



BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday 10th October 2022
TIME: 20.00. Zoom On-line meeting

Attending:

Committee members:
Tim Scott (Chair), Alice Murphy, Hannah Brown, Ivan Lawler, Louise Clive, Martin Hook, Paul Dimmock, Peter Gorman, Philip Miles, Roland Lawler, Margaret Chapman, SCA Rep & Nick Fowler Canoe Wales Rep.
Anna Gray (BC) Ashley Metcalfe (BC)

Others:

Item No:

MINUTES

Welcome: Martin Hook & Roland Lawler – Newly elected.

Cathy Wynne had sent in her resignation today. She felt it was the right time to step back for various reasons but has agreed to stay on for a month to finish projects etc she was already working on and will help with a handover to whoever agrees to take on the role as Secretary. She will continue on the Regatta Committee and will still be very involved in the sport.

The committee had been shocked by her resignation but understood that she had a massive workload and wished to take a step back. She was said to be irreplaceable as she did a phenomenal amount of work but it is good that has given notice and will help with a handover. She has been far more than a Secretary to the SRC. There was now an urgent need to find a Secretary, at least for the minimum duties. Tim asked if anyone on the committee wanted to step in but no one came forward immediately. All were asked to think if there was anyone who could be co-opted in the post. Louise would take Minutes tonight but her involvement would only be short term. Philip expressed an interest but needed to consider it more carefully and find out more detail. **Cathy would be asked to put together a sort of Job Description.**

1 Apologies: Cathy Wynne

2 Declaration of Interests:

All members of the committee will need to complete new ones as they are renewed every 12mths. Anna would send out the latest and asked everyone to send them in quickly.

3 Approval of the SRC 12th & 22nd September meeting Minutes:

The date on 22nd was incorrect, it should have said Thursday not Friday. Item 8b) Local Sprint Levy – It listed £5 seniors and £3 juniors on the sheet presented at the ACM but notes from the previous SRC meeting show it was agreed to be £3 seniors and £2 juniors so no change was required in the minutes for the levy costs. It was also suggested not proposed.

Action: CW/LC

Once that change had been made the Minutes would be approved.

Agreed



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4 Matters arising from SRC Minutes not on the agenda:

6a) IT Project – A letter had been sent to Trevor Kirkham asking him to go ahead with the next three steps on his project. He will be developing the spec for the new system, if anyone has thoughts on this Tim asked them to be sent through to Phil C or Trevor.

7b) Loan of K4's – A form or invoice had been created, asking for the voluntary donation, this has been sent with any current requests.

Nick F confirmed that WOR would want 1 skinny and 1 rocket but he has also been asked to collect a K4 for DEV on the trailer. Once the Hooley has had first

5ai) Phil to work on a format for non-funded low entry races - **Defer to next**

5 Goal 5 – Financial Sustainability

a) Treasurer's Report: LC

Update end of year: LC showed accounts to date for SRC & RC

SRC – Mostly final for the year. A couple of amounts were still to be confirmed, the final non-funded amount and the final amount that BC would be paying as the balance of the £30k grant. Louise thought that there was a possibility that SRC income might be taken into account. BC would be asked to be sure the non-funded balance comes out of this year's budget and not carry over. The budget for the year was likely to be close to breaking even with a carry forward reserve of around £54k.

RC – Mostly final but Louise is still working on some last minute invoices that have not come through. With the RC being self sufficient this year and early losses from regattas it seems that the end of year may be with a possible £9k deficit and a carry forward reserve of around £66k.

Any questions were answered. The committee approved the reported figures so far and thanked Louise for her work on the budget.



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b) 2023-24 Budget:

- Figures had been put into a very early budget going forwards, some based on this year and some on the Development plan or prior conversations.
- It was agreed to replace K4's on a rolling programme, one a year. IL will get an updated cost.
- Initial cost for club/ regional regattas estimated at £2500 to start with. It is thought that this will be the focus rather than Nationals next year.
- Athlete data collection and IT are unknown amount. To update as things become clear.
- National Regattas £4k for if any changes are needed.
- Regional Regattas, amounts quoted probably wont be used but may be elsewhere so £2500 left in and £3k removed.
- Training and ITO figures will remain as this year. It isnt thought that there are any new ITO's for next year.
- Streaming – The amount of £5k for one regatta has been added as previously spoken about.
- Non-Funded subsidy will need to be talked about to see if the same amount is right for next year. Budget wise Louise was mostly happy with the admin side of it this year.
- Some income is needed as it is a £58k budget. The levy is the main planned income for now.
- The budget plan for 23/24 in the first instance was agreed.

6 Goal 4 – Better engagement with the paddling community

a) Review of the 28th September ACM Draft Minutes:

There was a spelling mistake in a name (JS).

With this change made the minutes were reviewed and would be approved at next year's ACM.

Action: CW/LC

4. Item 6 – South Cerney. Hannah mentioned that KB seemed to be sure about the amount he held for the Welfare Unit, on behalf of the SRC. **Action: To be clarified.**

Anna Gray and Chris Nightingale have a meeting at South Cerney this week and will report back to the committee.

7 Goal 1 - Expand the Competition Structure



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b) Local and Regional subgroup report:

i) MacGregor qualification system:

Review of ACM feedback + add details for further consultation

After the amendment on the levy it was agreed to send out the proposal for general feedback. It was thought that so far clubs were looking at it as a positive thing. Richard SC would be spoken to about help on the entry system.

Action: Document to be made public for feedback.

Margaret raised the subject of mini-sprints and whether they would continue or in the same way. Hannah felt it was continuing in the same way. No-one seemed positive about what had been agreed earlier but wanted it finalising in time for next years handbook.

Were intermediates merging with lightnings? Was the series better than standalone events? Would they be at every regatta? Do they need to qualify for the MacGregor event.

A long discussion took place with many views expressed. The majority preferred the option of having the races built on ability rather than age. No-one thought that they should have to qualify for the 'big' event. It was also agreed that they should be allowed at all regattas as they usually came with parents racing or parents came with them so to exclude them may exclude adults as well.

There are a lot more racing in mini-kayaks now and general opinion was that if the races were based on ability, then that was the equaliser between paddlers. There are already standard times for the groups but they may need tweaking. Pete and Roland will look at it alongside the Regatta Committee.

Nick asked if this was a short-term fix before any changes being made at national regattas, it probably is and may well be changed later. We need to encourage them to attend local regattas.

There may be lots who don't realise that it is a series and especially in the future may not be able to attend all regattas so are excluded from winning that from the off-set.

The committee are recommending to the Regatta Committee that:

Lightning A, Lightning B and Intermediates" criteria are changed so that any boat can be used in any of the classes and the three classes could be renamed as Mini-Sprint divisions and their qualifying times reviewed.

Each regatta to be a separate event with the Mini Sprint final event being held at the end of the year.

Action: Regatta Committee

8 Goal 2 – Clearly defined, National Regattas



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a) **Regatta Committee update: PC**

Margaret reminded the committee that under the SRC ToFR the Chair of the Regatta Committee should be co-opted onto the committee. Tim will invite Phil C to all meetings and he will be included in all papers.

Agreed

It was noted that the Junior NC was being held in June which wasn't the best month for them but Phil said that he thought the selection dates were due to dates of international races. Not only for selection but also that you wouldn't want to race a national race the week before.

2023 will be the same format as 2022 but changes will probably take place for 2024.

Tim said for anyone with further questions or comments to send them via SRC to the RC.

The SRC and BC had asked the RC to look at entry fees in order to reduce losses. The Regatta Committee were proposing a fee of £10 per seat for the 2023 season, an increase of £2.50 per seat. Figures had been looked at and what amount was needed to not make a loss at regattas and this amount was felt to be needed. The prices last went up in 2019, by 50p. It doesn't increase every year and it was said that maybe it should have done.

Some felt it too big a jump and that the cost of the weekend would be too much for people. This was thought to be an interim thing before things may all change at national regattas. The committee wanted to encourage crew boats more and spoke of the option to reduce the cost of K2/ K4 to do this. Louise didn't think the current IT system could cope with different costs for different boats. Roland suggested £10 per boat rather than £10 per seat to encourage people to race but it would be counter productive financially. What about £10 / £15 / £20. £20 would actually lose money as it is less than now.

Tim asked about tweaking the software in order to have different prices, although there would be a cost involved to do that.

A long discussion took place with various ideas and opinions. One thing considered was the SRC underwriting any loss from having a reduced crew boat cost. Tim asked each member what they thought about that. Most thought it would be acceptable to use SRC reserves in the short term to encourage crew boats but Louise said that BC may not be so comfortable with it. The money may be coming from SRC but SRC money comes from BC and still have no other raised income planned.

If it was to rise to £10 then there would have to be a 'marketing campaign' or a way of convincing or incentivising people that the events were really worth £10 per seat.

Ashley thought that although it seemed a large jump in one go, he still felt the event was good value, when you look at other sports they can be more expensive but agreed that it would need good marketing.

It was mentioned that if people have to qualify for events then there is a possibility there may not be as many attend the Macgregor regatta.

It could be in the future that if there is income from local regattas that could be used for national regattas subsidy.

Regatta committee will be asked to look at figures and compare again, maybe K1 £10 per boat, K2 £15-£20 per boat and K4 £30 per boat or what else could be done. If there was not enough difference then what discount

b) **National Regatta Subgroup report:**

i) National Regatta MacGregor date for 2023



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10 Chair's Report: TS

The JDS was successful with 70 paddlers. Thanks to Elmbridge and Scott Hynds.

The first ever BUCS Sprint event will be the weekend of March 18th and 19th 2023 with the venue: Norwich. Tim asked for another person from SRC or RC to be on the organising group. Nick Fowler volunteered.

11 Date for future SRC Committee Meeting:

Proposed; Monday **14 November 2022 @ 8.00pm** – A doodle poll will be sent.

Meeting finished at: 21:55

APPROVED