



PADDLE UK

Slalom Committee

Twenty First

Annual Consultative Meeting

30th November 2024

Commencing at 10:00

Location: Paddle UK HQ, National Water Sports Centre,
Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, NG12 2LU

Agenda

1 Welcome by the Chair

1.1 Apologies

1.2 Conduct of meeting

1.3 Appointment of Tellers

Two tellers are required to count votes in the room. Volunteers will be sought at the meeting.

2 Minutes

2.1 20th Annual Consultative Meeting (to be accepted)

2.2 Matters arising from those minutes

2.3 2023/2024 Committee Meeting minutes (tabled online for information)

3 Reports

3.1 Chair's Report

3.2 Treasurer's Report

3.3 Other Reports

3.3.1 Reports from Co-ordinators (Tabled, reviewed en bloc)

3.3.2 Changing Safety Expectations (Peter Curry)

3.3.3 Paddle UK and Home Nations (Tabled, reviewed en bloc)

Paddle UK (Gareth Wilson), England (Alison Longhurst), Wales (Mark Abbott). There have been no Scotland or Northern Ireland representative during the year, so there will be no reports.

3.4 Athlete Representative (Zac Allin)

4 Elections

4.1 Chair

Sally Atkinson has been proposed and seconded by the Slalom Committee. In the absence of any other nominations, she will be elected unopposed.

4.2 Treasurer

Dave Spencer has been proposed and seconded by the Slalom Committee. In the absence of any other nominations, he will be elected unopposed.

4.3 Vice Chair

With the election of the new Chair, the Vice Chair role is now vacant. Nominations will be sought and will be accepted until the election (Terms of Reference 5.4.c). For clarification this will initially be for a one-year term and due for election again in 2025 (Terms of Reference 5.2).

4.4 Committee Members

Term Expiring 2024: Donna Hawkins, Karen Crowhurst, Mike Mitchell

Term Expiring 2025: Dee Lindesay, Peter Curry, Mark Haylett.

Mark Haylett is stepping down so there are four Committee Members to be elected.

Karen Crowhurst has indicated her willingness to stand for a further term. Mikey Brown and Helen Darby-Dowman have been nominated. Further nominations will be accepted up until the vote.

4.5 Other Officials

Managed Calendar Officer	Dee Lindesay	Entry Cards Officer	Les Ford
Ranking Status Officer	Karen Crowhurst (Men) / Donna Hawkins (Women)		
Ranking Officers			
K1 Men Premier	Tracy Wells	C1 Men Premier & 1	Oliver Snowdon
K1 Men Division 1	Les Ford	C1 Men Divisions 2 & 3	Emma Godwin
K1 Men Division 2	Craig Douglas	C1 Women Premier & 1	Sally Atkinson
K1 Men Division 3	Karen Crowhurst	C1 Women Divisions 2 & 3	Donna Hawkins
K1 Men Division 4	James Hastings	Canadian Doubles	Stuart Meakins
K1 Women Premier & 1	Sally Atkinson	Veterans All Categories	Paul Mew
K1 Women Divisions 2 & 3	Donna Hawkins	Officials Compiler	Donna Hawkins
		Annual Prize Co-ordination	Fiona Pennie

4.6 Paddler Representative

The Paddler Representative is Zac Allin. This role is elected by a separate election process.

4.7 England Slalom Committee Officers

The England Committee is a sub-committee of the Slalom Committee and has been reformed during the last year. Under the Committee's Terms of Reference, the Officers are elected for a two-year term at this meeting by English Voting Clubs. The following have been proposed and seconded by the Slalom Committee.

Chair - Alison Longhurst.

Secretary – Matt Crowhurst

Treasurer – Dave Spencer

In the absence of any other nominations, they will be elected unopposed.

Vice Chair - currently vacant. Nominations will be sought and will be accepted until the election

5 Ed Ecclestone Award

Nominations remain open until 22nd November. The award will be decided by the previous five winners and will be announced at the ACM.

6 Motions

Unless specifically listed, the motions below are proposed by the committee. Wording in *Italics* are for explanation and do not form part of the motion. **Bold Underlined** text is to be added to rules; ~~Struck through~~ text is to be deleted.

Where a motion is marked 75/25 it will be handled under Terms of Reference 8.8 and voted on immediately. If the motion receives 75% support it will be immediately adopted, if it fails to receive 25% support it is immediately lost. If the motion gains support of between 25% and 75% it will be debated.

6.1 Age Group Prizes

75/25

In the UK age groups were previously quoted as Junior 16, Junior 14 etc. This can (and has) lead to some confusion in whether the age groups are exclusive. E.g. if the fastest paddler under 16 is actually 13, are they eligible for the Junior 14 prize? The 2023 ACM renamed 'Junior' age groups as 'Under' in an attempt to clarify age groupings for awarding prizes. In hindsight this change has not helped and has possibly caused further confusion. Therefore, this change is being reversed and all under 18 age groups will be referred to as 'Junior x' or 'J x' throughout the rules. This affects rule 1.4, 2.6, 2.6, 6.1.6, 20.8.4, 20.8.5 as a minimum.

Junior age grouping names will be changed to 'Junior x' or 'J x' throughout the rules.

The awarding of age group prizes for national championships is specified in rule 20.8.5. The awarding of age group prizes at divisional events is covered by rule 20.8.4.

6.2 Rule Tidy Us

75/25

There are a number of anomalies that have crept into the rules. These are due to motions to change one rule missing another rule that is affected by the change, or where current practice is out of line with the wording of the rules relating to that issue.

This motion simply seeks to tidy up these rules by correcting the errors that have been identified or word the rules to match current practice. Therefore, these are proposed as a single motion.

The rules for Paddle Up points calculation do not cover the host division event being inquorate. While this is unlikely, provision is needed in the rules for this situation. This change ensures points can be awarded and reflects how Simply Slalom already calculates the point in this situation. The host divisions points would be calculated using the inquorate points calculation and the Paddle Up athletes points awarded by comparison to these.

6.6.4 Paddle Up Points Calculation

6.6.4.a ~~Provided that the host division event is quorate, p~~ Paddle up athlete's points are obtained by comparing scores with the corresponding host division event. Where a score does not correspond exactly with a score in the host division event points will be awarded for the next place higher.

It is felt that this is outdated. First Aid provision at any event is required and should be detailed in the event's Safety Plan.

20.3.2 First aid facilities must be on site and there should be at least one person ~~(two at Holme Pierrepont)~~ currently qualified in First Aid.

The rules regarding submitting race results do not reflect the fact that the ranking database is online and updated as results are uploaded, or that pdf results are also posted on the slalom website. This removes the need for these to be emailed to ranking officers.

20.7.5 Send the final results within 72 hours of the competition ending.

~~20.7.5.a Email one copy of the results to results@canoesslalom.co.uk.~~

~~20.7.5.b Where a Ranking officer for the division(s) and events at the competition or for the next highest division do not have an email address published, send a paper copy to these officers.~~

~~20.7.5.e~~ 20.7.5.a. Send an electronic version of the results to the Ranking Status Officer (email to results@canoesslalom.co.uk). The required format is defined in the organisers' package.

~~20.7.6 Send one copy of the results to the Officials Ranking Officer. Ensure athletes gender, event and division are listed~~

In practice, the process for paying levies due from events to the Slalom Committee and Home Nation Slalom Committee has evolved from that set out within the rules. This simply updates the rules to the current process.

20.7.7 Send the completed summary sheets, and a copy of the results and the appropriate percentage of minimum entry fee, to the Slalom Treasurer and relevant Home Nation Slalom Committee Treasurer. (address in directory).

20.7.8 Send the appropriate levy to the Slalom Treasurer and relevant Home Nation Slalom Committee Treasurer. (address in directory). The levy . . .

Neither Division 1 or Division 4 C2 exist in the current rules (we have Prem-3 C2 and Open C2 at Div 4). It is not felt that there is a significant issue with higher ranked paddlers forming new pairings to collect trophies at this level so prizes awards for Open C2 at Division 4 events should be at the organisers discretion.

~~20.8.7 Canoe athletes who have been in Division 1 (C1 or C2) are not eligible for prizes at Division 4 C2 events in a new pairing.~~

6.3 Removal of Multi Class Discounts

The 2023 ACM introduced a trial discount on division 3 and 4 events for those paddlers that entered a second individual class (raced K1 and C1). This has had very limited impact on increasing participation therefore it is proposed to discontinue this trial. This has no effect on the C2 entry fee which will remain half the standard entry fee in each division.

~~6.2.2 As a trial for the 2024 season, where enhanced fees are not charged, and an athlete enters two singles events at the same competition and on the same day, and at least one of those entries is in division 2, 3 or 4, the lower one of the two entry fees is halved e.g. if an athlete enters division 2 K1 and division 3 C1, the entry fee for division 3 is halved. The discounted amount may be reclaimed by the organiser from the Slalom Committee.~~

6.4 Maximum Number of Races

75/25

The 2022 ACM introduced a rule to attempt to limit the number of Premier and Division 1 races in a season. This was to help reduce the number of weekends of racing at this level and free up space for lower division races, avoid spreading small numbers more thinly over more events, as well as reduce the demands on timing and section judge volunteers.

However, this rule has proved to be virtually impossible to implement. The 2023 ACM and subsequent SCM voted to suspend the rule for 2024 and mandated the Committee to bring a motion to this ACM to confirm or remove the rule.

Calendar discussions for 2025 have again highlighted the considerable difficulty of agreeing the Premier and Division 1 events that should be removed from the calendar. While the committee is keen to see fewer Premier and Division 1 weekends, it is clear that the current rule is unworkable, and it is therefore proposed that this is removed.

~~20.1.8 Number of Races~~

~~20.1.8.a The maximum number of ranking races on the calendar will be as follows:~~

~~For Premier Division — 11 races~~

~~For Division 1 — 18 races~~

~~For Divisions 2, 3 and 4 — no limit~~

~~20.1.8.b For clarity, where a race is over two days, e.g. heats and finals, but only one set of points can be obtained then this counts a single race for the limits above; a double competition where points can be obtained on either or both days counts as two races.~~

~~20.1.8.c When the applications to run competitions result in the number of races being above the limit then the Slalom Committee will ask a club to withdraw their application.~~

~~20.1.8.d The committee's decision on which applications to accept in any one year will take into consideration geographical spread of competitions, standard of water, variety of venues, reliability of venue, whether the club had a race at that venue refused the previous season and timing of application~~

~~20.1.8.e If a club refuses to withdraw their application, then the calendar will be taken to the ACM with the committee recommendation and the ACM will decide which competition should be removed via a vote. There will be no option to increase the number of races in that same year.~~

The meeting should note that if this motion fails, the Committee will have to propose the events that are to be removed from the 2025 calendar (see Item 7). If there are objections to these events being removed the ACM will have to vote for which events are to be removed for the 2025 calendar.

6.5 ICF Rule Changes

75/25

The ICF board meeting has brought in a number of rule changes which will need to be incorporated into the UK rules.

The ICF is standardising gate widths to be 1.4m. The current rules allow a gate width of between a min of 1.2m and max of 4m. This change could mean many clubs needing to buy new bearers therefore the committee intends that the UK rules will retain the current 1.2m to 4m gate width. However, Prem and Div 1 races are strongly encouraged to move to the standard 1.4m gate width.

New race formats are coming in for world ranking races and world championship/World Cup races, but these are included in a separate motion below.

This meeting authorises the Secretary to include ICF rule changes into the UK rules for the 2025 season.

This meeting agrees to retain a gate width of 1.2m to 4m within the UK rules but encourage Premier and Division 1 races to move to the ICF standard.

6.6 Super Final 1 Race Formats

75/25

The rules for a Super Final 1 format race refer to final results being based on the finishing order in the semi-final, which does not exist in this format. Additionally, where the Super-Final 1 format has been used in recent years the practice has been to calculate final results for athletes not making the final based on the best of their two runs.

This change corrects the wording and brings the calculation of final results in line with what has been established practice for several years.

5.2.2 Super Final 1

5.2.2.a Each athlete has a timed qualification race run. After this run the top x boats in each event proceed to the final. The remaining boats have a second timed qualification run. After this run the top n boats in each event proceed to the final.

5.2.2.b The final is one run starting in the reverse order of their qualification result, those qualifying from the first heat starting after those qualifying from the second heat.

5.2.2.c Course changes can be made for the final at the Organiser's discretion.

The final result for each event in the competition is: -

- The finishing order of the finalists based on their final result only.
- The finishing order of the ~~semi-finalists based on their semi-final result only.~~ **remaining athletes in order of their best score from their two runs.**

6.7 Additional Race Formats

75/25

The ICF are introducing changes to the race formats for both the World Championship (level 1) and World Cup (level 2) & ICF World Ranking (level 3) events which could be added to the UK race formats. These are as follows:

- World Championships: the new format of Heat (1 run) + 1 Semi-final + 1 Final will replace the current format (listed as 'Championship' format for domestic races).
- World Cup & ICF World Ranking: A new format of 1 Heat + 1 Final.

It is intended that 2025 British Open weekend will run 2 ICF World Ranking Races, one race will also be a Premier race, and the other will be alongside Kayak Cross.

This motion enables a domestic race to be run to the new ICF formats.

5.2 Race Formats (UK)

Competition organisers have the discretion to run competitions using one of the ~~four~~ **following** race formats: -

5.2.5 ICF World Ranking Format

5.2.5.a Competitions may also be run using any current ICF race format with final results being calculated according to the relevant format.

7 Approval of the Calendar for 2025

Clubs are reminded that their competition cannot be accepted unless a Safety Plan has been supplied.

The number of Division 1 races (23) requested for 2025 exceeds that allowed within Rule 20.1.8. Should motion 6.4 fail the Committee proposes the following events be removed from the 2025 calendar:

- Shepperton Div 1 – March 2024
- Llandysul Div 1 – March 2024 or October 2024 (one of)
- Chapel Falls Div 1 – June 2024

Please note that in addition to these the organising clubs have withdrawn the HPP P/1 race in September and the Washburn Div 1 race in October from the calendar.

If the organising clubs object to their event being removed, the ACM will be asked to vote on which events are to be removed until the calendar is reduced to the allowed number of events.

8 Discussion areas for 2024

Discussion at the last ACM has prompted further thought, discussion and proposals about potential future structures for racing and ranking. The TASS survey and report has provided further insight into the issues facing the sport and considerations for change.

To stimulate discussion TASS research will be used to highlight the need for the sport to change, and two visions of possible new racing and ranking structures will be presented.

8.1 A new National racing and ranking structure

Slalom Committee

8.2 A 2-tier system of racing in Divisions Premier, One and Two and a cap on the number of races

CR Cats / Sheffield CC

It is hoped this discussion can give direction towards a 'preferred' option that can be drawn up into rule changes. This could then be taken to a Special Consultative Meeting to enable the slalom calendar to be planned and for the new structure to be in place for the following year.

Attendees: please register you are coming so we have number for ordering food
Please be aware that club votes will only be issued to the registered club representative on the most recent registration form (<https://forms.gle/E6NZbzSRChTa3Q59A>).

If a club wishes anyone else to exercise their vote, whether a club member or not, a proxy form MUST be completed. This can give the proxy holder full discretion to vote as they see fit but authorises the committee to give the papers to a different individual.

Electronic proxies (<https://forms.gle/sutVWe5XXZz1sMkM6>) must be completed by **midnight 28th November**.



Attendee registration



Club Registration



Proxy Form