

Meeting Particulars

Date & Time	Monday 15 May 2006 19.30 hours
Venue	Upper Thames Rowing Club www.utrc.org.uk Remenham Lane, Remenham, Berks. RG9 3DB. Telephone No.: +44 (0)1491 575745

Executive Committee Members

Initials	Name	Role	In Attendance
AE	Tony Evans	Div 13 and Competitions Calendar	✓
AR	Andrew Russell	Hon Secretary	✓
AW	Andy Weekes	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	✓
JCh	John Chapman	Hon Treasurer	✓
JCo	Jill Cobbett	Div 17	✓
JH	Jim Harlow	Downriver Representative	✓
JP	Judith Packer	Upriver Representative	✓
KW	Ken Williams	Div 16	Apologies
MA	Margaret Adams	President	Apologies
MBB	Mark Blandford-Baker	Div 10	Apologies
MH	Martin Humphrys	Chairman	✓
ML	Murray Litvak	Veterans' Commission	✓
MW	Mike Williams	LRC Representative	Apologies
NJ	Neil Jackson	Div 18	✓
NW	Nigel Weare	Juniors' Commission (upriver)	✓
PL	Paul Lorenzato	Div 19	✓
PM	Peter Moore	Div 12 and Recreational Representative	✓
RH	Ruth Hatton	Juniors' Commission (downriver)	Apologies
RP	Richard Philips	Coaching Commission	✓
RW	Richard West	Div 15 and Equipment and EA	✓
SaB	Sarah Birch	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	✓
SiB	Simon Blackburn	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	Apologies
-vacant-	-vacant-	Leander Club Representative	n/a

Invited Guests

Initials	Name	Role	In Attendance
BM	Bill Mitchell	RRAIG representative	✓

Council Members in attendance (as observers only)

Initials	Name	Role	In Attendance
MJ	Michael Jones	Henley Rowing Club	✓

Meeting Agenda

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Noted above.	Noted	
2	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The draft minutes of the meeting on 24 April 2006 required one correction in section 4.7 which omitted SiB's action of having already addressed the concerns of Mr. MacAlister by e-mail earlier that day, which was "much appreciated". SiB agreed to send a copy of this correspondence to RP and NW.	Noted	
3	MATTERS ARISING None.		
4	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION, OR DECISION		
4.1	Chairman (MH) The meeting between HWR, Marlow Regatta and TVPR is scheduled for 22 May at Dorney Lake Recently, a school had several boats fail safety checks two regattas in a row. This is especially disconcerting for schools. Exec discussed ideas to help address this (writing letters to offending clubs/schools, "flying squad" or "spot reviews"), including the implications (legal, reputation) and the need to act. MH thanked everyone for making the Putney Town Regatta a success – it went well in the end, but the regatta must improve for next year or it can not go ahead. For two years in a row now it has been extremely close to cancellation at the last minute, requiring extraordinary effort by members of the Executive. This year had the highest number of entries on record, so it would be a terrible shame to see the regatta cancelled. The committee needs to be improved, and the one month limit on getting approval must be imposed for everyone's sake. In addition, BM noted that Richmond and Putney Town Regattas are similar in that they benefited from excellent umpires and saved the regatta on the day, but if they were diluted or did not appear, the regatta would collapse.	Noted Noted Noted	
4.2	Upriver Representative (JP) JP provided an update, including the implementation of a "pass book" for helping Junior Officials track their progress. AE felt the handbook could be useful for other audiences too (adults, parents, etc.). RW felt we had built a centre of expertise in developing officials, and is something we can not afford to lose. We must continue it and grow it, possibly attracting those from outside the region, or spreading the programme to other regions. JP was concerned that there was not a roadmap for the future. LW noted that there are other international regattas planned for Dorney (Junior Worlds, World Cups, etc.). Committee agreed that the JO programme must continue. CG suggested JP seek ARA support and funding.	Noted	

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4.3	<p>Regional Safety Adviser (CG)</p> <p>The number of clubs that have not submitted Safety Audits is decreasing all the time. Currently stands at 61. CG suggested sending letter to offending clubs, warning them that they can not race if the Safety Audit is not completed by a certain point. RW suggested this is raised at the ARA Executive Meeting tomorrow as this may well be a national issue – agreed.</p>	Noted	
4.4	<p>PLA RRAIG and Disciplinary Sub-Committee (BM & CG)</p> <p>BM reported that he has been spending a lot of time recently working on the buoys. They now seem to be in the best place they can be, considering all the different states of the tide and stream he has observed.</p> <p>BM noted that the RRAIG meeting tomorrow is probably the most crucial yet, as it will discuss Kew area and above. Thames 21 did a recent clean up - worked hard, filled many cages, but there is a still lot of debris. If we can get the inside arch of Kew Bridge clear, this will be a great achievement in the interests of rowing. Exec discussed assisting with organisation or funding, if required. NJ was concerned about setting precedent by us funding this, and expecting in the future. LW reminded us that other river users would benefit too. Exec would be keen to learn the results of RRAIG meeting, and keen to entertain proposals for proceeding.</p> <p>BM reported that the disciplinary code should be agreed shortly.</p>	Noted Noted	
4.5	<p>Veterans' Commissioner (ML)</p> <p>ML voiced his concerns about the handicap system and its application. He had a discussion with Harry Harvey, Chairman of the National Veterans Commission who plans to make no changes in the way he is running the commission, and has no interest in progression. ML feels we need to do something as we are losing veteran rowers, and we are the biggest region for veteran rowing. Di Ellis has been kept informed, as our region proposed that Harvey be replaced. The region also feels that the commission should return to being under the National Development Committee (rather than the National Competitions Committee). (Thames has also proposed that universities have representation in a similar way under the NDC).</p> <p>Harvey sent a letter to MH wondering why Andy Kapica was no longer representing veterans. MH replied explaining that Mr. Kapica had been voted into the role, but he was frustrated as he was never engaged by the National Veteran's Commission, and eventually declined to stand for re-election on this basis.</p>	Noted Noted	
6	ANY OTHER BUSINESS		
6.1	<p>Bank Account</p> <p>JCh reported that he had finally received the banking book back from Nationwide, after being "lost" by them, yet our diligent attempts to rename the account, and add signatories, have been ignored. Action: JCh proposed we consider moving to another bank, ideally one that attracts interest and low bank fees. The committee approved this change <i>nem con</i>.</p>	Action	JCh

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	REPORTS TO NOTE		
	Competitions' Calendar Co-ordinator (AE)	Noted	AE
	Juniors' Commissioner (upriver) (NW)	Noted	NW
	Division 13 (Middle Thames) Representative (AE)	Noted	AE
	Division 16 (Chiswick & Mortlake) Representative (KW)	Noted	KW
	New Coaching Scheme Sub-Committee (NW)	Noted	NW
	NOTHING TO REPORT: The following had nothing to report:		
	Honorary Secretary (AR)	Nothing to report	AR
	Honorary Treasurer (JCh)	Nothing to report	JCh
	Downriver Representative (JH)	Nothing to report	JH
	Coaching Commissioner (RP)	Nothing to report	RP
	Division 10 (Oxford University) Representative (MBB)	Nothing to report	MBB
	Division 14 (Staines & Molesey) Representative (JB)	Nothing to report	JB
	Division 17 (University of London) Representative (JCo)	Nothing to report	JCo
	Division 18 (Barnes & Hammersmith) Representative (NJ)	Nothing to report	NJ
	Thames Rowing Club Representative (EJ)	Nothing to report	EJ
	London Rowing Club Representative (MW)	Nothing to report	MW
	NO REPORT SUBMITTED The following did not submit a report:		
	Juniors' Commissioner (downriver) (RH)	NO REPORT	
	Umpires' Commissioner (CS)	NO REPORT	
	Recreational Representative (PM)	NO REPORT	
	Equipment Officer (RW)	NO REPORT	
	Environment Agency Representative (RW)	NO REPORT	
	PR & Marketing Officer's Report (EW)	NO REPORT	
	Division 19 Representative (PL)	NO REPORT	
	Leander Club Representative (<i>vacant</i>)	NO REPORT	
	Coaching and Development Officers (SiB & SaB)	NO REPORT	