



# British Canoeing

## Slalom Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018

Stronger Together

Location: Lee Valley White Water Centre, Station Road,  
Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire EN9 1AB



## 1 Present

### 1.1 In Person

Dave Spencer [3/3] Chair	Andy Neave [3/3] Coaching	Richard Ramsdale [2/3] British Canoeing
Martyn Setchell [3/3] Vice Chair	Dee Lindesay [3/3] Digital Strategy/Data	Dave Spencer [3/3] England
Athlete Rep	Steve Linksted [1/3] Divisional Development	Mark Abbott [3/3] Wales
Colin Woodgate [3/3] Secretary	Andy Grudzinski [3/3] Technical/Timing	
	Hazel Ridge [2/3] Volunteers/Safeguarding	

### 1.2 Apologies

Andy Koszary [2/3] Treasurer	Peter Curry [2/3] Safety/Comp Mgmt.	Kiran Dews [0/3] CANI
		Chris Baillie [2/3] Scotland

## 2 Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that as the Extreme Canoe Slalom Selection competition started that evening, discussion be kept focussed on the issue at hand.

## 3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

## 4 Chair's Report

### 4.1 General

The adverse weather at the start of the season resulted in a number of events having to be cancelled or postponed, although racing has picked up from this slightly stuttering start. Competitions have taken place across all divisions with many taking place in very cold weather with windchill dropping temperatures below zero. The Slalom community are a hardy bunch and well done to organisers, officials and competitors for their sterling efforts.

### 4.2 GB Selection

This year racing was across 2 venues, HPP and Lee Valley, and in all the events there were exciting and outstanding performances. Significant effort goes into making sure that these competitions are run effectively, with many volunteers working alongside employed staff from all the Home Nations. On behalf of the Slalom Committee I would like to say "Thank You" for your hard work in delivering 2 very successful competitions. I also wish to thank all competitors for striving to be the best they can be and delivering a memorable racing spectacle.

### 4.3 AGM & BC Awards

Besides Junior/U23 selection on the weekend of 20/21 March, British Canoeing held its AGM & Volunteer Awards Dinner (not good timing from a Slalom perspective!). The session started on Saturday morning with the AGM with the main theme being a report on Athlete welfare, a subject raised at the 2017 AGM. Significant work has taken place over the last year to ensure that robust policies, procedures and personnel are in place to ensure that Athlete are afforded appropriate protection and safeguarding. We are all too aware that sporting bodies have fallen short in this area and it is positive that such proactive Action is being undertaken.

During the afternoon a Club Conference session was held with discussion groups on the following subjects:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Greater Clubs</li> <li>• Engaging Volunteers</li> <li>• Excellent Events</li> <li>• New Membership Portal</li> <li>• Increasing Female Paddlers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Data</li> <li>• Club and Event Insurance</li> <li>• Improving Communications</li> <li>• Coaching Qualifications Update</li> </ul> |
|--|---|



I attended the sessions on Membership and Safe Data. Once the new membership systems is up and running the question of day membership will be considered later in the year. The Safe Data session centred around the requirements to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and a walkthrough of an audit processes developed for Clubs and Disciplines.

The day rounded off with the Annual British Canoeing Volunteer awards and I am very pleased to report that Irene Osbourne and Dave Royle both received recognition for their many years of dedication to the sport and Jess Magson won an award as junior volunteer of the year.

#### **4.4 English Council**

The English Council on met on 21<sup>st</sup> March, following the AGM, and was a joint session with the BC Board. The main topic of the meeting was an update on the UK Agreement between the home nations which has not be reviewed for many years and is largely out of date. A “Heads of Agreement” is due to be signed by all parties which will then allow detailed negotiation and final agreement. The English Council then reviewed headline terms of reference for the composition and purpose of the English Council as part of the process to reference the work of the Council in BC articles of association at the 2019 AGM.

#### **4.5 BC Digital Strategy**

The replacement British Canoeing membership and database system, (‘Go Membership’ from ‘Azolve’) is on target to go live during April for British Canoeing members. The same system is used by other Home Nations and it is hoped that this moves us closer to be able to access live membership details, which would be of assistance to both Bib officers and Organisers. British Canoeing should be in a position to start testing direct access later this year.

#### **4.6 Four Year Planning AG/DS (171126-11.2)**

A proposal will be documented and sent to committee members for input to the process: e.g. Coaching, Digital Development, Volunteer/Officials Training and Development etc. *Carried forward* ..... **AG / DS**

#### **4.7 Bib Application Forms to reflect safety standards (DS) (171126 -11.4)**

It was proposed to add additional information to the Bib Application Form to emphasise paddler responsibility for ensuring helmets and buoyancy aids were in good order and regularly tested, and to reiterate the importance of conduct and welfare. This would have, in effect, created a “T&Cs” section which would have further complicated an already busy form. Relevant information is already covered in the yearbook, and reference to that may be more appropriate. A brief discussion amongst the committee should clarify what we want to achieve.

The form will need to be amended to confirm with Data Protection laws, with reference to British Canoeing Data Protection Officer, information was circulated to all discipline committees.

#### **4.8 Administrator files (DS/171126 12.9)**

Catherine Croft is happy for us to look for any Slalom specific files that Jim may have stored. DS is arranging for a review with one or Jim’s sons .....**DS.**

### **5 Secretary’s Report**

#### **5.1 Role Descriptions (171126-11.1)**

Some role descriptions have been received, these have been combined with the role descriptions from 2013, and made available to the committee. The remaining descriptions must be completed by the next meeting. .... **Action All**

#### **5.2 ACM Voting options (CDW)**

A draft paper was circulated offering some options for voting at ACMs. This was discussed and will be amended before more general publication for comment. Voting for junior members will be clarified. Retaining the current voting methods is not ruled out, but this is an opportune time to review the process given the regulation rewrite, and the discussion at the 2018 ACM .....**Action CDW**



### 5.3 Extreme Canoe Slalom Selection

The selection races for the GB Extreme Canoe Slalom team will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Feedback and suggestions on the process will be welcome from all with an interest.

Thanks were expressed to Lee Valley White Water Centre and Paskell in particular for arranging the selection race in a short time.

### 5.4 Organiser Mailing List

A mailing list has been set up for 2018 organisers from the information provided in calendar returns. The first circulation included instructions to remove / check the details being held.

### 5.5 Membership Checks / Insurance for Division 4

British Canoeing / SCA / CW / CANI insurers will be asked for clarification of the status of insurance for Those trying the sport and the current day membership scheme. This is also affected by the revisions to the Federal Agreement.....**Action DS**

### 5.6 Regulations

A revised draft of the regulations will be circulated before the next meeting. This will then be sent to the BC board for comment before being submitted to the ACM for approval. ....**Action CDW**

### 5.7 Year Book

#### 5.7.1 Contents Review

The reviewing of content is always a rushed job after the ACM. It was agreed that all those who reviewed sections will start the process before the ACM this year to reduce the peak workload for volunteers, for example the directories should include current officials only, and should include all officials, and should not include addresses; Safety sections can be reviewed and any changes provided before the ACM, regulation changes can be provided so that the current and revised can both be set up, allowing minimal change post ACM.

A consultation will be undertaken during the year to understand which sections of the yearbook are being used. This will be available both on Nick's Web site, and a link for a request at the end of the online entry process. Following this the order of sections will be reviewed.....**Action DL**

#### 5.7.2 Managed Calendar

No work has taken place and the Action is ongoing. Getting a system running this year for use in 2019 is probably a more realistic proposition.....**Action DS/DL**

### 5.8 Possible ACM Motions

#### 5.8.1 Redefinition of Short Season, (171126 – 12.5, All)

Redefinition of Short Season, so those promoted very early in the season do not get protected status. This requires analysis and consideration, but there is a consideration that the cut offs should be the same for those promoted and those granted ranking status..... **Action DL**

#### 5.8.2 Promotion Targets (as per 2017ACM / 6.6, All) ..... **Action DL**

#### 5.8.3 Credit Card Transaction Fees (UKC11.6.5)

Under an EU directive, after 13 January 2018 it is not legal to charge a fee for payment by debit or credit card. The BC Head of Compliance was asked for a BC Corporate view on the situation and advised that the online system can continue to charge a booking fee for all payment methods. Any entries accepted at a competition must be charged at the same rate, regardless of the payment method.....**Action CDW**

#### 5.8.4 ICF Rule restructuring

CDW noted that ICF staff are reviewing all discipline rules and restructuring the rules of all disciplines to make the format more compliant, and to rule out some historic inconsistencies and poor wording (such as the use of paddler, athlete and competitor). This restructure will affect the correlation between UK and ICF rules.



The committee discussed three options:

- not changing the UK rule structure until the following year
- asking for a generic permission to get the rule sets in line if possible within the yearbook deadlines
- Just changing the rules as much as possible within the yearbook deadline as the committee is the custodian of the rules.

All of these to include a similar clean-up of UK rules for terminology and redundancy.

The committee was unanimous that the ACM should be consulted, with changes preferably this year and a report to the next ACM of any redundant rules removed. ....**Action CDW**

### 5.8.5 *Competition Limit Definition (DS)*

Clarification of whether the limit includes or excludes officials. With the introduction of online entries there is a clear visibility of race entry numbers and having different interpretations of “entry limit” is confusing. ....**Action DS**

### 5.8.6 *Entry Rules*

Review the rules relating to entries to ensure entries do not need to be made on entry cards. **Action CDW**

### 5.8.7 *Extreme Slalom Rules*

Reference to ICF Extreme Canoe Slalom Rules will be added to the rules in the yearbook. ..**Action CDW**

## 6 Finance

### 6.1 Budgets

In the absence of the Treasurer, the draft accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March had been circulated showing a deficit of income over expenditure of £1,544, excluding the 2018 Selection races.

### 6.2 Volunteer Expenses (171126-10.3 - Completed)

Volunteer expenses have been reviewed and increased, the level is still below that for British Canoeing Volunteers but is a sustainable increase.

A general discussion on this topic will be added to the Agenda for the next meeting, with an outline for the discussion provided prior to the meeting. ....**Action AK**

### 6.3 Expense Form (171126-10.5 - Completed)

The expense forms have been updated to reflect the change above

### 6.4 Levy Form (171126-10.5 - Completed)

The Levy forms have been updated to reflect the revised entry fees from the ACM, and to simplify the TUTTI fees for Scottish events, and have been included in the Organisers Pack

## 7 Co-Ordinator Reports

### 7.1 Coaching

#### 7.1.1 *Coach Award*

The new Coach Award courses are now up and running. Core Training courses have been completed at HPPCC with 8 trainees (including Joe Clarke) and at S&SCC with 8 trainees also. The HPP course was delivered by Mike Chandler and Nathan Abbott, the S&S course by Leo Hoare and Dave Janes. Andy Neave shadowed both courses. These early trainees have been advised that they may need to act as ambassadors for the new awards and help spread the word.

Having completed the Core Training, the trainees are all now eligible to proceed to Slalom Discipline Specific training. The HPP group have 2 days booked in May.

A smaller group based at Breadalbane CC have already completed Core and Discipline Specific Training with Steve MacDonald.

Wales are considering their plans but hope to have courses available within 2018.



**7.1.2 Funding**

The Slalom Committee have approved funding support for Slalom Discipline Specific Training and Assessment for up to 50% of course costs. An application form has been prepared and was discussed, amended and approved as a first pass.

The Slalom Committee funding is contingent on home nations matching funding. Applications will be passed to the Home Nation Committee for confirmation before approving the payment.  
 .....Action AN/MA/DS

**7.1.3 Slalom Coaching Technical Group**

Following applications and a selection process the Slalom Coaching Technical Group has been confirmed as Mike Chandler (Chair), Remi Gaspard (Vice-Chair), Dan Goddard, Steve MacDonald, Dave Royle and Andy Neave.

A short first meeting has been held. The initial task from British Canoeing is to prepare the new Slalom Performance award (these awards will be replacing the Star awards).

The group is currently self-styled as the 'Slalom Technical Group'. This is thought to be confusing as the groups remit is ONLY connected to coaching. They will be requested to add 'coaching' to their group name to avoid confusion. ....Action AN

**7.2 Digital Strategy / Data**

**7.2.1 Mug Shots for [www.canoeslalom.co.uk](http://www.canoeslalom.co.uk)**

Following on from last meeting. Nick is happy to add our mug shots to the website, but we need to provide them all (he's reluctant to have lots of holding places for those not supplied!).

So far, I have received mugshots from Andy Koszary, Andy Neave, Chris Baillie, Colin Woodgate, Dave Spencer, Peter Curry, Richard Ramsdale and me. Five remain outstanding – please send asap!

**7.2.2 Bib Applications/Payments**

There has been some discussion as to creating a mechanism for paying/applying for bibs online. This has been mainly triggered by issues with people not having cheque books.

**Recommendation**

Whilst it might be worth considering a full online solution as a long-term strategy, I believe that the current benefits of doing so are relatively slim and as such are not cost-effective (in both terms of finance and volunteer time)

Since the key issue is sending £9 through the post, I suggest that we increase the bib cost to £10:

- Paddlers should still be encouraged to send a cheque where possible and we cannot advocate sending money through the post, but realistically £10 notes are easier to send than £9. Bib costs have been at £9 for some time and as a one-off payment the increase to £10 is unlikely to cause hardship.

**7.2.3 Online Entry Statistics (as at 18 April)**

*i. Overview*

All Prems and Div 1s are now taking online entries along with most div 2s.

	2018	2017
Competitions*	58	27
Live Competitions*	55	27
Competitions waiting to be published	3	0

*ii. Entries by Division*

Where online entries are an option the vast majority of paddlers (at all levels) continue to use them in preference to the traditional route when entering in advance of the competition. Perhaps surprisingly, this also appears to be true for Div 4 competitors; though it remains likely that most div 4 paddlers will enter on-the-day.



Divison	Published Competitions	Accepted Entries		Waiting List		Cancelled Entries	
		Total	Entered Online	Total	Added Online	Total	Entered Online
Prem	9	1,445	1,437	323	322	80	79
Div 1	12	2,650	2,553	252	250	321	320
Div 2	22	1,290	1,160	5	5	69	67
Div 3	28	433	375	0	0	71	71
Div 4	25	51	51	0	0	10	10
Officials	54	356	327	29	29	12	12
Open	13	42	34	0	0	9	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>6,267</b>	<b>5,937</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>568</b>

When interpreting table below, please note:

- an entry is a single boat entering single event on a single day (so K1M entering both Saturday and Sunday would be counted as two entries)
- the cancellation counts are skewed by the cancellations of Shepperton Div 1 and Stone 3/4.
- Most of the postal entries are 'home' paddlers (noticeably at Llandysul)

#### 7.2.4 *Entry Patterns*

Competitions do not appear to be filling up as quickly this year and there is less pressure on places (at least as far as host paddlers are concerned).

- March HPP prem races were shown as full, but due to cancellations could have included a few paddle-ups (Entry Limit 167)
- Paul McConkey (Saturday only) is now full, but only after recent acceptance of several paddle-ups (Entry Limit 180)
- July Division 1 at Washburn is full, with only host paddlers having been accepted (Entry limit 155)

No other competitions are showing as full.

#### 7.2.5 *Bib Application Forms*

The Bib Application form will be amended to reflect current good practice and include a privacy policy. An option for opting out of being sent a yearbook will be included for 2019 ..... **Action DS**

A policy relating to the storage and retention of bib application forms needs to be developed. . **Action DL**

#### 7.2.6 *GDPR Compliance*

A position paper has been produced and was circulated at the meeting. There was a discussion on the impacts of GDPR on the sport and the affect on the administration of the sport. This will be further investigated..... **Action DL**

A generic email will be sent to organisers pointing them at the British Canoeing GDPR information toolkit, asking them to review their race for compliance ..... **Action AG**

The organisers pack will be updated to include a poster relating to the privacy policy. And to reflect the requirement shred cards as soon as practical after a race. .... **Action DS**

Other issues were discussed, an audit will be undertaken and policies for retention will be developed ..... **Action DL/AG**



### 7.3 Divisional Development

#### 7.3.1 Seed Funding

Providing seed funding to encourage the running of lower division events at more locations is a to be reviewed to increase the geographic spread of the sport..... **Action SL**

A review of the geographic spread of events to identify areas where there are gaps to maybe identify priorities will be undertaken..... **Action SL**

### 7.4 Safety/Competition Management

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time, but a report was tabled and is summarised below.

#### 7.4.1 Stone Div 3/4 Slalom Rescheduled for 26 / 27 May

The Stone Division 3/4 Slalom that was postponed due to the bad weather on 3rd/4th March has now been rescheduled for 26th/27th May. On-line entries are now available.

#### 7.4.2 Cardiff Premier (180127-7.4.1 – Completed)

The organisers have been contacted regarding priority entries and have agreed to follow the rules

#### 7.4.3 Scottish Schools / Division 3 & 4 (180127/7.4.2 – Completed)

Entry fees for the ranking event along side the Scottish Schools Competition have been clarified with the organisers

#### 7.4.4 Safety Plans (171126-11.5)

The following races, dates and clubs are yet to supply risk management / safety plans for 2018.

19/05/2018 Winchester - Winchester	15/09/2018 Legacy Loop Open - Lee Valley
16/06/2018 Fairnilee - West Lothian	22/09/2018 Holme Pierrepont - Holme Pierrepont
23/06/2018 Ironbridge - Telford	13/10/2018 Darley Abbey - Midland
01/09/2018 Hatfield - Green Star	27/10/2018 Dart - South West
15/09/2018 Marple - Manchester	

All other events have filed and are dealt with. I continue, as you may have been made aware, to chase organisers to comply.

Every race so far this year has filed a plan before date of the race, albeit some have been rather late.

I have replied to enquiries from BC about Safety together with DS but so far have heard nothing back, suspect my replies were not received with delight...

#### 7.4.5 BUCS Slalom

A number of us attended the BUCS race at Teeside which went well in its usual unusual format.

#### 7.4.6 Insurance

Insurance cover continues to cause concern for some and is perhaps exacerbated particularly in Scotland by the actions of the SCA. The safety advisor for slalom from the SCA Slalom Committee has resigned and not been replaced and the SCA system is in limbo. The SCA Insurance cover is a separate policy using very similar terms to the BC policy from the same broker. Welsh and NI cover is different. The result would appear to be that third party liability for organisers and paddlers could be from different companies and or policies. Since the whole day membership issue is a complete fiasco the paddler liability at Div 4 is a potential, although I don't believe major, problem. Because of the geographic insistence particularly of the SCA a Scottish resident paddling at a Div 4 in Hexham could not become a BC Day member even if there was such a process capable of application. Likewise an English resident in a similar position in Fairnilee could not become an SCA Day member. We also have the issue of foreign nationals, previously raised and also have now confirmed the issue of a judges run taken by someone who is not a current individual member. Perhaps we need to ask BC to state that they cover ALL events for public liability arranged under our auspices i.e. ranking slalom races in respect of the organiser and any paddlers who are not individual members of one of the associations. All ranking paddlers from Div 3 upwards should be required to be individual members of one of the associations. This is a little different to where I think we currently are but has the advantage of clarity, simplicity and consistency. I also perhaps more importantly think it is achievable.





**7.4.7 2018 British Open**

Entries will need to be put in through ISIS (the ICF system). The entries will need to be correlated between the two systems. The order of events and phases will be reviewed and published. .... **Action AG**  
 The ICF Slalom Committee will be asked at their next meeting what leeway there is to vary the progressions. .... **Action CDW**

**7.4.8 Organisers Pack (DS/171126 12.4 Completed)**

The organisers pack is available on line.  
 For next year additional forms will be included for course approval notification ..... **Action DS**

**7.5 Technical / Timing**

**7.5.1 Gate Judge lists (171126-12.7)**

Not discussed due to a lack of time, actions below are carried forward from the previous meeting.  
 An updated list of gate judges will be produced, from information available in a variety of sources, carried forward. .... **Action AG**

**7.5.2 ICF Judging Criteria (171126 – 12.8 - Completed)**

A policy for eligibility for nomination for ICF and ECA officials for 2019 was agreed and is available on request

**7.5.3 Standardised Start Procedure**

Not discussed due to a lack of time, actions below are carried forward from the previous meeting.  
 Standardising a start procedure was discussed last year with an aim of making it easy for those with less acute hearing / vision to compete, without having to make the disability obvious. This needs to be revitalised and actioned across all divisions. .... **Action AG**

**7.5.4 2019 Selection Proposals**

For the 2019 season, the Junior and Under 23 World Championships are early in the season. So, the Junior/Under 23 selection races must be earlier in the season. There was a passionate wide-ranging discussion about options. The results of the discussion will be fed back to the International Panel. .... **Action DS/MS**

**7.6 Volunteers / Safeguarding**

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time, but a report was tabled and is summarised below, actions below are carried forward from the previous meeting.

**7.6.1 Report**

Ongoing individual emails / letters of thanks to: clubs and volunteers who have made an effort to assist at events and club level during 2017 and at start of 2018, with invitation to put forward names of individuals who might warrant special recognition for their help, also highlighting new members who might be approached re volunteering roles /very much a work in progress.

Some encouraging feedback and genuine gratitude expressed to the committee for the recognition

**7.6.2 Online safeguarding course (All / 171126 11.6 - Complete)**

Committee members were reminded that they should complete the online safeguarding course or equivalent

**8 Other Reports**

**8.1 England**

Not discussed due to a lack of time and no report available.

**8.2 Scotland**

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time, but a report was tabled and is summarised below.

**8.2.1 SCA Competition Stream Director**

Colin Tannock has been appointed Competition Stream Director for the SCA.



### **8.2.2 SCA Slalom committee**

Craig Douglas has stepped down from the SCA slalom committee so the committee now comprises Bill Gerrie, Gary Gibson, Tony Leaver and Calum MacDiarmid.

### **8.2.3 Scottish Champs 2018**

The Scottish Champs will be held at Grandtully on Saturday 20th October.

### **8.2.4 GB Teams 2018**

Scotland are well represented across the selected GB teams with Bradley Forbes-Cryans, David Florence and Fiona Pennie in the Senior team, Sophie Ogilvie joins them in C1W for all the World cups and Amber Maslen and Eilidh Gibson World Cup 4. At U23 Bradley and Sophie (C1W and K1W) are selected. Lois Leaver and Peter Linksted are selected for the J18 team. There are also many Scots among the listed reserves.

Lois Leaver attended the Youth Olympic Games Qualification race in Barcelona and came 4th in the slalom event but this is combined with the sprint race and her placing in the combined event was 18th. Lili Bryant won the slalom event but had a poorer sprint race than Lois and finished 24th overall. However, it is only the first 6 European countries that get a place in Rio and currently GB is 8th but waiting official notification.

### **8.2.5 Timing Equipment**

The SCA already have 2 computers, purchased last year sufficiently powerful to run the timing system. We also have timing gates and beams. Following a discussion with Andy Grudinski, the SCA has purchased 2 Timys and 14 new headsets similar but more modern than the BC ones. Andy has loaned us two of his old stock of Timys. The intention is to eventually have all the kit so the timing team do not need to travel with a car load of kit although we will still need the expertise of the people involved.

### **8.2.6 New Scottish Slalom Site at Bridge of Earn**

Strathallan CC are in the process of submitting a planning application for a new slalom course at Bridge of Earn. The site is centred around the bridge just to the North of the village and is on a tidal section of the river Earn. The course will have 18 gates permanently erected and will be light from the street lighting off the bridge. Access is from the public walkway on the South side of the river.

### **8.2.7 Seaton Park**

Work to restore the river bank and put in a new get in, at Seaton Park, Aberdeen, is in progress. The end of a marathon fund raising effort from the club.

### **8.2.8 Grandtully Races 2019**

We have applied to run the Grandtully Races next year in the 2 week gap between U23/Junior selection, the last 2 weeks in March and Senior selection, Easter weekend. ie Double Premier 6/7th April and Double div 1 13/14th April. Setting up Grandtully takes a lot of manpower time and if the races can be a week apart it reduces the workload significantly as a lot of the infra structure can be left out. Many paddlers from south of the border and indeed officials like to make the week between a training week/holiday.

This I know, if selection is as suggested in the last IP statement, will result in at least 5 consecutive weeks of slaloms. However, for Scotland waiting until after senior selection is not a possibility for a number of reasons:

- Scotland has one day May Day holiday and no May half terms
- Scottish state exams start at the very end of April/start of May depending on subject
- Both of the above would result in a lack of volunteers other than a handful of OAPs.
- Summer school holidays start at the end of June/early July

Perhaps if the IP could consider the May Day weekend for senior selection. It would be only 2 weeks later than Easter weekend next year.



### 8.3 Wales

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time, but a report was tabled and is summarised below.

#### 8.3.1 Activity

Canoe Wales carried out several roadshows at several venues across Wales during the beginning of the year. The sessions were very interactive with some of the discussion points raised will hopefully be used to help develop the organisation moving forward.

A new membership structure has been announced along with changes to club affiliation. A new membership database is being developed where all club membership details from all affiliated clubs being entered onto the system.

#### 8.3.2 Selection 2018

The 2018 selection race series was one of the most tightly contested. Welsh paddlers competed well over many disciplines with several paddlers selected to represent GB during 2018.

- Etienne Chappell (K1M J18, U23 and Senior reserve)
- Megan Hamer Evans (K1W U23, Senior team & World Cup 4)
- Thomas Abbott (C1M U23, and World Cup 4).
- Ciaran Lee-Edwards (K1M Senior reserve and World Cup 4)
- Gabrielle Ridge (K1W U23 and senior reserve)

Congratulations to all paddlers who competed at the events.

#### 8.3.3 Youth Olympics

Lili Bryant from Llandysul Paddlers represented Great Britain at the Youth Olympic trials in Barcelona where she finished in 24th overall.

#### 8.3.4 Canoe Wales Vacancies

Canoe Wales are recruiting for two Regional Development officers to be based in South Wales and Mid and West Wales. Both posts are part-time with the aim of working closely with Clubs and centres to develop Paddlesport within Wales. Closing date for applications is 30th May.

### 8.4 GB Performance

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time, but a report was tabled and is summarised below.

#### 8.4.1 England Talent Programme report April 2017

Squads have had a very busy winter with activity happening nearly every weekend spread throughout the country, but activity focus mainly in LV and HPP.

Congratulations to all athletes that have competed at Junior Selection over the two weekends at HPP and LV and to all those that supported from the river bank, a very special well done to all those athletes that have been selected to represent Great Britain at the Junior European and World Championship in the summer.

The standard of racing has continued to increase across all classes at a greater depth than in previous years, this is demonstrative of the collective hard work, commitment and investment from paddlers, coaches and parents alike. Well done and thank you all for your hard work!

On behalf of the Talent Team, thank you to all those volunteers that helped make the selection events run, the sport is very much dependent on people generously giving their time to help facilitate events without this none of what we do would be possible, so a big thanks goes out to everyone that helped from race organisers to team makers!

The coaching team have met on April 9th in order to review the outcome and the results from Junior Selection an updated programme inclusion list will be published by April 16th 2018.

Work to implement the Talent Club Partnerships continues with development frameworks and club development plans progressing. Formal launch/announcement due shortly

Programme plans for the summer include a supporting the ECA junior cup events in Augsburg, Flattach and Bratislava, a training camp in Argentiere and a week's racing/training camp in Liptovsky Mikulas alongside domestic training provision.



At the time of writing a Team made up of English, Scottish and Welsh athletes are competing at the Youth Olympic Games qualification event in Barcelona hoping to qualify nation spots to race later in the year at the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos-Aires. This unique multi sport event features both sprint and slalom elements and will see athletes competing from all around the world.

#### 8.4.2 **GB Program**

Following an exhilarating British Selection series across all age categories British Canoeing would like to say a massive thank you to all those who contributed to a fantastic showcase of our sport. The tireless efforts of our amazing volunteer community once again shone through in enabling the running of first class events over multiple weekends.

A big well done to athletes, staff and parents/guardians across all the Home Nations whose committed and focussed work toward improving athlete performance was evident for all to see in the performances of the paddlers.

Many congratulations to all those achieving places on teams to represent Great Britain in 2018. British Canoeing will utilise this next period to collaborate with the Home Nations ensuring optimal preparation for athletes competing in Championship events throughout the season.

### 8.5 **Athlete Representative**

Not discussed at the meeting due to a lack of time.

#### 8.5.1 **Course Erection Guidelines (MS/171126 7.3)**

An information sheet has been produced and circulated to organisers.

## 9 **Correspondence/Other Business**

### 9.1 **Chief Judge Powers**

SL expressed concern that there seems to be no way, other than word of mouth to provide consistency in Chief Judge decision making, for example a transgression that results in disqualification one weekend may result in a warning at another weekend. Disqualifications are generally documented in the Competition reports, consideration will be given to extracting the decisions and reasons and making these available to Chief Judges and the wider community in an anonymous fashion.

He also noted that the Chief Judge at a recent event made decisions that were contrary to the rules. Several committee members stated their conflicting interests in this discussion and only provided information as to the circumstances. It was agreed that where a Chief Judge makes a decision that is contrary to the rules, that decision is open to review by the committee, and the individual may be called to account for the decision. Where the decision was in the best interests of the sport no further action may be taken, except a review of the rules affected. In other cases, the individual may be asked not to undertake the role for a period.

### 9.2 **Bi Annual Dinner (171126-12.3)**

Not discussed

### 9.3 **Advertising Material**

Keith Goddard is willing to produce marketing materials. All present were asked to consider how this offer can be best used. .... **Action All**

## 10 **Future Meeting Dates**

All meetings at 9:30, at BCU HQ in Nottingham, unless otherwise noted.

- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November (ACM)
- Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November

The Chair thanked members for their attendance. The meeting closed at 14:45 p.m.