



## BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Monday 27th November 2023  
**TIME:** 20:00 Zoom On-line meeting

Members in Attendance: Nick Fowler-Rimell [NF] (Chair), Louise Clive [LC] (Treasurer), Philip Miles [PM] (Secretary), Alice Murphy [AM], Arthur Leech [AL], Adam Miles [AMi], Martin Hook [MH], Bev Hunter [BH] (from 20:35), Hannah Brown [HB], Peter Gorman [PG], Roland Lawler [RL], Margaret Chapman [MC] (SCA Rep)

Item No: **MINUTES**

### 1 Apologies

Paul Dimmock sent his apologies prior to the meeting.

### 2 Declaration of Interests

NF stated that the majority of declaration of interest forms have been completed and requested that those with forms outstanding return them to him soon.

### 3 Approval of SRC minutes from 11th September

No comments were raised, and the Chair proposed that they be accepted. **Approved**

### 4 Matters arising from SRC Minutes not on the agenda

- PG has been in conversation with Cathy Wynne regarding preparations for the handbook as most of the content needs to be ready soon. The committee needs to confirm whether the new layout that was trialled at the September regatta will be used for 2024 events. The general consensus was that this new layout is positive and we would like to use it next year. **Agreed.**
- The regatta committee have requested that the SRC tighten their procedures regarding the loan of our K4s. There have been occasions this year where boats have been taken and Regatta Officials were not aware that a loan was made. LC has also requested that the hire charge be revisited as the committee are not presently receiving many voluntary donations. Currently the management of loans has been done by PM but it was suggested that an equipment officer be appointed. NF has also suggested that the loan process be streamlined, possibly using a Google Form, and that a standard charge be implemented to take account of upkeep and maintenance.
- MC asked whether the committee might wish to review and update some competition rules following discussions at a previous meeting. Several members agreed, but it was noted that we might wish to implement a realistic timeline and designate this as something that a subgroup might wish to review.
- MC reported to the committee that the Hooley 5K including the British 5000m championships which was scheduled for Saturday 22nd October 2023 had to be cancelled due to a storm. Full refunds or the ability to transfer entries to next year were offered.



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### 5 SRC Roles and Responsibilities

#### a) Designation of Committee Positions

As the first meeting of the committee since the ACM, this item was placed on the agenda so that any roles felt by the committee to be necessary could be designated to individuals. Some positions held by the previous Chair including a representative from the SRC to the Junior Development Squad and Junior Training Squad steering groups need to be appointed. NF was willing to sit on these groups if no other offers were forthcoming, and AL expressed an interest. PD in his absence was also proposed as a suitable candidate for these groups. As mentioned under matters arising, it was suggested that we designate an individual to be an equipment loan officer. HB has volunteered to do this role. **Agreed.**

AMi asked whether the committee would like him to continue to take a lead as local events co-ordinator as he did last year. The committee were happy for AMi to do this but NF was keen to have more support given through a subgroup so that all of the load is better shared between committee members. AMi also indicated that Manvers CC has already expressed an interest in running a local event next year. **Agreed.**

Also required is one further member to be part of the Junior Selection Policy Advisory Group. It was noted that several 'roles' would be taken on by subgroups as a collective when they are formed.

**Action:** Create a Google form for equipment loans, organise K4 repairs to take place (HB)

#### b) Appointment of Subgroups

It was suggested that going forwards we structure the work of the committee by designating subcommittees to take ownership of certain areas, for example a National Competitions subgroup, a Strategy subgroup etc. These committees would be able to act on behalf of the committee in their particular area and feed back to the committee. Each subcommittee would be accountable to the SRC and would need specific Terms of Reference. The general consensus among the committee was positive, so ideas for subcommittees needed will be circulated following the meeting and individuals can nominate themselves to them. During discussions, RL, PG, and AM indicated willingness to sit on a National Regattas subcommittee.

**Actions:** PM to re-circulate SRC Roles and Responsibilities Document for 23/24, and put documents in the Google Drive.

**AM** send information on JDS/JTS committees to AL

**NF** to specify sub-committees that will be created.

### 6 Goal 5 - Financial Stability

2023 Budget: LC

Year end budgets for the SRC and RC for 2023 have been finalised and submitted to BC finance for review. The final year end positions for the SRC balance sheet is an overspend of £2,900 and for the RC overspend of £6,500. LC is currently unsure if BC will cover our overspend and take us to a zero balance for the year. The committee was requested to approve the 2023 balance sheet. Questions were raised regarding the various Regatta Committee expenditure towards HSSPort/IT systems. LC clarified that £10,600 paid to HSSport was for on-site cover on regatta weekends should there be any technical problems. The £2,500 total for Trevor Kirkham goes towards the running of the regatta results service currently being used.

The SRC and RC balance sheets for 2023 were **approved** by the committee. The committee thanked Louise for her work on finalising these accounts.



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### 7 Goal 4 - Engagement with the Paddling Community

#### a) Handbook numbers for 2024

It was proposed that the committee review the number of handbook orders for next year. 200 copies were ordered in 2023 and several were leftover at the end of the year. Initially, around 50 were ordered and PM had a surplus of over 50 handbooks by the time of the September regatta. It was noted that people who require information from the handbook could be using the online version, as the handbook is made available on the SRC website. It was suggested that people could be charged for the online download if we choose to reduce the number of printed copies, however, many regatta officials prefer to use the hard copies. It was proposed that the SRC order 75 printed copies for 2024. **Agreed**

#### b) Review of Standards for Racing

PM had an email from Scott Hynds which said that the times showing the World Championship winning times in the handbook were slightly different to the times listed on the standards to racing page. The question was raised of whether these times may wish to be updated. The general feeling was that the times as they are are broadly adequate for running national regattas. NF noted that Imogen Collins has already produced an infographic showing World Leading Times for different categories and it was suggested that this could be included in the handbook.

**Action: PM** Request table format of WCh times from Imogen Collins

Explore options of using an application and charging a licence fee to access (LC?)

### 8 Goal 3 - Develop Volunteers and Coaches

2024 BC ITO Nominations for International Competitions: PE

A document was circulated prior to the meeting containing proposed nominations of International Technical Officials to ICF/ECA events in 2024. No questions were raised by the committee and the SRC gave their approval to this proposal.

**Action: PM** to confirm with PE that Nominations can be submitted to the BC board for further approval.

### 9 Strategy Sub-group report

The sub-group designated to handle the strategy review met a few weeks ago on Monday 9th October. In email correspondence, Charlie Barwis noted that no formal notes were taken, and the consensus was that the development plan needs to be revisited for 2024 and slimmed down. This meeting took place shortly before the 2023 ACM so it was felt that the development plan should be revisited by the next committee. As mentioned above in Item 5, this should be reviewed and streamlined, and allocated to sub-committees so that each subcommittee works to fulfil a goal in the strategic plan.

**Action: NF** draft a document with next steps towards SRC strategy

### 10 Goal 1 - Expand the Competition Structure

Following a lengthy discussion at the last meeting regarding the review of the U12 category at national regattas, it was proposed that members of the group that wrote the proposal meet with members of the RC to find a way forward. The committee were in agreement with this suggestion, and were asked if they would give those members, PG, MH and BH, the authorisation to represent the committee's views when they meet with PE and PC from the regatta committee. It was noted that if any rule changes are going to be implemented soon so that they can appear in the handbook.

**Action: PG** to arrange meeting with the listed individuals before Christmas.



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### 11 AOB

- A question was raised regarding the structure of the IP as there was an understanding that this is changing. It could not be confirmed at this point exactly what changes are happening as the decision is still under review.
- BH noted that we have had a request from Ghent Canoe Club to come and compete at a UK National regatta in 2024, and they would like to know the dates of these regattas. BH also asked if the usual race entry fees would be reconsidered as Ghent CC provide a large amount of support to British paddlers who go to compete in Belgium. Many committee members indicated that they would be happy to subsidise Ghent paddlers racing in Nottingham.
- LC asked whether the SRC K4s were all present in order to receive quotes to repair them. PM stated that to his knowledge they were all present. HB offered to be a point of contact to give access to the K4 shed.
- LC asked all committee members to complete the mandatory safeguarding training required to sit on a discipline committee. LC to send out the link to this course and asked that this be done before the next meeting.
- NF has been asked if any committee members would like to be involved in a conversation around standards of deployment. Volunteers would meet with James Hinves who is leading on this. PM expressed an interest.

**Actions:** BH Ghent regattas correspondence

HB Facilitate quote for repair of SRC K4s.

ALL Complete safeguarding course

### 12 Date for future SRC Committee Meeting

At this point it was noted that PM would like to agree future meetings in advance rather than by using Doodle polls. NF asked if the committee would like to set a baseline frequency of meetings. Several others agreed with the proposal of setting dates further in advance, perhaps for the whole year, with the possibility of in-person meetings being scheduled.

Agreed: Monday 15th January 2024

Meeting finished at: 21:55