

## CDG Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (Zoom)

# Minutes



### Present:

- Rob Davis
- Annie Davis
- Mark Corti
- Bryn Price
- Geoff Orford
- Paul French
- Mike Lambourne
- Steve Chinn
- Lee Horton
- John Simmonds

### Apologies:

- Mary Cutts

#### 1. **Club re-opening roadmap**

The detailed Club roadmap is on the website (see “COVID-19 Information” menu). We’re able to meet in groups of 6 from March 29<sup>th</sup> and use Club boats subject to disinfectant procedures, but Clubhouse only to be used for toilets and car registration; further openings from April 12<sup>th</sup> etc.

#### 2. **Aims for this year**

We’re expecting a lot of interest from new paddlers after lockdown. We’ve also had excellent retention from last year’s beginner course, due in large part to the MCC2020 WhatsApp group, and thus there is lots of appetite for opportunities to progress.

##### a) **Beginner courses**

If you are able to run beginner courses on any dates starting in April, please mail Mark Corti. **ALL:** consider dates **Mark Corti:** Mail CDG requesting dates.

##### b) **Intermediate paddling opportunities**

**Annie Davis, Rob Davis, Lee Horton, Mark Corti** all offered to run Explore Award, dates to be organised by email.

##### c) **MCC2020 WhatsApp group update**

Geoff Orford runs this and relayed that it has 78 members, the majority of whom are beginner-course graduates from last year. It’s been renamed MCC2021 and will continue for existing members and new members. Trips organised through it continue to go on the website also.

**d) “Next Step” trips**

Not discussed. In practice, these have been folded into the MCC2021 trips – volunteers always wanted to lead these trips.

**e) Other disciplines – sea, SUP, WW, canoe**

Last year we had plans to offer taster sessions in other disciplines. We did run an Intro to WW weekend, but most other sessions had to be paused.

**1. Sea**

Not explicitly discussed; **Mark Corti** to email **Rob Davis** and see if he’d be interested in running a session as planned last year.

**2. SUP**

Noted there is strong demand for this from the wider community. **Steve Chinn** offered to run a SUP beginner course (and possibly more?). **Mark Corti** to follow up by email.

**Lee Horton** has organised a SUP support module course but no coaches are attending; attendees would be willing to assist on taster sessions.

**3. Canoe**

**Jacob Baisley** is running a series of intermediate canoe coaching sessions to support the Spey expedition with **Mark Corti**. Possibility that this could be an Explore Award.

**4. WW**

**Mary Cutts** relayed that she was willing to assist with beginner WW coaching. **Paul French, Mary Cutts, Mark Corti** to discuss previous Intro to WW programmes and plan for 2021.

**3. Beginner Course Dates**

**ALL** please have a think and email **Mark Corti** with dates for this, we’re expecting lots of new people who want to come paddling with us!

**4. Keeping Coaches Current**

**a) New CPD guidance**

British Canoeing have introduced a new points-based system for CPD. You gain points for attending BC course (e.g. leadership training, discipline support modules, etc) as well as other professional learning. Description and useful video here: <https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/news/2020/new-cpd-system-to-support-you>

**b) CDG Meetings and Paddles earn CPD Points!**

British Canoeing have confirmed that attending a CDG meeting will gain you CPD points; you need to upload the minutes (with your name on them!) to your profile. They’ve also confirmed that our regular Coaches Peer Paddles also count as CPD; **Mark Corti** to prepare a Certificate of Attendance to make it easy for British Canoeing to approve this. Just another reason to come to the CDG meetings!

**c) Proactive planning for expiring coaches**

We’ve traditionally relied on coaches keeping themselves current, or reacting when we notice demand. The new membership portal allows the Club to be proactive with this. The Club Committee is keen to take the lead here, and **Jacob Baisley** is planning to do a twice-yearly look at the data so that first aid,

safeguarding, CPD courses can be offered by the Club as appropriate. Short-term, if you're not current please mail **Mark Corti** and we'll try to get something sorted out.

**d) Safeguarding updates mandatory**

It was noted that 3-yearly Safeguarding Updates are now mandatory for all coaches to remain current. The first course must be in-person (Zoom currently); refreshers via a BC eLearning module (20 mins, £10):  
<https://brcanoeawarding.mylearningapp.com/shop/product/introduction-to-safeguarding/>

**5. Club Keyholder Rules**

**Geoff Orford** relayed that the Club Committee is now requiring all boatshed keyholders to hold an Explore Award (this will not apply to people storing their own boats). They therefore anticipate strong demand – perhaps 50 people – for Explore Award. It was noted that this may not be achievable immediately.

**6. Explore Award – Syllabus and Plan**

It was noted that while only a handful of coaches can assess the Explore Award, any sufficiently-competent paddler can teach the skills. To assist with this, **Annie Davis, Mark Corti, Lee Horton** have put together a Club-wide Explore Award syllabus. This has not yet been turned into session plans, but can act as a foundation for Club-wide coaching of this award and ensures everyone is coaching and assessing to a similar standard.

**Bryn Price** offered to adapt this syllabus for racers; **Lee Horton** thinks that BC already offer a racing-specific Explore Award. **Mark Corti** to facilitate.

**7. Paddlesport Activity Assistant**

Following on from the final CDG meeting last year, the Club Committee has agreed that anyone running local trips (e.g. the MCC2021 trips, “Next Step” trips etc.) should hold the new Paddlesport Assistant Award as a minimum (i.e. if you don't already hold another current Leadership or Coaching award). The standards for this award are defined by the Club, not by BC. **Lee Horton** and **Jacob Baisley** have done some training on this and are working on defining the standards; wider input is now sought from coaches and leaders. No time to discuss tonight, but **Mark Corti** to email **ALL** and arrange a separate meeting. This to be done shortly – these paddles are already in the calendar!

**8. Paddlesport Instructor Course**

**Lee Horton** has arranged a PI course for June 5/6<sup>th</sup> with Graham Moss. Currently full (6 participants) but there's the option of getting another provider for increased numbers. **Mark Corti, Lee Horton** to get this in the calendar to gauge interest.

**9. FSRT plans**

Agreed that FSRTs were a good course and should be run. There are inherent problems with social distancing during rescues which make this tricky. **Lee Horton** to arrange aspirational dates for later in the year taking into account the current roadmap out of lockdown.

**10. Pool session plans**

**Lee Horton** relayed that the pool hasn't given information as to when it will re-open for bookings, but he will enquire again this weekend.

**11. AOB**

- **Rob Davis** to circulate BC rules on coached group numbers; he thinks the “rule of six” may be flexible for formal coached sessions.

- **Bryn Price** is organising some paddles over the summer for hard-to-reach excluded youngsters via Safer Kent. No details yet but assistance probably required in due course.

***12. Date of next meeting / peer paddle***

***Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. In person, outdoors at the Club(!)***