



## Northern Regional Rowing Council

### Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – draft for approval at next meeting

As at 03-03-22

31 January 2022, held online via Zoom at 7.30pm

**Present:** Tim Morris (Chair), Charly Curtis (Vice Chair), Pauline Higgins (Junior Rowing), Eddie Bryant (Coach Education), Pam Walton (Recreational Rowing), Catherine Bowman (Competitions), Gabrielle Moore (Masters Rowing & Regional Rep), Richard Mortimer (Umpiring), John Mulholland (Safety), David Squirrell (Student Rowing), Dan Lockey (LDS).

		Action by
1	<b>Apologies:</b> Colin Percy (Secretary), Alan Granlund (Treasurer), Alan Cook, Mark Hyson.	
2	<b><u>Minutes of last meeting – 6 December 2021</u></b> Agreed a correct record as circulated.	
3	<b><u>Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting</u></b> Tim asked John if he had acted on the issue about concern about junior training levels which was a crossover between safety and welfare. John said it had been rather overtaken by other events, so he had not.	
4	<b>Update on purchase of equipment from K Hastie</b> Dan Lockey updated the meeting on discussions with Ken on storage needed. The PA system would be the most space consuming, followed by the megaphones and then the pretty compact radios. He was happy storage issues could be resolved.  Dan said he had drafted a simple hire agreement and this seemed acceptable to those who had seen it. He thought that the wear and tear in practice as explained by Ken sounded manageable and he had a clear idea of what might need mending or just disposing of.  It was suggested we needed to be very clear as to was the Exec Committee member or members responsible for managing the whole process, including checking the equipment between each event.  Dan recommended purchase at the favourable rate offered by Ken. <b>The meeting agreed to purchase the equipment for £900.</b> Tim asked Dan to circulate the hire agreement wider before implementing. Dan said Colin was checking on insurance with British Rowing.	DL/CP/AG

<p>5</p>	<p><b><u>Training grant update</u></b></p> <p>Gabrielle reported a lot of interest. She had asked for more information from some clubs and would be progressing those where this had been provided and not taken back. They had discussed but rejected tightening the criteria for grants but did agree that more information would be requested. She was also minded to carry out more checking as the NRC (rather than leave it all to clubs) that the training had been completed and put to use.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p><b><u>Club Development Conference for 2022</u></b></p> <p>Tim said the hoped for ‘advert’ for people interested in doing something on these had not gone out on Facebook. He would ask Colin about this. In the meantime, he asked if anyone present was interested. He had someone in mind. It was suggested Holly Young who had been on the Committee in 2021 and was looking at organising a conference then till Covid intervened might still be interested. She was now at Durham University coaching. <b>It was agreed Pauline would approach her to sound her out.</b> (N.B. Alan Cook later volunteered to help)</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p><b><u>Social media and other online presence</u></b></p> <p>Following on from the previous item, David Squirrell said he was willing to support but not lead on this. Tim suggested he, David and Colin meet on Zoom to discuss what to do.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p><b><u>Officer reports</u></b></p> <p><i>Treasurer:</i> Alan (apologies given) in his written report said that he had now managed to change Bank Signatories. The new arrangement is for any two of Treasurer, Chair or Vice Chair to sign cheques. The bank balance after LDS entry fee income stood at £27,083 as at 10 January 2022. Now that signatories have been amended, I will be arranging payment to the various clubs in the old Northumberland County ARA area totalling £5,170. This would reduce the balance accordingly.</p> <p>The Chair asked for those present to give a short update, noting some had submitted a written report (available on the web site at <a href="http://www.nerowing.com/nrcminutes.html">www.nerowing.com/nrcminutes.html</a>). Key points were:</p> <p><i>Safety:</i> John added to his report. He said a prominent local academic club on the Tyne had been observed on a number of occasions of not keeping to their side of the river rigorously. One incident report had been made and more were on the way. He hoped discussion with them would result in improvements but he asked the Committee to note he might need to come back and ask for some formal action if not.</p> <p>Gabrielle described an incident at Durham when a cox in a bow loading four capsized at a landing and he could not get out. He said it had been was a ‘tight fit’. John said he had seen the incident report but this was not mentioned. He would follow it up and ask questions, as what he</p>	<p>AG</p>

	<p>had just heard from Gabrielle was quite serious. He asked Gabrielle to do an incident report too.</p> <p>David said there had been other similar capsizing incidents. John said he would endeavour to make contact with the DCR safety adviser to discuss. Charly said he attended DURB meetings and would ask about John attending. But he felt that direct contact with DCR would be better. David said he would facilitate. <b>It was agreed that the situation on the Wear merited action as soon as possible.</b></p> <p>There was further discussion on capsize drills and poor state of some college boats going to a competition, e.g. no bow balls. Richard said his report covered this to an extent.</p> <p><i>Competitions:</i> Catherine said that the organising committee had agreed with Durham ARC that the Durham LDS and Durham SBH could move to 12 November from 29 October, subject to the Committee agreeing. <b>It was agreed to support this</b> and that Catherine would forward the new date to British Rowing. However, it was noted York SBH was the next day.</p> <p><i>Junior rowing:</i> Pauline asked if the region would cover the cost of entry to the national Junior Interregional Regatta and also provide sweatshirts. She did not have cost of entry yet. In 2020 the entry costs were £1200 for everybody and 92 sweatshirts were £1209. <b>It was agreed to pay for these.</b></p> <p><i>Coach education.</i> Eddie said he would be sending out an 18 month training calendar imminently.</p> <p><i>Regional Rep:</i> The training grant issue had already been discussed.</p> <p><i>Umpiring:</i> Richard said there were concerns about the number of umpires as usual and clubs would be asked to seek volunteers. He said he was looking at purchase of new supplies of umpires clothing. <b>It was agreed in principle to purchase umpiring clothing</b> once costs had been obtained.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>DS/CC/JM</p> <p>CB</p> <p>PH</p> <p>EB</p> <p>RM</p>
<p>9</p>	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>None other than as already discussed.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p><i>Situation at Chester-le-Street ARC</i></p> <p>Tim reminded the Committee that a public statement had been issued by British Rowing on 13 January 2022 about management and organisational issues at CLSARC, with the threat of possible disaffiliation.</p> <p>There was discussion on what members knew about the situation, which was generally no more than contained in the statement. It was agreed that as British Rowing were dealing directly with the club and</p>	

	that we as the regional rowing council were not currently directly involved that we should collectively and individually refrain from making any comment or offering advice, other than to say that the Executive members hoped the problems could be resolved. Tim said he would seek clarification from British Rowing on what was happening and would ask if it would be appropriate for the NRC to offer help to CLS.	TM
11	<p><b><u>Dates of future meetings in 2022</u></b></p> <p>Exec Committee will meet on Mondays at 7.30pm:  25 April 2022 - at Tyne ARC, but Zoom to be on offer  20 June 2022  2 September 2022  The AGM was planned for a Monday too, 7.00 for 7.30pm:  14 November 2022</p>	CP

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.

Thanks to Richard for Zoom organisation.

**Colin Percy**  
Secretary, Northern Rowing Council  
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