

Minutes of General Rowing Team meeting

Date of meeting: Thursday 22/04/2021, Rise, West Bay

Attendees: Heather Coley, John Preston, Tom Jones, Simon Binns, Cat Macphee

Apologies: None

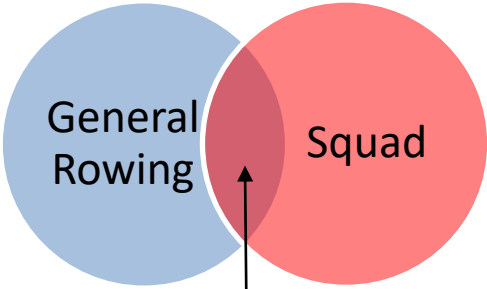
Minutes: Cat Macphee

Agenda:

1. Remit/Roles of the General Rowing Team
2. Return to rowing safety concerns – safety issues and awareness, reskilling
3. Inclusiveness within the club – current position – desired outcome – how to achieve
4. Availability of wooden boats for general and general/squad rows
5. Timing of morning rows
6. Lyme Regis row planning
7. Intra-club race night planning
8. Funding issues specific to General Rowing
9. Maintenance of boats, both plastic and wooden
10. Scheduling
11. Topics for future meetings
12. Review actions from this meeting
13. AOB
14. Frequency of meetings and DONM

	Action
Heather Coley welcomed all to the meeting. It was agreed that the club needs to be informed who the General Rowing team members are and what is discussed at meetings	SB
It was noted that there is a need for realistic SMART actions and timescales	
<p>1. Remit/Roles</p> <p>The team remit is all things that are General Rowing (not including the Juniors). Currently the club breakdown is approximately 70% general rowers, 25% squad and 5% juniors. The team liaises with other club functions, including health & safety, the board of directors, social secretary, publicity, LTR.</p> <p>SB explained that the Board of Directors meets quarterly. With regard to rowing issues, David Lohfink, the Rowing Captain drives this meeting and makes decisions. On the non-rowing side, attendees include Linda Stevenson-Guy, Sally Reid (Marketing), Sue Skillend (Welfare), John Ward (Safety) and potentially both Bosuns, John Grieg and John Woodward, although they currently choose not to.</p> <p>It was agreed that there was no need to define specific roles within the General Rowing Team and that a better approach is to take responsibility where appropriate and to support each other.</p>	

<p>2. Return to rowing safety issues</p> <p>a) Handling and moving of oars: coxes are addressing this on an ad-hoc basis at the moment. It was agreed that there needs to be standardisation and it would be useful to produce a training pack which could also be included in LTR. This will be produced and circulated to the General Rowing Team for review. Another suggestion was to put a well-supported plastic boat out on the grass by the boathouse so that people could practise raising and lowering oars on both sides. Apparently Jason may be looking into other clubs' methods – 50% lay the oars the opposite way round</p> <p>b) Trolleys: several points raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowers on trolleys should not pull or push • Be aware that wheels can get caught on kerbs, slipway etc: this risks the boat falling off the trolley • Rowers should hold pins to push or hold boat • The cox should never be on a trolley • A memo to the club from KB-H is needed to remind rowers to listen to the coxes and pay attention during launch and retrieve • Coxes need to be assertive • Should trolley management be included in LTR? • Could we create a YouTube clip on trolley management and post a link on the club website? <p>c) Timing: this can be poor at the moment. Should coxes be picking up on this or letting people ease back into rowing first?</p> <p>d) Warm ups: should general rowers be doing exercises to warm up before rowing? Carol Marsh to be asked if she can put something suitable together – this will then be put past Jason M</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CM</p>
<p>3. Inclusivity</p> <p>Over the past few years, the relationship between General Rowing and Squad is felt to have become very tenuous, leading almost to 2 separate clubs. There has also been unhelpful disparagement of general rowers.</p> <p>There is a great opportunity this year, in the absence of regattas and Jurassic League events (although some smaller, ad-hoc mini-regattas may be arranged) to build more of a relationship between the two – this will need the cooperation of the captains David Lohfink, Sandie Carruthers and Jason Matthews.</p> <p>The General Rowing team would, in addition, like to explore building their own relationships with other clubs.</p> <p>Some possible areas for integration between General Rowing and Squad are shown in the Venn diagram below (just for Tom)</p>	

 <p data-bbox="320 595 975 871"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intra-club race nights – mixed handicap races – 3 Squad, 3 GR. And only wooden boats! • Lyme row • Long distance rows • Use of wooden boats for GR • Mixed evening rows on a Friday? </p>	
<p>4. Wooden Boats There is no reason why general rowers should not use Blaez. The squad would prefer to keep Dagger and Brydian for their own use. The bosuns to be asked if Blaez is sea-worthy at the moment.</p>	CM
<p>5. Timing of morning rows Several coxes have commented that staggering the launch and retrieve times can lead to problems and potentially safety issues as no extra hands are available. Unfortunately this has to stay at the moment as we cannot go against CPGA guidelines</p>	
<p>6. Lyme Regis row planning We will need 2 possible dates after May 17 – ideally at neap tides. Sunday 11 July suggested, plus 1 month later – Sunday 8 August? These dates need to be checked for tides. Harbourmaster must be informed and involved We will need a series of training rows around 2 months ahead of dates – these can also gauge suitability and fitness of rowers for the distance Mix of General and Squad rowers in each boat Should we have pilot seat rowers who can swap in and out? JP and Jan have expertise in this and should be consulted when planning.</p>	TJ CM HC
<p>7. Intra-club race night Possible date of Monday 7 June at 5.00pm – the morning rowers can then lay the course JP and Jan Thorne have a lot of expertise in race night planning (NB: JP is away 10-20 June) Ask Jan to be in charge but all General Rowing team to assist Copy David Lohfink on plans and ask for squad’s involvement</p>	TJ SB
<p>8. Funding Issues Specific General Rowing funding needs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of oars • New plastic boat to replace Bucky Doo (approx £18-20,000) • Lyme row T-shirts • Kit for General Rowers 	

Funding bid to McCarthy Stone currently being prepared – need to speak to them by phone first to find out as much detail as possible Apparently Bridport Medical Centre recommend rowing! Speak to Eilish Davoren the practice manager to find out details of this	TJ/ CM JP/ CM
9. Boat Maintenance SB is discussing this with John Woodward, John Grieg and KB-H	SB
10. Scheduling Sandy Carruthers and Jason Matthews see the schedules ahead of them being posted for the club. Should General Rowing request this too – eg by 21.00 on the Wednesday evening? Could then report back by exception. Do we need a Scheduling Messenger page? Or a traffic-light system for rowers' ability? SB to discuss with Debbs and KB-H	SB
11. Topics for future meetings Race night, Lyme row	
12. Review Actions from meeting Reviewed and agreed to circulate minutes to attendees and to Steve Gardner to upload to website	CM
13. AOB Long distance rows – to be discussed later in season for next year	CM
14. Frequency of meetings and DONM Ad-hoc at the moment. Those concerned will need to meet for Lyme and race night planning	