members, also wished to thanked Alan for his long commitment to sprint racing. The Regatta Committee and Officials in particular wished to express their thanks to Alan for engaging with officials when attending the regattas. This had been most appreciated. John also commented it had been a pleasure working with Alan on the SRC.

7 Treasurers' Reports:

The SRC & RC Treasurer's report and the End of Year Balance sheets for both committees were on the SRC website prior to the meeting and circulated with the ACM agenda.

SRC and Regatta Committee Treasurer Report: (Louise Clive)

a) Louise presented and explained the various outgoings and income on the Sprint Racing Committee End of Year accounts for 31/10/2018 to 30/10/2019 and the

b) Regatta Committee End of Year accounts for 31/10/2018 to 30/10/2019

David Lawrence proposed and seconded by Paul Dimmock that the accounts are accepted:

A show of hands vote was requested via the 'raised hands' function.

Agreed.

Minutes Cont'd

7 Treasurer's Report Cont'd

The Treasurer's report gave a roundup of the plans and then the problems which have faced both committees during the current financial year, which will end on the 31st October. The 2020 SRC budget had included supporting athletes for non-Olympic events/World Championships, planning for IT development and bring in video recording of some of the national regattas, plus promoting more local and regional sprint events.

The Regatta Committee budgeted to replace some outdated equipment through the winter months plus preparing some IT/ technical developments to enable the national regattas to accommodate possible changes raised through the Sprint Competition Workgroup Report. Everything changed when the 1st regatta was cancelled less than 2 weeks before the March regatta due to the pandemic. British Canoeing experienced a massive drop in membership through 'lockdown', resulting in SRC not receiving a grant for 2019/2020 from British Canoeing. All expenditure would be from the reserves. Due to Covid, home and international events were cancelled, and planned projects postponed. Even so, both committees expect to finish the year with a deficit of approx. 5k for each committee. With the recent upsurge in membership, SRC has re-applied to British Canoeing for a delayed 2019/2020 grant which in part will reduce the end of year deficit.

The 2021 prospects are worrying; the RC must budget for Covid secure regattas. This will increase costs, plus entries would be restricted, national regattas may well operate at a loss. The SRC currently plan to support local and regional regattas, that includes support for South Cerney. Support for the SRC's major commitment to non programme athletes and/or non-Olympic events internationally. In addition, are the planned large projects, such as the improvement to the regatta IT. There is the need to decide when and how to fund these moving forward. The forecast is another tough financial year for both committees.

8 Election of Committee Treasurer:

For a term of 3 years, with 1 nomination as the sole candidate for the position.

The Chair requests the meeting confirms the election of Louise to the position of Treasurer by a show of hands via the 'raised hands' function **Agreed**

9 Election by an on-line ballot for Committee Members:

For a term of 3 years with 6 candidates for 4 available positions on the committee.

The candidates are Paul Edwardes, Peter Gorman, Kevin Hopkins, Ivan Lawler, Roland Lawler and Alice Murphy. The vote was conducted via the on-line poll; Clubs could vote for up to 4 candidates.

The number of votes for each candidate were: - Paul Edwardes – 17, Peter Gorman – 24, Kevin Hopkins – 23, Ivan Lawler – 30, Roland Lawler – 20 and Alice Murphy – 36.

Peter Gorman, Kevin Hipkins, Ivan Lawler and Alice Murphy are elected to the committee.

10 Regatta Committee 2020 Report: (Phil Caisley)

The RC report was on the SRC website prior to the meeting and circulated to clubs with the ACM agenda.

What a year to reflect on, the 2020 racing season cancelled due to Covid -19 and HPP Watersport Centre closed for most of the spring and summer, no events could take place. However, we did not incur any cancellation fees which initially it appeared might have been the case.

A significant amount of planning has already been undertaken towards running a Covid aware regatta which puts us in a good position for the 2021 season. The Regatta Committee wishes to thank the many people involved for their significant input, support and work throughout this season, preparing for events, that in the end we were unable to hold.

Minutes Cont'd

10 Regatta Committee 2020 Report Cont'd

Actions following the 2019 ACM: Several items raised at last year's ACM which were planned to be trialled for the 2020 National Regattas; The 200m Races at some regattas for the Lightnings: Increasing the Womens Masters ability classes from 2 to 4: Including adjusting the qualifying times for the new WVDK to same ability band as GDK: Adjustments to the Womens and Girls 'Standards for Racing' by trialling different time bands from the Mens and Boys classes. All these trials will be carried forward into the 2021 regattas, as will the introduction of the BIK/GIK Intermediate classes. All will be reviewed at the end of that season.

The dates planned for the 2021 season are 17-18th April, 5-6th June, 10-11th July 4-5 Sept.

PC closed by thanking the Performance Department for generously donating a 'used' K4 to add to the SRC stock as a new boat for use at the Regattas.

11 Sprint Performance Strategy Review report:

The SPSR report was on the SRC website prior to the meeting and circulated to clubs with the ACM agenda.

This report provides the background for the formation of the Strategy Review with an update on the progress to date. The outline Strategy, after consulting with clubs in early August was submitted to the Board in September for feedback. The draft is being revised now for a further consultation during October. The UK Sport funding submission is due middle October, included in that will be the draft strategy. The outcome of the submission will be known in December. Further consultations will expand upon the work from earlier this year. The Board will consider an updated report in December, the anticipated final strategy to be ready for the Board in January 2021. Everyone was reminded to engage with the consultation process that will be opening shortly to ensure their views can be considered.

12. Closing comment:

Alan commented that the meeting could not end without a massive 'thank you' to Roland Lawler for his dedication and contribution to the SRC and racing generally over the past 50 plus years. It is a great credit to him that he wishes to continue with such commitment and enthusiasm. Thank you, Roland. Sentiments much echoed by many people via the 'Chat' function.

Tim Scott commented that the large numbers attending the ACM indicated the depth of clubs' current engagement within the sport. He is looking forward to working with everyone as the SRC Chair.

Alan wished everyone 'goodnight and thank you for your attendance.

Annual Consultative Meeting closed at.19.35.

See Appendix A below

**Sprint Racing Annual Consultative Meeting
17th October 2020**

Addendum A – List of the 40 voting clubs (see note ‘Roll Call’)

**35 Voting Representatives attending the meeting
Plus 5 clubs voted by proxy, recorded in blue**

Code	Club
ADS	Addlestone Canoe Club
BAN	Banbury Canoe Club
BCC	Belfast Canoe Club
BSF	Bishops Stortford
BOA	Bradford-On-Avon Canoe Club
BPR	Burton Phoenix Racers
CCC	Cambridge Canoe Club
CDF	Cardiff Bay Kayaks
CLM	Chelmsford Canoe Club
DEV	Devizes Canoe Club
EAL	Ealing Canoe Club
ELM	Elmbridge Canoe Club
FOX	Falcon (Oxford)
FLA	Fladbury Paddle Club
FOY	Fowey River
GAI	Gailey Canoe Club
KIR	Kirkcaldy Canoe Club
LBZ	Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club
LEA	Leaside – Proxy held by BSF
LIN	Lincoln Canoe Club
LGW	Linlithgow Kayak Racing
LON	Longridge Canoe Club

Code	Club
NOR	Norwich Canoe Club
NOT	Nottingham Kayak Club
OUC	Oxford Uni Canoe & Kayak Club
PAN	Pangbourne Canoe Club – Proxy held by the ACM Chair
PEN	Pennine Canoe Club
POO	Poole Harbour Canoe Club
RDG	Reading Canoe Club
RIC	Richmond Canoe Club
ROY	Royal Canoe Club
SOL	Solihull Canoe Club
SOR	Soar Valley Canoe Club – Proxy held by NOT
SOU	Southampton Canoe Club
TON	Tonbridge Canoe Club
TRU	Truro Canoe Club
WEY	Wey Kayak Club
WOK	Wokingham Canoe Club – Proxy held by OUC
WOR	Worcester Canoe Club
WYC	Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club – Proxy held by the ACM Chair