

# Minutes of the Coaching Development Group Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> June 2014



## ***Present:***

- Richard Clarke
- Rob Payne
- Lawrence Payne
- Ian Dann
- Mary Cutts
- Richard Abbott
- Steve Chinn
- Paul Newman
- Bill Norman
- Niki Norman
- Julian Ackroyd
- Mark Corti

## ***Apologies***

- Jamie McConville
- Paul Tucker
- Alan Nevard

## ***Minutes of the Meeting***

## 1. Beginner Courses

**Mark Corti** relayed that the feedback had been good, and that several positive comments had been received about **Steve Chinn** acting as a first point of contact on Sunday mornings for new members. **Bill Norman** has heard from Geoff Orford, saying that a good number of people have joined as members (more than last year), and that the 30% discount appears to be working. **Mark Corti** mentioned that there had been considerable confusion this year surrounding booking, and that the website had to be made clearer, e.g. by adding pictures of a canoe to the “canoe” course.

**All: please take a look at the website, particularly beginner course bookings, and offer suggestions directly to Mark Corti on how to clarify.**

## 2. Beginner Course Posters

Uptake on beginner courses perhaps isn't as high as last year, although it's hard to be certain as more courses are being offered early in the year. **Ian Dann** mentioned that new posters with new course dates are needed – **Mark Corti** to action.

## 3. River Gathering

The River Festival was mentioned as a possible advertising venue. This has been done before, and is a massive amount of work. This year there is no River Festival, just a River Gathering; this means there are no bank-based activities, and thus our opportunities are limited. Pollution is a problem in the river at this time also.

## 4. Leeds Castle Triathlon

**Bill & Niki Norman** have the Leeds Castle Triathlon under control, and have sufficient volunteers. They hope to offer a “try session”, either in racers or plastics, as prizes for the ergo competition. This was agreed. **John Simmonds** was thanked for doing the printing at vastly reduced costs for the Club. **Bill Norman** to liaise with **Julian Ackroyd** and others regarding t-shirt printing for this event – it would be good to have everyone in Club shirts.

## 5. Coaches Paddle

**Jamie McConville** and others were thanked for their input into the canoe coaches paddle, which was really useful. **Niki Norman** is organising the next one in K1s, to give coaches unfamiliar with them more confidence in taking paddlers out in these boats, particularly during week 3 of the beginner courses. She is liaising with Dean Jordan for dates and will circulate when confirmed.

## 6. New Coach

**Ian Dann** was welcomed to the group, having recently achieved his UKCC Level 1. He has valid first aid and DBS/CRB, and is going to liaise with **Paul Newman** to get his site-specific training done. He plans to assist other coaches to gain experience.

## 7. DBS – Paul Newman

**Paul Newman** pointed out that his CRB has expired and he doesn't wish to renew it. It was pointed out that Club rules insist that coaches renew DBS/CRB every three years; **Mark Corti** to bring Paul's points up at Committee, **Paul Newman** to put his points in an email beforehand.

## 8. 2\* Training

**Niki Norman** and **Richard Abbott** said that this hasn't had the uptake they hoped, particularly when capsizing drills were mentioned. It was agreed to re-brand these as “Improver” sessions, and put a rough syllabus on the website to support them. **Richard Abbott** and **Niki Norman** to liaise on the syllabus and update the website accordingly.

## 9. Masterclasses

**Richard Abbott** suggested, based on discussions at the Coaches Paddle, that the coaching group ran “Masterclasses” open to all on specific topics. These would run roughly monthly, probably on Wednesday evenings. Suggested topics included Open Boating, Polo, a Games Night, and Playboating. **Richard Abbott** offered to organise people to lead the sessions and co-ordinate these. **Mary Cutts** offered to run a Games Session, and **Lawrence Payne** offered to run a playboating session. It was mentioned that Curly Barker and Mrs Barker, Club members and polo players, be contacted later in the series and asked about a polo session. **Richard Abbott** to liaise with the above and organise dates.

## 10. Topo Duo

**Bill Norman** relayed that a Topo Duo was available on eBay for reasonable money. It was agreed that the CDG should recommend to the Committee that the Club purchase it; many arguments were put as to its coaching utility. **Bill Norman** to take this forward.

## 11. Beginner Course Syllabus

Some discussion was had as to whether week 3 (“Trying other craft”) was worthwhile. After debate, it was agreed to keep the syllabus as-is

## **12. Beginner Course Dates**

The following course dates were offered by coaches:

**July 27<sup>th</sup> (Mark Corti), August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> (Alan Nevard)**

**July 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am-1pm (Bill Norman)**

**August 6<sup>th</sup> (Mary Cutts), 13<sup>th</sup> (Alan Nevard), 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> (Mary Cutts)**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 7pm**