

Minutes of WSRA Executive Meeting Friday 21st January 2010

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record of the previous meeting.
Proposed – HS; Seconded - AC

Matters arising

Boat contract – Mike Miles reported that buoyancy was still an issue and that he would report back at the next meeting. DT asked if there was a weight equation. MM reported that there was. HS asked about the effect on performance. MM noted that there may be a small weight penalty. Ian commented that if the boats were build with no gunnels that there would be issues lifting and carrying the boats. Kevin Brown suggested MM contact Custom Mouldings in Fishguard.

Coaching – HS is now finishing as community coach. Simon P will probably continue. The league is currently looking for a community coach from mid-Wales. Enough people have shown an interest in a coaching course in the North, so this will be held after April. If clubs have people who wish to go on a coaching course, please contact Helen Stewart. DT asked if coaches could get together; HS will organize.

Milford Haven Port Authority race – There are to be 6 festivals in Wales, including a rowing race in Cardigan. There appears to be no interest in a race from Fishguard to Cardigan. The suggested date for the event is Saturday 21st August. A current idea is that due to the narrow river, the race could be run as a tag race, with changing on the slipway. The meeting was asked if there were any other ideas. AC suggested a full handicap race as per GRR. Ian suggested that a handicap for women and mixed teams could also be introduced to allow all crews to be able to win. Cardigan club asked if the WSRA could assist in organising the event. HS said that realistically few clubs would be able to substantially assist. AC suggested that help could be available for some things.

WARA committee

AC reported that the Welsh National Regatta will not be held for 2010, but should be held in 2011. WARA have stated that the WSRA categories will be honoured. AC also flagged up the Swansea and Cardiff Head Races. AC reported that WARA would fund 50% of the cost of training a senior coach for the WSRA (£750). WSRA will fund the remaining 50% (£750). Alun Steadman will be put forward to be the high performance coach.

WSRA funds

JS had previously asked for suggestions re spending WSRA funds. Funding a WSRA longboat for loaning out to clubs has previously been suggested. DT reminded the committee that money should be ring-fenced for a new mould. JS reported that Jayne has already accounted for this. Aberaeron suggested that money could be spent on publicity, perhaps putting on a roadshow to attract younger people. Kevin Brown suggested the use of cameras to track races.

Race Dates

Race dates (with risk assessment) had been requested by JS via email. Many clubs from the South have asked for events, fewer from the North. It was agreed that all clubs who requested an event would

be able to hold them. To avoid clubs having to attend an increasing number of events, it was proposed that only the best 7 from each region (North or South) would count for the league trophies (AC). All joint league events would count for the joint league. 11 for, 4 against, 4 abstained. Carried for the proposal. Event dates will be circulated separately by JS. JS will ask Ynys Mon and Mochras if they want to suggest dates for events. Porthmadog want to hold an event, but not in Porthmadog – most likely Criccieth.

AOB

HS reported that the yoles currently in Cardiff are to be held by the WSRA for 3 months. HS will continue to organise this.

The price of oars and boats was queried. Dylan reported that oars are cheaper to buy direct from the UK distributor, rather than Dales sailing.

HS asked if any clubs have had boats repaired. Aberdyfi have had boat #4 refitted and the cracked ribs repaired for £2000. A new gel coat will cost an additional £600. Aberdyfi have reported that they are unimpressed with the finish.

Richard (PYC) asked if the winners of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place could be mentioned at the end of season awards presentations. AC reported that last year the event was held at very short notice, but that this year it would be possible.

Ian suggested that the whole crew can go to receive trophies (including the cox).

JS asked if anyone knew where the WSRA laptop and projector was. HS reported that Mick Fothergill has it. JS is to retrieve this.

Meeting closed at 21.30

Next meeting: 26th March 2010 7.30pm. Aberystwyth Rowing Club.