

TRRC Executive Committee

MINUTES

24 April 2006

Meeting Particulars

Date & Time	Monday 24 April 2006 19.30 hours
Venue	Tideway Scullers School Dan Mason Drive, Chertsey Rd, London W4 2SH Clubhouse telephone: 020 8994 3502

Executive Committee

Initials	Name	Role	Apologies Rec'd?
AE	Tony Evans	Div 13 <i>and</i> Competitions Calendar	✓
AR	Andrew Russell	Hon Secretary	✓
AW	Andy Weeks	Div 11	✓
CG	Chris George	Regional Safety	✓
CS	Chris Sprague	Umpires' Commissioner	ABSENT
EJ	Emma James	TRC Representative	✓
EW	Elizabeth Wray	PR / Marketing	✓
JB	John Biddle	Div 14	Apologies rec'd
JCh	John Chapman	Hon Treasurer	Apologies rec'd
JCo	Jill Cobbett	Div 17	Apologies rec'd
JH	Jim Harlow	Downriver Representative	✓
JP	Judith Packer	Upriver Representative	Apologies rec'd
KW	Ken Williams	Div 16	ABSENT
MA	Margaret Adams	President	Apologies rec'd
MBB	Mark Blandford-Baker	Div 10	Apologies rec'd
MH	Martin Humphrys	Chairman	✓
ML	Murray Litvak	Veterans' Commission	✓
MW	Mike Williams	LRC Representative	ABSENT
NJ	Neil Jackson	Div 18	✓
NW	Nigel Weare	Juniors' Commission (upriver)	✓
PL	Paul Lorenzato	Div 19	✓
PM	Peter Moore	Div 12 <i>and</i> Recreational Representative	✓
RH	Ruth Hatton	Juniors' Commission (downriver)	✓
RP	Richard Philips	Coaching Commission	✓
RW	Richard West	Div 15 <i>and</i> Equipment	✓
SaB	Sarah Birch	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	Apologies rec'd
SiB	Simon Blackburn	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	✓
-vacant-	-vacant-	Leander Club Representative	n/a

Invited Guests

BM	Bill Mitchell	RRAIG representative	✓
SC	Stan Collingwood	Tideway Regattas Code of Practice	✓

Council Members in attendance (as observers only)

MJ	Michael Jones	Henley Rowing Club	✓
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No.	Agenda Item	Note / Decision	Member
	<p>4.4 Umpires' Commissioner's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p>	NO REPORT	
	<p>4.5 Competitions' Calendar Co-ordinator's Report</p> <p>The Competitions' Calendar Co-ordinator's report was noted.</p> <p>AE voiced his frustration with the lack of National Competitions Committee progress on the Competition Review. This was echoed by many Exec members. AE thought that the idea of National Regattas seems to have not been widely accepted because the limited number of categories would result in insufficient events to sustain a whole regatta. AE had conducted some analysis on entries, results and points, using data from the OARA system: the vast majority (approx. 90%) of rowers appear to have 0 points, some at NV, some with many points, and very few in between. The Exec discussed this further, including changes to the points system, the 4-boat qualification rule, the practice "squad management" to enable highly competitive crews to compete in categories beneath their honest capabilities, etc. Decision: The Exec <i>nem con</i> urges the National Competitions Committee to resume and accelerate work on the Competitions Review, as the current system is unsatisfactory in many regards. Action: AE to form a sub-committee of the TRRC (including PM and MH, as all three are also members of the National Competitions Committee) to review the Competitions Review recommendations, and identify and take steps to generate momentum and change.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Action</p>	AE
	<p>4.6 Regional Safety Adviser's Report</p> <p>The Regional Safety Adviser's Report was noted.</p> <p>Decision: The Exec reconfirmed <i>nem con</i> the RWSA's request to invest in a data collection system, up to £1000.</p> <p>Decision: The Exec agreed in principle <i>nem con</i> with the RWSA's suggestion of implementing a requirement for Day-Glow vests on certain coxen / steerspeople – initially as a strong recommendation, eventually to be phased in as a mandatory requirement.</p> <p>Action: A subcommittee of NJ, CG, and BM are to draft specific wording for approval by the Exec before implementation.</p> <p>BM reported that some of the buoys have been moved by the PLA today, based on the constructive feedback of the Exec, Council and rowing community in general. Action: BM will check their new positions tomorrow, and advise the PLA staff directly if further adjustment is necessary.</p> <p>BM and CG noted their appreciation for the PLA's work in repositioning buoys, and in giving the rowing community notice of upcoming works. This was echoed by the Exec. However, in the present instance, there was little advance notice of the coming Thames21 cages (Middlesex shore, ranging from Barnes Bridge to Chiswick Quay Marina), scheduled for Thursday 27 April.</p> <p>Action: CG to forward these concerns to PLA and Thames21.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>CG, NJ, BM</p> <p>BM</p> <p>CG</p>

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	<p>4.7 Coaching Commissioner's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p> <p>NW confirmed the establishment of his sub-committee considering the new Coaching Programme. It includes NW, RP, an assessor, a course organiser, a tutor and a CDO. Some discussions have started, with a full meeting to be scheduled shortly. In the interim, Mike Schofield (Army RC), Rosie Mayglothling, and SiB met to discuss Mike's concerns. MH noted the e-mail that RH had received with grave concerns about the recent Level 2 course held at St. Paul's Girls School from Angus MacAlister (TSS), one of the course participants. <i>SiB reported that he had already replied to Mr. MacAlister by e-mail earlier today, which was "much appreciated".</i> Action: <i>SiB agreed to send a copy of this correspondence to RP and NW</i></p> <p>PL repeated his exasperation that "no one has listened to clubs and course organisers about what they wanted – all our feedback was given, but the course was written by the ARA ignoring those interests" – an opinion voiced and shared by the whole committee at the last meeting. PL added that the Thames Region is in a position to lead from the front, to help develop the sport, and ought to be doing so, yet the opinions of the Region continue to be ignored. MH reminded the committee that at the last meeting Rosie implied that the region could design and implement the courses in a way that suited us best, which is what gave rise to NW's subcommittee. NW added that his discussions with Sports Coach UK revealed that there is more flexibility in delivery than the ARA had led us to believe to date.</p> <p>RP and RH were concerned that the new structure of the awards left a "massive hole": Level 2 is more like Bronze than IA, and Level 3 is more like Silver than Bronze, leaving a big first hurdle for those wanting to step into coaching, especially active parents and "casual" coaches. RP noted that TRRC used to offer funding for Bronze, but not IA; he suggested offering funding for Level 2 in "deserved" cases. RW felt that "means testing" would be too difficult to administer, but that a number of funded places per club would be easier.</p> <p>Several members (re)raised concerns about the need for a modular approach, which would help accommodate timing needs, cash outlay concerns, and those that may be interested in some modules but not others.</p> <p>Decision: All of the above issue were referred to NW's sub-committee for deliberation and recommendation to the Exec.</p>	<p>NO REPORT</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Decision</p>	<p></p> <p>SiB</p>

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	<p>4.8 Juniors' Commissioners' Report</p> <p>The Juniors' Commissioners' Reports (Upriver and Downriver) were noted, including the minutes from the Junior Regatta Calendar meeting of 8 March 2006.</p> <p>RH raised the need for caps for the teams participating in the JIRR. RW will order caps once he knows how many are required. NW estimated 130 (65 per team). Action: NW to confirm the figure with RW directly.</p> <p>NW announced the "Adopt A Nation" programme for the World Rowing Championships, and asked all Exec members to encourage any organisations of juniors to attend. Each group will be asked to support a specific country – this worked well in Gifu and at the World Cup in Dorney, boosting the crowd and competitors. Action: LW to advertise on TRRC website. Action: Exec members to hand out flyer to junior groups, and contact NW if they need more copies.</p> <p>RH noted the idea of making ARA registration mandatory for competing J13s, put forward by the National Competitions Committee. RH is taking this issue to the Junior Rowing Committee for consideration.</p> <p>Related to this, the Exec discussed the possibility of making Regatta magazine an optional part of ARA subs, especially for juniors. RP explained some of the financial difficulties this would incur for the ARA. RW offered all members to contact him with any suggestions for improvements to the magazine.</p> <p>RH raised Juliet Machan's (Henley RC) interest in developing a Junior Regatta in Henley. Currently her suggested date, the day after Henley Veterans Regatta, conflicts with the Kingston Regatta. Action: RH to ask Ms. Machan to consider other dates.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>NW</p> <p>LW ALL</p> <p>RH</p>
	<p>4.9 Recreational Representative's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p>	<p>NO REPORT</p>	
	<p>4.10 Veterans' Commissioner's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p>	<p>NO REPORT</p>	
	<p>4.11 PR & Marketing Officer's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p> <p>MH reported that the old website, created by Caroline Turnbull, has been shut down and replaced with a link to the new website. This should eliminate some confusion that had been occurring recently. MH and the Exec expressed their appreciation to Caroline for creating and managing the website, and to AR for initiating this recent change.</p>	<p>NO REPORT</p> <p>Noted</p>	
	<p>4.12 Environment Agency Representative's Report</p> <p>NO REPORT RECEIVED.</p>	<p>NO REPORT</p>	

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	4.13 Upriver Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.14 Division 10 (Oxford University) Representative's Report Nothing to report	Nothing to report	
	4.15 Division 11 (Upper Thames) Representative's Report The Division 11 Representative's Report was noted.	Noted	
	4.16 Division 12 (Reading) Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.17 Division 13 (Middle Thames) Representative's Report Nothing to report	Nothing to report	
	4.18 Division 14 (Staines & Molesey) Representative's Report Nothing to report	Nothing to report	
	4.19 Division 15 (Kingston & Twickenham) Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.20 Downriver Representative's Report Nothing to report	Nothing to report	
	4.21 Division 16 (Chiswick & Mortlake) Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.22 Division 17 (University of London) Representative's Report <i>The Division 17 Representative's Report was submitted on time, but accidentally omitted from the handouts at the meeting. It was subsequently e-mailed out to the Executive, and included in the revised version of the Reports.</i> Action: CG and BM to contact JCo regarding the costs and copyright issues for the new PLA chart, and relay the results to the Exec.	Noted Action	CG, BM
	4.23 Division 18 (Barnes & Hammersmith) Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.24 Division 19 (Putney) Representative's Report Nothing to report	Nothing to report	

No.	Agenda Item	Note / Decision	Member
	4.25 London Rowing Club Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.26 Thames Rowing Club Representative's Report Nothing to report.	Nothing to report	
	4.27 Leander Club Representative's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
	4.28 Coaching and Development Officers' Report Nothing to report.	Nothing to report	
	4.29 Equipment Officer's Report NO REPORT RECEIVED.	NO REPORT	
5	ANY OTHER BUSINESS		
5.1	Club Conference AE reported that Leander has been booked for the club conference, to be held on Saturday 23 September. Both Annamarie Phelps and Rosemary Napp of the ARA have agreed to be present. AE asked the Exec to forward any suggestions for format and content to AE directly.	Noted	
6	NEXT MEETING Action: LW to investigate possible hosts for our next meeting. Executive Committee Meeting Monday 15 May 2006 7:30pm Location: TBD	Action	