



## 1 Attendance

### 1.1 Present

|                 |       |            |                 |       |                  |       |                  |
|-----------------|-------|------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|-------|------------------|
| Andy Grudzinski | [4/4] | Chair      | Donna Hawkins   | [4/4] | Martyn Setchell  | [4/4] | England          |
| Sally Atkinson  | [3/4] | Vice Chair | Karen Crowhurst | [4/4] | Zac Allen        | [1/1] | Athlete Rep      |
| Colin Woodgate  | [4/4] | Secretary  | Peter Curry     | [4/4] | Mark Abbott      | [3/4] | Wales            |
| Dave Spencer    | [4/4] | Treasurer  | Dee Lindesay    | [4/4] | Richard Ramsdale | [2/4] | British Canoeing |
|                 |       |            | Jason Humphries | [2/4] | Stuart Pitt      | [0/4] | Scotland         |

### 1.2 Apologies

|               |       |        |      |
|---------------|-------|--------|------|
| Mike Mitchell | [3/4] | Vacant | CANI |
|---------------|-------|--------|------|

### 1.3 Athlete Representative

Zac Allin was welcomed to the committee.

### 1.4 Other Matters

The Committee has been made aware of Nick Penfold’s terminal health issues. He asked that people continue to treat him in the same way as always.

The Committee noted the hard work that Nick has put in to moving the sport forward over a considerable period and expressed it’s thanks to him it.

## 2 Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

### 2.1 Working Group Feedback Form

A draft form was produced, but has been approved for circulation on the Slalom web site and can be individually sent..... Action **CW**

## 3 Working Groups

### 3.1 Terms of Reference

There are still some draft terms of reference outstanding. They will be standardised and filled centrally ..... Action **All**

No questions have been received by the Secretary for consolidation these were scheduled to be sent to the Secretary by mid-May, with the aim of surveying early June. .... Action **All**

Software to automate the questionnaire will be investigated, with the results made anonymous before distribution..... Action **AG**

### 3.2 Athlete input and support Sally Atkinson / Zac Allin

Handover is ongoing

### 3.3 Awards - Andy Grudzinski.

All the proposed nominations have been agreed, the individual recipients will be notified by British Canoeing. Any new awards, or potential nominees should be sent to the group.

Dave Spencer was congratulated on being appointed as a Vice President of British Canoeing.

### 3.4 Communications - Dave Spencer

British Canoeing Logo and Branding will be changing in October, so people are encouraged to carefully consider any investment in branded materials before that announcement.

Matt Crowhurst will be asked to review the Chief Judge Form and propose a simpler version of the form and consider an online version. .... Action **Matt Crowhurst**

### 3.5 Kayak Cross, including development, rules, entries, safety: Jason Humphries’

A call will be set up between Jason and BC staff involved



**3.6 Officials, recruitment and development:**

Matt Crowhurst will be leading this group reporting through Karen .

**3.7 Participation: Karen Crowhurst.**

There have been contacts by those who are trying to reinvigorate slalom in the North East. This is being monitored and supported.

The costs of getting the Washburn up and running have resulted in the races there this season being cancelled / are being moved. Efforts are ongoing to reinstate the Washburn course. This needs environmental studies as well as equipment refurbishment.

**3.8 Stand Up Paddling: Colin Woodgate**

No progress until further group members have been identified

**3.9 Volunteers, recruitment and development: Andy Grudzinski**

There are moves underway, from Sport England and British Canoeing to register Volunteers and their qualifications. This must be proportionate to the amount of effort put into the sport.

Canoe Wales have had a recent webinar that addressed encouraging volunteers. MA is obtaining a copy and will circulate it afterwards.

Safeguarding: British Canoeing are developing a safeguarding strategy that will pickup on many of the current concerns and oversight. This should go to the board in June and the committee should get a draft to review.

**4 British Canoeing Whole of Sport Plan**

An abbreviated virtual meeting was held with Rich Ramsdale, Keir Worth, Dave Spencer and Colin Woodgate. It is still unclear what BC are trying to achieve with these meetings, and any appropriate timelines. Discussions are ongoing to identify a collaborative approach.

Anna Gray will be leaving at British Canoeing at the end of May, she will be missed, and the committee expressed thanks for the work she has done. A message of thanks will be sent.....CW/AG

David Rogers will be joining British Canoeing as a Competition Development Officer to look at development and participation at the bottom end for all discipline.

**5 End of Season Processes**

**5.1 Timeline**

A draft timeline of the actions and requirements for the end of the year processes was reviewed. Committee members first comments and dependencies that should be included must and supporting information must be sent to Dee Lindsey this month. .... Action All

**5.2 Organisers Pack**

The organisers guide has been updated to make it more relevant.

**6 Finance Support Update**

Regular meetings have been set up and are being held with Finance withing British Canoeing. The reporting mechanisms have been agreed and are being developed.

**7 Other Competitions**

**7.1 BUCS Slalom**

At the recent BUCS the BC judge on the last section notices one member of a team opening a can and drinking between the last gate and the finish. At a previous event, where this was seen by the BUCS observer this was escalated quickly. As there was no observer, this was raised with the Chief Judge, who talked to the paddler involved. This has now been escalated by the organisers to BUCS, who are taking further action.



**7.2 Enhanced Entry Fee – Symonds Yat, October**

An enhanced fee of £2 will be charged to cover the launch fees at the competition. This saves competitors from having to pay separately for car parking and launch fees.

**8 Any Other Business / Actions**

**8.1 Bib Application System**

Thanks were expressed to all those who have, and are, dealing with the upgrade to the system. There have been a number of issues that have taken a lot of time to resolve.

A update to the system, simplifying the processes has been developed and is being tested and verified. This will be rolled out in the near future.

**8.2 Combined Canoe / Kayak prize**

The initial scheme has been established, and is being trialled and will be reviewed. WCA are considering a similar scheme, and SCA are to be sent information with a view to also introducing a scheme.

Midyear revisions will be undertaken between all Home Nations and the schemes will stay in line.

**8.3 SUP and Plastic Boats in Open events.**

A note was made available to organisers giving them information about running a plastic race has been published. The changes between plastic open and ranking needs some more testing.

A few competitions will be trialling SUP in open events during the year. Their Risk Assessment must reflect this and the will need to be entry on the day as the systems will not be amended.

PC will follow up with Frome re their risk assessment and will report this to the Committee ..... **PC**

**8.4 Interclubs**

Awaiting responses from interested clubs to run an event in 2024. The traditional weekend will be blocked in the 2024 calendar..... **Action AG (27/11 4.3)**

As agreed at the ACM a small group will be set up including those volunteering at the ACM, such as John Stonner from Breakout Canoe Club.

**8.5 Data Protection / Retention Review**

British Canoeing are to be asked to assist in the review of the hosting and data protection aspects. .... **Action DS**

**8.6 Officials Competition review**

A review of the competition will be undertaken. This will be reviewed by the Volunteers work group and included in the survey above.

**8.7 Health Advice**

Avian Flu

Unfortunately Avian Flu is again with us and there is concern that it may have potential to jump to humans having already affected wild mammals. There is a current statutory requirement to report dead birds if:-

- A single dead Bird of Prey
- Three dead Gulls or Wild Waterfowl
- Five or more dead birds of any kind

Please, if in the countryside can young people be warned not to touch but to report dead birds and animals that they may find.

Phone 03459 33 55 77 to report any instances found.

**8.8 Talent Club Partnership**

There are a number of issues relating to the reprioritisation of resources relating to this scheme. These issues are being worked at by the Clubs involved and British Canoeing.

Note that the resources are from the England Talent program, not supported from English Slalom Levis.



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## 8.9 Beginner Leaflet

A leaflet has been produced to introduce complete beginners to canoeing, through to competing at slalom. Three variants will be produced (one per home nation), these will be provided for committee comments when almost finalised.

## 9 Future Meetings

A possible continuation meeting was scheduled for Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. This will not be required.

- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May, location to be confirmed but will be in the Nottingham area.
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July starting at 19:00
- Face to Face 5<sup>th</sup> November at HPP at 10:00
- 25<sup>th</sup> November ACM
- Face to Face 26<sup>th</sup> November, after the ACM