

Regents Canoe Club
Committee Meeting Minutes 14th August 2008

- 1. Present:** Karen Shaw Wilson (*Chair*)
Dan Tattersall (*Secretary*)
Sarah James (*Treasurer*)
Caroline Robson (*Membership Secretary*)
Claire Taylor (*Equipment Officer*)
Steve Hatton (*Newsletter Editor*)
Christine Dove (*Safety and Training Officer*)
Alix Cordell (*Events Co-ordinator*)
- 2. Apologies:** Ian White (*IBC Liason Officer*)
Ian Tokelove (*Website / Publicity Officer*)

Actions from Previous Meetings

3. Club Bank

SJ updated the committee on the changes to the club bank account. A new account has been chosen at the Co-operative Bank. SJ's recommendations that 1) a fourth account signatory be included (CD was nominated), 2) a savings account also be opened, 3) the option of internet banking be taken up, and 4) a debit card was not required, were all agreed unanimously by the committee. The club auditor, Ralph Wilson, has been consulted regarding these changes.

4. Membership

CR reported that 75 members have renewed their membership and the remainder have been emailed warning of their impending removal from the club database. She will produce a new list of member's details and circulate as appropriate. The committee discussed ways of checking that paddlers at the club are current members. The duty officer will be encouraged to check people against the membership list, alongside the committee performing spot-checks.

One member has requested that instead of renewing their membership they could revert to 'Casual Membership' whereby they pay by the session. The committee noted that there is no such thing as casual membership – the £2 Casual Users Fee is intended only for potential new members to try the club before joining. Additionally CD recommended a review of the number of sessions that could be attended before people are made to join the club.

It was decided that from Monday 27th October (when the clocks change) the Casual User Fee would be scrapped and replaced by two options. Firstly regular "Introduction to R.C.C." sessions will be run whereby people are welcomed to the club, shown around and helped to get on the water. The cost will be £5. These sessions would be run alongside the current coached £10 Taster Sessions, which are the intended introduction to the club for people with little or no experience. The new "Introduction to R.C.C." sessions will initially run monthly on the first Monday of the month (and more frequently over the busier summer months). Secondly, people can also be brought to the club as a "Guest Member" where a current member takes responsibility for them. The guest fee is also £5 per session. CD will adapt the current Casual User Form to a Guest Member form. IT to update the website with details. **Action CD and IT.**

5. Trips and Events

The committee discussed some of the trips and events on the club calendar.

AC was congratulated for a successful Wet Fun and BBQ. CT will organise the next event on the 4th September. The problem with the club being locked was discussed – the keyholders (CD, CT and Dave Pennington) will ensure they confirm with each other that cover is available when they are not going to be at the club.

The Surf 'n Turf trip was also a success. In future the summer trip will be organised by a club member, not necessarily a committee member.

6. Forthcoming Trips and Events

The Multi-Day Open Boat Trip scheduled for the 23rd / 24th / 25th August has been cancelled. IT to update the website. **Action IT.**

CR reported the accommodation for the Exe and Barle trip (18th / 19th October) has been booked and KSW reported that Liza Sumpter has booked the accommodation for the three winter Dart trips. An organiser is required for all four trips. CT volunteered to organise the 13th / 14th December Dart trip. A request will be made in the *Notes* email for other volunteers. **Action KSW.**

CD reported that the Mile End Mill trip (27th / 28th September) accommodation will be booked this week. She also requested the Alp Kit Festival be added to the club calendar on the website. **Action IT.**

7. Pool Sessions

DT reported that the monthly summer pool sessions for August and September were negotiated down to the old price of £117.57 (for a 90min session) by Katie Cordell. These are advertised on the club calendar. Secondly, DT reported that the Bookings Officer at Holloway School Pool has acknowledged our expression of interest but informed us that the pool has been oversubscribed. We will be informed whether we have an allocation at the end of August.

The winter pool sessions were discussed, particularly in light of the fact that the cost per session has almost doubled since last year. A number of ideas were discussed to ensure they are subsidised only to an acceptable level. It was decided to book six fortnightly one-hour pool sessions commencing at the start of October. The cost will be £5 per person, with two designated coaches only participating for free. If successful, further sessions will be booked for the new year. DT will research the different options available, and book the sessions. **Action DT.**

8. I.B.C. Rental of Facilities Agreement

DT reported the signed agreement has been filed with the club paperwork.

9. BCU Club Affiliation

DT reported that the Club Affiliation with the BCU has been renewed.

Matters Arising

10. Training

Autumn coaching was briefly discussed. A Training Subcommittee meeting will be held on Thursday 21st August to coordinate the coaching being laid on. CD to chair.

11. I.B.C. Business

The issues raised in IW's email to the committee were discussed. SJ reported she will get the details from IW to set up the standing order to pay I.B.C. our rental fee. Additionally, I.B.C.'s request for Regents to start at 7:00pm rather than 6:30pm to avoid too much overlap was discussed. Regents would rather address the concerns by ensuring members do not arrive before 6.30pm. CT to discuss with IW who will liaise with I.B.C.. **Action SJ, CT and IW.**

12. I.B.C. Members Using the Canal during R.C.C. Sessions

CT reported that she had been approached by Paul Kilham from I.B.C. regarding the possibility of a couple of I.B.C. members using the canal during R.C.C. sessions. As these individuals are under the age of eighteen, the committee expressed its reservation mainly with the potential for issues to arise surrounding child protection. The committee decided the issue was best progressed by CT returning to Paul Kilham to discuss our concerns. **Action CT.**

13. SGM Equipment

A date for a SGM to discuss the annual purchase of large items of equipment was set for Thursday 18th September. The committee discussed its recommendation that will be put to the SGM. The money is available to purchase approximately six second hand boats, and the committee recommends focusing on modern white-water river running boats. Specific suggestions included a small river runner such as an Inazone 222, and medium river runners such as a Sonic or Supersonic. Additionally, the committee recommends that at least one playboat should be purchased.

Further, the committee discussed the purchase of smaller items of equipment, which do not need to be agreed at an SGM. Items discussed included paddles, semi-dry cags and neoprene spraydecks. CT will report to the committee at the next meeting the options available and estimated cost. **Action CT.**

14. Equipment Loan Guidelines

The committee briefly discussed the wording on the website regarding the loan of equipment in light of an approach by some non-R.C.C. members. It was decided that the information was comprehensive enough, and any clarification needed could be provided on an individual basis.

15. Hospital Location

IT requested that the location of the nearest hospital(s) be made available to members at the club incase of emergency. CD reported that this is already in the duty folder. She will also attach a copy to the equipment cupboard, and IT will update the website. **Action CD and IT.**

16. A.O.B

None.

17. Date of the Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd October at 8pm.