

Timing

No report but the new mobile system is now up and running, and has been tested at Peterborough and the Junior Championships and worked very well.

2009 Yearbook

Progress seems to have stalled. A volunteer is requested to co-ordinate the production. Andy Gray in his absence had tabled a proposal for targeting possible advertisers.

Llangollen

Plans for the event weekends are progressing.

European Championships

The course and accommodation at HPP has been booked. Facilities are either being booked or quotes being evaluated. A sponsorship agent has been appointed and other arrangements are progressing well. Key staff to look after race organisation, judging, timing, site management, and administration have been identified to be approached. AH

Veterans

This is ongoing and the working party is progressing. To request a motion be written for the ACM.

Access

Nothing to report.

Wales

Emma Aldridge reported the welcome announcement on 4 July, that funding has been finalised and work on the Cardiff Bay project will commence in August and should be completed in 2010.

A part-time slalom development officer has been appointed and a short course slalom is planned for later in the year, perhaps in South Wales.

Competition

Nothing to report.

Event Management

Jim Croft reported on an increase in the number of promotion certificates this year, suggesting an increase in participation at the lower levels. Attendance at the recent Islington event was particularly strong with a total of 78 Division 4 competitors. The Committee congratulated the organisers' on their efforts.

Any Other Business

A suggestion for a group of paddlers was discussed that the Committee could produce a set of generic medals (coloured gold, silver and bronze) that clubs could use as event prizes, with clubs providing their own ribbons. This might be an attractive alternative to each club individually sourcing prizes.

The meeting closed at 14.30

Date for next Committee Meeting

August 30th at BCU Headquarters Bingham



British Canoe Union Slalom Committee

“Putting Paddlers First and Valuing Volunteers”

Committee Meeting Minutes

BCU HEADQUARTERS, BINGHAM

Saturday 5 July 2008



“Canoeing and Kayaking are “Assumed risk” – “Water contact sports” that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks, and be responsible for their own action and involvement”.

BRITISH CANOE UNION SLALOM COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY 5 JULY 2008

AT BCU HEADQUARTERS, BINGHAM

Present

Anne Hounslow (Chair), Jenny Walker, Emma Aldridge, Jim Croft, Andy Koszary, Jacky Wetzig.

In attendance

Howard Blackman (from 12.30 till 1.00 p.m.), Keith Hampton (until 11.00 a.m.) and Mark Shaw.

Welcome and Apologies.

The chair welcomed those present. Apologies for absence were received from Tim Baillie, Steve Bright, Andy Goodsell, Andy Gray, Andy Maddock, Mike Shaughnessy, Ken Trollope and Gareth Wilson.

Declarations of Interest

There were no new declarations of interest.

UK Coaching Scheme Presentation

Keith Hampton gave a presentation to the Committee on the recent developments in the BCU coaching scheme, within the UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) awards framework. The new scheme is in operation already up to Level 2, the level expected of most club-based coaches. Some of the intermediate, discipline-specific modules in Level 3 are still being developed. The new scheme will be more flexible and suited to the individual coach needs than its predecessor. Details of the new awards and how the existing coach qualifications are affected can be accessed on the BCU website.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 17 May 2008 were accepted as a true record of the meeting, subject to the amendment to 7 June (from 7 July) in the England minute on page 3.

Matters Arising

Secure Storage – The container at HPP is now in place, World Class are fitting out their end and the divider. Slalom will then be able to store equipment in a more accessible place.

Draft Guidelines – A motion regarding draft guidelines for re-runs will be presented at the ACM.

Expense Claim forms – New forms will be ready for next season.

David Wilson complaint – Dealt with by Jim Croft.

Event complaint 1 – Emma Aldridge will chair the jury at the forthcoming September event. The organiser will be sent extracts of the original letter of complaint.

Event complaint 2 – The Committee will appoint a chair at next year's event.

2009 Junior Championships – This is in discussion with the SCA Slalom Chair.

Accuracy of HPP penalty communications – Resolved with no further action.

HPP timing system – There are still unresolved issues with the HPP timing system.

2009 - 2013 BCU Development Plan – Action AH

Veterans – Progressing To request a proposed motion for presenting to the ACM. AH

England

A meeting was held after the race on 7 June. A small core group of volunteers was identified and Mark reported that further discussions are taking place though progress is slow. It was confirmed that, prior to a properly constituted committee being appointed, the Slalom Committee will control the finances of England.

Managed Calendar

Jenny presented the draft calendar for 2009. There was some discussion concerning the number of proposed Premier events. A further draft will be prepared shortly. The parking situation beyond the barrier at the last HPP was a Health & Safety issue. Because so many cars were parked along the verges it was dangerous for pedestrians. It was agreed that at future HPP events there will be a strict limit on the number of cars allowed on the course side of the control barrier. The NWSC to be asked to keep the barrier down and the organising club to co-operate. Passes to be produced for timing team & section judges. *JC/AH*

Canoe England

Howard Blackman, Canoe England's Head of Paddlesport Participation gave a presentation to the Committee on the 2009-2013 BCU development plan for canoeing in England. The aim is for Canoe England Paddlesport Development Officers to organise 3 or 4 low-level non ranking slalom events in each region, with coaching available, preferably in and around clubs that do not presently participate in slalom. The target is to increase participation in slalom, particularly targeting women and girls and under-represented groups and geographical regions. The Committee welcomed the draft proposals and supported the development of the initiatives.

Howard also offered the support of his team to the England Slalom Committee.

Finance

Andy Koszary presented the Committee's accounts for the 6 months to 30 April 2008. The accounts for the first time show the standardised accounting treatment of the event levies for England, Scotland and Wales. The accounts showed a surplus for the period of £5,882, though this result is skewed by the inclusion of the full year's exchequer grant as income.

It was agreed to support an unfunded England paddler at the pre-world championships up to a maximum of £500.

Following a request for support from the BCU to support the GB Olympic team, it was agreed to offer a £1,000 contribution.

Correspondence

A letter was received from a club coach following problems with the clearing of gates at HPP by a raft guide to leave the course clear of gates for rafters. The situation regarding this was clarified, gates can be cleared from the course at the start of a weekend (Friday evening) but slalom paddlers can put them out during the weekend if required. By clearing the course on Friday evening this should reduce the number of unnecessary gates on the course. It would also be helpful if there are a number of slalom paddlers if they could work together thus maintaining the reduction of gates out on the course. Also gates should be pulled in at the end of a session if no one is using them. The course can then continue to be enjoyed by a variety of water users. If slalom paddlers fail to co-operate in this it may be necessary to consider negotiating exclusive slots for slalom thus reducing the flexibility. A guidance note for slalom users at HPP will be drafted and published. *Action AH*

The Committee was requested to nominate someone to become a member of the Canoe England Council. Jacky Wetzig and Jim Croft volunteered and depending upon the meeting times, one of them will be nominated.