



Minutes of 12/03/2024 General Committee Meeting 8 p.m. via Zoom

In Attendance: Jonathan Males (JM), Carl Upsall (CU), Ciaran Edwards (CLE), Jon Halden (JH), Martin Smyth (MS), Pam Phillips (PP), Peter Nash (PN), Marie Bauerova (MB), Mark Corti (MC), Martin Davies (MD)

Apologies: Catherine Pulis (CP), Irina Medunyak (IM), Sunny Rhodes (SR)
The meeting met the requirements for being quorate.

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies noted.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

Agreed: Minutes of the General Committee meeting on 12th December 2023 were approved. [AGR 240312 2.0.1]

3.0 Club Vision and Development Plan Update

JM updated the meeting on a new proposal from GLL offering the Club paddling time on Tuesday in addition to Wednesday evening. This proposal is alongside GLL in future offering coaching on Wednesday evenings before LVPC Club Night sessions. For LVP the positive opportunities could be: Tuesdays could open-up paddling to those who can't/don't do Wednesdays; it could offer the opportunity to specialise water sessions; to link with the slalom community; to split Olympic and Legacy; to have a different schedule in summer to winter; or, to collaborate with other Clubs on our water times. On the downside, we could lose hours from existing members who won't paddle two days running. If at all, May, June, July may be the months to try to see if there is any benefit to Members and the Club. Further downsides to proceeding could be: volunteers may be difficult over two days for that number of hours; back-to-back nights are less appealing than some other combinations. JH raised the need to seriously bolster our marketing if we expanded into sessions on Tuesdays.

Impact on Club coaching: hard to determine, but noted that GLL will have the prime time from 1830 that we have used for coaching. It will take away some of the Club bonding that inevitably gets generated from introduction training groups. CLE wondered if there was mileage in keeping Club Night as is, but offering GLL the opportunity to run some coached courses on our sessions. In discussion, concern was expressed on maintaining the quality and consistency within a Club culture that we have worked so hard on in recent years. The Committee concluded that we would not be happy to give up the coaching slot on Wednesday, and lose the third slot on a Wednesday.

4.0 MOU Meeting with GLL

Update by JM (in addition to previous item) on MOU latest with GLL (circulated in advance). Areas of discussion included beginner level coaching to be provided by the Centre (see above item) and the Club remit from moving water and beyond that. JM to clarify that beginner paddling coaching will be a restriction on LVPC at LVWWC only as we are able to



provide coaching elsewhere, especially at Rammey Island. We reserve the right to provide coaching out-with LVWVC and we will clarify with GLL the precise boundaries in terms of Lake/water course boundaries. JH raised signposting on enquiries so that consistent messages on what's available. JH to coordinate. JH raised a point on promoting the Club and its coaching to the public - JM clarified we can promote to Members, while GLL promotes to the general public. MC noted flatwater coaching was not raised as a key commercial driver, and, we talked about the canal and the access, does that mean we are limited on beginners courses on the canal? CLE and JM referenced discussions on slalom and racing.

Actions: JM to confirm to GLL that any coaching restriction on LVPC at LVWVC does not apply out-with LVWVC. [ACT 240312 4.0.1]

JH to develop signposting statement(s) for enquiries on Club coaching. [ACT 240312 4.0.2]

5.0 Financial Update

MB pre-circulated a financial statement with an estimate that we will be down £6k on last year and suggested that we ought to make some changes to aim for break-even during 2024. CLE informed the Committee that slalom is currently at a slight loss connected to changing relationship with BC and the nature of the courses, and the Coordinator-role activities include WIP on raising finances which is part of the role. The year is planned to break-even or make a surplus, but this is not evenly spread over the year. PP raised membership for slalom participants and CLE clarified the relationship between members and the support they receive relative to those being supported direct by BC. JH and MC have worked on some numbers for coaching, and have identified a potential £3k if the coaching is additional provision to other activities and fully booked. PN - can it be made easier to book coaching sessions? JM - given importance of coaching and the income, are there ways to maximise our bookings given comments in Members survey wanting more coaching and accessible to them? JH updated that we are putting a diary into place to show planned courses well in advance, with bookings to open at appropriate time. We will then screen just to make sure the requisite standards are being met for participants to join the courses. A new pricing structure and the relevant Awards have also been mapped out.

6.0 Membership Update

Nothing to report at this meeting.

7.0 Welfare Update

Nothing to report at this meeting.

8.0 Coaching Update

Included in items above.

9.0 Safety Update (including Operational Risk Assessments)

Nothing to report at this meeting.



10.0 Equipment Update

JH has a potential candidate for Equipment Officer.

11.0 Discipline Update: Flatwater

Nothing to report at this meeting.

12.0 Discipline Update: Freestyle

Nothing to report at this meeting.

13.0 Discipline Update: Rafting

Nothing to report at this meeting.

14.0 Discipline Update: Recreational

Nothing to report at this meeting.

15.0 Discipline Update: Slalom

Nothing to report at this meeting.

16.0 Communications

Nothing to report at this meeting.

17.0 AOB

The date of the next meeting will be the 11th June 2024.

10th Anniversary of first Club Night will be 8th May, ideas to be circulated on how to celebrate this.
