



## **General Meeting of the United Kingdom Surf Rowers League**

**Sunday 17 November 2013  
On the rising of the 2013 AGM**

**Venue:**

**RNLI Centre, Perranporth**

### **Draft Minutes**

**Attended by Peter Gaisford – President, Louise Gapp – Chair, Becky Knowles - Secretary**

**Apologies Received:** Nick Beringer, Dan Berriman, Gary Walters, Andy Cox, Kim-Marie Clothier, Greg Dennis, Ian Knowles

#### **1) Minutes of General Meeting**

The minutes were approved.

**Proposed: PG  
Seconded: LG**

#### **Matters arising:**

- The points score system was a success for 2013 and will be retained.
- The Surf Rowing Development Plan will be discussed further with British Rowing as there has been little feedback to date.
- LG to discuss with First Response a solution to the walkie talkie situation – either to direct to a source for purchase or agree a loan of equipment for race days. **UPDATE** – *walkie talkies to be loaned by first response for race coordination*

#### **2) Dates and venues of Summer Series 2014**

**The following were proposed:**

River Race (non summer league event) 29 March 2014

2.30 pm start, Women to row from Restronguet, Men to row down from Truro

Event 1	Poppit Sands	24 May 2014, lunchtime start
Event 2	Whitesands Bay	25 May 2014, lunchtime start
Event 3	Westward Ho	28 June 2014, lunchtime start
Event 4	Puttsborough	29 June 2014, lunchtime start
Event 5	Watergate Bay	19 July 2014, lunchtime start
Event 6	Perranporth	20 July 2014, lunchtime start

The following points were raised during discussion:

- Weekend race formats may help with travel costs.
- The weekend race format will make travelling distances more worthwhile, with fewer times away.
- The events in September (World Champs and Ocean Thunder Europe) are likely to require racing on consecutive days so it is good practice.
- The compression of the dates means a shorter season, and if retained, would mean the Europeans at the end of August / early September would be the last race of the season.

**NOTE:** As always, at this stage all dates and locations are provisional only and subject to confirmation due to the need to seek permissions, ensure no calendar clashes with other events, appropriate tides and access being secured. Secretary to liaise with Croyde, Llantwit and Newport rowing clubs to ascertain suitability etc.

### **3) Dates and venues UK Open Surfboat Championships**

**UK open: Fistral Beach      23 August 2014      8am beach meeting**

**NOTE:** As always, at this stage date and location are provisional only and subject to confirmation due to the need to seek permissions, ensure no calendar clashes with other events, appropriate tides and access being secured.

### **4) Safety cover**

First Response have provided a professional safety cover for all UKSRL events this year and it was agreed that this would continue for 2014. Secretary to write to notify of provisional dates and venues for 2014 and to thank for this year's work.

### **5) Sponsorship**

Aussie Corner Deli have sponsored some of the UKSRL events in 2013 and are keen to do so again for 2014. Secretary to write to thank for this year's support and to notify of the provisional dates and venues for 2014.

### **6) 100 years crews and other crew development at UKSRL events**

UKSRL committee is pleased that there was a recognition of the 100 yrs crew this year and would encourage all clubs to consider whether this category can be supported and grown.

UKSRL to consider further action at a committee meeting early 2014.

## **7) Sweeps school**

PG confirmed his willingness to assist any new and developing sweeps to progress their skills and to provide mentoring. There will be no formal sweep schools planned for 2014 as little interest was expressed in this format.

## **8) AOB**

### **Helmets**

AGREED that helmets would be compulsory for the 2014 season for all UKSRL surf boat races. Races where rolling seats are used will be exempt. Secretary to amend the constitution and circulate for approval on the wording.

Discussion points:

- Australian Surf Rowers League has discussed a 1metre surf trigger but is experiencing significant difficulties in defining this.
- Having a wave height trigger would place unacceptable levels of liability on the referee of the day, particularly should an accident occur in small surf.
- It is highly likely that the Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain will be making the wearing of helmets in surf a requirement.
- UKSRL agreed to recommend a minimum standard of helmet to an EN standard.
- Clubs to be encouraged to recommend that all rowers wear helmets other than when the boats are being used with rolling seats.

### **Good Friday race**

Good Friday is on **18 April 2014**. This is the multi-craft handicapped race organised by Penryn Rowing Club. Secretary to contact to ensure notifications are received about the organisation of this event.

### **Europeans**

It was confirmed that there will be no separate European event in 2014 due to the additional events in the calendar in September 2014. It will be proposed that in 2015 the Europeans will be held in the UK.

### **World Champs**

At Le Grand Motte, Montpellier, France commencing on 18<sup>th</sup> September (training) with racing on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Ocean Thunder Europe**

At Biarritz France on 25 – 27 September 2014.

For any race that requires a single international entry from each nation taking part, the GB entry will be the winner of the UKSRL Summer League.

## **"1.5 INTERNATIONAL CREW REPRESENTATION**

Crew selection shall be the winners of the UKSRL Summer Series prior to the date of the proposed international event.”

### **Twickenham Surf Boat**

AGREED that the UKSRL Chairman will make enquiries with a view to the UKSRL purchasing the Twickenham boat. An upper limit figure was agreed (*confidential until negotiations concluded*) under which it would make sense for the UKSRL to purchase the boat.

Discussion points:

- Insurance
- Maintenance
- Storage
- Use of the boat for development e.g. loan boats and open days.
- Provision of helmets with loan boat package

**Meeting closed at 16.00hrs.**