

BRITISH RAFTING

Committee Meeting held at 10:30am on Saturday 24 June 2017 @ HPP, Nottingham

MINUTES

In Attendance: Malcolm Ferris-Lay, Luke Dorbin, Sean Clarke, Jess Evans, Sarah Jayne Evans, Kim Snape, Wendy Daley

Apologies for Absence: Charlotte Painter, Gill Wayland, Dan Daley

Welcome

Chair welcomed all those present and gave apologies for absence.

Minutes

The minutes of the Committee meetings held on 12 March 2017 were approved and signed off by the Chair.

Finance

SC read out the financial statement and informed the Committee that the bank balance was in the black with a current balance of £4762.55. WD requested a paper copy of the financial report which SC will provide. SC confirmed that the Selection Event had generated a profit.

SC proposed that British Rafting accrue a cash reserve balance equivalent to the replacement cost of two rafts be kept in the bank account. The Committee agreed.

SC proposed a minimal spend to purchase a first aid kit and minor items for Events. This was agreed.

Welfare

GW to circulate any information she was to present to the Committee.

Events

SC suggested an additional two events for 2018. MF-L will progress the push for Washburn and an event in Cardiff. British Canoeing have suggested there may be financial assistance for a Cardiff event therefore an IRF Category C race was suggested.

MF-L proposed that we replace prizes at events with medals. JE said that prizes were expected at Series races so it was agreed that medals will be given at Selection events and prizes would still be given for Series races.

Feedback from Selection Event

SC reported that requests had been made for Selection events to be held earlier and a number of members of the Committee also had this feedback from teams. It was felt that there was no reason why we couldn't hold Selections earlier giving teams more time to plan and fundraise. LD suggested that the Selection could take place no less than 4 months prior to the Championships. It was agreed that the Events team look at bringing 2018 Selection forward to early/mid February. Date will be confirmed and venue will be HPP.

It was suggested that the IRF annual membership fee be factored into the Selection entry costs. WD pointed out that it is not only GB1 & 2 teams who benefit from IRF membership as their annual calendar of events has opportunities for competent teams to take part in international events some of which they could be paid to participate in. The allocation of the IRF Affiliation Fee be looked into again.

Event Safety Feedback

S-JE and JE reported they both found the course useful and had identified areas that needed attention; the first of which was to identify a Safety Officer. S-JE asked for clarity re GW title and it was confirmed that GW is Welfare only and her role does not include Safety.

A risk assessment and Safety Officer are required for each event and S-JE and JE will submit a full request list for the risk assessment.

A first aider and first aid kit are required at each event. LD will compile a list of all safety qualifications held by Event team, volunteers and Committee.

An action plan is required for Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and Emergency Operating Procedure (EOP) and plan should also cover river conditions. A google map of the course should be attached identifying emergency points and other relevant information. This was agreed to be a role for the safety officer for which LD said he would be happy to carry out.

All Events personnel and volunteers should be easily identifiable to participants and have full knowledge of who to direct queries to. Options to be looked at.

British Open

Teams who have so far taken advantage of the £120 early bird offer are GB1 mixed senior team; Red Rose; Team Oarsome x2. Interest has also been expressed by the Danish Open Women; Federazione Italiana and CESA.

Programme is still being finalised but the legacy is available from 8am on Saturday and Sunday will be sessions on the lake at approx. starting at 10am for 1.5/2 hours followed by the AGM.

Xmas Event

Venue will be Matlock and will take place either 25/26 November or 9/10 December no confirmed booking has been made.

International Womens Day – 8 March 2018

A race schedule will be drawn up for 11th & 12th March. Wednesday 8th will be an all paddlesports disciplines event for female paddlers around the country. British Canoeing to be approached to come up with a logo.

Lee Valley will sell have a go school sessions available on 9th and 10th.

Dates to be agreed (but possibly Friday night) for women's groups/have-a-go sessions. Race on Saturday and a fun day on Sunday which could follow the format of the fun day planned at the British Open.

British Canoeing

Podium Kit

MF-L showed the Committee samples of BC podium kit. It was pointed out that at present it was not mandatory for British Rafting to adopt the kit however the junior and masters teams had expressed they would like to adopt BC kit. SC raised the concern that the Open teams had their own sponsors and pointed out that the contract athletes are required to sign has many stipulations regarding how and when BC kit is worn. MF-L explained that at present we have not been asked to sign any contracts although it is likely that at some stage it would be a requirement. It was agreed that kit should be an individual teams decision and those who wish to adopt the BC kit could do so whilst those teams who did not could continue without.

Relationship with BC

The Committee was in agreement that BR should not be a standalone organisation. Although we are very much the new kids on the block it was agreed that we are “working towards a partnership with BC. This item will require further discussion and the ultimate decision will rest with our membership.

Any Other Business

MF-L/SC/KS will meet to define BR Membership and present a draft to be shown to the Committee by end of July 2017.

DD to be asked for an update on where we are with Racing qualifications.

Application documents need to be drafted for those clubs who are interested in growing rafting and want to bid for one of the new rafts. This documentation must cover protocols such as damage, theft, storage, liability insurance usage etc. SC/MF-LKS/LD to draft. It was agreed that Llangollen Canoe Club to be allocated a raft on completion of a form.

SC: Reported that Deb Cook has requested the details of all team Captains in order to consult on IRF issues/queries.
Committee email address are now set up.
Clarity is required concerning the role of British Rafting in overseeing rafting vs guiding

KS: Reported that the raft that was to be given to the GB2 U23 team based at HPP is damaged. Repair options to be checked and then decision required on repairs. It was suggested that it would be unsafe to use during any BR event until repair had been carried out. It was decided not to fund repair at this stage due to new rafts arriving soon. Raft to be quarantine. WD reiterated that the funding from BC which was purchased for new rafts was ringfenced for growing rafting at grass roots.

S-JE: Raised query regarding an U23 facebook post mentioning BR and Podium Partners. WD to contact U19 and U23 teams to determine details about the posting.

Policies

Amendments:

SC suggested an amendment to the 2018 Selection policy making it mandatory for all selected teams to attend one BR event a year. It was felt that this would enable the Selection Panel to include prior performance (and scores) in forming their decision Committee members to witness.

Required for drafting:

Equipment Policy Request Form (SC/MF-L/KS/LD)

Welfare Policy (GW)

Event Policy (S-JE/JE)

Finance Policy (SC)

Safety Policy (LD)

Formalise social media promoting companies (SC)

Date of Next Meeting

AGM, Sunday 17 September 2017, Lee Valley White Water Centre. Time to be confirmed. LD requested an interim meeting or date for an update on Policies and Actions before the AGM.