

# Competition Management report for ACM 2017

The provision and quality of risk management and safety plans continues to improve and many have now already been received ahead of the ACM and thus complying with the requirement to file these prior to approval of the race calendar for 2018.

In this respect we appear to be ahead of other disciplines in this requirement by British Canoeing. The SCA continue to operate a separate system of approval of plans for races and events occurring in Scotland and any event organisers wishing to arrange activity in Scotland should be mindful of this.

Thankfully there are no significant events to report occurring during the 2017 race season requiring changes to our processes.

There has been much discussion about insurance cover particularly in respect of organisers over the last year. Our conclusion as a Slalom Committee following extensive discussion is that event organisers can expect to be properly covered provided they have adopted all reasonable measures to reduce and mitigate risks and have filed an appropriate plan. There continue to be potential issues about paddlers own cover however it does not seem that this will negate cover for the organiser and the event. We have explored the issues around day event membership and these do not seem to be properly provided for by all the responsible organisations. Should this become clearer we will of course provide further advice and support to organisers.

The committee has discussed the issues around the provision of safety equipment for paddlers and boats. There is particularly concern that buoyancy aids do with time become inadequate and there is no testing facility available at every race, it is also clear that there are some who have removed part of the fixed buoyancy to facilitate movement. We would obviously wish to encourage improvement in this area and have investigated the purchase of testing facilities – they are not cheap and are not amenable to individual club purchase. As of the present time we do not plan to introduce routine testing but the opinions of the ACM would be welcome as to whether further action needs to be taken.

The organisers handbook continues to require development and attention and thanks must go to Dave Spencer for the work that he continues to do on this. We will continue to develop this but in the meantime I am happy to be contacted if there is confusion or any other issue or the Slalom Committee if more appropriate.

Peter Curry  
Competition Management  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2017