



Present

In Person

Dave Spencer	[3/3]	Chair	Les Ford	[3/3]	Coaching	Dave Spencer	[3/3]	England
Veronica Milne	[3/3]	Treasurer	Mike Mitchell	[3/3]	Development	Mark Abbott	[3/3]	Wales
Colin Woodgate	[3/3]	Secretary	Dee Lindsay	[3/3]	Digital Strategy/Data	Martyn Setchell	[3/3]	Athlete Rep
Andy Grudzinski	[2/3]	Vice Chair	Karen Crowhurst	[3/3]	Participation	Andrew Thompson	[3/3]	Scotland
			Peter Curry	[3/3]	Safety/Comp Mgmt.			
			Jason Humphries	[3/3]	Volunteering			

Apologies

Kiran Dews	[0/1]:CANI
Richard Ramsdale	[2/1]:British Canoeing

Anna Gray, British Canoeing Sports Development Manager
 Fiona Pennie

1 Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

2.1 Matters Arising

2.1.1 Yearbook on the web

- Low Level Calendar (**DS 5-21/12**) being proofread and 500 will be produced as an initial run. They will be sent with division 4 promotion certificates and offered to division 3/4 organisers.
- Rules on the web, a link to the rules has been posted on the chat line, and a copy posted on canoeslalom.co.uk
- Introductory Judging Guide (**JH 5-21/12**) in progress
- Club Contact List: Production and publishing of this will be deferred until next season, as part of club registration at the end of the season.
- Terms of Reference. CW will produce a pdf for publishing, hopefully before the end of the month (**CW 5-21/12**)
- Prize winners. DS has supplied this years' information to the Web site. FP has recorded full information for the trophies, a history for them, and created a central folder for the information.
- A diversity and equality statement will be considered for inclusion.....(**MS 5-21/12**) in progress
- Information is published on the BC (or National Association) web site a link will be provided rather than republishing.....(**AG 5-21/12**) in progress
- A WhatsApp guide is included in the organisers pack
- Other sections will be considered during the year.

2.1.2 Junior Newcomer Prizes

Sponsors for the Junior Newcomer awards have been identified. Thanks were expressed to Pete Astles, Eilidh Gibson and Davie Dickson.



3 Current Year Situation

As the COVID restrictions are being removed, slalom in this country can restart. The current position and expectations were discussed. Among the issues that are of concern include:

How many paddlers will return to paddling? We have had two years of natural wastage without bringing new people into the sport and progressing through the divisions. Early season division 2 races seem to have reasonable entries. Division 1 races are concerning, but this is affected by entries opening late, and people entering later.

The general feeling of the meeting was that we want to support as many races as possible. Organisers will be contacted 6 weeks in advance to assess the viability of the race with the expectation of making a decision 4 weeks before the race. Where races cannot be viably held they may be combined with a later event..... **Action DL**

Entries are being made closer to races than previously. It is not possible to enter all the year's races at the start of the year, and entries are being put in a month before the race.

It is already clear that some volunteers will not be returning to slalom. This affects organisers, judges and other officials. There is a need to discover the depth of the hole, look at how we can recruit new volunteers, and how we have to adapt the current working practices to still provide slalom nationally. Recruiting new, younger volunteers has been an issue for a while, but this issue has raised it to greater prominence.

Is the current structure appropriate for that number, or can / should it be adapted to provide a sensible spread of challenge and reward? Especially in the light of spiralling transport costs. How other disciplines within British Canoeing address these issues will be investigated. Some review of systems in other countries will also be investigated. These may not be applicable due to differences in the profile of slalom..... **Action CW**

4 The English Question

The working group had an initial discussion, starting to define the terms of reference for the English slalom committee. A series of initial steps have been identified to progress this further.....**Action DS**

5 Bib Application System Update

The system has been launched and is working. The table below reflects the number of bibs requested.

Prem	Class	Bibs	Issued	%age	Div 1	Class	Bibs	Count	
	MC1	36	22	61%		MC1	27	14	52%
	MK1	73	41	56%		MK1	84	42	50%
	WC1	22	15	68%		WC1	16	7	44%
	WK1	44	26	59%		WK1	39	23	59%
Total		175	104	59%	Total		166	104	63%
Div 2	Class	Bibs	Count		Div 3	Class	Bibs	Count	
	MC1	21	15	71%	D	MC1	30	12	40%
	MK1	105	52	50%		MK1	165	59	36%
	WC1	27	11	41%		WC1	27	15	56%
	WK1	55	35	64%		WK1	95	32	34%
Total		208	104	50%	Total		166	104	63%
Vets	Class	Bibs	Count			C2	Bibs	Count	
	MC1	15	6	40%			18	15	83%
	MK1	56	38	68%					
	WK1	17	11	65%					
Total		88	55	63%					



There have been some teething issues have been identified and resolved. These include deposit rates, life membership expiry dates, bedding in of the hardware.

The system is working well for 90-95% of the applications, but there are issues for people who have not had a bib before, and the bedding in of the system for the bib officers.

In passing

British Canoeing are hosting the system and will be asked to undertake a data protection audit to confirm that the data retention matches their policies.....**Action DS**

Bib officers will be reminded that once the system is live, personal data should not be kept**Action DS**

6 Athlete Representative Election

Nominations have opened for an Athlete Representative (<https://bit.ly/2022AthleteRep>). To date a single person has been nominated. Nominations close on 1st April.

If an election is needed, a form will be opened, and two weeks given for ranked paddlers to vote. It was clarified that each person will have a single vote, regardless of the number of times they are ranked.

7 Other Competitions

7.1 BUCS

The race was to held at HPP on 12/13 February. BC lead this year with support from local universities and members of the slalom committee. Committee Equipment wase used to help run the event, this provided a useful opportunity to test the timing/scoring equipment. The timing and judging support was welcomed by the organisation and should be continued.

It is understood that there is interest form institutions to run the race, rather than having BC running the competition.

7.2 Worlds ‘Test Event’

The test event for the 2023 will be run on 17/18 September 2022. There has been little action since the previous meeting

7.3 British Open

There has been little action since the previous meeting

7.4 2023 World Championships

The 2023 World Championship organising committee are now meeting regularly and investigating ways to make the event even more successful than the last Championships held in the UK.

7.5 Pan Celtic 2022

The Pan Celtic races this year will be in Wales, despite the listing on the web. The precise races will be identified very soon.**JH**

7.6 Junior / Veterans Championships

The race will be held in England for the next two years.

8 2022 Possible Rule Changes

Possible changes from the previous minutes have been logged and include

- BC Membership
- ‘Yearbook’ references
- Clarification of rules for lost protest fee
- Organisers pack



9 Other Business

9.1 Ukraine

The meeting discussed the situation for Ukrainian athletes trapped abroad with no funds due to the humanitarian crisis. It was noted that there is to be a donation account opened and administered by the ICF to raise money for Ukrainian athletes caught up in the hostilities, and has asked national federations to donate if possible to the cause.

The UK Slalom Committee is not a National Federation, and as such will be guided by British Canoeing in any response. It was also noted that the committee's terms of reference specifically relate to Canoe Slalom in the UK.

In the light of the current humanitarian crisis it was suggested that at least until the conflict is resolved, clubs should consider donating protest fees to one of the charities involved.

9.2 Sensing Poles

A company on the continent is offering 'sensing poles' and looking for competitions to test the poles. Further information will be sought with the possibility of offering a Premier race as a test bed.

10 Future Meetings

The next meeting will be online on Wednesday 18th May at 7:30pm. Peter Curry offered his apologies. The intention is still to have one or two face to face meetings this year a proposal for some dates