

1 Attendance

Sally Atkinson	[9/9]	Chair	Peter Curry	[9/9]	Alison Longhurst	[4/9]	England
Dave Spencer	[9/9]	Treasurer	Dee Lindesay	[9/9]	Mark Abbott	[7/9]	Wales
Les Ford	[9/9]	Secretary	Helen Darby-Dowman	[7/9]	Tony Leaver	[5/9]	Scotland
			Karen Crowhurst	[8/9]			

1.1 Apologies

Matt Crowhurst	[8/9]	Vice Chair	Mikey Brown	[7/9]	Gareth Wilson	[4/9]	Paddle UK
			Richard Sterry	[6/9]	Zac Allin	[3/9]	Paddler Rep

2 Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1 ITO Expenses Policy

DS explained that this has been evolved from the previous version to manage down the cost of the expenses to the committee. Paddle UK are liaising with ICF to manage the number of ITO's attending World Cup events. DS is also looking to bid for some funding from Paddle UK towards ITO costs.

2.2 Minimum Age for Ranking Status

Information is still being collated around this with a range of views being shared. It was also highlighted that there are also issues of getting suitable safety equipment to fit younger children. A small group will be formed to look at a way forward. **Action: KC**

3 ACM Preparations

3.1 Meeting Arrangements

The deadline for motions/agenda items not originating from the committee is Friday 31 October. This will be publicised through the website and social media. **Action: LF**

Following the success of the hybrid format of April's consultation event it was suggested we look at making online access available to the ACM. It was agreed that it would be more difficult to manage the ACM discussions in this format and those with votes would need to attend in person. However, it was agreed to look at making the ACM available online for people to follow as observers. **Action: LF**

3.2 Elections / Committee Vacancies

The Vice Chair and Secretary positions are due for election at this year's ACM. Additionally, SA is stepping down from the Chair, so that position will also be up for election.

Several committee members terms also expire in 2025. Details of the positions due for election will be publicised. **Action: LF**

ZA is stepping down from the Paddler Rep role so this will also be publicised. **Action: LF**

3.3 Strategic Priorities for 2026

It was agreed that this needed further discussion ahead of, and at the next committee meeting.

3.4 Potential Motions – see attached

A range of potential motions to tidy up areas of the rules were discussed. These will be finalised at the next meeting ahead of the ACM agenda being published. **Action: LF**

3.5 Terms of Reference Update

It's thought that a number of minor amendments are needed to the Terms of Reference. A draft will be circulated for comment before the next committee meeting. **Action: LF**

4 Strategy Development

4.1 Recruitment and Growing the Sport (RS)

Information and ideas are being gathered around how we can create a great feel to events to support retention and encourage more people to the sport. Ideas are being developed for additional fun events that can bring paddlers together with a view to trialing these to test the practicalities.

Work is ongoing to create a suitable vision statement to guide the growth and development of the sport in the future.

4.2 Retention: WW Camps

A calendar of dates and financial model for these camps is being developed to offer a programme of coached training camps to those outside talent programmes to aid retention in the sport.

Further work is needed to find an easy way to link the coaching community with paddlers looking for coaches. This would aim to build paddling communities and support retention.

4.3 Succession Planning

It is apparent that we need to consider succession planning around various key systems and roles in the sport. It was agreed this should be a high priority for 2025/6 committee year to help us protect the sport. It was recognised that this includes roles that would sit outside of the committee but are crucial for the sport. A shared document will be created for all to collate details. **Action: LF**

5 Calendar Updates

5.1 2025 updates

Scottish Championships, 1 Nov – awaiting details to be confirmed before this is added to the calendar and entries website.

5.2 2026 calendar

October HPP – will be a single Prem on Sat, with event details for Sun to be confirmed shortly.

Nene – remains on the calendar but awaiting clarification of which club is taking on the organisation. This may require a change of date.

Chapel Falls – this will be running on Stilling Basin at the top of the Tryweryn.

J16 & Vet Championship – these will be at Llandysul in 2026 and in North Wales in 2027.

Interclubs – these are scheduled but awaiting confirmation of the venue for 2026.

May HPP - will be a P/1 (McConkey), a 2/3 on the Daleks, plus a Div 4 on Winfield Pool.

5.3 International Races

Nothing to update

6 Future of Slalom Consultation

6.1 Updates

The draft of the Core motion has been published and comments and questions being received. Supplementary motions are being worked on. To illustrate the proposals further, work is underway to recalculate points for the season as if the proposed structure were in place, but this is taking some time to pull together.

6.2 Communication

A number of posts have been published, and more scheduled to share information about the proposals, prompt discussion and raising questions.

7 Updates

7.1 Working Group Updates

Intending to have a meeting of the lower division group to think about getting more people into the sport.

7.2 Home Nation Updates

England – nothing to update

Wales – nothing further to update

Scotland – ongoing work to get the Scottish Champs on the calendar for 1st November.

7.3 Paddler Rep Update

No update

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Funding Application to PUK for Selection

SA, DS, MC & LF have a meeting with James Hinves at Paddle UK about a budget, plans and support for the coming year. A funding bid will include support for the costs/expenses of Selection (on behalf of the IP), and support to offset ITO's expenses costs.

8.2 Proposed Manvers WW Course

There is a press/public launch event on Thursday for a proposed pumped ww course and fire service training venue in South Yorkshire. This will be seeking a funding package (est £14m) to go forward.

8.3 Volunteers for Video Judging

Discussions are ongoing for a group of volunteers to support the set up and operation -of high-quality video to support judging at events making use of equipment secured for the last Lee Valley World Championships.

8.4 Future meeting dates (see below)

- Sat 8th November (face to face) - prior to the ACM
- **Sat 29th November – ACM**
- *Sun 30th November – Paddle UK Slalom Coaching Conference*
- Tues 2nd Dec - after the ACM