

1 Attendance

George Harratt (Chair)	Mick Stegeman	Tony Leaver (Scotland)
Matt Crowhurst (Vice Chair)	Dee Lindesay	Alison Longhurst - online (England)
Les Ford (Secretary)		Garreth Wilson (Paddle UK)
Dave Spencer (Treasurer)		David Dickson (Paddler Rep)

1.1 Apologies

Karen Crowhurst	Richard Sterry	Mark Abbott (Wales)
-----------------	----------------	---------------------

2 Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1 Ranking / Reinstatement Policy

This had been circulated and agreed by email. It has been shared with Bib Officers.

2.2 Membership Requirements Update

LF has confirmed with PUK that Open and Kayak Cross participants will be covered by Full membership or Single Event Membership / Day Membership at all competitions. At Div 4 competitions Kayak Cross and Open participants will be covered Club Associate membership. Our guidance on membership requirements has been updated in the organisers pack and will be circulated to clubs. The rules will be updated to reflect this for 2027. **Action: LF**

It was also agreed that Green and Taster competitions will be considered as 'introductory level competitions' in the new structure so unranked paddlers entering Green competitions would be covered by Club Associate membership, or Single Event Membership/Day Ticket. **Action: LF**

2.3 Protests at Selection

Correspondence has been received regarding protests at selection and, that sometimes they are being used to gain an unfair advantage. LF's response had been circulated. Chief Judges/Jury have been reminded to ensure that decisions on protests are clearly explained to paddlers on the protest form. This has been well received at subsequent events.

A number of options to limit numbers of protests or amend the process were discussed, but there are issues and drawback to implementing most of the option put forward.

2.4 Updated on Event Safety discussions

MS suggested that it might be useful to have a webinar for clubs and safety officers to ensure that all are prepared for and supported for the implementation of Standards for Events. MS will speak to JH regarding a date in the autumn for this. **Action: MS**

2.5 Updated on Entry Systems discussions

LF has had initial discussion with JH at PUK about the interim system for collecting required information from paddlers. This will be followed up with further detail so this can be progressed. **Action: DS & LF**

On the entries website, DL has now implemented a check on the membership of those entering Div 4 events online for this that declare a PUK/Home Nation membership number.

3 2026 Calendar Updates

3.1 Updates / Requests

Bala Mill Div 4 (Thurs 9 July, evening) – it was agreed that this could be moved to 16 July, and the organiser changed to Canoe Wales Slalom Committee.

3.2 Div 4 Entry Fees

An additional request to waive Div 4 entry fees at this event, and a similar request was received from another organiser earlier in the spring). The rules are clear that entry fees are set as a minimum, but the need for flexibility was discussed. However, there is nothing in the rules to prevent the organising club from paying the entry fee for paddlers. The entry website requires payment, so this could only be done by organisers using the postal entries option in the website, or for on the day entries. This will be communicated to clubs. **Action: LF**

It was proposed that we look at amending the rules for 2027 to have suggested entry fees for Slalom Taster events which would give the organiser greater flexibility. **Action: LF**

4 Strategy Development

4.1 Action Plan 2026-27

A draft Action Plan for the committee was circulated and discussed. GW will recirculate this All are asked to consider and provide further feedback by **Friday 3rd July**. **Action: ALL**

5 Future Structure Progression

5.1 Progressing the Future Structure Update

Work is ongoing to create and test the back-end infrastructure for entries, race software and ranking system for the new structure. Thanks were expressed to the volunteers doing this work.

5.2 Communicating the Changes

LF is developing a plan and ideas to ensure all are aware of the new structure, how it works and what it means for their racing. The intention is that this will roll out in the autumn, through the winter and into next season. Further details will be shared ahead of the committee's September meeting. **Action: LF**

5.3 2027 Calendar Development Update

Red race applications have been received and considered by the Calendar working group. Organisers are being of the outcome of their applications. The calendar of Diamond, Black and Red races will be circulated to the committee. **Action: MA**

MA is updating the application form for Blue, Green and Taster race application and this will be sent to clubs/ organisers in early July. **Action: MA & LF**. Each of the Home Nations will be involved in scheduling Blue, Green and Taster races to help manage a good spread of races throughout the year and geographically.

6 Updates

6.1 Home Nation Updates

England – Now have an athlete rep on their committee (Pheobe Spicer). An allocation of funding has been agreed to support non-funded athletes that have been selected for GB teams.

Scotland – The Development Group is back up and running. A new Head of Sport is in post at PS and being pro-active as well as new funding streams coming into the sport. Many Scottish paddlers are heading off to Europe for training camps and some ECA races.

Wales –

Pan Celtic – The points from the PCC races held at Tully and Fairnilee will be published. There was some discussion about the Pan Celtic Cup and how we revive awareness of, interests in and meaningfulness of the competition. Potential for home nations to select and announce teams in advance from rankings and encourage selected paddlers to attend. Need to invite paddlers/parents to be involved in the competition to act as team managers and help revive the competition.

6.2 Paddler Rep Update

Nothing to report.

7 Any Other Business

7.1 Awards Evening (Oscars) Update

The organisers were waiting on championship football fixture to be announced to enable a decision to be made on the venue.

7.2 Future Interclubs / Club Championships

After discussion it was felt that the committee would like to see some form of Interclubs/club championship back on the calendar in 2027. DH has offered to be organiser, so to the calendar working group will be asked to identify a suitable date that can be reserved for the event. GH and AL will liaise with DH regarding a suitable date. **Action: GH & AL**

7.3 Treasurer Recruitment

DS is stepping down at the ACM and a role description has been updated so we can try to identify a suitable volunteer for the role. LF will 'advertise' for a volunteer via the website and social media channels. **Action: LF**

7.4 Secretary Away

LF will be away with work for 4 weeks in the summer again so will set up similar auto-replies to last year on the secretary's email account. **Action: LF**

7.5 Committee Dashboard

PUK have now created a 'Committee Dashboard' similar to their Club's dashboard to aid monitoring of Standards for Deployment. LF has been given an introduction to it, but has yet to have to time to look at this fully.

7.6 Selection Review

Following previous discussions, the working group and home nations programme group have put information/suggestions regarding Junior Selection to the International Panel for consideration at their ext meeting.

7.7 Future meeting dates (see below)

The current schedule of meetings for the year are:

- Sat 12th Sept – PUK, HPP
- 8th Nov - PUK, HPP *** Please note amended date
- **28th November - Slalom ACM**
- December tbc - Post ACM