



British Canoe Slalom Committee

“Putting Paddlers First and Valuing Volunteers”

Committee Meeting Minutes

GBCanoeing Lee Valley

Sunday 7th August 2011



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

1 Present

Anne Hounslow [5/5] Chair	Ken Trollope [5/5] Event Management	Scotland [5/5] Chris Baillie
Colin Woodgate [5/5] Secretary	Andy Grudzinski [4/5] Marketing/Publicity	Wales [5/5] Emma Aldridge
Jenny Walker [5/5] Vice Chair	AEG/CDW Timing/Technical	Dave Royle[4/5] England
Andy Koszary [3/6] Treasurer		Andy Maddock [4/5] GB Canoeing

Also Present:

Jim Croft Slalom Administrator

Apologies received from:

Peter Atkinson [3/5] Volunteers	Andy Goodsell [0/5] BCU
Peter Curry [4/5] Strategic Planning	Jacky Brookes [3/5] Competition
	Martyn Setchell [4/5] Paddler Rep

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere)

1.1 Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were accepted as a true record

1.2 Declaration of Interest

There were no additional declarations

2 Chairman's Report

2.1 Lee Valley Division 2/3

AH started by thanking AEG for the administration of the recent event. The event seemed to be a success. CDW will send an email to the centre manager, thanking him for the things that went well, and raising particular concerns the committee has with regard to future events.**Action CDW**

2.2 Lee Valley International Invitational Event

A discussion ensued relating to the issues relating to the use of the centre and the potential Legacy from the Olympics. Ways of providing this information to the general community were discussed.

- AH reported that:
- For most the event went well, obviously some hiccoughs but this is to be expected please remember to feed back to John/Elaine/Colin if not done using feedback forms at event!
- The camping arrangements seemed to work well.
- There were some issues relating to the distribution of wristbands those who had an allocation of tickets found the process good.
- Some positive possibilities are being explored for camping for the Olympics, Andy Goodsell pursuing these.

2.3 2011 ACM Location

AH confirmed the ACM location will be ITT Water Waste Water, Private Road 1, Colwick Industrial Estate, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG4 2AN.

2.4 Volunteers:

Julia Robertson is happy to work with us to develop a strategy for recruiting more volunteers from both within the sport and outside it. A meeting is to be set up between the volunteer co-ordinator and other members.....**Action AH/PA/EA**

2.5 Membership:

The new rates have been published and all appeals to the board have fallen on deaf ears, in fact Brian Chapman has failed to respond despite a reminder. Paul Owen provided an insight into how the board works.

AH reported that it is planned that all ICF qualifications will in future appear on membership cards.

2.6 BCU board nominations:

There are 2 English board members positions up for re - election in October. There is a need for the board to look at gender equality (only the new NI rep is female). The aim is that at least one of those positions is filled with a female. AH declared her intention to stand and that she has obtained both a proposer and second from the English council.

2.7 Future funding possibilities

Selection event gate income – this is to form the basis of a pot of money with the aim of profitable events subsidising non-profitable at Lee Valley. This has not been completely agreed by all parties, with GBCanoeing making substantial losses over the event and cannot be confirmed until the selection accounts are finalised..... **Action AM**

2.8 Slalom committee funding:

Paul Owen is to arrange for Dave Belbin, BCU treasurer, to meet with Andy Koszary to get full understanding of our needs to take to board. AK and Dave Belbin have had a telephone conversation. The committee is to recommend that Paul Owen attends the next CEOs meeting to assist in resolving any inter home nation issues**Action AH**

2.9 International Panel

The committee noted that it has little influence on the international panel, merely the chair being on the committee and the paddler representative attending. The International Panel is responsible only to the BCU board

A major error in the wording regarding who was eligible to race at World Cup races came to light (it was also there last year but was not picked up) it was brought to our attention an athlete wishing to compete:

“For all other 2011 ICF WR events (including World Cups) first priorities will be given selected Senior Teams and reserve athletes up to a maximum of 6 boats per class.

Vacated places may be taken up, in the following order, by eligible paddlers:

- 1. who have competed at senior selection and are outside the selected Senior Teams and reserves (taken in order from the senior selection ranking list)*
- 2. who have competed at under 23 selection (taken in order from the under 23 selection ranking list)*
- 3. in order from the Premier ranking list at 1st May 2011.”*

The highlighted brackets should have read excluding world cups. This clearly refers to world ranking events only. After much deliberation and consultation with Paul Owen the request was turned down and an explanation given. It was reluctantly accepted. The IP published an explanatory statement.

This was subsequently followed by an appeal from Scotland & Wales requesting 2 paddlers (one didn't even race Senior selection) be able to fill these places. A full IP, plus Martyn Setchell, telephone conference call took place to discuss further. Again the requests were turned down as it was felt it would be wrong to dilute the calibre of athletes racing at WC events. The offending error will be removed for next year. The IP published an explanatory statement.

2.10 GB Canoeing:

AH attended the 1 year to Olympics BBC BBQ and established good links with the director of leisure services for Lee Valley.

2.11 Canoe Focus

Slalom well featured in the last issue, front cover, middle page plus interviews with Campbell and the chair.

3 Secretary's Report

3.1 Interim Cover/Service to Olympics

CDW re declared a possible conflict of interest between his role as secretary and his job as Canoe Slalom Technical Operations Manager for LOCOG. He has been unable to fulfil the role of secretary during the run up to the recent test event. It is almost certain that the same issues will occur in the run up to the Olympic Games.

Options to ensure that sufficient service is supplied in this period were considered. The ensuing discussion included general discussion of co-ordinator roles, and how to use some other resources and ways of increasing the profile of the sport.

Some of the marketing options included using CE, CW and SCA existing resources. AEG will follow these opportunities. **Action AEG**

A request will be made to the BCU for an allocation of time from the relevant resources to make the most of the 2012 opportunity. The aims must be made clear, and the amount of effort specified and peaks of demand. General aims are to increase participation, volunteers, coaches, spectators, and the ability to cope with such an influx. Whether there is a combined initiative across the home nations that can be used synergistically will be ascertained..... **Action AH**

Paul Tuffin will be co-opted into the vacant co-ordinator role.

The committee will actively consider, and encourage larger clubs to consider, other possible candidates to be stand for election at the 2011 ACM.

3.2 Trophy Location

The C1 veteran trophy will be replaced by the current holder. This will be presented to the 2010 winner as soon as possible after receipt. **Action CDW**

3.3 Trophies not in use

Trophies are being reused where possible.

3.4 Committee Regulations

No comments have been received. CDW will review the regulations and make proposals to a future meeting..... **Action CDW**

3.5 Possible Rule Changes

Rules changes to be considered for 2011 include:

- Course Length vs Target times **CDW**
- Buoyancy aid specification. **CDW**
- It was noted that as UK rules are different for some equipment, and this would exacerbate the situation it must be made clear well in advance of the event whether UK or ICF rules are to be used.
- Promotion and points sections to be rationalised, to reduce duplication and bring all sections together **KT**
- Removal of rules that are no longer applied. **All**
- Re ranking of paddlers **AH**

3.6 Data Protection

BCU Data Protection Guidelines have been received. These will be reviewed for adoption by the slalom community..... **Action CDW**

4 Finance (Report Tabled)

4.1 2011 Budgets/Accounts

Draft accounts to cover the six months ending 30th April show a deficit of income over expenditure of £5,373.

The accounts do not yet include provision for receipt of the full exchequer competition grant for 2011/12. A grant of £21,000 has been agreed subject to clarification of expenditure for on UK support. As at the end of April a payment of £14,000 has been credited to the accounts.

The competition charge in the accounts looks high with just two months gone, but does include the high cost Grandtully events. In addition estimates have been made for the judging levies for some events and consequently charges may be over stated.

The final costs of the year book this year were £1,276. This compares to £1,842 last year and £3,071 the previous year.

The cash balance held in the committee accounts was £17,767. This is the amount reported in the February Accounts less the expenses incurred and a grant of £9,000.

July accounts will be circulated in the next few weeks**Action AK**

4.2 Bank accounts

The BCU has moved accounts to Barclays bank. Moving the slalom bank accounts to the same bank provide benefits including interest arrangements. It was agreed nem con that the committee transfer its accounts to Barclays.....**Action AK**

Internet banking will be considered when the accounts have been moved

5 Coordinators Reports

5.1 Event Management

5.1.1 Bibs

It was reported that both C2 and Division 3 K1M Bibs are running out and additional numbers are required.

5.1.2 Managed Calendar

Applications for the 2012 year have closed. The figures below show the 2011 figures for comparison:

	2012	2011
Premier	9	9
Division 1	17	16
Division 2	38	40
Division 3	79	76
Division 4	67	63

The calendar as now completed will be taken to the ACM. The calendar will be published for clubs' information.

5.1.3 British Open 2012

It was suggested that the British Open and the associated Premier event be held at Lee Valley. This would increase the number of people able to race on the Olympic course. AM will investigate the possibility of using the Lee Valley facilities. The managed calendar will be amended to show these as venue to be confirmed.

5.1.4 Managing the Calendar

A draft calendar for premier / one 2013 will be put together with a view to publishing this at the ACM, during 2011/2012 clubs will bid for particular events. Detailed proposals will be put together with the assistance of Richard Lee, to be presented at an Ad Hoc meeting at an event.**Action JMW**

5.1.5 *Division 4 short Course*

Questions have been raised as to whether short course, or swimming pool, events should be considered for promotion. Such events are useful as a hook to start people in slalom. Further discussion will take place after the completion of the strategy review.

5.1.6 *Premier / 1 event at Serpents Tail*

An appeal was received against the decision not to allow a premier race at the Serpents Tail. Following debate, the decision was upheld. It was agreed that a double div 1 event would be accepted.

5.1.7 *Teesside Race 2011*

AM reported that he has spent a lot of time speaking with Simon White of Tees Active. Simon maintains that the cost is £9,000 but has managed to source funding from the Stockton Middlesbrough Initiative (SMI) which would leave us having to pay £1,500 for the weekend which would be on a par with the cost of Nottingham.

There now is a viable option to host the race on 8/9 October at Teesside for a course hire fee of £1,500. Simon White also said that testing/commissioning of the course is now complete and they will open in early September. He is looking to have an official opening of the site possibly on the Sat 8th in the evening where he invites all the local dignitaries.

This may be a great opportunity to meet influential people in the area to look at finding funding for a 2012 race. The committee agreed to this proposal subject to a venue for the Welsh leg of the Pan Celtic event being found. **Action EA**

This race will replace the cancelled Tees premier event earlier in the year, and the division 1 from Bala Mill.

If the Welsh do not want to organise the event, Tees Tigers (or other local club) will be offered the opportunity with Slalom Committee support. If no club take the opportunity the Slalom Committee will run the event. **Action JMW**

5.2 **Strategy/Planning**

5.2.1 *Review*

A further draft has been circulated within the group.

5.3 **Technical Support**

5.3.1 *Technical Support Report*

The team is pulling together and this season is being covered. A weekend get-together for training, kit review and a social evening. Recruitment for 2012 is being considered

The start clock requires review, as it is consuming excessive power levels

5.3.2 *Technical Support Co-ordinator*

It is likely that AEG will take on the role for 2012, relinquishing the Marketing role.

5.3.3 *TUTTI Bag*

It was agreed that the TUTTI bag must be replaced. AEG will progress this. **Action AEG**

The circumstances of the loss are still unclear, Tees Tigers will be asked to make a contribution towards the replacement costs. The level of contribution will be agreed by email consultation when these costs are known **Action AEG**

5.4 **Competition**

5.4.1 *Howsham Weir*

Reports have been received of incidents at Howsham weir. Having discussed the reports received, the behaviours were noted. The incidents were handled well on a local basis and no further action will be required at this stage.

In any such incident child welfare issues must be considered and the club will be reminded of this. **Action AH**

5.4.2 *Abbey Rapids*

The committee members have become aware of an issue at Abbey Rapids, details of incident are awaited.

5.5 **Marketing & Publicity**

5.5.1 *Role descriptions (All/Jan 11)*

Carried forward.

5.5.2 *Promotional Pack for new entrants (AEG Nov/10)*

In progress. Additional information will be included relating to judging.

5.6 **Volunteers**

5.6.1 *No Report*

5.7 **Athlete Representation**

5.7.1 *Jury Method Statement*

The proposed Method statement was warmly welcomed and it was agreed that this should be widely circulated and will be in the next organisers pack.

5.7.2 *Applying for Ranking Status (MS/Mar 11)*

Carried forward

5.7.3 *Veterans/Under 16 Championship (MS/Jan 11)*

Carried forward

6 **Home Nations**

6.1 **England**

Not much to report, the next meeting will be held at the Interclubs event

6.2 **Wales**

6.2.1 *Gemau Cymru*

Gemau Cymru was a great success at Cardiff Bay. 72 participants on the day paddling Sprint and Slalom Development work by our coaches has increased quality junior participation in clubs in and around Cardiff with interest from girls flourishing

Gemau Cymru is a weekend of national schools sports. This year it is held on the weekend of 8-10 July 2011 in different locations around Cardiff. It captures the inspiration of the London 2012 Games and will deliver a lasting sports legacy for Wales

Gemau Cymru covers nine different competitive elements. All nine sports will be structured and managed via a close partnership with the relevant Governing Bodies, they will advise on the selection process, structure of the event and the age of competitors. The nine competitive sports involved in Gemau Cymru 2011 are:

- Athletics
- Boccia
- Canoeing
- Gymnastics
- Swimming
- Girl's Football and Multi Disability Football Teams Netball Rugby 7s Triathlon Gemau Cymru are held over 3 days in July 2011 in Cardiff.

6.2.2 *Cardiff World Cup*

Our First Minister holds responsibility for the Event Jean Michel Prono has made the technical appraisal of the site Final funding confirmation in the next 7 days, then appointment of Event manager and Chair of the Steering Committee follows

6.2.3 *Coaching*

BCU has put out the Paddlesport Development Model for consultation. It has been agreed that there will be a separate discipline related template.

6.3 **Scotland**

6.3.1 *New Levy System for SCA Events 2011*

The new levy system for SCA slalom events is working smoothly from our point of view. JC confirmed it is also working well for the committee.

6.3.2 *Artificial Course in Scotland*

Discussions are still on going with both Glasgow and Edinburgh about the site for an artificial course.

6.3.3 *Grandtully Slalom Gates*

The code of conduct for use of the slalom gates has been revised (see attached document). It is on the SCA website and will be displayed on the hut and at the campsite. The Grandtully rapids are becoming increasingly busy with other users so this step has been taken to ensure we continue to have good use of the rapids while not antagonising the many other users, including rafts and other canoeists

6.3.4 *International Panel / Slalom Committee Communications*

CB suggested that the slalom committee should be directly emailed when the International Panel make statements to allow the members to be prepared for questions. This was accepted by the IP and is in action.

6.3.5 *Publishing team member names*

In principle GBCanoeing will publish the names of the teams for international events on their site when possible. Nick Penfold will be asked to include a link on Canoe Slalom

6.4 **G.B. Canoeing (Report Tabled)**

6.4.1 *Holme Pierrepont Gate Operating Policy*

The NWSC at HPP has recently introduced a revised gate policy from 1st August 2011, the policy clarifies when slalom gates can and can't be placed in the flow at peak times. Nick Penfold has been asked to publish this on his website. This was the best compromise that could be negotiated and it is still better than on many sites. The policy documents have been circulated

6.4.2 *Lee Valley Access*

DR declared an interest in this matter and did not take part in the discussion.

As per recent dialogue on getting a 'blanket sign off' for competency in relation to ranking in order to access the Lee Valley Whitewater Course. Simon Ricketts is happy to accept the tabled proposal which makes a distinction in the case of premier/div 1 C1W and C2. This is a big step forward and the slalom committee agreed to submit the draft list. The list will be updated each year using the same criteria. AM will act as a central point of reference for those that reach the standard during a year.

This list only exempts the paddlers from competency tests, they still need to undertake an induction section and pay any associated admin fees.

6.4.3 *Selection Revenue – Lee Valley Selection & April U23 selection*

In accordance with established principles, Andy K will be asked to finalise the costs versus income from the senior selection events in Lee Valley and HPP in April final costs can be agreed in accordance with previous years. AM believes that GB Canoeing owe money for HPP Selection and that the slalom committee owe money relating to Senior selection (this may work out as cost neutral).

6.4.4 *2011 International Results*

Congratulations to Jasmine Royle, Alice Spencer and Lizzie Neave on their medals at the respective European Championships. The GB senior team are currently focussed on preparations for the World Championships in early September. The GB Junior/U23 team produced a record 15 finals at the European Championships and 5 team medals were won. This demonstrated the growing strength in depth and now the next step is converting more finals into podiums.

6.4.5 2012 Junior & U23 Worlds

Ahead of the 2012 season, with the introduction of the U23 worlds and the fact that it is in the USA as well as the Euros in 2012, GB Canoeing will be considering how it will fund these races and communicating information as required to athletes as far ahead of the 2012 season as inevitably this will lead to increased athlete contributions (the Junior/U23 Worlds are in Australia in 2014 and Brazil in 2015).

7 Correspondence

7.1 London 2012 Torchbearer

CDW declared an interest related to his work. AH noted that the BCU has the capability to nominate two volunteers to take part be a London 2012 torchbearer. The committee has been asked to put forward a nomination. Nominations to be sent to CDW within a week to be collated and sent out for each member to prioritise and send back.....**Action AH**

7.2 Olympic Tickets

CDW declared an interest related to his work. The committee has been offered the chance to purchase Olympic slalom tickets by the BCU. As a body the committee will apply for eight tickets for each day of the canoe slalom. The tickets are not for sale to third parties, AH to confirm the definition of a third party. The mechanism for allocating the tickets will need review and a ballot may be necessary.**Action AH**

7.3 ICF Paddleaway 27

Andy Goodsell circulated the above document. This covered 2011 ICF canoe sprint talent identification programme, Women Canoe Development Programme, Level III coach development, London 2012 ticketing and Marketing and sponsorship.

8 Other Business

8.1 Dishonoured Cheques

EA/JC reported that there are increasing incidents of entry cheques being dishonoured after the competition. This increases the costs to the organisers. One particular individual in division 1 is causing issues. The rules (UK C11.4.6) specifically state that dishonoured cheques will lead to disqualification. The points that were earned will be cancelled and further entries will not be accepted until all outstanding fees and costs are settled.

Other race organisers will be contacted to confirm if there were any other issues.

8.2 Entry Cards

JC reported that stocks of entry cards are running low, there will be insufficient for next season. DR suggested changes to make cards easier to complete. DR will review the format, and then additional cards will be ordered.....**Action DR**

AEG will investigate whether a sponsor can be found at short notice..... **Action AEG**

8.3 Online entries

This is being investigated; one of the largest issues is the costs and reconciliation of entry fees.

8.4 Athletes paddling abroad without registering

Two paddlers have gone abroad and paddled without registering. It transpires that they were with a registered group; it is unknown why these individuals were not included. CB will chase this with the relevant manager.

9 Meeting Dates for 2010/2011

All 10am at Bingham unless otherwise noted. 25th September, 6th November and Annual Consultative Meeting on 26th November.

Meeting closed at 14:40