

NW & C Canoe Polo

North West & Central Canoe Polo Committee

Meeting held on the 28th March 2015
at Premier Inn, WA11 7LX

1. Present

Matthew Carter (MC) (Webmaster & Div 2
Organiser)
Robert Holdway (RH) (Leagues Coordinator)
Heather Carter (HC) (Treasurer & Div 4 Organiser)

Christopher Tighe (CT) (Div 3 Organiser)
Darren Bohanna (DB) (Post without Portfolio)
Scott Gibson (SG) (Post without Portfolio)

Apologies

Peter Willet (PW) (Div 1 Organiser)
Mike Moffitt (MM) (Post without Portfolio)
Dylan Tomlinson (DT) (Post without Portfolio)

	Action
<p>2. Season 14/15 Updates</p> <p>Div 1 – PW not in attendance, summary given by RH. Concept for split Div 1 was good idea but didn't really work in practice due to teams dropping out from tournaments, often at the last minute. There were 11 teams to start with, 1 dropped out (Wildcatz B). Div 1a was mostly Div 1 National teams, Div 1b mostly Div 3 national teams and below. Really shows the split in regional teams. DB suggests going back to 1 league, but with reduced number of league, possibly split div 2 instead...</p> <p>RH agrees that it didn't work this year and 1 league would make more sense. Revert back to 2013/14 system.</p> <p>Div 2: MC summary, good season, teams more even but some teams still a lot better than others. Most teams seemed happy.</p> <p>Div 3: Teams generally quite even. Some players playing down, caused some discussion and concern, agenda point below. The incomplete fixtures were a shame but we did all we could to solve the problem, to learn for next year and not have div 3/4 tournament 1st two weeks in march.</p> <p>Div 4: League ran well, was good development for a lot of teams, ladies, uni etc. a few comments about videoing/photoing matches with kids etc. Agenda point for discussion below anyway.</p> <p>General Summary: RH We've delivered a good number of tournaments that seemed successful and all teams seem to be thankful.</p>	<p>RH</p> <p>RH</p>
<p>3. Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Most teams have paid up on-time this year. Finances have gone well. We have approx. £2,500 in the 'bank' which can be used for development etc as we have balls/whistles etc for next season. Cheadle and Trentham still to pay for this year. Stockport have asked if they can invoice monthly, HC to follow-up. Delays by national paying up could cause problems with this.</p> <p>DB – to encourage teams paying up-front to give us more of a reserve we could offer a discount. RH - £10 off per tournament? 10%? HC – can't have more than £10,000 in bank anyone time though, so have to be careful. HC to investigate amount of discount possibility.</p>	<p>HC</p> <p>HC</p>
<p>4. NWC Committee positions</p>	

NW & C

Canoe

Polo

<p>RH – our priority is to make sure the leagues run smoothly. Not to run peoples clubs. Once we have more league/region stability in place we can look to support clubs closer.</p> <p>DB/SG – looking to enter into Div 4 with development teams next season. Volunteer to take over Div 4 organisation at the same time.</p> <p>MC – as far as the constitution states, we must have a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. As things stand we only have a treasurer.</p> <p>CT to take on role of Secretary.</p> <p>MC to step up as Chairman.</p> <p>RH to continue as League Coordinator.</p> <p>Committee in agreement that although constitution states Secretary, Chair and Treasurer should come from different clubs, we will bypass this rule for now while we have a shortage of volunteers for the committee.</p>	DB/SG
<p>5. Next Season</p>	
<p>Outdoor Venues: Currently: Liverpool - Collingwood dock, 4 pitches. Trentham – 1 (possibly 2) pitches Fleetwood – 1 pitch possibility – MC to investigate Penrith investigating setting up outdoor venue. Salford Quays – Wildcatz? Is venue available for outside use?</p>	MC MC MC
<p>Indoor Venues: Is Derby pool available again yet? Stockport – to be booked every Saturday night from October thru March Cheadle – Same plan as stockport with 3 Gala days to be added too. Fenton – aim to have 2 or 3 tournaments here.</p>	RH RH RH RH
<p>Aim to have the entry forms out in May and entries in for the end of June</p>	RH
<p>Playing Down: Discussed. Decision that we would continue to allow playing down to encourage and facilitate development and ensure fixtures are filled but on the advisory to clubs that any one team should only have 1 player playing down in that team in any one match and the player is expected to play at an equivalent level to the division being played in or just provide a supportive and organisational role. Division Organisers to be empowered to scratch matches if they feel teams are not abiding by the rules although teams will be able to refer this to the League Coordinator if they feel a decision is unfair. RH to inform teams of this when entries go out. Following on from the discussion we realise that the league rules are out of date and need to be looked at. RH to update and send out to committee for approval.</p>	RH RH
<p>Division Organiser training An incident in Div 4 this year prompted whether there was a need to ensure that Div organisers have some child protection etc training. Committee agrees that All div organisers should have minimum of the Paddlesafe online course if not already completed but we should investigate whether any further training would be beneficial. The cost of this would be reimbursed from the Region.</p>	MC
<p>Referee's: A lot of teams, especially in Div 3 & 4 don't have qualified (or even theory trained) refs. We recognise that getting people trained is difficult. Red Rose were able to put a course on run by Neil Watters of FOA at Lancs Uni in Feb and the turnout was good but getting people practical assessments now is quite hard. We need to try to sort out a Ref's course alongside the first Outdoor tournaments, and aim for practical assessments at these tournaments. MM also offering to run Ref weekends at FOA through summer with mini tournaments attached for practical assessments. MC to follow-up with MM. We also need to arrange for more Refs assessors in the Region, MM is working on something here</p>	MC/RH MC MC

NW & C

Canoe

Polo

<p>with Steve Watts to enable grade 2 to run G3/4 theory courses. MC to follow-up with MM. Committee agrees that some funding should be made available for the region obtaining new refs and assessors. MC to get this on the website and advertise and we will aim to subsidise courses and support where we can.</p>	<p>MC</p>
<p>6. Online Presence Committee agrees to continue with domain name 'nwcpololeague.co.uk' and use page on canoe polo.org.uk for advertisement. MC to continue to look after website. Website should have minimum of Results, Tournament allocations & dates, Rules & Constitution, Moneys' owed, Funding availability and info for refs. We could also do with a Dropbox or google drive, MC to sort this out. Committee agrees we should have position specific email addresses for @nwcpololeague.co.uk too. These should be at least. Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, League Coordinator, 4x Division organisers, webmaster and development.</p>	<p>MC</p> <p>MC</p> <p>MC</p>
<p>7. MM Proposals MM not able to make meeting but has forwarded proposals via document. Committee has reviewed the document. All proposals seem sensible and great for developing the region, but at this point we don't have the committee manpower to be able to push the idea's forward. So we need to know from MM exactly what he expects of the Regional Committee in regard to the proposals. Development and polo taster days are particularly a great idea and we will support where we can. We don't believe a Uni tournament day is a priority for the region at the moment. If FOA would like to organise this for themselves then feel free.</p>	<p>MC</p>
<p>8. AOB Videoining & Photography at league tournaments. Some complaints during the season about this. Div organisers have just asked people not to video/photograph without permission from all teams in attendance which can be quite a faff. RH suggests similar system to Slalom where anybody wishing to video/photograph must fill out a form and 'register' themselves. Committee agrees this is a sensible plan and should be added to the playlists. RH also to enquire of National Committee whether there is any guidance already.</p>	<p>RH</p>