



British Canoeing

Slalom Committee

Meeting Minutes

Saturday 4th August 2018

Stronger Together

**Location: British Canoe Union HQ, National Water Sports Centre
Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, NG12 2LU**



1 Present

1.1 In Person

Dave Spencer	[5/5]	Chair	Andy Neave	[5/5]	Coaching	Dave Spencer	[5/5]	England
Andy Koszary	[4/5]	Treasurer	Dee Lindsay	[5/5]	Digital Strategy/Data	Mark Abbott	[4/5]	Wales
Martyn Setchell	[5/5]	Vice Chair	Steve Linksted	[2/5]	Divisional Development			
		Athlete Rep	Peter Curry	[3/5]	Safety/Comp Mgmt.			
Colin Woodgate	[5/5]	Secretary	Andy Grudzinski	[4/5]	Technical/Timing			

1.2 Apologies

Anna Gray (British Canoeing)	Hazel Ridge	[3/5]	Volunteers/Safeguarding	Richard Ramsdale	[3/5]	British Canoeing
				Kiran Dews	[0/5]	CANI
				Chris Baillie	[3/5]	Scotland

2 Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

4 Chair's Report

4.1 GB Team Success

The GB teams across all age ranges are having a great summer and delivering across the board. Congratulations to all those making finals and getting on to the podium and building GB's reputation as a force to be reckoned with in Canoe Slalom.

4.2 Domestic Competition

Although having a glorious summer is a welcome change, when it results in a lack of rain to fill reservoirs and rivers is it not such good news for Canoeist. Having lost races earlier in the year because of terrible weather we have now lost the Washburn Div1 double due to Yorkshire Water being unable to release water. If the dry spell continues there is a chance that more races may be impacted. The committee is well aware of the angst felt by paddlers as they lose the chance to compete, and for those chasing promotion the potential loss of valuable ranking points. We are looking at whether an additional Div1 race can be held later in the year to help the situation and also consider whether end of year promotions can be offered to those paddlers ranked at the top of their division.

4.3 Simply Slalom

All organisers have been informed that the I have taken on the support of Simply Slalom and some minor tweaks and fixes have been undertaken and I am in the process of distributing these. The feedback from a survey has confirmed that Simply Slalom is a valued tool and I have received a number of ideas for various improvements. Thanks to all for the feedback and hopefully you will understand if this takes a little time to achieve!

4.4 Four Year Planning DS / CDW (171126-11.2)

A draft plan was circulated before the meeting and was accepted for further consultation within the slalom community. A link will be posted on the web site and the plan will be tabled at the ACM
 **Action DS/CDW**

4.5 Historic Archive files (DS/171126 12.9)

DS is in contact with Tim Croft, who is reviewing Jim's office and is separating out slalom related information for later collection. Which will be co-ordinated with DS.

Amanda Trollope is performing the same, unhappy task with Ken Trollope's office and will liaise with DS.



4.6 British Canoeing Future Leaders Scheme

British Canoeing has launched ‘a future leaders programme’ kicking off in the Autumn aimed at supporting and training volunteers to give the skills, experience and confidence to join and contribute productively to national and regional committees.

The programme involves workshops, mentoring and then placements with committees. BC is looking for the committee support regarding placements.

The outline was reviewed; a discussion ensued. Individual members of the Committee are encouraged to consider anyone appropriate and encourage them to apply.

Several of the current committee members were interested in some of the workshops and understand that some modules can be presented on an Ad Hoc basis. The committee struggled to identify any placement activities that would be appropriate for the programme. This will be considered for the next meeting

..... **Action All**

4.7 2019 Selection Policy

A final version of the 2019 and Olympic selection policy has been produced and it is currently undergoing detailed review before ratification by the British Canoeing Board and then publication.

Following the strong guidance from the previous meeting, the International Panel has returned with two possible schedules, one for three days, the other for 3½ days. Volunteers are already being asked to give up additional time to support the World Cup in Lee Valley, it was felt that a maximum of three days should be used.

The unanimous view amongst officials and the committee is that extending to 3½ days makes very little difference to the 4 full days that was rejected earlier in the year, and results in the same issues for volunteers. Being asked again did not go down well with the volunteers as they felt they had made their opinions clear first time round.

The committee once again strongly advised against a longer than three-day competition. The committee is willing to work with the international Panel to adjust timings to provide the best selection within that constraint. This will be taken back to the IP.....**Action DS/MS**

5 Secretary’s Report

5.1 Role Descriptions (171126-11.1)

Some role descriptions have been received, these have been combined with the role descriptions from 2013 and made available to the committee.**Action CDW**

The remaining descriptions must be completed by the next meeting..... **Action All**
 Descriptions and pathways will be considered for all roles within slalom, including judging roles, organising etc.

5.2 Membership Checks / Insurance for Division 4

British Canoeing / SCA / CW / CANI insurers will be asked for clarification of the status of insurance for those trying the sport with respect to the current day membership scheme. This is also affected by the revisions to the UK Agreement.....**Action DS**

There is confusion regarding day membership particularly where this covers races which attract entries from another home nation. You cannot be a member of a home nation organisation unless you are resident and there is no exception made for day membership. The logical consequence is perhaps that you can only compete in Division 4 races in your home nation if you are not already an individual member. This is clearly unacceptable to intent. Anna Gray reported that this is currently being reviewed within BC.

..... **Action AGray**

5.3 Terms of Reference / Regulations

The revised draft Terms of Reference were discussed with David Joy, and some small modifications made. The meeting agreed these changes. The Terms of Reference will be circulated with the papers for the 2018 ACM and put to a vote at that meeting.

Year Book



The year book survey has been updated and circulated to the committee for comments. This was reviewed and Nick will be asked to add a link to the website for consultation closing before the next committee meeting..... **Action DL**

5.4 Seniors Age Group Prizes

Recent reviews of the profile of athletes has shown that the sport is predominately junior and masters / veterans. The current advice to organisers is to give overall prizes, and prizes in junior age groups and masters. This often leads to the main event prizes being won by juniors or Under 23s, with age group prizes then being given to U23, J18, J16 etc, with no prizes being awarded to a senior paddle (over 23 and under 35). Organisers should be encouraged to consider Seniors as an age group in itself and provide specific age prizes where there are sufficient in the age group. Rules C3.4 and C34.12 will be reviewed to ensure consistency and include seniors as an age group.

5.5 Automation of Managed Calendar

No work has taken place and the action is ongoing. Getting a system running this year for use in 2019 is probably a more realistic proposition. Two people have expressed an interest in assisting in this system. Their interest will be followed up..... **Action DS**

The current level of the calendar (including division 1 / Prem races) will be published..... **Action DS**

5.6 Automated Bib Application system (NEW/AN)

There was a wide-ranging discussion on the challenges and opportunities surrounding the bib system. Issues fall into several areas, new entrants to the ranking system, those promoted during the year and the start/end of season process.

An email-based subgroup will be set up (AN, MA, DL, SL, DS) to discuss the options and bring proposals to a future meeting..... **Action MA**

5.7 Possible ACM Motions

5.7.1 *Draft ACM motions*

CDW circulated an early draft of the ACM Agenda, containing committee motions, for review / comment.

5.7.2 *Rule Review*

A separate document containing possible additional rule reviews was circulated. Actions agreed were:

5.7.3 *ACM Elections*

Dave Spencer confirmed that he would like to continue as Committee Chair.

Andy Koszary is considering his position and would like to be replaced on the committee if a volunteer can be found.

5.8 Committee Members

Committee Members Term Expiring 2018: Andy Neave (Coaching), Steve Linksted (Divisional Development), Hazel Ridge (Volunteers). All were asked to confirm at the next meeting if they wish to be nominated..... **Action AN, SL, HR**

Committee Members Term Expiring 2019: Dee Lindesay (Digital / Data Strategy), Andy Grudzinski (Technical / Timing), Peter Curry (Safety / Competition Management)

A call for nominations will be put out nearer the closing date for nominations..... **Action CDW**

6 Finance

6.1 Accounts

The accounts cover the nine months ended 31 July 2018 and show a deficit of income over expenditure of £3,113. The accounts are unaudited. The following notes should be read in conjunction with the accounts.

6.1.1 *British Canoeing Competition Grant*

No application for a grant from British Canoeing has been made for the current year.



6.1.2 *Slalom Levies*

Gross slalom levies receivable in the period to 31 July were £25,969. This compares with £28,520 in the same period in 2017 and £28,342 in 2016. The decrease is partly due to events cancelled or lower attendances due to the severe weather in February/March and partly due to levies not being applied to Division 3 events in 2018.

6.1.3 *Coaching support*

The Slalom Committee and the Home Nation Committees have jointly agreed to support individuals taking slalom coaching courses. Grants totalling £1,180 to 7 members of Holme Pierrepont CC were jointly funded by the Slalom Committee and the England Canoe Slalom Committee in July.

6.1.4 *England Canoe Slalom Committee*

The cash balance held in our accounts, due to the England Canoe Slalom Committee (ECSC) was £16,891. Athlete grants totalling £6,800 were made in July.

6.2 *Banking Arrangements*

By the end of 2019 British Canoeing are looking to centralise the banking and support arrangements. This will be monitored, and impacts assessed.....**Action AK**

7 *Co-Ordinator Reports*

7.1 *Coaching*

A significant number of people want to move forward with the coaching system, but the tutors will not be available until the end of the season. The allocation of priorities for current tutors is a significant issue that can only be addressed by British Canoeing. This will be escalated within BC**Action AN**

7.2 *Digital Strategy / Data*

7.2.1 *Online Entry*

There has been an issue with automated reclaiming of entry fees after paddling. This will be monitored and reported back to the next meeting..... **Action DL**

7.2.2 *Mug Shots (180421/7.2.1 all)*

Photos will be posted to the web pages shortly..... **Action DL**

7.2.3 *Bib Application Forms*

The bib application form has now been updated with a brief Privacy Policy including explanation of data use, a reference to the British Canoeing privacy policy, removing unnecessary detail, and some brief Ts and Cs. The requirement for ‘comprehensive’ membership has also been updated to reflect different nations. The whole lot has been adjusted to print to two sides of A4 from the major browsers, but realistically we cannot add more to the paper form.

7.2.4 *GDPR Compliance*

A generic email will be sent to organisers pointing them at the British Canoeing GDPR information toolkit, asking them to review their race for compliance *Carried Forward*..... **Action AEG**

The organisers pack will be updated to include a poster relating to the privacy policy and to reflect the requirement shred cards as soon as practical after a race. *Carried Forward*.....**Action DS**

An audit of processes and data will be undertaken and policies for retention will be developed**Action DL/AEG**

7.3 *Divisional Development*

7.3.1 *Gaps in Geographic Spread*

A draft interactive map of slalom sites was reviewed.

The 2019 calendar will be reviewed with specific attention to division 3 and 4 and encouraging participation at the entry level, possibly by highlighting dates and locations for additional competitions. As agreed earlier seed funding may be available..... **Action DS/AN**



7.3.2

2018 Division 1 Calendar

Following the cancellation of Shepperton Division 1 double and Washburn Division 1 double there are only 6 remaining opportunities to gain points as a home division paddler this year.

The prospect of an additional Division one race at Lee Valley on the Olympic Course is being investigated. This may be over the weekend of 27th /28th October. There are a number of issues surrounding the event including

- staffing timing and scoring as it is extending the season.
- provision of safety cover appropriate for the course.
- Finances; an additional entry fee chargeable and the committee approved enhanced entry fee up to £10 if a further increase is requested, this will have to be separately approved.

7.4 Safety/Competition Management

7.4.1 **Safety at Competitions**

There have been further deaths in Scotland related to white water Canoeing, although not to Slalom. Organisers are encouraged to ensure that their safety plans are in place and followed, and that appropriate checks are made for personal safety equipment.

7.4.2 **Safety Plans**

Almost complete with current year plans for the rest of the season. Currently still outstanding

- The race on the Legacy Loop at the same time as the British Open.
- The Interclubs' race. The safety plan for the competition is expected to be well covered, but there are additional issues for post event safety that the organiser should consider and clubs must consider and ensure sufficient responsible adults are in attendance.
- The Dart Race at end of October

7.5 Technical / Timing

7.5.1 **Gate Judge lists (171126-12.7)**

An updated list of gate judges will be produced, from information available in a variety of sources. *Carried Forward*..... **Action AEG**

7.5.2 **Standardised Start Procedure**

Standardising a start procedure was discussed last year with an aim of making it easy for those with less acute hearing / vision to compete, without having to make the disability obvious. A draft is being circulated **Action AEG**

7.6 Volunteers / Safeguarding

With the onset of British Canoeing's New Volunteer programme I am mindful of opportunities for all to assist within our beloved sport and the need for all to feel equally appreciated however large or small their role.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated core of helpers around the country and to this end I have asked Nick Penfold to once again express our gratitude as a Committee, via his wonderful Canoe Slalom website, to all of those individuals and to also invite new helpers into our ranks.

Examinations/ Training days for gate judges in Wales have been provisionally allocated for this autumn and we hope to set dates for gate judge/ section judges' examinations throughout the country for the autumn period too.

PC noted that the costs of the PVG checks in Scotland are a concern for the government and cuts in checks for volunteers are being reduced.



8 Other Reports

8.1 England

8.1.1 *Support for Non-Funded GB Athletes*

Following the Selection series financial support for English non-funded athlete was agreed. Alongside some separate funding from the England Programme the level of awards amount to approximately 50% of the athlete contribution. Competing Internationally when not an established programme athlete involves considerable cost and we are pleased that we are in a position to assist.

8.1.2 *Coaching Support*

A group of young paddlers have just completed the Slalom specific module at HPP and the ECSC is pleased to have funded 50% of the cost with the Slalom Committee matching this contribution. We are happy to fund further Slalom coaching modules and will be encouraging clubs to make use of this initiative to further develop more qualified coaches.

8.1.3 *Pan Celtic*

An English leg of the Pan Celtic was recently held alongside a Div2 competition at HPP. Although there was a good turnout of English and Welsh paddlers, numbers from Scotland and Northern Ireland were low. Congratulations to all those that put in some hard racing and earned England a majority of first places. The final English leg will be at Tees in October.

8.1.4 *Governance*

Now that the Slalom Committee Terms of Reference is almost complete we have a better understanding of how the ECSC needs to fit in the overall British Canoeing committee structure. I will be consulting to all the regional slalom reps and committee members to agree the structure and purpose of the committee.

8.2 Scotland

Training and competing trips to Europe Summer 2018

There have been 3 highly successful volunteer led training trips to various parts of Europe and the SCA performance summer trip is currently abroad.

8.3 Wales

Paddlesport within Wales is continuing to develop well with regular training and development sessions taking place.

Over the last few months various squad members have been attending training camps and races around Europe.

Several races have been run within Wales across all divisions. All events have been well attended with the Junior Welsh Championships taking place at the Bala race in July.

The Welsh leg of the Pan Celtic is planned for September split over two weekends with the junior event on Chapel Falls / NRA and the senior event at the Graveyard event.

8.4 GB Performance

The Junior and U23 team have just returned from a successful championship in Ivrea, Italy. The team performed well with reduced access to the venue leading up to the event due to recent flooding and damage to the course which lead to the cancelation of a training camp ahead of the event.

The team delivered 10 finals across multiple classes, 5 Junior finals and 5 U23 finals, 3 individual medals (Kim Woods U23 C1W Silver, U23 K1W Bronze and Bradley Forbes-Cryans U23 K1M Silver) and 3 team medals (K1W U23 Bronze, C1M U23 Bronze and C1W Junior Silver).

Performances at the event featured a number of personal bests from athletes and perhaps one of the best displays of depth of talent as all junior boats qualified through to Semi-finals.

The majority of the team have returned home to rest and recover in the lead up to the European Championships next month in Bratislava, Slovakia. Thank you to all the parents that made the journey to travel out and support the team at the event, having a crowd of familiar faces at large international events such as this helps out athletes to feel more at ease!



The Junior and U23 Championship also saw the first international Junior/U23 Extreme Slalom events, with 6 British athletes racing and testing their boating skills against the best athletes in the worlds.

8.5 Athlete Representative

No report.

9 Correspondence/Other Business

9.1 Biennial Dinner

Planning for the event at Blotts is underway.

9.2 Advertising Material

Keith Goddard is willing to produce marketing materials. All present were asked to consider how this offer can be best used. **Action All**

9.3 British Canoeing Slalom Conference

A conference has been advertised for the week before the ACM. This is organised by the performance and coaching groups but is open to all members of the slalom community.

9.4 Commonwealth Games

DS will raise with Gemma Wiggs the prospect of including canoeing in the Birmingham Commonwealth games. **Action DS**

9.5 Tryweryn NRA Division 2 / Pan Celtic

Current predictions show that this competition will make a large loss, in part due to the clash with the HPP Division 1. The course is expected to be sensitively set to support paddlers in taking sensible routes and will be suitable for the division. The Committee reiterated its support for the running of the competition.

10 Future Meeting Dates

All meetings at 9:30, at BCU HQ in Nottingham, unless otherwise noted.

- Sunday 4th November (DL/PC registered their apologies for this meeting)
- Saturday 24th November (ACM)
- Sunday 25th November

The Chair thanked members for their attendance. The meeting closed at 16:45.