

BRITISH CANOE UNION SLALOM COMMITTEE MEETING
SATURDAY 19TH MAY 2007
AT B.C.U. HEADQUARTERS, BINGHAM

Present

Anne Hounslow (Chair), Jim Croft, Ken Trollope, Sue Trollope, Jenny Walker, Don Rospin, Andy Maddock, Emma Aldridge, Andy Koszary, Andy Gray, Jacky Wetzig

Peter Denton

The Committee would like to express their deepest sympathy on the sad loss of Peter Denton. Our thoughts go to Peter's Wife Ann and his family.

Welcome and Apologies

The chair welcomed those present especially Andy Gray and Julia White the BCU Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Apologies for absence were received from, Andy Goodsell, Dave Waddington, Jim McConnachie, Tim Baillie, and Etienne Stott

Volunteer Strategy.

Julia White gave an overview of her role as Volunteer Co-ordinator. She went on to review the Action Plan, which falls into four main categories.

- 1 Recruitment.
- 2 Recognition and Rewards.
- 3 Volunteer Pathways.
- 4 Training and Resources.

Further Information can be obtained by emailing volunteers@bcu.org.uk

Declarations of Interest

None.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting 24th March 2007 were accepted as a true record of the meeting with the amendment that SCA Slalom is recruiting several coaches.

Matters Arising

Telford - The event has been cancelled and Stafford & Stone are considering talking to Telford regarding taking over the running of the event in future years.

Llangollen - Ken Trollope spoke to Albert Hammonds regarding the band hut. He was having another meeting with the HSE Ken Trollope said we would be willing to help if possible. We need to be looking for another site for the timing various options discussed, Jim Croft to contact local publicity man for his help.

NWSC - Charges for NWSC have increased dramatically with no improvement of facilities there was a long discussion and we will continue to pressure for more realistic charges - without slalom, the site would not have been built in the first place.

Dual Qualification of ICF Officials - It has been confirmed that the ICF have been asked by the IOC to reduce the number of officials at events, Sprint people at Slaloms would only do non-judging roles. Peter Moules from sprint is one of those approached.

Paddler Representative - Etienne Stott has been re-elected.

Finance

Andy Koszary apologised for his absence at the last meeting
He went on to discuss England funding so that England were on the same basis as Scotland and Wales i.e. a share of the levies is passed to England. Further discussion is needed and a financial proposal to be put forward at the ACM. In the mean time this committee will ensure the England team can function financially.

There has been a delay in the accounts to the end of April, Jim & Catharine Croft have been helping and hope to have draft accounts to the end of May by the end of June. Llangollen weekends made an increase in profit.

Correspondence

We have had request for help with funding from junior paddlers attending the Pre Worlds. A discussion followed. The 2 English non-funded paddlers will be supported up to £500. The WCA are expected to support their paddlers but if less than this we will equal the support the English paddlers are getting.

We have received correspondence regarding the selection race points - winner takes all on the third race questioning the order of selection. A detailed reply of explanation has been sent.
Andy Maddock said that next years policy is in an advanced state and that drafts have already been issued for comment.

Jim Croft received a letter from the BCU reminding organisers that if they allow any trade stands at an event that they should check that the company is covered by public liability insurance. This information is already in the yearbook p92 rule 52.5. Jim Croft to check whether it is in the Organisers Handbook.

Marketing & Publicity

Andy Gray RDO for London & SE put some points forward.

Determining our need, he can look at what he can do as he has a background in Marketing.
He has already spoken to Chloe at the BCU and will work closely with her.
How to write a publicity pack, obtaining sponsorship and other ways of generating finance.
Need to put together a DVD - Glossy stuff to show prospective sponsors

Anne Hounslow would like to see a multi-divisional event at HPP, using the top of course, bottom of course and the Winfield pool, also with a social event, after the Olympics next year when the elite paddlers are back so they can help with some coaching of the lower divisions

A meeting is to be held next week to start putting together development plan for the 2009 Euros.

Selection

The Committee thanked all the helpers at the selection races and especially Ken and Sue Trollope the organisers. Also a big thank you to the paddlers it was a very successful event.

England - The way forward

See Finance

Development Plan

The Development plan has not progressed much mainly due to Richard Lee having more pressing commitments Anne Hounslow had a meeting with Howard Blackman and Sue Hornby, they have put together A 'Slalom Participation & Development' proposal and they are very keen to get it up and running.

Its main aims are to -

- Increase participation of Slalom based activity.

- Support the development of slalom coaching.

- Provide the 'best start' for both athletes and coaches.

- Increase the number of slalom clubs achieving Clubmark/Top Club.

- Increase the number of participants attending Div 4 events.

The current concept includes discussions around slalom entry-level events and to get each PDO to run a slalom entry-level event in their region. We will help as needed.

Access

Nothing to Report.

Coordinators' Reports

World Class -

The changes have been completed at HPP. They have a design for the whole course but as yet no funding.

The move into the old BCU building is now complete and hopefully the Log cabin down by midcourse will be built next week.

Event Management -

Jim Croft is already receiving requests to run events for next year and they are being entered on the managed calendar on a first come first serve basis.

Coaching -

DR tabled a report in which he stated: -

World Class have offered support from paddlers on their programmes for coaching sessions for youngsters on the HPP slalom course during august - more information to follow

He was disappointed with the progress made with the Youth programmes links

There still has been no response for coaching initiative grants to coaches in clubs seeking top club Status.

Judging -

Paddlers survey replies coming in.

Update from Jury report received so far show an increase in participation

There have been complaints about that Tutti not working.

Anne Hounslow said that all Tutti equipment was serviced over the winter a lot of problems are caused by the operators not informing and returning defective equipment to the Timing Officer so that replacement equipment can be sent to the next event.

England -

Sue Trollope reported that, apart from starting the Funding restructure, England won the first leg of the PCC in Scotland. There will probably be a problem getting a team up there next year due to the school holiday problem.

Wales -

Nothing to report

Scotland -

Nothing to report

Timing -

Useful to have three races at HPP and the timing team are getting to grips with the new system there are still some teething problems.

Meeting Closed 14:10.

Date for next Committee Meeting

8th September 2007 at Cardington.

“Canoeing and Kayaking are “Assumed risk” – “Water contact sports” that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks, and be responsible for their own action and involvement”.