

COACHES MEETING

29 Aug 2012-08-31

1. Present: Steve Chinn, Bill Norman, Mark Corti, Dean Jordan, Paul Newman, Richard Clark.

2. Apologies: Niki Norman, Andrea and Lee Horton.

3. Minutes of previous meeting: These were discussed in order.

4.1 MCC Paddlers/Coaches record Cards. Bill explained that these were on the way but needed a little cosmetic tweaking. Mark Corti agreed to have a go at presentation of club logo on the cards. **Action: B.Norman, M.Corti**

4.2 The matter of Paddlepower cards was raised. Apparently some have already been purchased but no one at the meeting knew definitely how many or who was holding them. Signing off Coaches to deliver Paddlepower sessions and awards is straightforward and can be done by P.N. Maintains standards. Paddlepower Passport was mentioned, but there are others, including Start, which have been used for eg Maplesden Noakes sessions. Presentation has been made at School assemblies. Perhaps a good idea for the presentation of all school age awards as they can then double as advertising for the club. Excellent scheme which needs Coaches to operate and control it. **Action L.Horton, G.Orford**

4.3 Placid Water Racing Awards. These are awarded on the basis of times for either 500m sprint distances or time trials of 1000m +. They are generous and allow most paddlers to achieve awards which can then be improved. Suggested club researches awards and follows up how to obtain. **Action PN and M.Corti.**

5.1 BCU insurance for taster sessions. Perhaps it might be better and more controllable for the club to offer a four session introduction to paddling (Four week course, one day per week, Sat or Sun), with candidates joining the club at the end of the sessions and considering buying their own boats. £20 charge to cover use of equipment, whether they turn up for the four consecutive sessions or not. More economical for coaching commitment and arrangement for time and equipment at the club. Perhaps we are catering with too much equipment at the moment for speculative one off paddlers.

5.2 A careful analysis needs to be undertaken to show if the present arrangements are, as it is believed, cost effective (how many sessions at £5 does it take to pay for a boat and all the ancillary paddling gear?). Evidence that there are unused boats and those wearing out.

5.3 Also, it was discussed whether paddlers without boats joining the club are paying their way if they do not intend to buy their own boat. Storage was also discussed. Club boats preclude private boat storage. Still open for debate in many areas.

5.4 Data required to show how many members are gained from Come and Try/ Fun sessions. Retention of members also discussed. More opportunities to develop paddling ability for white water exponents to get them off the same water. Racing paddlers already have a progression system which works, keeping a higher proportion of paddlers. Do we coach the boats for the water available?

6.1 Coaching Skills.

Bill Norman expounded ideas on assisting coaches within the club to continue to improve all round. A Maidstone Canoe Club Coaching Symposium was mooted, to be open to all MCC Coaches, and other coaches in local clubs. A non-threatening and anti censorial environment to discuss paddling techniques etc in a friendly environment. Bill Norman to chair, PN offered to add some input with a forward paddling session and anything else it is decided to include. Date to be decided. Autumn?

7. Two Star. Bill Norman has dates. Put anyone interested in training or assessment in touch with him. Suggested dates: 22/23 Sep training, 16 Sep Assessment only.

Action: B.Norman

8. Rolling skills not discussed.

9. FSRT. PN running FSRT at Elmbridge on Sat. Steve who? WWS&R for aspiring ww paddlers? Inappropriate for linear paddlers. FSRT for ALL paddlers?

10. Female only day. This is to go ahead. Niki Norman to organise. Help needed from other coaches. BB a definite, other boats where possible. Action: N.Norman

11. Paul Newman offered to act as moderator/observer for the intro to whitewater on the Exe weekend for Niki and Bill Norman to enable them to assess three star independently.

12. Bell Boat. Considerable discussion on viability and worth. MUST try have it on the water for use. Use is inhibited if we have to join it and get it to the water each time we want to use it. Needs lots of people for just a helm to take a group out. Possible to pay mooring fees and have it alongside the landing stage? Under bridge? EA to be contacted. Action: P.Newman

Date of next meeting not decided.