

TRRC Executive Committee MINUTES

18 December 2006

Meeting Particulars

Date & Time	Monday 18 December 2006 19.30 hours
Venue	Marlow Rowing Club (www.marlowrowingclub.org.uk) Marlow Bridge Lane, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1RH Tel: 01628 482366

Executive Committee Members

Initials	Name	Role	Present?
AE	Tony Evans	Div 13 Representative <i>and</i> Competitions Calendar	✓
AR	Andrew Russell	Honorary Secretary	✓
AW	Andy Weekes	Div 11 Representative	Apologies
BC	Becky Chalk	Junior Officials Coordinator	Apologies
BM	Bill Mitchell	President	✓
CG	Chris George	Regional Water Safety Development Adviser	✓
CS	Chris Sprague	Umpires' Commissioner <i>and</i> Vice-President	ABSENT
EJ	Emma James	TRC Representative	✓
EW	Elizabeth Wray	PR / Marketing	✓
JB	John Biddle	Div 14 Representative	Apologies
JH	Jim Harlow	Downriver Representative	✓
JP	Judith Packer	Upriver Representative	✓
KW	Ken Williams	Div 16 Representative	Apologies
MA	Margaret Adams	Vice-President	✓
MBB	Mark Blandford-Baker	Div 10 Representative	Apologies
MH	Martin Humphrys	Chairman	✓
MJ	Michael Jones	Leander Club Representative	Apologies
ML	Murray Litvak	Veterans' Commission	✓
MW	Mike Williams	LRC Representative	Apologies
NJ	Neil Jackson	Div 18 Representative <i>and</i> RWSA	✓
NW	Nick Watkins	Deputy RWSA	✓
PB	Paul Baldwin	Honorary Treasurer	✓
PL	Paul Lorenzato	Div 19 Representative	✓
PM	Peter Moore	Div 12 <i>and</i> Recreational Representative	✓
PS	Phil Simmons	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	Apologies
RH	Ruth Hatton	Juniors' Commission	Apologies
RPk	Richard Packer	Equipment Officer	✓
RPh	Richard Philips	Coaching Commission	✓
RW	Richard West	Div 15 Representative <i>and</i> EA Representative	✓
SB	Sarah Birch	ARA Coaching and Development Officer	✓
SC	Stan Collingwood	Tideway Event Code of Conduct Coordinator	Apologies
	- vacant -	Div 17 Representative	- vacant -

In Attendance

Name	Role
Mr. Everitt	Representative of OLL Mortgages

Meeting Agenda

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Noted above.	To note	AR
2	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The October meeting Minutes were approved <i>nem con</i>	Decision	AR
3	MATTERS ARISING none		MH
4	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION, OR DECISION The Executive Committee is asked to consider the following:		
4.1	AGM Results and Welcome to New Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MH welcomed new members, thanked those that have been elected for another year. MH voiced his concern that the ARA still has received no nominations for Div 17 (UL) Rep. MH has suggested someone to Jill Cobbett and will be following up. MH noted that a new Leander Club representative has been elected, as yet we are not sure if he will replace Michael Jones on our Council – that will be for Leander to decide. 	To Note	MH
4.2	OLL Presentation A representative of OLL (www.sport-benefits.co.uk) attended to explain their offer to clubs and their members. They offer a service where every purchase of certain companies' financial products via OLL's website generate a percentage contribution to the customer's rowing club. It took quite some time to convince their first customer that they were legitimate. As many clubs need additional funding that OLL feel they can help address, but OLL could use some endorsement to reassure customers, OLL approached TRRC. The Executive Committee discussed and debated OLL's request that TRRC provide support: RPK suggested OLL use the ARA Almanac and write to the clubs directly. JP, EJ, AR and RPh felt that supporting OLL was not a role that TRRC should take on. PL felt OLL should approach ARA, not TRRC. MH said it had been taken to the ARA already, but they refused. MH added that the ARA has now started to look into the idea of "benefits" for members. PB was concerned about the legal and/or reputational impacts on TRRC if someone had a bad experience. RW felt that OLL would need to achieve and demonstrate a track record and present a business case for TRRC to review. JH agreed.	To Note	MH

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
4.3	<p>Safety</p> <p>Safety Advisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NJ introduced NW as his Tideway (Downriver) Deputy. NW has already started work on Safety Audits. Action: EW to speak to NJ about a suggestion for an upriver deputy NJ reported that the NWSC is very keen on making swimming test compulsory for adults. NJ expressed his reservations. Discussed intensively. CG is against this, as it is a step too far for adults. RPK agreed, and asked what to other similar sports (e.g. canoeing) do? EW felt that adults should be trusted to sign a declaration honestly. Exec agreed with NJ's opinion. NJ reminded Div Reps that he will be asking them to remind clubs to submit Safety Audits and Incident Summaries. Action: NJ/NW to send the e-mail addresses of the safety advisors to the Upriver, Downriver and Division Reps. NJ reported that Safety Audits have been coming in – about 48 so far, with 90 to go. NJ explained his proposed Procedure for Examining Clubs' Safety (see NJ's Report), Exec approved <i>nem con</i>. Example at hand (ICBC) was discussed, including reassurance that they were not being "picked on". NJ felt that following this process will help ensure clubs are not "picked on", and that discussions are based on agreed fact and take a reasonable course NJ explained his Criteria for Approving Events (see NJ's report). Exec approved <i>nem con</i>. <p>Disciplinary Code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BM felt that the code should be seen as well managed and not subjective. BM asked the Exec if the panel was satisfactory, being comprised of a rotating membership of one small, medium, large, academic clubs. Exec agreed. BM is finding that the panel is becoming more an education vehicle rather than disciplinary. Agreed the panel should be called "Tideway Conduct Panel", that the Chairman of the Panel will administer the panel and cycle of membership, and have a casting vote. Bill Mitchell is to be the first such Chairman, and will write a Terms of Reference for the Panel as a committee of TRRC NJ and BM appealed for reports with information on crews found to be misbehaving. 	<p>To Note</p> <p>Action</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>Action</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>To Note</p>	<p>EW</p> <p>NJ</p>

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
4.4	<p>Downriver (see JH's report)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Points: AE to raise concern about crews that continue to win without attracting points, with ideas such as attracting points after a certain number of non-qualifying wins, or reducing the number of entries required to be qualifying. RW said that new mechanism needs to be agreed by events AND clubs. ML pointed out that a similar concern existed with Veterans, and is working on a proposal. • Launches: MH has communicated with Oxford, Cambridge, Ox-Cam, and ITV, sharing the Tideway Code, Charts, etc. reminding them of their obligation to comply. • Bureaucracy: noted. RPK suggested TRRC website solicit "good practice" from clubs as to how to manage their clubs well. MH said we will be having club meetings for each end of the Region which may help. • Mobile Phones: Chair proposed to buy all 40 for £500. Motion carried with one objection. • Radios: Exec agreed for JH to pursue, and come back to Exec if there are cost implications • Tideway Event Documents: JH's point taken, but TRRC reluctant to do work on behalf of the events for fear that it will erode ownership of Safety by the events, and take on some liability itself. MH pointed out that Stan Collingwood is working with Tideway events, and as they improve, it is expected to start improving the practices, including leveraging each others work, but tailoring it, and owning it themselves. RPK suggested that a common set of templates, outlining the different reaches of the river, and standardising on the icons to be used, might give a usable toolbox that would be helpful and practical. RW said that anyone can ask the PLA and can receive an electronic copy of an outline of any reach of the Tideway. MH decided that the focus should be on Events agreeing to help each other, learning from each other 	<p>To Note</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>To Note</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>To Note</p>	
4.5	<p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWR / Marlow / Thames Valley meeting update: PM confirmed that the regattas have not met as planned to prevent any conflicts. MH recommended that TRRC <u>demand</u> that these events meet to get all the relevant issues addressed, exec agreed <i>nem con</i>. Issues include: drawing competitors away from each other, adaptive rowing (staffing, safety, and categorisation). RW confirmed that HWR is considering running adaptive races, including taking appropriate risk and staffing assessments. • Weybridge Silver Sculls date (see AE's Events Report): Exec agreed <i>nem con</i> that their request for change of date should not be accepted. • Tideway Small Boats Head (see AE's Events Report): Exec agreed to drop from calendar <i>nem con</i>. 	<p>To Note</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Decision</p> <p>Decision</p>	
4.6	<p>Junior Officials – Strategy for 2007 (See JP's report) Exec agreed to target Ball Cup South, but they must meet Safety requirements</p>	<p>Decision</p>	

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
4.7	<p>Division Representative Concerns (see AE's Division 13 report) MA pointed out that the role of the ARA Div Rep has changed, but without any explanation or training from ARA. MA also pointed out that the ARA constitutional review reported that the current structures and committees is no longer fit for purpose given the changes in the nature of the sport. Action: MH to raise this at the National Development Committee. MH pointed out that the NDC will be asking the regions to review how they would like to be structured better.</p>	<p>To Note</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>MH</p>
4.8	<p>Sport England Funding RPh reported on funding of £75m over the next 3 years to improving community sports delivery system to be split between national and regional schemes and building capacity and talent development. TD focussed on helping club athletes reach their goals and stay in the support envelope. CDOs have to produce a submission to sport England. RPh felt that money was possibly a waste of money, due to systemic problems in the sport (points, competitions, etc.). The funding needs to be matched 2-for-one. The CDOs needed to submit funding ideas in a rush, so developed a few ideas such as a Talent Development Coaches' Mentor, etc. without having a chance to circulate for comment.</p>	<p>To Note</p>	
4.9	<p>TRRC Dinner at Leander PM reported that the TRRC dinner is booked for Friday 19 January at Leander Club at £32.50 per head. Action: RSVP to Peter with a cheque made out to TRRC</p>	<p>To Note</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>ALL</p>
4.10	<p>Change of Signatory on TRRC Account Exec agreed to continue policy of having a panel of signatories to the account, any two of which are required for a cheque, but to add the Downriver Representative (a Vice-Chairman) to the panel (which includes the Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary) to expedite payment of suppliers.</p>	<p>Decision</p>	
5	<p>REPORTS TO NOTE</p> <p>In addition to reports explicitly referenced above, the Executive Committee is asked to note the reports submitted as shown under List of Reports" below.</p>	<p>To note</p>	<p>All</p>
6	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns raised about delays in umpires' licenses • Concerns raised about movements of rowers in Division 14 • RW is working on an equivalent of the Tideway Code for EA waters • CG asked all of the exec to give the Vorboss system a test for reporting and report back to him. 		

No.	Agenda Item	Action Required	Member
7	<p>NEXT MEETING Executive Committee Meeting Monday 15 January 2007 Vesta Rowing Club</p> <p>Additional 2007 dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday February – upriver • Monday 19 March – downriver • Monday 16 April – upriver • Monday 21 May – downriver • Monday 18 June – upriver • July and August no meeting emergencies excepted • Monday 17 September – downriver • Monday 15 October – upriver • Sunday 18 November AGM - upriver • Monday 17 December – downriver 	<p>To Note</p> <p>To Note</p>	

MEETING ADJOURNMENT		
----------------------------	--	--

List of Reports

Chairman	Nothing to report	MH
Honorary Secretary	Nothing to report	AR
Honorary Treasurer	Nothing to report	PB
Upriver Representative	Nothing to report	JP
Downriver Representative	To discuss	JH
Division 10 (Oxford University) Representative	Nothing to report	MBB
Division 11 (Upper Thames) Representative	Nothing to report	AW
Division 12 (Reading) Representative	Nothing to report	PM
Division 13 (Middle Thames) Representative	To discuss	AE
Division 14 (Staines & Molesey) Representative	To note	JB
Division 15 (Kingston & Twickenham) Representative	Nothing to report	RW
Division 16 (Chiswick & Mortlake) Representative	NO REPORT	KW
Division 17 (University of London) Representative	NO REPORT	-vacant-
Division 18 (Barnes & Hammersmith) Representative	To note	NJ
Division 19 (Putney) Representative	NO REPORT	PL
London Rowing Club Representative	Nothing to report	MW
Thames Rowing Club Representative	Nothing to report	EJ
Leander Club Representative	Nothing to report	MJ
ARA Coaching and Development Officers	To note	PS & SB
Coaching Commissioner	Nothing to report	RPh
Competitions Calendar (“Events”) Coordinator	To discuss	AE
Environment Agency Representative	Nothing to report	RW
Equipment Officer	To note	RPa
Junior Officials Coordinator	To discuss	JP/BC
Juniors’ Commissioner	Nothing to report	RH
PR & Marketing Officer	NO REPORT	EW
Recreational Representative	Nothing to report	PM
Regional Water Safety Adviser (RWSA)	To discuss	NJ
Regional Water Safety Development Adviser (RWSDA)	To note	CG
Tideway Event Code of Conduct Coordinator	Nothing to report	SC
Umpires’ Commissioner	NO REPORT	CS
Veterans’ Commissioner	To note	ML