

*Cymdeithas Rhwyfo Mor Cymru*  
Welsh Sea Rowing Association  
Executive Meeting Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009

**Members present:** Dylan Evans (Vice-Chair), Paul Chesworth – Aberdyfi; Jayne Brooks (Treasurer), Jamie Brooks – Mochras; Simon Pendrell, Maxine Jenkins (Porthmadog); Kevin Brown – Llangranog; Adele Jones, Richard Gardner, Patrick Power – PYC; Mike Miles (Safety Officer) – Solva; Dave Reynolds, Martyn Davies – Borth; Jasmine Sharp – Aberystwyth.

**Apologies**

Helen Stewart (Chair), Andy Cox, Richard Curtis, Pete Fletcher, Chris Terry, Mike Ashcroft, Dafydd Williams, Steve Elford.

**Minutes of the previous meeting**

Mike Miles asked if two points from the minutes could be amended to note that one other boat building bid, *in addition to the known contract with Dale Sailing*, had been submitted. This was duly amended. Paul Chesworth proposed the minutes be otherwise taken as read, this was seconded by Jamie Brooks. This motion was passed unanimously.

**Matters arising**

*Boat Contract* – MM reported that the initial price quoted by Pirate Boats was competitive and suggested that the next step is to think about additional buoyancy, and the practicalities of doing so. It was stressed that this needs to be completed before the current mould expires. Jamie Brooks stated that Mochras had not been impressed by the service and boat finish provided by Dale Sailing. A discussion regarding buoyancy ensued.

*Trophies and Race Categories* – JS reminded all present about what the current league categories are, namely, Senior, Senior Vets, SupaVets, Ladies, Ladies Vets, Mixed, Mixed Vets, U16 Boys, U16 Girls, U18 Boys, U18 Girls. Each of these categories should have a trophy provided. JS also reminded all present that clubs are responsible for ensuring the trophies are accounted for before the start of a regatta. JB reminded all present that the league is willing to replace missing trophies this year, but thus far no clubs have approached Jayne in this regard. JS suggested that all clubs ask winning teams to sign for trophies taken away. This was agreed as a good recommendation. JB noted that sometimes trophies are awarded to a crew finishing last, which could be construed as devaluing the worth of the trophy. JB suggested that the value of some categories should be discussed in a future meeting. JS suggested that this was probably a matter for the AGM, and will table it for the next meeting, along with restructuring the scoring system.

*Membership and affiliation* – JB reported that all existing clubs have now affiliated. JB raised the issue that some clubs appear to only be registering racing members with the association. JB reminded all present that ALL members who are rowing must pay the £12 affiliation fee, regardless of whether they are competing at events. As discussion ensued where it was reminded that the £12 fee is personal levy, not specifically designated for insurance. This was agreed at a previous AGM to reduce the burden on smaller clubs by simultaneously reducing the club levy. JS will send an email out to remind clubs about this issue.

*Rules and Health & Safety* – MM has a hard copy of the rules and Health & Safety documents on a pen drive. JB will take this to download and make available to Andy Cox & JS for distribution on the website and via email.

### **Participation of other clubs in WSRA events**

JS had been asked to raise an issue concerning WARA members, but non-WSRA members, racing in events, specifically pertaining to whether this was allowed under our current rules. MM stated that due to the insurance specifications those rowers would be required to join a WSRA affiliated club (including paying the £12 personal levy). The affiliated club would then be responsible for ensuring a sufficient level of competence to compete safely. JB suggested that non-WSRA rowers could create a virtual club in order to race. MM noted that this would require that club to have a safety officer etc.

JS also asked if there were boats available for these rowers to compete in. It was agreed the best solution was for these rowers to ask clubs via the email list for clubs willing to lend boats.

**Coaching** – Moved to next meeting due to absence of Helen Stewart.

### **Fishguard to Cardigan Race**

JS has been informed by Richard Curtis that Milford Haven Port Authority intended to hold a race in 2010 from Fishguard to Cardigan and RC had asked if we were involved. No one at the meeting had any other knowledge of this race. JS is to ask for more information.

### **AOB**

JS had been asked by Andy Cox to note that the current rules stipulate that all competing boats should have their number displayed on the hull, and that the system of giving out paper race numbers had been ruled out several years ago. JS noted that all clubs should ensure their boats are suitably marked. Dave Reynolds suggested a minimum size of A4 per number should be set. This was well received by those present. JB noted that the rules available are the old rules, so need updating. JS nominated Andy Cox to update the copies of the rules. JB asked JS to find out which boat is 93, as this cannot be a valid Celtic number.

Paul Chesworth asked if the Aberdyfi joint league race could be re-scheduled, probably for the 13/9. This was agreed. Paul would get back to JS with fixed date.

Porthmadog reported that they were unable to reschedule their event.

Kevin Brown asked what needed to be done for Llangranog to organise a race next year. JS informed him that events are allocated at an AGM and that she would send an email out asking for clubs to suggest dates later in the year. JS also informed Kevin that a member of an organising club must attend the 'Organising Events' workshop in the new year, at which everything involved would be fully explained and full information would be given. JB suggested that Mick be asked to run another 'Coxing & Techniques' workshop.

JB asked if JS could chase Helen S about the coaching ideas suggested at the previous meeting.

JB reported that Mochras will hold a dinner on the 11<sup>th</sup> October, similar to that held last year. JB will check how many people can be accommodated. Event will be combined with a friendly rowing event.

Meeting closed 21.15.

**Next meeting 1930 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at Aberystwyth Rowing Club**