



CHELTENHAM CANOE CLUB

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Held on Thursday 3rd February 2005, Dowty Sports and Social Club.

The meeting started at 7.50pm and finished at 9.45pm, with 25 club members present.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from James Bruton and Caroline Peel.

2. Minutes of Last AGM (2004)

The minutes from the 2004 meeting were read and confirmed to be a true record of events by Rick Hartley, Richard Berry and Noreen Bishop.

3. Matters Arising from Last AGM

- It was suggested by Danny Knight that next year, the minutes of the last AGM should be distributed by email rather than by paper copies. However, it was decided that although the minutes could be circulated by email, a paper copy was still required.
- It was asked of the committee how the training of coaching had gone during the year. It was stated that Alison had completed her Level 3 training, and Steve Slater had started working towards gaining coaching qualifications. Money allocated to coaching had also been spend putting members through a white water safety course on the River Tryweryn.
- It was stated that the money that been donated towards buying a trailer for the club had been returned to the donors: it was felt that the club didn't really need a trailer as the scout group had offered us the loan of theirs, and there was a difficulty with ensuring that a vehicle that could tow the trailer was available for each trip.

4. Secretaries Report

The following report was given by the Secretary:

Whilst membership numbers have dwindled slightly this year the club has continued to grow from strength to strength. The actual number of paddlers on rivers has increased with Scotland numbers close to 20 and a good turn out on the Usk, which was the on the same day, proving that trips for all abilities are running. The Alps, Tefi Tour, Surfing and the Dart weekend continue to be popular with newer trips like the North East Weekend ensuring we're not just paddling the same areas.

The lido pool sessions have as always been a success and finally thanks to Steve Slater we have a winter pool venue at Tewkesbury on a Monday night. Slalom has continued to increase in popularity with 2 paddlers in division 1

and many now in division 2. Whilst to some it is known as the Cheltenham Ladies Team our ability to enter a full team at this year's Inter-clubs championship and not come last was a credit to all who paddled and bank supported.

Whilst there have been no star test courses run this year, where a demand has been made clear courses have run with many paddlers taking up the opportunities offered by taking the White Water Safety and Rescue course and the CST. Similarly, help has been available for those wishing to develop their coaching.

Socially it's been a busy year with skittles, 10 pin bowling and Dragon Boating. Both the summer barbeque and Christmas Meal changed venues this year with much success and we have had both Charlie Munsy and Deb Pinnegar invited to the club to give talks thanks to Jon Wright.

The money we gained from the grant has been spent on a wide range of equipment chosen to recognise the diverse needs of the club. For the larger paddler we have the Madness, a Kendo and GT for the intermediate and an Infra-Red for the smaller/female paddler. Two K1 slalom boats have been purchased and an array of paddles and soft kit. This is your kit so please take responsibility for returning it once used as new kit doesn't come along often.

Finally, this year's exec will be changing with both junior reps stepping down, the secretary changing and the Captain retiring. Rich has played a big part in leading the club to the success it is today and his advice and knowledge have been invaluable in the time I have been on the exec which is short in comparison. However, the club will continue to move on it looks and exciting time to join the exec.

5. Treasurers Report

Steve Slater handed out copies of the year's accounts and gave a brief summary of the club's financial position. The following points were raised:

- It was noted that the numbers of people attending the lido sessions were down on last year.
- It was noted that the money allocated under 'miscellaneous' was very large. Steve explained that this included items such as club insurance, new boats and access tickets to paddle the River Dart.
- It was asked what the difference between stationary items and programmes was. Steve explained that the costs associated with programmes was only the cost of producing the quarterly programme, whereas stationary covered the cost of stamps, envelopes and other assorted items.
- It was noted that the pie chart explaining the breakdown of expenditure was a good idea and should be continued for future AGMs.

6. Finance

Future Expenditure

- It was noted that the club has money to provide full coaching training to two members, or subsidized training to three members.
- It was also noted that money was spent last year on the White Water Safety and Rescue Course was due to a need to spend money on training within that financial year. However, it was agreed that this was a very useful and practical course, and that members would like this course to run again subsidized.
- It was also suggested that we should implement an in-house training session to share the training experience that we have within the club.
- It was noted that First Aid Courses were an area where club coaching money was spent. Some members disagreed with this as these courses were not strictly coaching courses. However, it was noted that the qualifications of current coaches may lapse without regular first aid training. Therefore, it was agreed that this was a valid use of coaching money.
- Money spent on slaloms was seen as a good use of club money. It was agreed that the club should look out for a new C2 boat as this would be used within the club and is an entertaining boat for members to paddle. The ceiling price for this new boat was agreed at £200.
- It was agreed that the club would subsidise the entry fees for the first race that club members under 18 entered. A cap of £5 was agreed along with a limit of three disciplines per year. This is to be reviewed at the next AGM, and needs advertising at the pool sessions and in the newsletter.
- It was discussed whether it was necessary to spend money on the club shed. It was stated that currently only small amounts of money were required to maintain the shed. However, the club will need a new shed and location some time in the future, so the committee are actively monitoring the situation.

Membership Fees

- The subject of membership fees was discussed which are currently priced as follows:
 - £26 for individual membership
 - £21 for individual membership with concessions
 - £36 for family membership

As we now have to spend £160 per year to meet at the Downtys Sports and Social club, Pete Bogle proposed we put the membership prices up by £1. This was seconded with Danny Knight, and 23 members agreed with this proposal. These fees will apply from 2006.

7. Election of Officers and Committee for 2005

- Richard Berry announced that he was standing down as Captain. Also standing down are Alison Williams as Secretary, Paul Stevens as Training Officer, Duncan Bishop and Chris Stevens as Youth Representatives and Jon Wright as Membership Secretary.

- Nominations were received for the following positions:
 - John Wright as Captain
 - Steve Slater as Treasurer
 - Paul Ellis as Secretary
 - Alison Williams as Membership Secretary
 - Catherine Heather as Social Secretary
 - James Fry as Quartermaster
 - Oliver Slater as Youth Representative

No further nominations were received and these nominations were accepted. They join committee members Pete Bogle (Access Officer) and Steve Slater (Treasurer) who are remaining on the committee.

8. Club Awards

The following club awards were presented:

- Paddler of the Year: Ollie Slater
- Young Improver of the Year: Louise Tring
- Swimmer of the Year:
 - 3rd Place: Ollie Slater
 - 2nd Place: Fabien Brouquet
 - 1st Place: Mike Knight
- Roller of the Year:
 - 3rd Place: Mike Knight
 - 1st Place: Ollie Slater and Alison Williams (joint)
- Nutter of the Year: Fabien Brouquet
- Lost Boat Award: Paul Ellis
- Broken Paddle Award: Alex Gough
- Casualty of the Year: Noreen Bishop
- Hughie Award: Chris Cannock
- Boobie Award: Gary Restall
- Cock-up of the Year: Richard Longhurst
- Keith Thompson Memorial Award: Richard Berry

9. Any Other Business

- The number of members was discussed: Mike young pointed out that the numbers have gone down slightly as people aren't joining to take part in star award courses. However, Gary Restall pointed out that there are more people taking part in river trips and the general standard of the paddling within the club has improved.
- It was asked if the venue or the rivers paddled for the Wye/ Usk weekend should change this year. However, it was stated that the accommodation had already been booked so should take place as planned.
- It was stated that Membership Cards must be brought to the Dowty Club on Thursdays as bar staff may ask to see them when buying drinks.