

OGM Minutes 29.11.23

Archie introduces meeting, thanking everyone for coming and lets get cracking.

1. Apologies

Ellie Tucker, Henry Nall

2. Minutes from previous meeting.

Minutes from previous meeting. Approved.

Matters from previous meeting – none from the floor. Some to be addressed in motions and amendments.

3. Officers Reports

Lucy Smith (Women's Vice Captain): Bad weather, women's novice done well with tank session, good commitment.

Lizzie Way (women's captain): Positive, no races so far, 8 entered at Rutherford. Expecting it to be a good event.

George Kite (Men's Vice Captain): bad weather, good progress with basics, Great showing at novice cup

Lachie Jones (Men's Captain): In danger of losing large numbers gone, training on the water has been positive, need more people turning up to land training.

Marcus Baldwin (Captain of Coxes): 4/5 Nov coxes, planning going out in 8s next term, and races next term. Wary of getting coxes with tidal experience.

Guy Drake (welfare and charities): Little to no welfare problems including at socials, anonymous form has been advertised on main GCBC facebook page, Movember campaign - congratulates Ronnie for highest money raised.

Freddy Larsen (Social Secretary): upwards trajectory on socials, really pleased with attendance of the last one, hard to motivate people who aren't going on water but overall happy. Looking forward to ball next term.

Ronnie Guha (Treasurer): Money tied up in places, boat camp including 1k given for boat camp. 1k going back to college from their donation, promotion of JCR access fund, race fees will come out end of term, ties have arrived early, blazer invoices, more stash (q zips) next term.

Archie Baker (President): Thanks to nov captains for beginning of term freshers fair - swim test logistically a bit annoying but was fine, BR safety audit completed, new 8+ will be in Durham on Sunday, boat camp slow replies but getting there but aiming for first week in April, attended Durham Regatta AGM, thanks to Lachie for attending Northern Rowing AGM in my stead as I was unavailable, thanks to Eleanor for all her work as boatperson, Archie currently making list of broken things for ordering over Christmas.

Lachie: Is it worth explaining boat camp as many people here are novices.

Archie: boat camp another chance to do more rowing in easter holidays, sculling, launch, will be down at Maidenhead RC.

Ronnie: can use JCR access fund

Lachie: quick progress in 3 days of boat camp

Archie: initial interest form soon.

End of officers reports.

4. Questions to Officers

Q. Plan for nov women this week?

A. Lucie: no wooden boats available due to damage. Might do erg session.

Archie: getting fixed hopefully over Christmas, talking to Mark French now.

Lucie: Novice hours more relaxed next term so more opportunity to get out.

End of Questions to Officers

5. Motions and amendments

A. To create new exec role titled fundraising and sponsorship officer.

Archie: Necessary to get fundraising efforts off the ground, will help when asking for donations to show our own effort. Expect to have contact with Alumni as well. Election to be held this meeting if passes. Description was presented, debated and accepted.

Amendment Passes.

- B. Authorise President and Boatperson to update list of equipment in constitution.

Archie: its just out of date.

Motion passes.

- C. Treasurer uploads all receipts to JCR system, individual debts to the club to be made confidential and only shared with President and Treasurer and necessary members of the exec, promotion of JCR access funds must occur when it can be used. Amend 11.5 to all payments only need approval of Treasurer and President, removal of 11.7.

Ronnie: Quite a large amendment. 11.7 refers to paying of tank and erg session – lots of faff for not much benefit for the club, keeping it accessible. Individual debts to be kept confidential – subs to be collected through an invoice to email rather than posted on facebook page in order to be more sensitive to people's financial situation and not to shame them for owing money. Promotion of JCR access fund – makes sense, please use it keep hammering it home. Treasurer uploading all receipts, should technically happen anyway but didn't happen to all last year, protects us in case of audits.

Amendment passes.

- D. Socials should happen more often (weekly or bi-weekly).

Freddy: Think we would struggle with attendance if socials were too often.

Archie: there is no limit on the number of socials in the constitution, just a minimum of 2 per term. This excludes ball and boat party and welcome bbq so very often there are 3 per term. Squads are also free to do their own xmas dinner's and carb loading of course.

Motion fails.

- E. Mandatory for novs to have messenger app and use it.

Archie: clearly a joke motion but Novs please make sure we are checking facebook (messenger and groups) for important updates.

No vote.

- F. Blazer purchasing must be approved by President on the advice of the Captains.

Archie: Many other clubs only allow certain members to purchase blazers, we have always kept ours open to all that participate in rowing (ie sub paying members)

Lachie: we had a case last year of one fresher purchasing a blazer and then never rowing or coming to socials.

George: They are also a lot of money for a new person to the club to want to invest.

Archie: But there is an argument for keeping it open in the spirit of college rowing.

Ronnie: we had a heated discussion about this at the last exec meeting, I'm happy for it to be done more on a case by case basis with agreement of captains.

Archie: I get the sense we all agree with the thought behind the motion. I think it's probably best for the exec to decide a more concrete policy at the next meeting.

Motion passes.

G. Clearer definition on amount of boat time that results in paying subs.

Archie: Ronnie is it worth explaining the policy this year.

Ronnie: I asked the vice captains and captains for lists of those who should be paying subs, then cross referenced this with the list of JCR members to determine the amount people owed. Captains do you want to explain the policy you used.

Lucy: I went off do I know your face, had you been turning up to sessions as well as tank or erg sessions. Generally went off if you had been to 3 things you paid subs.

George: Yeah I did about the same.

Lachie: For the seniors I went off – would I put you in a training plan.

Lizzie: That's exactly what I did as well.

Archie: policy this year was the same across squads, the question is do we leave it for each years exec to decide or have a set policy – worth noting that the price of subs was agreed before Michaelmas between Treasurer, Presidents and Captains as per motion at last years AGM. Are the floor happy with the way subs have been done this year?

No issues raised from the floor.

Archie: I think its difficult to have a set policy because year on year differs so much with weather etc. but we can work to establish guidelines within the exec to help with that. The important thing is that it is consistent within each year.

Motion passes for the exec to construct guidelines.

H. Should coxes pay race fees?

Marcus: yes.

Archie: The difficulty here is regatta season.

Ronnie: offers splitting event equally between rowers and coxes independent of number of races.

Lachie: large difference between doing 1 race vs 4, for rowers as well, for example.

Archie: Head races shouldn't be a problem, either everyone pays for one race if everyone is racing once, or add up all the race fees and divide it by number of people in event if cox is doing 2. Regatta season is a bit harder.

Marcus: As we have more coxes it will be more equal at regatta season this year.

Question: how many races will novice coxes cox this year?

Marcus: we have more coxes this year than last so expect between 1 to 3, especially as they all row as well.

Archie: Can I propose we take it as it comes at regatta season this year, working out a transparent fair policy once we know who is doing what, then we can set up a more proper policy at the AGM.

All in agreement. Motion notionally passes.

- I. Amendment to 8.3D setting date for official handover for exec roles rather than immediately at AGM. The date and time should usually be after the President's speech at boat party, or, if boat party does not go ahead, at a date specified by the President (must be after Durham Regatta). Full and complete handovers should be completed before this deadline.

Archie: Has been this way for a few years now. Current system makes no sense as the President is voted first so the rest of the AGM is technically chaired by an ordinary member. A set date will allow a very clear time for exec handover and ensures outgoing exec will still complete their roles and tie up anything loose by the end. Also allows freedom for the AGM to occur much earlier (eg. first 2 weeks of Easter term) and for exec elect to shadow current members over the Durham Regatta period (essential for the big roles). Provide structure to the handover period.

Amendment passes.

6. Elections

A. Boatperson, 2 candidates: Izadin Qasem, RON.

Izadin: Have been rowing for many years, have some experience fixing boats and around boats, willing to get help and work out problems, order parts and do what I can etc.

Questions:

Q: How quickly can you run from Grey college to the boathouse in the event of flooding?

Izadin: I reckon 5 minutes.

Q: How many boats have you fixed in your time

Izadin: Probably about three.

Izadin Elected.

B. Fundraising and Sponsorship officer. 2 candidates: James Launder and RON

James: Love GCBC love the club and most importantly love money. Have an idea to do a 24hr row with members of the club to raise funds. Looking forward to interacting with Alumni and raising funds for the club.

Questions

Q. What is your knowledge of South west London pubs

A. Not the greatest but ready to do some intense research.

Q. Any fundraising ideas for the year?

A. As I said 24 hour row, really want to reconnect with the alumni base. Raffle at ball.

James Elected.

7. Any other business

Archie: Need to decide what to do with Brian Seal now we have new 8+ . Few options, keeping it at Stockton as our boat, seeing if we can sell it to DCR, selling it to a local club, gifting it to a local club, scrapping it or putting it into storage.

Ronnie: Whatever we do don't give it away.

Lachie: I cant see it being rowable for that many years, I think there is no point keeping it as upkeep on it will cost a considerable amount of money.

Archie: Ideal scenario we sell it to another club.

Archie: final comments. Thank you all for coming. Next OGM will be similar time next term. Don't forget Ball 17th Feb – graphic will be put up on Instagram soon as well as an initial interest form.