

Teign Scullers Committee Meeting

29th January 2024

Coombe Cellars

Present

Jane Eggleton, Carole Atkinson, Wendy Blackburn, Harriet Langworthy, Mark Eastman, Rachel Palmer, Zane Steers, Robbie Robinson

Apologies

Lucy Bufton, Marjorie Roome

RTRC Committee Meeting report

Zane summarised the recent meeting and highlighted any issues affecting the scullers.

Mel has stepped down as Seine boat lead.

No frostbite race series this winter.

The committee is trying to set RTRC up as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) organisation – not sure what this entails. Channel row – coastals have been told we are welcome to participate in, but would have to organise our own safety boat(s).

It was noted that the minutes of the RTRC committee meetings are not written or published.

Sculling Section Income

Zane reported that we have about £8k to spend and there was discussion about what we should spend it on.

Two priorities were agreed

1. Cox boxes. Some wiring is already present in some boats to accommodate this. Should be able to purchase for c£800 each. Hope to buy two.
2. Competitive coastal double. **Wendy to look at second hand coastal doubles to get prices and availabilities**

Robbie reported that he had researched grants and other funding sources but all currently available are for disadvantaged areas or for adaptive rowing. He has alerts set up for any new grants that are initiated.

Charges for club contribution on race days

Discussion as to what the contribution is for. Decision to scrap it as it is not appropriate to charge for use of boats in regatta. However, a contribution should be made to fund costs of those who are towing boats to regattas and an amount of £2 per person per regatta was suggested, but to be kept under review, as it would also depend on distance travelled and number of participants. This would need to be paid in cash on the day.

Charges for boat storage

£50 per year plus extra for insurance. No change required.

President's Cup

Carole proposed that the name of this award should be changed and also the physical trophy. It is awarded to members for their contribution to the sculling section. It was agreed to source and fund an actual gift to award at Scullers AGM and the award should be for the Club Person of the Year.

Teign Scullers 20th Anniversary Celebration

Decision to have a fun racing day and BBQ in the Hearn Field in June. We will need to book the Pavilion ASAP once a suitable day has been identified for tides. **Wendy will suggest a day and Harriet or Mark will book Pavilion.**

Coombe Cellars Fine Boat Outings and encouraging racing

Carole asked how we can encourage rowers to fine boat outings. Rowers indicate that they want to race in fine boats but don't come to fine boat outings. This ties in with how we can entice people to attend regattas to race. **Mark to email out to encourage people to come forward for some specific regattas.**

Rower Visibility

The issue of rower visibility was raised as there is clearly a lack of awareness regarding how invisible both fine boats and coastal boats can be to other water users. There was some discussion about whether wearing of high visibility can be insisted on and should there be some clothing to offer people who turn up without. The current gilets are not suitable as they are not visible from a distance. It was agreed that members should be informed that the expectation is that high visibility should be worn by all rowers.

Jane to send out a reminder of this and also remind rowers to bring spare clothes to outings.

Sunday Race Outings

Discussion regarding the various "closed crew" WhatsApp groups. Was agreed that we should let people work out their teams and rowing outings for themselves, as long as bookings are made online in the usual manner.

SWCL AGM Report

Rachel summarised the meeting which took place on Friday 26th January. Seat fee going up 50p which gets used for trophies and pennants. Novice inclusion in 2023 was welcomed. Need some ideas for medal replacements for our two regattas this year.

Introduction to Sculling Course

Proposed dates

April 14th

April 21st

April 28th

May 12th

Need some publicity for this. **Rachel will do a flyer.**

Charge £80

Zane said that helpers must be given a specific role and be made clear what is expected of them and we should try and introduce new people to help and not rely on same people.

AOB

1. Incident book should be in both sheds (Coombe Cellars and Gales Hill) **Jane to organise**
2. Carrying a whistle onboard was suggested as an alerting mechanism to warn oncoming danger **Jane to organise**
3. Mentioned that the space blankets and first aid boxes in the container at Gales Hill are not particularly visible. **Zane to ask if they can be mounted in more obvious place**
4. Exeter Head race 30th March request. **Mark will send response to Exeter to say interested and he will ask for crew interest from the club**
5. The main club is considering purchasing some rowing machines to be kept at Trinity School – no further information known.

Harriet Langworthy
RTRC Sculling Section Secretary