



Minutes of 25/11/2024 General Committee Meeting
A meeting to discuss and agree LVPC Club session times at LVWWC
8 p.m. via Zoom

In Attendance: Jonathan Males (JM), Carl Upsall (CU), Catherine Pulis (CP), Irina Medunyak (IM), Marie Bauerova (MB), Martin Davies (MD), Martin Smyth (MS), Pam Phillips (PP), Peter Nash (PN)

Apologies:

Ciaran Edwards (CLE), James Bradley (JB), Jon Halden (JH), Karen da Silva (KdS), Marc Diggins (MDI), Mark Corti (MC) Sophie Chandon (SC)

With those in attendance and written submissions from some not present, the meeting met the requirements for being quorate.

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

JM confirmed apologies and outlined the remit for the meeting:

- Important the committee considers the best interests of the club as a whole, not just represent personal interests.
- Request for 'cabinet solidarity' on the outcomes, present a unified committee voice on decisions reached.

The General Committee had received suggestions for changing the timings of Club Night sessions and the well considered suggestions had warranted further investigation by the Committee. To aid the deliberations a survey was circulated to all Club Members.

Considerations put to Club Members to help inform their responses included:

- Based on current session costs, we need 24 paddlers on an Olympic session to break even, and 22 paddlers on a legacy session to break even. Any less than this and the session is being subsidised by coaching fees, club reserves and membership fees.
- We have been told by GLL that hire costs will increase by 3 - 5 % annually.
- We need two bank safety volunteers on each course.
- Our ability to hire the course on weekends is limited to fringe hours, either early (9 am) or late (4 pm onwards) because of GLL's priority towards commercial use and pre-existing slalom training.

2.0 LVPC Session Times at LVWWC

Discussion was based on the results of a survey of all members. 141 responses were received. The Committee discussed overall survey results and written response answers to the following questions:

- i) Option 1: No Change
Option 2: Later Start Time
- ii) Option 3: Winter Session Adjustments



- iii) Wildcard Question - Change from Wednesdays
- iv) Weekend Sessions

i) No Change or Move to a Later Start Time

In acknowledging the points put forward for continuing with the current start time and how that best suits some members, and the benefit that some members would appreciate from a later start time, the Committee further acknowledged it would not be able to provide a best solution to all Club Members.

Agreed: On balance, it was agreed that if the Club was operating two hours of Club sessions in the evening, the start time would remain at 1830 as provided at the start of the Club Membership Year.

ii) Option 3: Winter Session Adjustments

The survey results showed that Club Members appreciated the attendance and economic challenges for the Club during the winter months of January and February. There was a good level of support for the proposal for the 90 minutes of water time just in the short term to get through winter. The primary concern raised for the proposal was the suitable arrangement of Bank Safety shifts.

The Committee discussed a range of different options to help make the 90 minute sessions work for a majority of Club Members over the coming winter months.

Agreed: A single 90 minute Club Night session on each water course would be introduced as a short-term measure for the winter months of January and February. Sessions would start at 7pm and finish at 8:30pm. To encourage as many Members as possible to attend, and provide as much value to Members as possible, the 90 minute sessions will be charged at only £1 more than the respective 60 minute sessions. To help address the Bank Safety concerns, Bank Safety 'shifts' will be of 45 minutes duration, and those providing cover may either paddle the other half of the session for free, or claim one hour of regular session credit for future use.

Agreed: 8th January would be requested for the first session of 2025.

iii) Wildcard Question - Change from Wednesdays



Agreed: Given the strong level of support for the well established Wednesday Club Night at LVWWC, it was agreed that Wednesdays would remain the preferred day of the week.

iv) Weekend Sessions

Responses didn't show sufficient support for running weekly weekend sessions at LVWWC, but there was support for paddling once or a couple of times a month.

Agreed: Given the support for some weekend Club paddling opportunities at LVWWC, a programme comprising a few sessions spread across the weekends of the summer months, most likely in the afternoons, would be developed.
