



## SLALOM COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 9 March 2021

Via videoconference

**Attendees:** Dave Spencer, Chair; Peter Curry; Deborah Catty; Karen Crowhurst; Dee Lindsay; Martyn Setchell; Andy Grudzinski (AGz); Mark Abbott; Les Ford; Mike Mitchell; Colin Woodgate; Andrew Thomson (on behalf of SCA in FG's absence)

**Apologies:** Richard Ramsdale; Anna Gray (AG); Fraser Glasgow;

### Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as correct

### Matters arising

Committee members were reminded to complete the declaration of interest form and return it to DC.

A decision regarding the approach to demotions at the end of the season to be made and communicated. **Action:** to add to April agenda

FG and DC to send photos to Nick Penfold for the website.

LF and DC to catch up off line in relation to videos for the slalom website

### Treasurers Report

CW has now reviewed the accounts though there were elements where he had had to revert to the original paperwork to resolve. **Action:** MA and CW to catch up off line in relation to some residual queries regarding welsh competitions

### 2021 Racing

PC led a discussion regarding the current position in relation to covid-19. Key points were:

- The lockdown is working and, coupled with the vaccine, has meant a reduction in deaths. However, a significant proportion of the population (94-96%) needs to be vaccinated to get back to normality
- There is likely to be a further surge in autumn and winter.
- Lockdown is starting to be relaxed in the home nations though there is likely to be an ongoing emphasis on limiting travel

- Local racing should be encouraged. Based on the current road map, lower division (3/4) racing is likely to be possible from mid-May, with local non ranking events able to run before then.
- From 21 June **at the earliest** , there are likely to be opportunities to hold div 2 races which will result in paddlers travelling. It was emphasised that paddlers will have a responsibility to comply with their local restrictions, as well as the national restrictions and the local restrictions at the site.
- Whilst it may be possible that from 21 June, div 1 and prem races are able to be run, the position would need to be carefully monitored. The minimum criteria for holding an event would be that all nations must be free to move around (to ensure equality of access to the events), and that paddlers had had sufficient time back on the water in advance of racing starting.
- It was agreed to draft a statement for circulation as per the above. **Action: DC**
- It is expected that there will be a need to limit numbers at races; with August / September likely to be the best opportunity for larger (200+ people) races.
- Overnight accommodation may be an issue, especially camping
- It would not be the event organiser's responsibility to police where paddlers were travelling from, rather to set out the requirements with which participants must comply. The slalom will support organisers where they have reasonably declined an entry because of covid restrictions.
- Event organisers are able to withdraw an event if they were concerned about their ability to reasonably comply with the requirements relating to covid, or where their race (or part of it) has been de-ranked.
- Short notice div 3s may be possible. The committee will monitor requests
- The position relating to insurance needs to be clarified, as SCA understood that insurance cover was in place as usual. **Action: DS**

DCMS are due to publish guidance on 22 March to clarify the position from 29 March, with Sport England guidance also expected.

It was agreed that a meeting for event organisers would be held mid-April, with individual organisers welcome to contact AGz and/or PC before then.

### **IP and selection**

An IP meeting is due to be held on 10 March. Based on the discussions to-date it is likely that U23 / junior selection will be selection only, and not also run as a prem race.

The position regarding senior selection is still being considered, with possible options of holding it in early August or tying it in with the U23 / junior selection races.

IP were starting to consider qualification criteria for 2022.

### **Pan-celtic / veterans championships**

Scotland and Wales are proposing one pan celtic event in 2021 – potentially at Tees. In the absence of an England team manager, DS agreed to act as the contact to agree a way forward.

Veteran racing – to be picked up at April's meeting

### **ICF proposed rule changes**

It was agreed that MS would feed back to BC on behalf of the committee.

### **Extreme slalom**

It was noted that extreme slalom was being managed via BC rather than through the slalom committee. It was agreed that the committee needed to better understand the structure, expectations and requirements and so a member of BC would be invited to come and talk to this.

In the interim, CW will feedback to the committee.

### **Any other business**

It was agreed that Harefield could move their event, subject to this being agreed by other organisers running events on the proposed weekend

### **Dates and times of next meetings**

23 March 2021 @ 7.30pm – non-racing issues

15 April 2021 @ 7.30pm – full meeting