



BRITISH CANOEING SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday 15th January 2024
TIME: 20:00 Zoom On-line meeting

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

Others attending: Ashley Metcalfe [AM]

Item No:

MINUTES

1 Apologies

Kier Worth had hoped to attend but sent apologies as he was not able to.

2 Declaration of Interests & Safeguarding

- Some members still have outstanding DoI forms which need to be completed. PM was asked to resend the form out to committee members.
- There are still some members outstanding to complete the required safeguarding training. LC has requested these members to book onto the safeguarding courses.

3 Approval of SRC minutes from 27th November 2023

No comments were raised regarding the minutes. NF proposed that these be accepted as a true reflection of our discussions. **Approved**

4 Matters arising from SRC Minutes not on the agenda

- NF, CB and PG met recently to discuss the upgrade of our regatta management system. They are confident that the system will be applicable for National events in addition to Local and Regional events. Under the current timescale, the specification will be out for tendering within the next year, and the new system would be implemented for events in 2026.
- LC is still chasing the sum of money currently held by Wiltshire Youth CC for the welfare block at South Cerney. She has contacted the treasurer and is making progress.
- BH followed up on the discussion of paddlers from Ghent Canoe Club wishing to attend a regatta in 2024. They have not yet decided which event to come to, and their competitors' entry fees will be covered by the RC/SRC.
- HB informed the committee that the SRC K4s stored at Nottingham had to be moved during recent flooding. Fortunately, only minor damage has been sustained to the boats, including a damaged rudder to a Hody K4 and slight damage to a Plastex K4 which was blown off a rack during high winds. HB highlighted that moving the entire fleet of SRC boats at short notice has been difficult, especially as there are no alternative racks that they can be stored on. Several solutions were suggested, and it was agreed that this topic should be revisited.



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- 4 (cont'd) • LC reported that the committee need to confirm the focus of regattas for this year for the handbook, for which the deadline is soon after the meeting. There are some clashing dates in the international calendar. It was agreed that the Macgregor paddle would be held in September as in previous years. MC suggested divisional racing for juniors in the April regatta, which had been planned as an age group competition due to it being a selection event.

5 SRC Roles and Responsibilities

PM shared a document detailing the current SRC roles and responsibilities following the last SRC meeting. NF is yet to meet with CB regarding our development plan and the creation of subgroups. The committee still need to appoint representatives to the JTS steering group. It has been confirmed that PD and MC are representatives to the JTS Steering group. BH is currently SRC representatives to the JDS Steering Group, and one more representative is needed as AM has relinquished this role. NF and RL were both proposed as a second SRC member of the JTS Steering Group, and it was suggested that votes be cast electronically by email.

6 Goal 5 - Financial Stability

2024 Budget: LC

LC has begun to prepare a budget for 2024/25 based on previous years. The JTS have asked for an increase in their financial support from the SRC, and would like £2500 for next winter. It was proposed that £1000 be budgeted for this year through to October. The current figure budgeted for contributions to the JDS is £600. Contributions for local/regional regattas has been reduced by £500 to £2000 because nobody has currently requested this assistance.

The committee discussed possible ideas for streaming regattas. A figure of £5000 had been in the budget for the past two years, but many have expressed a desire for lower cost alternatives. It was suggested that a highlight reel be produced for distribution after the regatta, rather than a livestream. It was also suggested that there may be BC publicity/marketing staff who could help.

LC has included the same figure for supporting non-funded athletes, with an additional inflation cost.

Based on this early position, there is a current projected overspend of £28680, but LC said it was unlikely that the committee would reach this figure.

7 Goal 4 - Engagement with the Paddling Community

2024 Handbook: LC

LC has suggested that the number of paper copies ordered be increased from 75 to 100. This is because the MRC are not contributing to the handbook and so would not be passing handbooks on the club Marathon race organisers who may still need one. This year the committee are trialling charging a licence fee for the PDF copy, and LC suggested a figure of £5 for access to this. **Agreed**

Advertising revenue for this year's book is £710, and the cost for the printing of 100 handbooks is £633.

LC asked if the SRC wished to include the situational analysis paragraph which has been in the handbook on the SRC officers page for the last couple of years. There were mixed feeling, but it was decided to keep it in for this year.

AMi has written a section about the SRC's local regattas strategy for the handbook and has requested some assistance to validate this. HB agreed to look over this article.

Action: LC and HB



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8 Goal 2 - National Regattas

a) Regatta Committee Report: PC

The Regatta Committee recently met on 7th January and have passed on their proposed regatta focus and justification for 2024 National regattas. This document was circulated prior to the meeting. **Agreed.**

The RC have also asked for confirmation that the regatta entry fees will remain at £10 per seat for the 2024 season. This was verified by the committee. It was also noted that due to the recent flooding that has occurred at HPP there is a small degree of doubt as to whether the facilities will be ready to host an event in April. It is the committee's understanding that the RC are making contingency plans.

The RC have invited members of the SRC to a regatta officials training day on Sunday 3rd March, which is due to take place in Oxford.

The RC have proposed a deputy to work alongside the National Rankings Officer.

b) U12 Category Review following meeting between SRC and RC members: PG

PG stated that it was a productive meeting with PC and PE from the regatta committee. An infographic was shared during the meeting which was put together by Paul Edwardes following the meeting. The proposed change keeps the Lightning boat in what was previously the LTB category, with the formerly LTA category being open to any boat. This is a change from last year, where Mini kayaks were permitted in the more advanced U12 category. The committee agreed to this change, and any required rule changes will be finalised for the handbook deadline later this week.

Questions were raised over how we can ensure that paddlers meet necessary standards to ensure safety at national regattas.

Further to this discussion, the suggestion of an U12 national sprint championship event was suggested. This will be considered for next year as this change would be too near to be enacted for the 2024 season.

9 Review of Strategic Plan

This item was held over until a later date.

10 AOB

- The question was raised concerning how members of the committee ask for certain items to be discussed at meetings. Members should email the Secretary or the Chair with items that need to be discussed.
- AMi has had a question regarding the SRC levy for U12s at Local Regattas from Bishops Stortford. In marathon, paddlers in the category do not pay a levy, and it was asked if the SRC would also adopt this. Some clubs have also asked what they will receive in return for paying the levy. The general feeling of the committee is that the levy should be in place to support the improvement of sprint racing opportunities nationally, and to contribute towards other things such as supporting non-funded athletes who have been selected for international competitions.

11 Date for future SRC Committee Meeting

A face-to-face meeting was suggested in May as there are no regattas. A date in 8 weeks time was proposed but there was no formal agreement.

Meeting finished at: 22:20