



PADDLE UK SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

Date: Monday 12th May 2025
Time: 20:00 Zoom online meeting

To:

Committee members : Nick Fowler-Rimell [NF] (Chair), Louise Clive [LC] (Treasurer), Philip Miles [PM] (Secretary), Alice Murphy [AM], Adam Miles [AMi], Bev Hunter [BH], Joe Fitzpatrick [JF], Martin Hook [MH], Paul Dimmock [PD], Peter Gorman [PG], Margaret Chapman [MC] SCA Rep

Others : James Hives [JH], James Train [JT], Charlie Barwis [CB]

Item No:

MINUTES

Welcome

The chair welcomed James Train and James Hives to the meeting. JH in his new role as Discipline Development Manager will be a key contact moving forward.

1 Apologies

No apologies were received from committee members in advance of the meeting.

2 Approval of SRC minutes from 8th March

No questions or comments were raised regarding these minutes, and it was proposed that these be accepted. **Approved**

3 Matters arising from SRC Minutes not on the agenda

- A member of the committee sought clarification on which classes would be racing the 5k event at the forthcoming June regatta. It was noted that the 5k event was being held with the inclusion of portages in line with the changes to the event format instigated by the ICF. There was some disagreement over the purpose of holding these events and whether the committee had originally intended for them to be held over more classes than only Senior Open, but the rationale behind this was so that these competitors could practise the event in this format prior to the July regatta and ensuing selections for international competitions.

4 2025 Budget Update: LC

An update to the budget for 2025 was circulated in advance via email. Since the last meeting, the SRC has received £12,000 of our grant from PUK. There have been some expenditures including the venue hire for the in person March meeting, ITO costs, and some handbook orders that have been received. LC asked if we wanted to change the way we project future budgets, as we have been using subheadings from the previous strategic plan. NF suggested that these remain for the time being until the subcommittees can suggest new subheadings under the new development plan.



4 (cont'd) A question was raised regarding the committee's budget for technical training for volunteers. Jane Lamb, a regatta volunteer, is seeking to take a motorboat driving course and the SRC have been asked if they are able to cover the £200 cost of this course. It was noted that other groups could potentially benefit from the individual taking this course and so perhaps covering the whole course would be setting a precedent. It was agreed that the committee would cover the full cost of this course. **Agreed**

5 Competition Structure

a) National Regattas update: AM/NF

MH shared with the committee that he is succeeding Phil Caisley as the next chair of the regatta committee.

MH informed the committee that the April regatta made a loss of around 30% of the total cost, more than would normally be incurred for a regatta at this stage of the season. He stated that the April Regatta being held before DW and also the changes this season will be factors contributing to this.

JH explained that there is a requirement for the SRC to have robust safety and safeguarding structures and procedures, partly for our own protection. The safety officer is a role that has been required for a while now, but that there also needs to be rigid processes for how this information is shared. This is in light of a recent fatal tragedy at Haverfordwest and general poor water quality in the UK, and is relevant for the SRC while we are overseeing a programme of local events. Currently MH is the event safety officer and LC is the committee safeguarding lead. JH has checked some role descriptors and identified who needs to undertake safeguarding courses and asked that this be completed, and is maintaining a record of who has the required qualifications.

The question was raised over whether every volunteer in their official capacity be required to have the basic level of safeguarding training. It was generally felt that for National regattas this is not necessary as some officials will not be in a situation that necessitates this. This is an area which will need some clarification for local events.

6 SRC Strategic Plan

Including assigned groups and work schedule

All committee members have been assigned to a subgroup under the three categories of the strategic plan. NF would like subgroups to meet for the first time in advance of the next meeting and to suggest strategic goals that we can all work towards. The format of the subgroups will give more opportunity for detailed discussion and autonomy. NF asked for feedback from anybody on the call. A couple of questions were asked over the allocation to different groups and if people with the relevant knowledge are where we need them to be. It was suggested that CB or JT be invited to attend some of these meetings if he could be helpful in some areas. **Action: Subgroups to meet before the next meeting**



7 Structure for future committee meetings

Following the distribution of workload into the subcommittees, whole committee meetings can be more focused discussions where there are three main discussions, under the three categories of the subgroup. NF has set the target for committee meetings to be 90 minutes with brief updates rather than circular conversations.

8 Agree date for 2025 ACM

PM has proposed two possible dates for the 2025 ACM, one on a Thursday evening if it is to be held over Zoom as in previous years, and one on weekend if we wish to return to a face to face format. The committee generally preferred the idea of a face to face meeting, and this could be combined with a coaching conference, presentation, or other social event.

Agreed: 27th September

Action - format and location to be determined (PM, NF)

9 AOB

- The SRC need to find somebody to give out medals for national championship competitions - as some classes are being combined, the medalists may not necessarily be the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishers in a given race.
- MH has encouraged SRC members to come and volunteer at a regatta to see how things work and the problems that may be encountered.
- There was a question raised about how ages are calculated in the regatta programme. From a junior perspective, it might be helpful for the age category to be listed. At the present, the listed age is the age you will be at the end of the calendar year.
- A competition jury needs to be appointed prior to the national championship competitions. PM suggested that committee members think of nominees and this can then be confirmed via email.
- The matter of minisprint points was raised, and whether we have a volunteer to calculate these for this year. A couple of names were suggested.
- CB asked if an update could be given on the new competition management system as this is an ongoing process.
- Regatta feedback - AM forgot to include the link to the feedback comments following the April regatta, she will send this round soon via email.
- JH has offered to produce a ranking list for the juniors, or help with figuring out the age categories of masters competitors. NF and CB said that this would be a useful tool.
- PM informed the committee that he observed the junior K4 crew boat process at Peterborough this past Saturday, and was impressed to see the overall high standard of delivery from the various crews, and this sentiment was echoed by the other committee members.

Date for Future SRC Meetings

Monday 16th June @ 20:00

Monday 28th July @ 20:00