

Regents Canoe Club

Annual General Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday, 21st April 2016

Time: 20:00 - 22:05

Location: Club Room, Regents Canoe Club, 16-34 Graham Street, London N1 8JX

Item

1. Welcome & Apologies

In Attendance: Sean Clarke, Matt Collins, Steffi Thorhauer-White, Clarissa Horilczenko, Sarah Ford, Kate Balderson, Ben Parkes, Mel Madgin, Ben McPhee, Ali Ring, Rachel Ulferts, Peter Bale, Scott Menzies, Colin Silcock, Sarah Gibbs, Moke Wall, Paul Wathan, Liza Sumpter, Gemma Wilson, Mark Donaldson, Selina Keppler, Belle Cartwright, Dan Voyce, Johannes Woelfing, Ian White, Ben Ainsworth, Emma Birtles, Jenni Richards, Rachael Fisher, Ngairé Wallace, Emma Collings, Dave Preece, Debs Mackie, Claire Taylore, Geoff Sinclair, Issam Norris-Halani

Apologies received: Olga Beschastnykh, Samantha Harrison, Marc Labuhn, Carol King, Simon Drayson, Marco Solari, Kristian Brown, Ben Paterson, Hannis Whittam, Rohani Mustapha, Ian Tokelove

Chair: Sean Clarke

Minutes: Steffi Thorhauer-White

2. Minutes: 16th April 2015 Annual General Meeting

SC noted an error in the minutes and asked that the reference to which Committee be corrected from 2013/14 to 2014/15. All agreed. The minutes of the 16th April 2015 Annual General Meeting were agreed and signed off.

3. Matters Arising: 16th April 2015 Annual General Meeting

- *Incoming Committee (2015/16) to review areas to recuperate losses from last and this financial year - item will be covered as a result of the Treasurer's report - action closed.*

4. Committee Member Reports

- SC thanked Ben Parkes, Ben McPhee and Luke Smalley as outgoing Committee members not standing for roles on the incoming Committee.
- *Chair: Sean Clarke*

Attended and Chaired all ten Management Committee meetings, collated and published *Notes from Canalside* weekly, responded to queries from the general public and new members, acted as primary liaison with Islington Boat Club, British Canoeing; reviewed the Constitution and Handbook - with proposals in this year's AGM Agenda; organised the Alps, Scotland, Lee Valley and December Dart trips; organised the RCC Quiz Night and Christmas Party; made frequent and multiple updates to the club website including calendar events, duty officer updates, Committee page updates and publication of articles; acted as group moderator for the RCC Facebook Group; commenced the club's involvement in the British Canoeing "Go Canoeing" campaign and the wider sports campaigns of #likeagirl and #thisgirlcan

Sean thanked the outgoing Committee for their work over the last year.

Sean thanked Ian Tokelove and Matt Collins for organising the New Members Evenings, Sarah Ford for coordinating the helpers and all the helpers themselves on the New Members Evenings

Sean thanked Mark Donaldson for organising the Pool Helpers

Sean thanked Krzysztof Trzcinski for being so reliable with opening and closing the club
- *Secretary: Olga Beschastnykh*

Attended 8 committee meetings and recorded and circulated minutes for each. Renewed club's British Canoeing membership and managed emails to the club from the public, governing bodies, media and fellow paddle sports clubs over the year.
- *Safety and Training Officer: Clarissa Horilczenko*

As Safety and Training officer I collated the incident and accident reports for the year and manage all training subsidy requests to the Committee for approval. The annual training meeting was held in March 2016. The committee reviewed the training and safety aspects of the handbook and policies and some modifications were made this year.

A key objective has been to encourage more members to become qualified BCU coaches and to provide support to members for leadership and coaching. The club has two newly qualified BCU Level 2 coaches which is a great achievement. One of these coaches also achieved MWE endorsement so this means another qualified coach is

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available to support our successful Introduction to White Water courses. We also achieved a number of BCU 4 star leadership awards.

Incidents - One major incident was reported over the year which was on the December Dart trip. This resulted in a visit to A&E for the treatment for a dislocated shoulder. Lessons learnt were for trip organisers to know the location of the closest A&Es.

Training Subsidies - A number of training subsidies were requested and paid over the year. These included: BCU Level 2 Coaching Training and Assessments, BCU 4* White Water Kayaking Training and Assessments, White Water Safety & Rescue Training, Advanced White Water Safety & Rescue Training and various First Aid courses. These subsidies indicate members are keeping their training and skills up to date and are contributing to club safety and training.

Training & Courses run by the club - One Leadership, two Introduction to White Water, multiple canal sessions to help new members, three rolling courses, four Mile End Mill weekends (progression to white water). Plans for 2016 include 3 star kayak training, 2 star training and assessment and another leadership course. The first introduction to White Water course for 2015 is fully booked and scheduled to start on 28th April 2016.

Training Meeting - A training meeting was held and the main output from the meeting was that a Training Calendar should be produced with regular training delivered by the club planned and published on a calendar. More communication of what the club wants to achieve with regard to training was asked for. The 2016/2017 training calendar had been produced; however, the actions to hold the "Train the Trainer" and "Coaches Catch-up" meetings have yet to be delivered. This should be implemented early in the new committee year.

- **Communications Officer: Ian Tokelove**

Managed and updated the website, supported by the Chair, and kept the software updated to ensure security

Managed the Facebook page alongside other admins

Managed the Eventbrite booking system, allowing non-members to book onto New Members Evenings

Managed the PayPal booking system, allowing payments for the Introduction to White Water Kayaking courses

Promoted public courses via other online media

Responded to over 100 public and member enquiries received via the website and Facebook site

- **Non-Portfolio Officer: Sarah Ford**

As well as attending regular committee meetings and influencing committee decisions, during my position as non portfolio officer, I have assisted and organised club trips and social events. These include BBQs, the annual Lakes trip and the leadership weekend. I have also maintained the New Members Evening duty rota, which includes regular updates and correspondence with those involved. I am currently in the process of organising an RCC open day to promote the sport of paddling to the wider community and looking into potential affiliations with campaigns such as 'This girl Can'.

- **Non-Portfolio Officer: Ben Parkes**

Over the last 12 months I've taken an active role within the management committee, I feel I have provided an input on all club matters and have been a voice for the membership. I feel I've played an integral part in getting newer members involved in club activities such as organising trips. I am not standing for re-election and would like to take the opportunity to wish the incoming committee all the best for the coming year.

- **Equipment Officer: Ben McPhee / Kate Balderson**

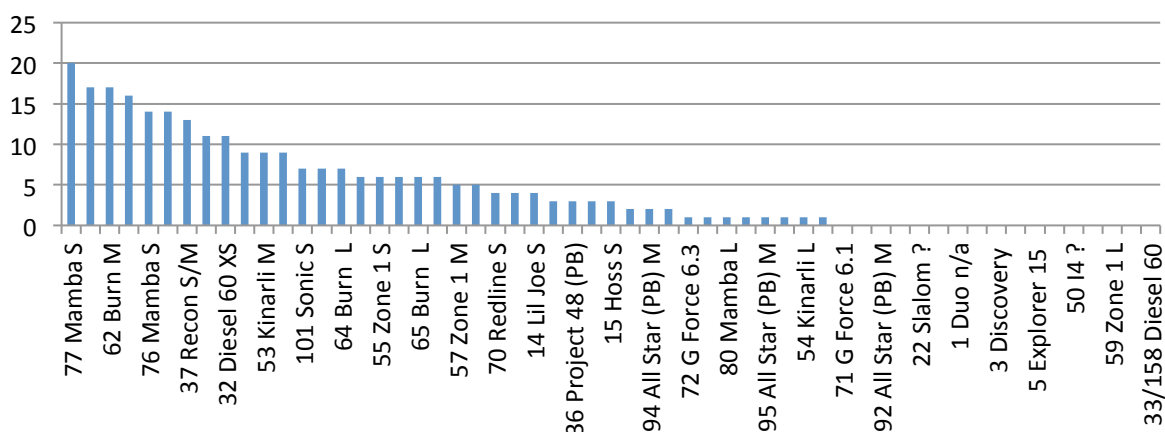
Thanks to everyone who has helped with the hiring of kit. There is a new boat storage system being trialled in order to keep boats stored safely on their sides and able to store more boats on the racks themselves. Annual Kit Check is scheduled for 08th May - everyone is encouraged to come along and help out. The statistics for boat hires for the 2015/16 year:

Trip	Alps 2015	IWWK 1	Tryweryn 1	Lee Valley	Tryweryn 2	Feb Dart	MEM	IWWK 2	Nov Dart	LV	Barle & Exe	Xmas Dart	Lakes	MEM	Sept '15	Average #
# hires	18	17	11	14	14	18	17	16	15	11	19	13	11	18	11	15

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Boats - frequency of use 15/16



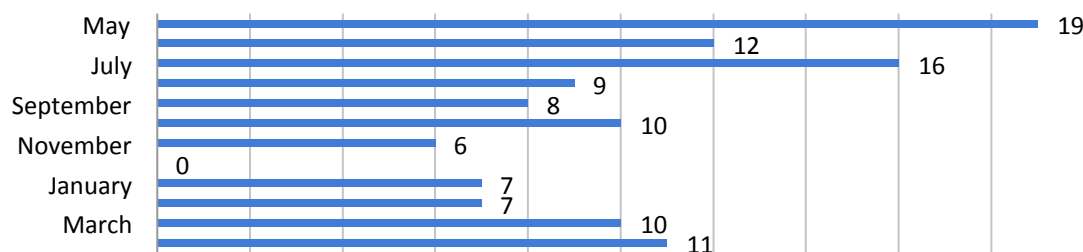
- Membership Secretary: Matthew Collins**

Attended eight committee meetings, organised BBQ before Alps trip; responded to queries from prospective members; attended most NMEs and collected forms and money; started sending a new welcome email to all new members to try and engage them more in the club after NMEs; updated membership form to include gender; helped facebook group admin and moderator; investigated moving from paper forms for NMEs - this is ongoing and looking to review the whole process in the new year; a thank you to Sarah Ford and all the NME Helpers; a thanks to all the Committee especially Ben Parkes for getting new members involved in planning trips.

MC reported a slight growth in members mostly more concessions and associates. The statistics on the club's membership for the 2015/16 year:

	2015/16	2014/15
Full Members	218	216
Concession	24	17
Associate Members	16	10
Life Member	1	1
Total	259	244
New Members	126	145
Renewed Members	133	99
Total	259	244
Male	154	135
Female	109	109
Total	259	244
BCU Members	52	56

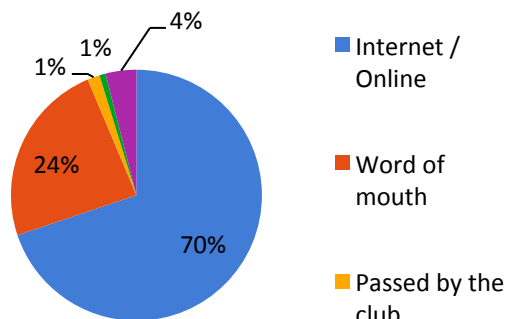
New Member Evenings 2015/16



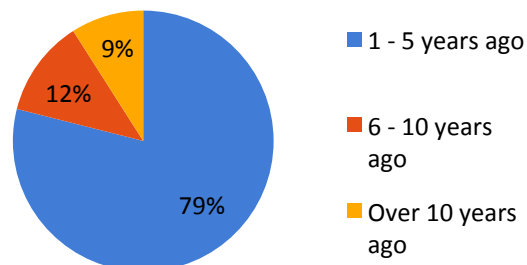
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How new members found us



How long have renewing members been at Regents?



- Treasurer: Steffi Thorhauer-White**

Thanks to Myles, Olga & Amy for pulling together the annual report and managing the finances throughout the year. ST-W presented the club's accounts highlighting that the club had made a loss of £717 for the year, up from a deficit of £2,433 last year. The committee took the decision to reduce further investment in boats due to the previous years' deficit - this has reduced the club's asset base through depreciation from previous year's boat purchases and limited new investment in boats. After much research and debate the committee increased the cost to members for attending pool sessions in order to reduce the loss the club incurs on each and every pool session. Despite the deficit, the club remains in a healthy financial position with a strong bank balance and a secure activity base.

SC provided additional commentary around the reasons for the proposed increases to membership fees being a drastic increase in insurance costs, annual costs in pool hire and IBC licence fees. A question was asked about the increase to pool fees during the year - SC outlined the pool costs for the last 10 years with the pool cost in 2004/05 being £455 and a cost to members of £5 per session; the 2014/15 cost was £4,036 and still at a cost of £5 per session. This was resulting in the club making losses of over £2,000 per year for the last two years in running the pool sessions.

The full accounts are an Appendix to these minutes

5. Accounts

Auditors Report and Approval of Accounts. Amy Lilley presented the Auditor of the Club Accounts report:

Auditor's Report and Comments - FY 15/16

I have examined the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account together with the notes on pages 7 to 9 and confirm that in all material respects they are in agreement with the underlying books and records.

The Auditor's report was accepted by simple majority show of hands by the membership.

The membership agreed by simple majority show of hands to reappoint Amy Lilley as the club's Auditor for the new financial year

6. Amendments to the Constitution

SC outlined the voting procedure and disclosed who had proxy voting rights. There were seven proxy votes in total. This meant a voting count of 43 votes.

SC presented an amendment to the Constitution. The full proposal is an Appendix to these minutes.

Associate Membership amendments:

The 2015/16 Management Committee reviewed the Constitution and proposed amendments to clarify and publish the types of membership into the Constitution including the splitting of Associate memberships into Associate and Distance membership relating to how involved the member is with the club.

Much discussion took place regarding the purpose and outcomes of splitting Associate memberships. SC proposed to split the vote into two - the first was whether to split the associate membership type or not. The second was to confirm an amendment to the Constitution in order to define membership types.

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The membership rejected the changes proposed to the Associate membership type as outlined in *Associate Membership Amendments Proposal* by simple majority show of hands:

4 in favour, 34 against, 5 abstained

Further discussion took place regarding the text to define Full, Associate and Life memberships. Several counter-proposals were discussed. The below text was then put forward as a proposed amendment to the Constitution:

3.2. *Membership types are defined as being:*

3.2.1. **Full Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit. Can apply for subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of the Management Committee at the time)

3.2.2. **Associate Membership** - predominantly for people who have been members already and moved away but wish to remain in contact with the club. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit. Can apply for subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of the Management Committee at the time). The Management Committee has the discretion to grant or deny applications for Associate Membership

3.2.3. **Life Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit. Can apply for subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of the Management Committee at the time). Can only be granted at the discretion of a Management Committee proposal to an Annual General Meeting for ratification

The membership accepted the changes proposed to the Constitution by simple majority show of hands: **41 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstained**

A further inclusion to the Constitution was proposed to confirm how members can join the club:

3.8. *For safety and currency of all club policies and procedures, all new members must attend either a New Members Evening or a Regents Canoe Club run Introduction to White Water Kayaking course. This includes members who have previously resigned their membership or have had their membership withdrawn.*

The membership accepted the changes proposed to the Constitution by simple majority show of hands: **40 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstained**

A query was made with regard to who could qualify for concession membership fees. SC clarified that the current position is any full time student or unemployed member. The incoming Committee was asked to review what constitutes a Concession with regard to membership fees and publish guidelines.

ACTIONS:

- **Incoming Committee to define what constitutes a Concession for membership fees and publish**

7. Proposals for amendments to Fees

Annual Membership Fees:

The Management Committee proposed the following changes to the current Annual Membership Fee structure.

Fee type	Notes	Current	Proposed
RCC Full Membership (Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)	Full membership	£60.00	£70.00
RCC Full Membership (Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)	Concession membership	£30.00	£35.00
RCC Full Membership (Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)	Full membership	£30.00	£35.00
RCC Full Membership (Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)	Concession membership	£15.00	£17.50
RCC Distance Membership	No concessions <i>New membership type</i>	n/a	£35.00
RCC Associate Membership	No concessions	£15.00	£15.00

As the proposal to split Associate membership was rejected, that line was removed from the proposed changes. Discussion took place regarding whether the fee was appropriate, should be raised or remain the same. It was agreed to vote on the Full membership fee and Associate membership fee separately.

Three options were put forward for the Full membership annual fee:

- £60 - **3 in favour, 40 against**
- £70 - **39 in favour, 4 against**
- £80 - **3 in favour, 40 against**

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The membership accepted the Full membership annual fee for 2016/17 to be £70.00

Three options were put forward for the Associate membership annual fee:

- £15 - **1 in favour, 42 against, 0 abstained**
- £20 - **17 in favour, 24 against, 2 abstained**
- £25 - **30 in favour, 12 against, 2 abstained**

The membership accepted the Associate membership annual fee for 2016/17 to be £25.00

The Management Committee proposed no changes to the current Equipment Hire Fee structure. Challenges to the Equipment Hire fee were made from the floor. After discussion, a vote was put forward:

The membership was asked whether to increase Equipment Hire fees or not.

The membership rejected any increase to the Equipment Hire fees by simple majority show of hands:

16 in favour, 25 against, 2 abstained

Fee type	Notes	Fee
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)</i>	Full membership	£70.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)</i>	Concession membership	£35.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)</i>	Full membership	£35.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)</i>	Concession membership	£17.50
RCC Associate Membership	No concessions	£25.00
Weekend Equipment Hire Fee	Boat, paddle, BA, helmet, spray deck, cagoule	£20.00

**Summary
Regents
Canoe
Club fees
for
2016/17:**

8. Election of new Committee

The Returns Officers for the elections were Sean Clarke, Matt Collins and Steffi Thorhauer-White.

The following position had no nominations prior to the AGM. The floor was opened for nominations:

Chair: Sean Clarke was nominated by Sarah Gibbs and seconded by Liza Sumpter

Sean Clarke was accepted as Chair by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

The following nominations were received prior to the AGM:

Secretary: Steffi Thorhauer-White nominated by Rachael Fisher and seconded by Paul Wathan

Steffi Thorhauer-White was accepted as Secretary by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

Treasurer: Alistair Ring nominated by Steffi Thorhauer-White seconded and by Sean Clarke

Alistair Ring was accepted as Treasurer by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

Equipment Officer: Kate Balderson nominated by Carol King seconded and by Sarah Ford

Kate Balderson was accepted as Equipment Officer by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

Safety & Training Officer: Clarissa Horilczenko nominated by Ben Parks seconded and by Deborah Mackie

Clarissa Horilczenko was accepted as Safety & Training Officer by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

Membership Secretary: Matt Collins nominated by James Mogie seconded and by Emma Birtles

Matt Collins was accepted as Membership Secretary by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

Communications Officer: Ian Tokelove nominated by Isabelle Cartwright seconded and by James Mogie

Ian Tokelove was accepted as Communications Officer by a simple majority show of hands by the membership

The following positions had more nominations than available places prior to the AGM. A secret ballot was held - :

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Non-Portfolio Officer: Sarah Ford nominated by James Mogie seconded and by Deborah Mackie

Non-Portfolio Officer: Rachael Fisher nominated by Steffi Thorhauer-White seconded and by Emma Birtles

Non-Portfolio Officer: Isabelle Cartwright nominated by Mark Donaldson seconded and by Ben Parkes

Non-Portfolio Officer: Emma Birtles nominated by Kate Balderson seconded and by Melanie Madgin

Non-Portfolio Officer: Rachel Ulferts nominated by Samantha Harrison seconded and Johannes Wölfing

In no particular order, the three people with the most number of votes were elected:

Sarah Ford was elected as Non-Portfolio Officer (1) by a majority secret ballot by the membership

Emma Birtles was elected as Non-Portfolio Officer (2) by a majority secret ballot by the membership

Rachael Fisher was elected as Non-Portfolio Officer (3) by a majority secret ballot by the membership

9. AOB

No AOB was received prior to the meeting.

The following AOB items were discussed from the floor:

- *Forecasting / budget planning* - Ben Ainsworth requested that the 2016/17 Committee produce a predicted budget/forecast for the next year with known costs. SC clarified that this would be difficult as we are unable to predict membership numbers in advance and that the Committee changes at an AGM so the future Committee may not agree with the previous Committee's decision.
- *Thanks to the Outgoing Committee* - Claire Taylor expressed thanks to the outgoing Committee on behalf of the membership

ACTIONS:

- **Incoming Committee to review the possibility to produce a future year budget/forecast when presenting the Annual Report at the next AGM**

10. Close

Summary of AGM Action Items

- Incoming Committee to review the possibility to produce a future year budget/forecast when presenting the Annual Report at the next AGM

Non AGM Action Items for New Committee

- Incoming Committee to define what constitutes a Concession for membership fees and publish

Regents Canoe Club Membership Report 2015/2016

	2015/16	2014/15
Full Members	218	216
Concession	24	17
Associate Members	16	10
Life Members	1	1
Total	259	244

Renewals

New Members (NME & IWWK)	126	145
Renewed Members	133	99
Total	259	244

Gender

Male	151	135
Female	105	109
Other / no response	3	0
Total	259	244

British Canoeing Members

Total	52	56
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How new members found us

Internet / Online	88	83
Word of mouth	30	42
Passed by the club	2	0
BC / Magazine / Publication	1	1
Other	5	19
Total	126	145

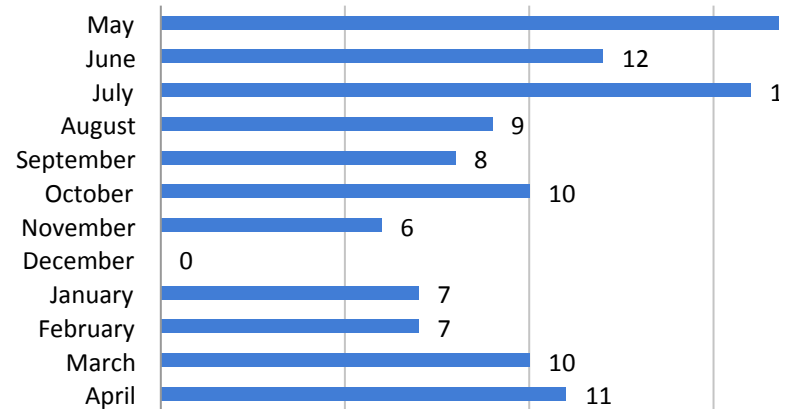
How long ago did renewing members join

1 - 5 years ago	105	77
6 - 10 years ago	16	11
Over 10 years ago	12	11
Total	133	99

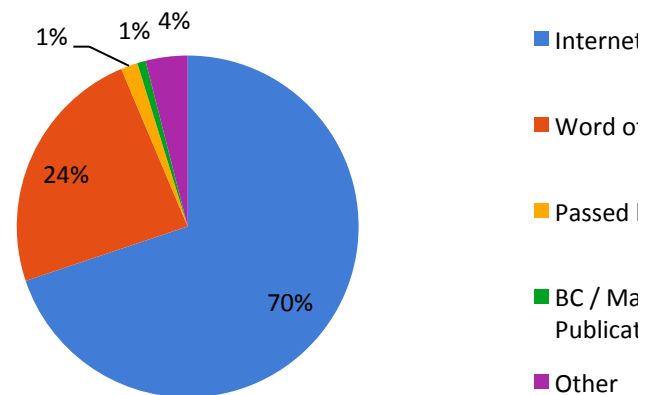
NME Attendance

May	19
June	12
July	16
August	9
September	8
October	10
November	6
December	0
January	7
February	7
March	10
April	11
Total	115

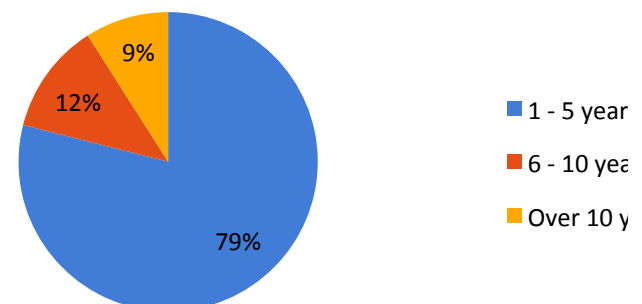
New Member Evenings 2015/16



How new members found us



How long have renewing members been at Regents?



REGENTS CANOE CLUB
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP AMENDMENTS PROPOSAL
21st March 2016

The proposed changes to the Regents Canoe Club Constitution and Handbook as documented below have been agreed for presentation to the members at the 2016 Annual General Meeting by the Management Committee at their meeting of 21st March 2016.

Background to proposed changes (Associate Membership Amendments Proposal)

Regents Canoe Club currently offers two types of Membership:

- Full membership (with concessions offered to unemployed and full time students)
- Associate membership (no concessions offered)
- Life membership (at discretion of Management Committee proposal to AGM - no fee)

None of these types of membership are specified in the club's Constitution or Handbook. They have arisen over time at the discretion of individual Management Committees over the years. There has been no formalisation of the types of membership in any governing documents.

These proposals seek to clarify and publish the types of membership into the club's Constitution. The reason for proposing the Constitution over the Handbook is that any amendments to the Constitution require a General Meeting whereas the Handbook can be amended by individual Committees at Committee meetings.

Current published guidance on memberships

The club's website is the only published material that differentiates between Associate and Full membership. The text is:

Associate membership is only intended for members who have moved away and wish to stay in touch with the club - they cannot paddle on the canal or hire equipment.

Any persons living inside the M25 wishing to join only as associate members should apply to be considered on an individual basis by the committee. Cost is £15 per year (no discount for unemployed or students).

There is no guidance on Life Membership. The club currently only has one Life Member who has been a life member for over ten years.

Proposals for changes to the Constitution

- Include definitions of membership types in the Constitution
- Define Full Membership
- Define Life Membership
- Split and define Associate Membership into two types:
 - Distance - must live outside M25. Able to use pool, canal and attend trips as normal and can hire kit
 - Associate - member by contact only. Cannot attend pool or canal sessions. Cannot hire club kit. Cannot apply for coaching or training subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of

the Management Committee at the time). Can attend club trips subject to paying trip fees and space being available (priority given to Full and Associate Members)

These proposed changes will remove the option for anyone to be considered as an Associate Member should they live within the M25.

There are no proposed inclusions of Concession memberships as this is a fee related item that is subject to annual review at each Annual General Meeting and may be applied to any/all membership types at the discretion of each Management Committee proposal to each Annual General Meeting.

The changes proposed to the Constitution are:

- *Insert new item in Section 3 (Membership) of the Constitution as follows:*
 - *Membership types are defined as being:*
 - **Full Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit
 - **Distance Membership** - must live outside M25. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit
 - **Associate Membership** - member by contact only. Cannot attend club sessions. Cannot hire club kit. Cannot apply for any subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of the Management Committee at the time). Can attend club trips subject to space being available - priority will be given to Full and Distance members)
 - **Life Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit. Can only be granted at the discretion of a Management Committee proposal to an Annual General Meeting for ratification. Nominations for Life Membership should have provided a minimum of ten years active and positive impact to the Club
 - All membership types are considered to be members of the club and as such will be granted access to all club communications (web, email, post etc)
- *Renumbering of Section 3 (Membership) of the Constitution*

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO REGENTS CANOE CLUB CONSTITUTION

3. Membership

3.1. The Club is open to the whole community and may admit as members any persons aged 18 or over who will comply with the Club rules and policies as determined and amended from time to time by the Management Committee and posted on the Club website.

3.2. Membership types are defined as being:

*3.2.1. **Full Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit*

*3.2.2. **Distance Membership** - must live outside M25. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit*

*3.2.3. **Associate Membership** - member by contact only. Cannot attend club sessions. Cannot hire club kit. Cannot apply for any subsidies (if any are in place at the discretion of the Management Committee at the time). Can attend club trips subject to space being available - priority will be given to Full and Distance members)*

*3.2.4. **Life Membership** - full access to club facilities. Can attend any club session. Can attend club trips and can hire club kit. Can only be granted at the discretion of a Management Committee proposal to an Annual General Meeting for ratification. Nominations for Life Membership should have provided a minimum of ten years active and positive impact to the Club*

3.2.5. All membership types are considered to be members of the club and as such will be granted access to all club communications (web, email, post etc)

3.3. Each member shall pay an annual subscription to be determined at the Annual General Meeting.

3.4. A member shall cease to be a member if they give written notice to the Secretary of their resignation.

3.5. A member whose subscription is more than two months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned.

3.6. Subject to due process and a right of appeal, the Management Committee reserves the right to withdraw membership for any member who is found to be in breach of the Club's rules and/or policies.

3.7. The Management Committee reserves the right to refuse membership of any person who is believed to have views contrary to the Club's objects or whom has previously been found in breach of the Club's rules and policies.

3.8. For safety and currency of all club policies and procedures, all new members must attend either a New Members Evening or a Regents Canoe Club run Introduction to White Water Kayaking course. This includes members who have previously resigned their membership or have had their membership withdrawn.

3.9. Any member who resigns or whose membership is withdrawn will not be entitled to a refund in whole or in part of the annual subscription fee.

REGENTS CANOE CLUB
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES PROPOSAL
21st April 2016

The proposed changes to the Regents Canoe Club Annual Subscription Fees as documented below have been agreed for presentation to the members at the 2016 Annual General Meeting by the Management Committee at their meeting of 21st March 2016.

Background to proposed changes:

Regents Canoe Club is a voluntary run organisation whose objectives are to *promote and encourage the sport of canoeing and associated activities and any other activities organised by Club members. The Club is non-profit making and organised on an amateur basis.*

In order to do this, the club needs to charge annual subscription fees in order to be able to pay such things as site rental, British Canoeing affiliation, insurance for boats and other items of equipment, and incidental costs for the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of the club throughout the year for the benefit of members.

On an annual basis, each Management Committee reviews the financial position of the club and recommends to members what they believe the Annual Subscription Fees should be for the next membership year. Having reviewed the club's financial position and in light of increases to site rental, British Canoeing affiliation and insurances, the 2015/16 Management Committee are proposing a step increase to the annual subscription fees as detailed below.

The proposals below assume the Annual General Meeting agrees with proposed changes to the structure of Memberships at the same Annual General Meeting. Should those proposals not be accepted by the membership at the AGM, the Management Committee shall refine the below proposals at the AGM to suit the outcome of the motion to amend the membership structure.

Current annual subscription fees and proposed changes:

Fee type	Notes	Current	Proposed
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)</i>	Full membership	£60.00	£70.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 June - 30 Nov)</i>	Concession membership	£30.00	£35.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)</i>	Full membership	£30.00	£35.00
RCC Full Membership <i>(Joining between 01 Dec - 31 May)</i>	Concession membership	£15.00	£17.50
RCC Distance Membership	No concessions <i>New membership type</i>	n/a	£35.00
RCC Associate Membership	No concessions	£15.00	£15.00

Based on a membership figure of 230, this would bring in approximately an extra £2,200.00 per year which would cover the increase of annual running costs and allow a small amount of additional funding toward replacement of boats and other items of club equipment that require replacement throughout the year.