



Northern Regional Rowing Council

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – draft v2 as at 14-02-20

Tyne ARC, 03 February 2020, 7.30pm

Present: Charly Curtis (Vice Chair) in chair, Pauline Higgins (Junior Rowing), Richard Mortimer (LDS/Chair NRUC), John Mulholland (Safety), Colin Percy (Secretary), Alan Granlund (Treasurer), Gabrielle Moore (Masters Rowing), Colin Lawson (Recreational Rowing), Carol Croft (Deputy Para Rowing), Holly Young (Deputy Junior Rowing).

Apologies: Michael Laing (Chair), Catherine Bowman (Events), Eddie Bryant (Coaching), Gillian Lathan (Para Rowing), Pamela Walton, Dilwyn Jones (Sec NRUC).

		Action by
1	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting 16 September 2019</u></p> <p>Minutes not available.</p>	
2	<p><u>Matters arising from the minutes</u></p> <p>All necessary issues covered under other items.</p>	
3	<p><u>Discussion on new constitution for Northern Rowing Council</u></p> <p>The Secretary said BR wished Regional Rowing Councils such as the NRC to update their constitutions, generally in line with a model provided by them in early 2019. We had missed the boat to take it to our AGM in November, but should progress it now. A copy of our current 2012 constitution and a suggested new one based very largely on the new model had been pre-circulated.</p> <p>There were not huge differences between old and new but there was a bit more on responsibilities of the Council to implement decisions by BR centrally. The role of officers other than the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Regional rep were not defined in any of the existing constitution, the BR model one or the new proposed one as circulated. A list of possible committees was listed in our old one and the model, but the Secretary suggested that as we did not generally have formal committees we should not be prescriptive about these.</p> <p>The Secretary said our existing constitution had a quorum for Council general meetings of only 4. This seemed very low to him, given that there were many clubs and events able to send reps (<i>N.B. later checked and currently there are 69, including DCR colleges</i>).</p> <p>In discussion Exec members supported the continuation of one vote per affiliated body at general meetings (i.e. clubs <i>and</i> competitions).</p>	

	<p>They wished to see the list of officers as we currently elect formalised in the document, but were not worried if committees were not listed specifically.</p> <p>The Regional Umpiring Committee (RUC) was the exception and it was proposed that it should be recognised specifically and that the constitution should include reference to how regional umpires elected/appointed the committee and the committee in turn elects the chair and secretary, plus how this was all reported to the Council and/or Executive. This needed a little more work.</p> <p>Agreed: That the proposed constitution as circulated was generally acceptable, but should be brought back to the next Exec meeting with the following amended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a wider list of named officers to be elected at the AGM; - committees not listed, apart from the RUC, whose procedures would be the subject of new wording; - a quorum of 20 for general meetings. 	CP
4	<p><u>Feedback on Club Development Conference</u></p> <p>The conference on 26 January at Durham ARC was discussed. Precise numbers were not available at the meeting (to be obtained) but it was thought they were a bit down on previous years, though junior attendance was good, if a bit patchy in terms of clubs. Ellie Hizzett from her remote location (Dulwich), had done a great job getting speakers from near and far, including a number of BR coaches and other personnel.</p> <p>In looking forward the meeting agreed that the emphasis needed to go back a little towards club development in its various forms and a little less maybe on hands-on aspects like rowing skills, S & C, rigging and so on which might be better done in more depth at one-off days or half-days. But the juniors seemed to enjoy the practical sessions.</p> <p>Holly Young volunteered to organise the day next year and would contact Ellie for advice and leads. She would initiate a survey of attendees and also of people around the region who had not attended. The Secretary said he would do similar with clubs through the 'official' contacts he was establishing. He also said there were points made at the Events session which should be followed up.</p> <p>Agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to thank Ellie formally for organising the day; - to hold another conference in January 2021; - to accept Holly Young's offer to organise; - to undertake a survey to ascertain views on content for 2021. 	CP HY/CP
5	<p><u>Reports of Officers</u></p> <p>The Chair was not present. The Secretary had nothing to add over and above items already on the agenda. The Treasurer had nothing</p>	

<p>to report since the AGM. Most officers had done written reports and these had been pre-circulated (and placed on web site at www.nerowing.com/nrcminutes.html) and were taken as read, though key points are brought out here. No reports on Events and Para Rowing.</p> <p>Regional Rep (GM) - No written report but approval of one training grant to Chester-le- Street ARC was reported : £557 (%50 of total) for courses - Level 2 (2), capsizes (2) & person overboard (2). Gabrielle then said she had just received a form for a grant towards the cost of a member of a local club going on the Senior Club Coach (Level 3) course. The form was not fully complete, but based on the information given it was agreed (a) that there was not (and unlikely to be) adequate justification in this case for the Council to fund a Level 3 course and (b) to advise that a grant would not be forthcoming. It was further agreed that Gabrielle consult with the Chair on any issues arising.</p> <p>LDS (RM) - 5 of the 6 days ran; the cancellation at Durham meant the surplus was considerably down, but there was still one. Full wash-up yet to be done. Slight hiccup on money with BR, but will be sorted. Dates are set for 2020. A paper on the Victor Ludorum system was also pre-circulated and a full explanation is available from Richard.</p> <p>Recreational Rowing (CL) - UK Tour is on the Thames this year in August - info yet to be released. Draft timetable for the Sunday League was being discussed and help for Colin L on entries is being looked at. Informal inter-club visits were being encouraged. Coaching at the recreational end of clubs is perhaps an issue to be looked at.</p> <p>Coaching Education (EB) - A detailed pre-circulated report on a range of issues, including BR coaching and other courses being run in the region and news from national and even international levels.</p> <p>Junior Rowing (PH) - JIRR local trials were at Cambois the following Saturday, with entries via BROE for the first time (had to have a nominal fee, so £1 set). Clash of recent club conference with a planned GB development session, so latter cancelled, but other development work with aspiring GB athletes planned. ClubHub now working better with schools and coaches in dealing with membership. Regional School Games indoor champs 5 March at Maiden Castle.</p> <p>Masters Rowing (GM) - Issues from the national masters committee were described in the written report and included research work on what makes a good masters squad, use of stable boats, complaints about the PRI system, a review of the masters handicap table, and on how competitions publish (or not) their results.</p> <p>Safety (JM) - John added to his report (his presentation to the conference) by mentioning the January HRSA Monthly Report and items on what to do after a collision, length of swim tests, and a video</p>	GM
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	<p>on emergency stops (which he did not fully agree with).</p> <p>Umpiring (RM) – Richard reported he had been elected as Chair and Dilwyn Jones of Tees RC as Secretary of the Regional Umpiring Committee at a meeting of the region’s umpires on 20 January. The Exec agreed to note this formally and to send thanks to Peter Hoare for his work during his 14 years at the helm. There were 30 active umpires in the region with 23 potential trainees having expressed an interest, who will be contacted about training shortly. Head races in general had been very well run; one more to go at Derwentwater. New Rules of Racing waiting for approval nationally.</p> <p><i>Note: As agreed under Item 3 on the constitution, wording on the precise relationship between the NRUC and the NRC and its Exec Committee will be brought to the meet Exec meeting.</i></p>	<p>CP</p> <p>CP/RM</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>None other than already discussed.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>The Secretary said he had inherited what amounted to an application for grant aid from Lakeland RC for 10 large buoys for use, initially, at the first Derwentwater Head. The quote was for £535.66. After discussion on the lack of clear internal guidelines for capital or equipment as opposed to training grants, it was agreed to fund the buoys 100% subject to them being made available to other competitions in the region at no charge if requested and that LRC store them in a safe and secure place. Colin to inform LRC.</p> <p>It was further agreed to consider a report at the next meeting on criteria for similar capital or equipment grants, which would have to be on the basis of exceptional circumstances and not normal run-of-the-mill items. A possible case of specialised buoyancy aids was mentioned..</p>	<p>CP</p> <p>CP</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><u>Dates of future meetings</u></p> <p>Monday 20 April 2020 - venue Durham ARC - 7.30pm Monday 22 June 2020 - venue Tyne ARC - 7.30pm Monday 14 September 2020 - venue Tyne ARC - 7.30pm AGM - Monday 16 November 2020 - venue Durham ARC - 7.30pm</p>	

The meeting closed at 21.40