

*Cymdeithas Rhwyfo Mor Cymru*  
**Welsh Sea Rowing Association**  
**Executive Meeting October 27th 2006**

**Present:** Mick Fothergill (chairman), Jasmine Sharp - **Aberystwyth**, Helen Stewart (sec) - **Llangwm**, Cath Havard (memb sec) Dylan Evans - **Aberdyfi**, Mike Miles, Mike Swann - **Solva**, David Thomson, Nigel Bowen - **Aberaeron**, Chris Terry - **Tenby**, Geraint Hughes - **Pwllheli**, Peter Fletcher (treasurer & president) - **Newport**, Steve Elford, Gill Allday - **Barmouth**, John Parsons, Malcolm Clash - **Neyland**, Peter Hughes - **Porthmadog**, Simon Jones, Jayne Brooks - **Mochras**.

**Apologies:** Fishguard, Ynys Mon, Paul Brant, Bob Charles - Llangwm.

**Minutes of last meeting:** (had the wrong date on them) proposed by MM, seconded by DT.

⇒ **Matters Arising.**

- **League Dinner:** thanks from the committee to Helena for doing a great job!
- **Interceltic Watersports:** no juniors went to this as although there was interest, there were not enough adults able to accompany them.
- **Purchase of projector:** MF purchased this at a cost of just over £1000. It is available to all affiliated clubs on request.
- **Lifejackets:** several clubs have shown an interest in the league bulk buying lifejackets to reduce the cost. A discussion took place regarding the leagues position on possible compulsory wearing of lifejackets. MS will shortly be attending a meeting with ARA to have input into a national policy on water safety. *Clubs to let HS know of any issues they would like MS to consider.* A club recently had an incident in calm conditions where they were washed onto rocks by a surge and were very lucky to get their lifejackets on from the bottom of the boat. Other factors such as insurance were discussed. *MS to put a proposal together for HS to circulate for discussion at the next meeting. HS to get a firm order from clubs for the league to bulk buy.*
- **Guernsey:** PF reported that we have enough funds to contribute to the clubs who recently took part in this event. *CH to let HS know exactly who went and £500 will be shared between them.*
- **Coaching and Workshops:** Coaches in Pembrokeshire have recently completed their contact time for the UKCC level 2 coaching qualification. This went very well and they now have to be assessed in their coaching within the next couple of months. A course is planned in North Wales in April 2007, Al Ball from Ynys Mon will be coordinating this with HS. We also hope to be able to offer a course in Mid Wales next year. A

Rigging, Technique, safety and events workshop is planned for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January in Aberystwyth. MS suggested that a power boat course could be organized also. **MS to find a venue, HS to identify interested clubs.**

- **Winter Races:** we are looking to put on 4-5 races over the winter, Newport are holding the first one on December 10<sup>th</sup>. **Barmouth will liaise with MF and PH to organize something in the north. Clubs to get suggested dates to HS asap for insurance cover. Note: please remember that you will need to have attended an events workshop to be eligible to hold a race, or have someone who has, that is prepared to oversee it.**

⇒ **Risk Assessments:**

HS has sent a proforma to clubs in the format that MS would like the risk assessments. It was agreed that **clubs wishing to hold races next year will need to bring a date and a risk assessment to the AGM** for approval. This will allow time to ensure the risk assessment is satisfactory. It was also agreed that at least 3 safety boats plus the lead boat is the absolute minimum for a race. If clubs have trouble providing enough cover they need to contact MS who will ensure extra cover is available.

⇒ **Development and 'regional super clubs':**

Due to the increase in paper work, risk assessments, documentation etc needed to run clubs and comply with insurance demands, it was suggested that future development of regional 'super' clubs be considered. These clubs could handle the official running of several clubs, enabling smaller clubs to have support. It was agreed that the term super clubs was not capturing the intention of the league who wish to support smaller clubs. **HS to contact bigger clubs to see if they can offer 'support' to smaller ones.**

⇒ **WARA meeting:**

MF report attached. **The executive committee are to circulate changes to clubs for comment before presenting to WARA.** It was agreed to pay the affiliation to WARA while negotiations are taking place.

⇒ **Club affiliation and membership fees:**

A CD will be circulated to all clubs with all information needed to re-affiliate to WSRA next year. The possibility of membership fees increasing will be put forward at the AGM. The executive committee have agreed to the allocation of responsibility within the committee. This will mean that there will be less confusion with enquiries. **Clubs are to contact the following:**

Peter Fletcher - boat insurance and membership

Dave Thomson - CRB checks, child protection and welfare

Paul Brant - insurance

Mike Swann - safety and risk assessments

Helen Stewart - coaching, affiliation and to circulate info

PF brought the increase in the cost of a boat to £4,400 to the attention of the meeting. It may mean an increase in boat insurance next year.

⇒ **Date of AGM:**

The date of the AGM is Friday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm at Aberystwyth.

⇒ **AOB:**

- CH made it clear that she will be stepping down as Membership Sec and wanted to encourage someone from the North to take the position on as all other positions are currently covered by members of Southern clubs.
- MS suggested that boat spares should be available at races, it was agreed that *MS to organize this with the full support of the WSRA.*
- It was suggested that clubs provide flags at races to avoid them being misplaced, although it is the leagues responsibility it is hoped that clubs will cooperate.
- PH suggested that a logo by Paul Brant be adopted by the WSRA. *The meeting agreed to ask PB's permission to use the logo and if he agrees HS to circulate to clubs for use on t shirts etc.*
- GH asked the committee to consider supporting a triathlon event that Pwllheli would like to organize in 2007. As we are only able to offer insurance for rowing events it was suggested that he contact the organizers of a similar event in Pems. CT suggested an indoor rowing event. *It was agreed that he look into organizing one.*
- DE asked if clubs are interested in trying Aberdyfi's yoals as they are happy to run sessions to suit. *HS to circulate to clubs.*
- HS reported that the organizers of the GRR have contacted the WSRA inviting us to their first open meeting about the event. It was agreed that someone should attend and expenses will be paid. *HS to identify someone to attend and circulate to clubs for any comments they would like brought to the meeting.*

**Next meeting Friday January 12th Aberystwyth after AGM**

**Meeting closed.**