

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HANTS. & DORSET AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD AT THE BTC ROWING CLUB, SOUTHAMPTON, ON SATURDAY, 26th MARCH, 2011 at 10.30am.**

There were 23 delegates in attendance when the Chairman, John Purkess, opened the meeting. All Clubs and Events were represented except Westover, Newport and Worthing

Apologies were received from - Mark Viner, Association President and Lymington ARC. Newport R. C, Pete Lamb, Dave Smith and Brian Gowman from Westover.

In order to speed-up the meeting the Chairman reminded everyone the some of the items on the Agenda had been supported by written reports and that these would not be read out at the meeting unless requested – but consideration will be given to any parts of the report that need discussion, approval or some sort of decision made (*see attached*).

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read on a proposal from Bob Siver, seconded by John Bailey and it was agreed that Matter Arising would be covered by Agenda items other than the following points raised at the Autumn Delegates meeting –

- 1) The two requests for additional Championship Medals for 2010 had been considered in line with the rules agreed and decided on at the AGM by the Executive Officers and were approved by the meeting.
- 2) Comments on 2010 Regattas had been sent to Regatta Secretaries as requested – with a response from Newport, by E Mail which was read in full to the meeting.
- 3) The approved Expenditure of up to £250 to replace a Life Jacket and Loud Hailer and to service five Race Officials Life Jackets agreed at the delegates meeting had been completed although two loud hailer needed to be purchased in the end.
- 4) The position of Life Vice President – the changes to the rule had been drafted, circulated and were agreed by the meeting on a proposal from John Bailey, seconded by Alan Wigmore (*see attached*).
- 5) In the absence of Westover the Chairman gave a brief update on their situation – where there was a possibility of a multi-water sport venue 300m from current Clubhouse. £2million project although not sure where funding is coming from yet. Sounds positive. Town Council to provide some storage – plus use of Hengistbury Head in short term.

The Association Secretaries report on the 2010 season (*see attached - master only*) had been circulated in advance and was accepted by the meeting on a proposal from John Bailey seconded by Bob Siver.

Also circulated in advance was the details of the correspondence he had undertaken on the Associations behalf since the Autumn Delegates Meeting (*see attached*). Missed off the summary was details of an exchange of E Mails with Paddy Ibbitson of British Rowing - ref. "status comparison – BR/Hants & Dorset ARA" – which the BR Competitions committee were finally considering..

The Association Secretary also advised the meeting that he had ample stock of Championship Medals, Past President Medals and Point claim and registration cards and had Coxswains caps in stock for 2011.

The Treasurer then presented his audited report on the year 2010 (*see attached*) which showed the Association to be in a reasonably comfortable financial position. The treasurer advised the meeting that he had tried to find a suitable savings account that would provide a decent return on the Associations savings but with no luck and that the Swanage Regatta Account had been closed with the £600 profit transferred to the H&D General funds as directed. The hire fee for Dorney at £7,402 – with VAT at 17.5% had been paid – saving £150 and leaving £11,000 available in the fund. H&D Vice President Kevin Ayles agreed to chase Bournemouth University with regards to the outstanding Hants & Dorset Affiliation fees. The accounts were then adopted by the meeting on a proposal from John Adams, seconded by Les Foad. The accounts for the Prize Presentation Evening were included within these figures as were the accounts for the 2010 Swanage Regatta.

The meeting then elected the Association Officers for 2011 as follows - President – Mark Viner, of Lymington, on a proposal from Steve Bull, seconded by Denny Woodford and passed unanimously. Chairman – John Purkess, was re-elected on a nomination from Steve Bull, seconded by Les Foad and passed unanimously (note. 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a maximum of five). Hon. Treasurer – Keith Warland was re-elected unanimously on a proposal from Sue Sothcott, seconded by Kevin Ayles. Hon. Secretary – Steve Bull was reelected unanimously on a proposal from John Purkess, seconded by Chris Foad and the meeting also agreed that his honorarium should be increased to £500 per year on a proposal from John Bailey, seconded by John Adams. Pete Staddon was unanimously re-elected as Hon. Auditor on a proposal from Bob Siver, seconded by John Bailey.

Having clarified and approved the Rules relating to Life Vice Presidents the meeting then elected the following as Life Vice Presidents of the Association - B. Hartland, E. Shergold, S. Moody, M. Green, P. Glover, P. Trist, K. Warland, S. Bull, L. Foad, J. Bailey, D. Woodford, R. Siver and M. Viner on a proposal from Sue Sothcott, seconded by Kevin Ayles. Alan Wigmore was promoted to the position of Life Vice President on a proposal from Pat Glover, seconded by Denny Woodford.

J. Bryant, K. Ayles, B. Gowman, John Purkess John Adams and Ken Fraser were re-elected as Vice Presidents on a proposal from Les Foad. seconded by Keith Warland and Sue Sothcott was elected to the position of Vice President on a proposal from Marion Frampton, seconded by John Bailey.

The meeting then discussed the South Coast – now Hants & Dorset - Rowing Handbook where, as agreed at the Autumn Delegates meeting a Single Association Handbook is going ahead with no approach or contact revived from CARA or WEARA regarding any involvement. The Handbook would be in a similar format to last year except that there would now be a directory in the rear of the booklet instead of repeated contact details throughout the book. The cost was expected to be around the same as last year and as a result it was proposed that the Clubs continue to make a contribution of £46 as part of H&D Affiliation meaning British Rowing effectively pay for the handbook – which was agreed by the meeting. Publication was expected in April.

The continuation of the South Coast Seat Levy at H&D Regatta's was then discussed by the meeting and after a brief discussion it was agreed by the meeting, following a proposal from Sue Sothcott, seconded by Denny Woodford that this should remain unchanged at £1 per seat.

The meeting then considered the rates of subscription, permit fees and entry fees for the ensuing year and following a discussion on ever increasing regatta costs, it was agreed, on a proposal from Bob Sivier, seconded by John Bailey that these should remain unchanged for 2011 at - £2.50 per registered member/minimum £60 + £46 Handbook contribution making minimum £106; Regatta permit - £20; Entry fees - £3.00 per seat + £1.00 South Coast Levy. It was noted that an increase in regatta entry fees in support of the increasing regatta costs may be required next year.

The Regatta dates for the 2011 season were then agreed with no changes from the dates proposed at the Autumn Delegates Meeting –

#### H&D CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA'S IN CAPITALS. *Junior Events in Italics.*

Sunday, 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Christchurch Head of the Stour.
Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March.	Southampton Eights & Small Boats HERR.
Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April.	Southampton Coastal Fours HERR.
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup> May.	POOLE REGATTA (new course).
Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May.	MILFORD (LYMINGTON) REGATTA.
Saturday, 4 <sup>th</sup> June.	RYDE REGATTA.
Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> June.	SHANKLIN REGATTA.
Saturday, 18 <sup>th</sup> June.	WOOLSTON REGATTA.
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June.	ITCHEN IMPERIAL REGATTA.
Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> July.	SWANAGE REGATTA.
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> July.	SOUTHSEA REGATTA.
(Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> July	National Championships. (Nottingham).
Saturday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> July.	COALPORTERS REGATTA.
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July.	NEWPORT REGATTA
Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> August.	BOURNEMOUTH REGATTA.
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> August	BTC REGATTA.
Saturday, 20 <sup>th</sup> August.	CHRISTCHURCH REGATTA.
Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup> August.	Provisional date for Hants & Dorset Championship and South Coast Selection row-offs if required. Dock head, Southampton. 11.00am.**
Saturday, 10 <sup>th</sup> September.	<i>South Coast Junior Regatta and South Coast South Coast Championships Regatta, Eton Dorney.</i>

Itchen Imperial R C. announced that their Junior Regatta would be held on either Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September or Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> October – with the meeting suggesting 1<sup>st</sup> October due to close proximity of other date to the South Coast Championship Regatta.

Dates still to be advised: *Coalporters Junior Regatta.*  
*Coalporters Winter Sculls HERR.*

*Note:* If postponement of a Regatta results in an Events being staged after the Christchurch Regatta any Hants & Dorset Championship and South Coast Selection row-offs will take place on the Sunday following the last Regatta, 11.00am at Dock head, Southampton.

With regards to the GB National Championships at Nottingham, the meeting confirmed the view accepted at the Autumn Delegates meeting that H&D Championship points would be on offer as in past years subject to level of interest and the

criteria/rules for awarding championship points were fulfilled. The Point would be awarded at the status of the crew providing there were at least two crews/scullers competing. It was understood that men's open coastal coxed fours and men's open single sculls would be on offer. CARA had a Regatta planned for that weekend.

The meeting then discussed the format of the Swanage Regatta Committee agreeing to maintain the method employed during the last four years where a broad based committee drawn from the affiliated clubs and coordinated by the Association Secretary with much of this undertaken by E Mail. It was noted that the organization relied heavily on the commitment of a number of local clubs – notably Poole, Christchurch, Westover and Lymington and the meeting thanked them and those from other clubs for their efforts. It was hoped that all would continue to help and the Association Secretary would be in touch soon to begin the arrangements. Pete Staddon had agreed to look after the returned Trophies and would check and advise which Trophies were missing. This years Regatta was on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, on the request of Swanage Town Council – which was earlier than usual which does put some additional pressure on the organization – not least on the Association Secretary – as the Regatta takes place only 4 weeks after Ryde.

The meeting then considered the report on the recent meetings of the South Coast Council which had been circulated in advance on behalf of the Hants & Dorset South Coast Council Delegates. (see *attached*). However the minutes of the South Coast Council AGM of 15th January had not yet been received. On behalf of the Council delegates Denny Woodford answered some general questions and clarified a number of points.

The meeting then elected the following Racing Officials for the 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta at Dorney on the 10th September, on a proposal from the Umpires Commission meeting, as follows -

CHAMPIONSHIP UMPIRE: Alan Stewart SARC

CHAMPIONSHIP STARTER: Alan Wigmore S & S RC

CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE: Pat Glover S & S RC

OPEN EVENTS UMPIRE RESERVES: Chris Eveleigh Lymington RC and John Adams Ryde RC.

JUNIOR REGATTA OFFICIALS: John Adams, Ian Hutchings, Carole Wall, and Denis Woodford.

RESERVE OFFICIALS: Keith Warland and John Purkess.

The need for all these Race Officials to officiate at least three Hants & Dorset Regatta's this season, to meet South Coast Council Rules was stressed and Event Secretaries asked to invite officials accordingly.

The meeting then re-elected the Associations South Coast Council delegates Bob Sivier, Denis Woodford and Andy Sothcott on a proposal from Martin Bradbbeer, seconded by Les Foad. Note: Brent Hartland, Ted Shergold, Keith Warland – remain as Hon. Life Members of Council from the Hants & Dorset ARA.

A statement of the progress and plans of the 2011 South Coast Championships Organizing Committee had been circulated with the Agenda (see *attached*) and was briefly discussed and accepted by the meeting.

The venue for the 2014 South Coast Rowing Championships, the next event due to be hosted by the Association following the change to the cycle of Associations, was then discussed. It was generally agreed that a return to Dorney for a third would be too expensive. The venue most favored by the delegates appeared to be Swanage, with the other option discussed in the past – Sandbanks – now appearing to have less support – partly because the feeling that the tides and currents of the beach would make a fair course difficult. Swanage Town Council appeared to be keen to host the event again – the problem being that the main responsibility for organizing the event would almost certainly fall upon the Clubs in that area – Poole, Westover, Christchurch and Lymington – although it could and should be an Association organized events. It was agreed that the four Clubs would discuss the possibility of taking a lead role in the organization of a Swanage based event and report back to the Autumn Delegates meeting with a proposal.

The meeting then considered the amendments and additions to Association Rules including a review of the Novice status rules and whether they should be switched back to a single win before promotion to Junior status where various views were expressed – but where the meeting finally agreed on a proposal from Lymington, seconded by Pat Glover that the rules should remain unchanged for the 2011 season.

The only other rule change/amendment on the table was the clarification and formal adoption of the Life Vice Presidents Rule that had already been agreed by the meeting.

At this point there was a break in the meeting and a presentation was made to the Wessex Region CDO – Rachael Wooldridge, who had resigned from her post and was leaving in early April - to thank her for her very significant contribution to Hants and Dorset and Coastal rowing.

The meeting then re-elected the Racing Officials for 2011 as follows - FULL OFFICIALS - John Adams, John Bailey, Steve Bull, Les Foad, Pat Glover, Brian Gowman, Carole Wall, Ian Hutchings, John Purkess, Pete Staddon, Mark Viner, Keith Warland, Alan Wigmore, Denis Woodford, Martin Bradbeer, Andy Sothcott, Alan Stewart, Chris Eveleigh, Andy Parsons. ASSISTANT OFFICIALS - Simon Clements, Bob Springbett, Trev Gay, Pete Diffey, Chris Foad. Note: Simon Clements, Bob Springbett – at the Officials Meeting their Clubs indicated they wished to continue as Assistant Race Officials however they have not attended any Race Officials meetings – and have not responded to the two letters sent to them this year asking them to return an availability form.

The report from John Purkess, Chairman of the Umpires Commission, on the Associations Officials Meeting, which had been circulated in advance with the agenda (*see attached*) was then considered by the meeting and accepted along with the recommendations on a proposal by Bob Sivier, seconded by Les Foad.

The meeting then re-elected the Umpires Commission of - Chairman - John Purkess. Commission Members - John Bailey, Keith Warland, Alan Wigmore and Martin Bradbeer with Mike Green in a consultancy role.

The meeting then considered a report by Colin Eales, Chairman of the Wessex Regional Rowing Council, and from Mike Green, the BR Divisional Rep. both of which had been circulated in advance (*see attached*).

Commenting on the two reports Mike Green stated that BR thought the Hants & Dorset ARA was insular – and that had requested an opportunity to discuss issues with the Wessex Region – which the Hants & Dorset Concern might take part in. The general view of the Hants & Dorset was that BR did not really understand Coastal rowing – confusing it with the FISA standard Coastal Rowing which they appeared to favor – in spite of the 100% affiliation of H&D Clubs to BR. BR had also expressed their concerns regarding the size (BR membership) of the Wessex Region – although we were by no means the smallest..

Concern was also expressed regarding the BR “Coastal Challenge” event – as part of their Explore Rowing Project. While BR appeared to view the Hants & Dorset attitude towards the event as unhelpful – it was noted that there had been no formal approach to the Hants & Dorset ARA regarding support for the event or any consultation regarding its scope and organization. The Wessex Region – had been made aware of the BR event being runs in its region – but again no real consultation had taken place. Individuals and Clubs (Mike Green, Pete Staddon, Christchurch and Westover) had been approached for support – but this was an entirely BR organized event. One of many concerns was the safety for the event and as Wessex Region Regional Safety Advisor, Steve Bull had been sent the safety plan and risk assessment and following consultation had expressed his concerns regarding a number of aspects of the plan. The general view was that the Coastal Challenge was ill conceived, on the wrong date and that the lack of consultation with Wessex and the Hants & Dorset ARA had not helped. There was much debate, without any real conclusion being reached, over whether the Hants & Dorset should ARA should contact BR to express its concerns. The event – with an entry of a minimum of £50 per seat – was unlikely to receive support from Hants & Dorset ARA Clubs.

The meeting then agreed on a proposal from Keith Warland, seconded by Steve Bull that the Hants & Dorset ARA should, as in 2010, make a £250 contribution to the Wessex Regional Rowing .

The meeting then considered the report from the Safety Commission and the Associations Safety Meeting of 5/2/10 held at Southampton Rowing Club, which had been circulated in advance with the agenda. All the recommendations from the Safety meeting were accepted by the meeting, including for the format of the Water Safety Commission – and concern was expressed regarding the failure of four Clubs to be represented at the meeting - Newport, Shanklin, Poole and Westover – which shows a poor attitude to safety.

In spite of the agreement reached at the Autumn Delegates meeting to form two new sub-committees, under the Association Rule 16, some delegates in attendance insisted on a further vote to seek approval again – which was passed on a proposal from Chris Foad, seconded by Andy Parsons – with just one vote recorded against - the terms of reference for the new sub-committees being agreed as follows -

**RULES SUB-COMMITTEE.** A sub—committee made up of an elected Chairman and Secretary and one representative of each affiliated club, with the Associations Officers as ex officio members, meeting on an as required basis, who would consider the Rules of the Association and any additions, deletions or alterations that should be made and make recommendations for consideration to the Associations General meetings.

**COMPETITION SUB-COMMITTEE.** A sub—committee made up of an elected Chairman and Secretary and one representative of each affiliated club with the Associations Officers as ex officio members, meeting on an as required basis, who would consider all aspects of the way we run our competitions including types of events, status and the Regatta Rules and Rules of Boat Racing and make recommendations for additions, alterations and deletions to these rules for consideration at the Associations General meetings.

No appointments were made to the two new sub-committees but it was agreed that Gary Joyce of Itchen would organize inaugural meetings for both sub-committees, which would probably take place in the autumn with appointments ratified at the Autumn Delegates Meeting.

The meeting agreed that the arrangements for the Prize Presentation evening will be similar to last year with Amanda Hames of Southampton now organizing – the event would take place at the Novotel in Southampton on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> November and tickets would be £26.

It was agreed that the Association Secretary should select a date for the Autumn Delegates Meeting - a Saturday in November - once the Southampton F. C. fixtures were known.

There only other items of any other business were – Southsea reporting that they had a Coastal Pair for sale for £20 and that there would be a Veteran Pairs event held at Milford Regatta. There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.55pm (some half hour earlier than in 2010) with thanks to BTC for their hospitality.

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H&D ARA Chairman.

[Minutes taken and written by Steve Bull, Association Secretary, 20/4/11]

#### **ATTACHMENTS.**

*The attachments listed below form an integral part of these minutes.*

1. *Life Vice Presidents. Approved amended Rules.*
2. *A copy of the Association Secretaries Report on the 2010 Season.*
3. *Audited Financial Report on the year 2010 including the Presentation Dinner and Swanage Regatta Accounts.*
4. *Report on the recent meetings of the South Coast Council.*
5. *Report on 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta.*
6. *Report from Umpires Commission.*
7. *Report from Wessex Regional Rowing Council.*
8. *Report from Divisional Rep.*
9. *Report from Water Safety Commission.*

1. *Life Vice Presidents. Approved amended Rules.*

#### **Clarification of the Position of Association Life Vice President.**

*Note from Minutes of H&D ARA AGM of 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.*

At the Hants & Dorset ARA AGM of 6th March, 2010, held at the BTC Rowing club the position of Association Vice President was considered by the meeting following the confusion at the previous year's meeting and after some discussion, the meeting agreed, that the position of "Live Vice President" should be added to the Associations Rules, subject to ratification at the next Annual General Meeting.

The suggested amendment to the Rules – an addition to Rule 6 and 8 - to cover the Position of Live Vice President is as follows – *(addition/amendment in Italics)*.

6. - The management of the Association shall be invested in the officers namely the President, Chairman, *Life Vice Presidents*, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and a committee consisting of two delegates from each affiliated club and one delegate from each affiliated Regatta (hereinafter called the Executive Committee).

8. - The officers elected at the AGM shall hold office until the next AGM and shall be eligible for re-election except that the President shall not serve for more than two and the Chairman shall not serve for more than five years. Additional Officers may be elected at the discretion of the meeting to assist in the management of the Association who shall be entitled to attend all meetings and have one vote each. In addition honorary life members may be elected who shall be entitled to attend all meetings and take part in discussions but shall have no voting power unless empowered to do so under rules 6 or 9 hereof. Vacancies in officers arising during the year may be filled by the Executive Committee to hold office until the next AGM. *The AGM can promote Vice Presidents of the Association to the position of Life Vice President or elect Life Vice Presidents who shall be entitled to attend all meetings and have one vote each. Live Vice Presidents can be removed by an AGM but do not have to be re-elected annually. A Life Vice President should be someone who has made a significant contribution to the Hants & Dorset Rowing Association or Coastal Rowing.*

Steve Bull. Association Secretary. October, 2010.

## 2. A copy of the Association Secretaries Report on the 2010 Season.

### **The Hants & Dorset Amateur Rowing Association Secretaries Report on the 2010 Coastal Season.**

While one was very cold, one very wet and a couple pretty rough all thirteen Hants & Dorset Amateur Rowing Association Regatta's were successfully completed, along with three Head Races and a Junior Regatta, during an exciting and interesting 2010 Coastal season.

Entries\* in the Hants & Dorset Championship Regatta's show a small increase on 2009 at 1417 over the thirteen regattas compared with 1410 in 2009. Southsea, where the H&D and CARA combine was, as always, the largest Regatta with 201 entries, slightly down on last year. Six other Regattas' had more than 100 entries – Ryde, Shanklin, Itchen, Woolston, Swanage and Bournemouth. The Hants & Dorset ARA run Swanage Regatta had the largest entry if Southsea is excluded. [\*at entries close/excludes late entries and scratchings]

*Registration at 674 – 576 at first registration and 98 added during the year – is almost the same as the 2009 figure of 671 – so an increase of just 3. The largest Club and the Club showing the biggest increase in registered membership is Coalporters with 102. Christchurch are second largest with 96 – a drop from last year. Southampton are third largest with 77, much the same as the previous year. Shanklin recorded the smallest number of registrations at 15 with Worthing next smallest with 20. Itchen showed the biggest drop in registered members. [Note: Section on Registration (in italics) excluded from reports published in H&D South Coast Rowing handbook and BR Almanac].*

The Men's Senior Fours saw a new challenger for the dominance BTC have had in this Championship in recent years with Coalporters winning the first three Regatta's and a 4<sup>th</sup> later in the season at Southsea. But, as has been the pattern in recent years, a strong BTC crew emerged as the season developed and they were soon dominating the racing once again – taking 6 points to retain the Championship. But this was not without some further challenges with two wins for Christchurch and one from Ryde. BTC and Coalporters represented the Association at the South Coast Rowing Championships with BTC proving themselves as worthy champions by taking the Bideford Bowl.

Three Clubs won at Junior Senior status with Coalporters dominating – winning eight of the championship points from Poole with 3 - these two representing the Association at the South Coast Championships. Westover also challenged winning two events during the season. Once again the Hants & Dorset Champions proved to be worthy winners as they to become South Coast Champions,

The Men's Junior Fours Championship was a much closer contest with two clubs in contention right up to the last Regatta where Christchurch claimed the Championship over Lymington by just one point – 6 won against 5 – with Itchen taking one point. Christchurch and Lymington represented the Association at the South Coast Championships – which turned out to be the Association's only failure in the Championship events with both crews missing out on the ultimate prize.

The Men's Novice Fours Championship was another closely fought and very competitive contest which maintained its standards right through the season. Southampton eventually emerged as Association Champions winning five races from Christchurch with four. Itchen also had two wins with Lymington and Coalporters gaining one each.

Coalporters continued their domination of Ladies Senior rowing in the Association, comfortably winning the Fours Championship by winning eight of the nine events held – with Poole taking the other point. These two represented the Association at the South Coast Championships where pre-race favorites Coalporters retained their title once again. The Coalporters Senior Ladies squad duly swept the board of Hants & Dorset Championships taking the Senior Pairs with six wins from Itchen with 3 and Southampton with 1 – and Carragh McMurtry – already a Championship winner in these events taking the Ladies Senior Sculls title as well with seven points over McGregor-Ritchie of Itchen with two and Joakim of Christchurch and Cox of Shanklin winning once each

Lymington were comfortable winners of the Ladies Junior Fours winning 9 events, with Poole finishing as runners-up with 2 wins and Christchurch with 1. Lymington and Poole went on to represent the Association at the South Coast Championships – with Lymington securing another win for the Association.

BTC totally dominated the Veterans winning all 11 events held to retain this Championships and going on to win the South Coast Championships as well. Christchurch were the Associations other representatives having finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to BTC on six occasions during the season.

Itchen's six wins and seven points saw them secure the Men's Senior Pairs championship with Christchurch with two wins and Lymington and Ryde with one each providing the main competition. In the Men's Junior Pairs it was Poole who emerged as Association Champions with six wins from Christchurch with three – and Southsea with a single win.

Ryde's recent domination of the Men's Senior Sculls came to end as Chris Schreiber for Poole secured this Championship with five points – the main opposition still coming from Ryde with Ian Hayden winning on three occasions and Nick Pike and defending champions Mick Jenner winning once each, Riceman of Itchen taking the other two points. The Men's Junior Sculls was a close fought contest between Brown of Southsea and Kneller of Southampton with Brown clinching the title by just one

point – six against Kneller’s five. Leelodharry of Itchen claimed the other win. Four wins from two Scullers was enough to take the Men’s Novice Sculling Championship for BTC with Itchen winning three points, Christchurch two and Ryde one. Jess Bull of Itchen won the Ladies Junior Sculls Championships with six points the main competition coming from Nightingale and Fry of Christchurch with 3 wins and two wins respectively and there was one win for Cottrell of Coalporters. The Ladies Novice Sculls championship was a tie between Christchurch and BTC with three wins a piece, Westover and Southampton winning twice each.

As far as the non-championship events were concerned\*\* – there were Veteran “B” (50+) events staged at all 13 Regattas, there were J16 Fours events at 4 and J16 sculls events at 3; Ladies Junior Pairs events were staged at 5 Regattas, Double sculls at 6 and mixed races at 3. There was also a Veteran pair event and a Coxed Quad event held at Lymington Regatta – all of these helping to boost entry levels and giving food for thought for future prospective Championship events.

The Coxswain of the year award went to one of the Associations more “mature” coxswains – Marion Frampton of Poole – and was a just reward for many years of coxing and coaching at Poole and on occasions helping out other clubs as well. A Poole colleague – J. Beckett and Jack Weaver from BTC were runners-up.

The Archie Fraser Memorial Trophy for the best performing Club in all events (except the Junior Regatta) at the South Coast Championship went to Coalporters with BTC and Christchurch runners-up. Coalporters also contributed most points towards the Eileen & Eric Crow Aggregate Cup ((formally the Bass Charrington Shield) which was awarded to the Hants & Dorset ARA as the best Association in the Championship events at the South Coast Championship Regatta and they will hold the Trophy on behalf of the Association until the 2011 event takes place. Also, and rounding-up a very successful season for the Club – Coalporters were awarded the - R. S. O “Hank” Carr Trophy – which is presented to the Club winning the most Championship Points in the Season with Christchurch as runners-up.

Finally, and arguably long overdue, Ted Shergold of BTC Rowing Club was awarded the Evening Echo Trophy, presented in memory of Arthur Chatfield to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Hants & Dorset ARA and Coastal Rowing.

With entries and registration numbers remaining relatively static and all events scheduled completed we can argue that the Association has at least held its own in the last year. This is in spite of British Rowings failure to understand and appreciate the position of Coastal Rowing (as opposed to off-shore) which is disappointing and annoying – especially the attitude of the Editors of their flagship publication “Regatta” magazine who pretty much ignores our version of the support but lavishes praise and publicity on Gig and FISA standard Coastal (off shore) rowing – no doubt driven by the possibility of increased membership – as opposed to supporting Clubs that have been affiliated to BR/ARA for many years. On the other hand the achievement of the Associations Clubs at the South Coast Championships clearly demonstrates that the Hants & Dorset ARA is, once again, the best of the South Coast Rowing Associations.

Steve Bull,  
Association Secretary.  
November, 2010.

#### 4. Report on the recent meetings of the South Coast Council.

NOTES ON SCC MEETING HELD AT CHRISTCHURCH ON SATURDAY 15th JANUARY 2011

H&D Delegates: D Woodford R Sivier A Sothcott

Life Member: K Warland

- John Daniels of Bideford Blues has resigned from the SCC after many years service and the new WERA representative will be Stephen Worley of Wimbleball.
- Greenbank Falmouth (Stithians) - withdrew their application to run 2012 Championships
- WERA proposed Wimbleball or Bideford and Bideford were confirmed by one vote to run the 2012 South Coast Championships and Junior Events on an all day tide with Juniors competing a.m. and main Championships p.m.
- Bideford bowl was repaired ready for Wimbleball. Wimbleba112010
- Hastings, Greenbank, Torquay and Westover were fined £25 each club for non-attendance at 7 a.m. meeting.
- Cheques returned to each club at the request of the South Coast Council. John Pascoe of Torquay was in attendance to protest over the fines.
- Report from host club received - many complaints. i. e:

Poor p. a. system

Lack of wafer

Lack of WERA officials - where were the 17 officials promised.

Lack of food and drinks for officials who were afloat for six and a half hours.

Lack of food for competitors and supporters - particularly late afternoon and evening.

Inadequate toilet facilities. Price of parking.

Confusion over whether lane numbers should be displayed on boats.

- Complaint by CARA that H&D crews were rowing in incorrect colors i.e. Poole Vets and BTC novices. (This was news to me!)
- Jeff Hutton of CARA raised the point that the Championship Regatta should be for fours only, he explained why but couldn't support it with the Rule Book - Chairman asked if fours only was a proposal and Jeff Hutton was unable to reply without talking to CARA clubs.
- Rule 28b - Juniors may continue to compete in their age category for that season up to and including the South Coast Championship Open and Junior Regattas of that racing season.
- Trophies, Prizes and Medals. This will include Junior Events.
- Rule 62 - "The Eileen and Eric Crow Memorial Challenge Cup" has replaced the Bass Charrington Aggregate Shield which will be returned to Deal Rowing Club.
- Rule 64 - "The Pat Sherwin Memorial Trophy" shall be presented annually to the Club scoring the most points on the basis of 5 points for a win, 3 points for a second, 1 point for a third, in the Junior Regatta, all boats to score.

AOB.

CARA requested names of Championship crews should be available throughout the year and prior to the Championship Regatta as only H&D and CARA are keeping within the rules at present.

Hon. Secretary requested e-mail to be used for all communications - hard copies would only be sent on request which the Coast still require.

Collection of trophies will take place at Southsea Regatta and will be organized by Ray Mallett of WERA and Colin Eales of H&D.



## 5. Report on 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta.

### **South Coast Championships Eton Dorney – Progress report**

The preparations for the 2011 South Coast Championships at Eton Dorney are well under way. The Committee is now made up of representatives from 10 of the 13 Hants and Dorset Clubs. The committee meets currently on a monthly basis, but this frequency will increase to fortnightly nearer the event.

A final presentation of the Regatta was made in January to the South Coast Council who once again gave their backing to the regatta. It has also been decided by the South Coast Council that the usual March visit to the Championships venue was deemed unnecessary as the course and facilities had already been proven.

The organizing committee reviewed the 2007 Championships and all subsequent South Coast Championships. A survey has been carried to ask Clubs what can be done to improve our Championship regatta.

In January Sponsorship packages were sent out to potential event sponsors, trade stands and program advertisers. The initial result of this is that the Regatta has received £300 of event sponsorship with another £500 also promised. A raffle at the Hants and Dorset dinner dance raised a further £205.

Anybody wishing to take up any of the above or receive a Sponsorship package can do so by contacting Steve Bull.

The budget for the event is continuously monitored and amended at each meeting. By doing this, the finances stay on track and it allows any proposed additional costs to be taken into account. Eton Dorney has already been paid for the hire of the venue. The early payment of this invoice has meant a saving of £150.

A large part of the financing comes from the Hants and Dorset seat levy. The race entries, the car parking, Club pitches and the sale of merchandising all contribute to generating funds. Clothing will be available to buy and order during the season.

The Website [www.dorneyscc.co.uk](http://www.dorneyscc.co.uk) has been up and running since November 2010 and currently gives information on accommodation, shows a map of the area and gives some key dates in the run up to the regatta. It will also provide much more. The intention is for the Website to be able to be used to receive entries and order merchandise and give further information on training, parking and Club pitches.

Assistance to help with the car parking and the manning of the starting pontoons is being sort from several Scout groups. This is to try and minimize the demands on the participating Clubs. Once again the organizing Committee has been able to call upon resources and expertise within our own Club's to reduce cost.

### **So what's New for 2011 ?**

The Logo has been updated and now uses the design shown above  
Eton Dorney has informed us that the PA system has been improved.  
Mikrotime will provide timing for the races, with the possibility of split times being available.  
Car parking fees will include 2 programs per car, 4 per mini-bus or 8 per coach.

The Championship regatta prizes will be presented five times Olympic gold champion **Sir Steve Redgrave**.

The Junior Regatta prizes will be presented by Dan Ritchie from the GB men's eight. Other guests include Di Ellis CBE Chairman of British Rowing.

## REPORT ON RACING OFFICIALS MEETING – JANUARY 2011

-Eighteen full and assistant officials in attendance, apologies from Brian Gowman, Andy Parsons and

Martin Bradbeer received.

-2010 Regattas reviewed and recommendations made to Swanage, Newport, Bournemouth, and Itchen regatta organizing committees.

Swanage: A larger and more accessible start/finish platform with seating required.

Newport: Improved radio communications, PA system extended to boat park and start times of races printed in the programme.

Bournemouth: Start/ Finish transit line on pier head to be checked for accessibility prior to regatta day.

Itchen: Provide more favorable position for mid course umpire's position.

-Membership of the H & D ARA's Umpires Commission, recommendation from the meeting to re-elect the existing Commission members' en-bloc, AGM to approve or propose changes.

-Regatta Officials report and debrief forms, meeting agreed to continue with current format, and a new regatta day coxswains identity form would be trialed for the 2011 season. Form required to improve 'Coxswain of the Year' identification/selection.

-Meeting recommended the continuance of levy of £50 per official for every club unable to supply two racing officials for the forthcoming regatta season. Drive to recruit more female assistant officials, (concern expressed regarding inadequate facilities for female officials afloat) although it was pointed out that there were several regattas where officials were 'shore based'.

-Re-examination of existing Full Officials, Peter Staddon, Brian Gowman and Ian Hutchings were given their exam papers for completion prior to the AGM. Assistant Officials were reminded of qualifying criteria before applying for upgrading interview.

-Racing Officials proposed for the 2011 South Coast Championship regatta at Dorney Lake are:

CHAMPIONSHIP UMPIRE: Alan Stewart SARC

CHAMPIONSHIP STARTER: Alan Wigmore S & S RC

CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE: Pat Glover S & S RC

OPEN EVENTS UMPIRE RESERVES: Chris Eveleigh Lymington RC and John Adams Ryde RC.

JUNIOR REGATTA OFFICIALS: John Adams, Ian Hutchings, Carole Wall, and Denis Woodford.

RESERVE OFFICIALS: Keith Warland and John Purkess.

(note to regatta committees, these officials need to have officiated at 3 events prior to championships)

-Insurance of Racing Officials via BR membership, meeting recommended continuance of current system of a contribution of £24 (the B.R. Recreational Membership fee) for those officials who make themselves available for 3 events in 2011. AGM to approve or propose alternative schemes.

-H & D ARA Safety Kits, inspected after SCC regatta, some expenditure required namely for a new lifejacket and new loudhailer to bring these kits up to standard. Meeting recommended expenditure.

-A.O.B. Items

14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> May. An Explore Rowing event is being organized in our area by B.R. Likely to be from the Hengistbury Head Outdoor Centre in Christchurch Harbour out towards the Needles. Race Officials shared safety concerns expressed by Regional Water Safety Advisor and Wessex Regional Rowing Council regarding relatively inexperienced rowers venturing out into what could be quite dangerous waters. Further discussions through Rachael Wooldridge with B.R. are required

- Poole RC would be holding a trial regatta on the 12<sup>th</sup> March at their proposed new course at Hamworthy Park, by invitation only.
- Racing Officials additional kit/uniforms (a fleece) was shown to the meeting, these are available to purchase at a cost of £17.70
- 2012 South Coast Championship Regatta venue now confirmed as Bideford. 2013 Deal (Folkestone)

## ITEMS FROM NATIONAL UMPIRES COMMISSION MEETING - HOLME PIERREPONT

- New Chairman appointed, Dan Smith (chairman East Midlands Regional Umpires Commission)
- New Deputy Chairman appointed, Chris Anton (chairman West Midlands and WAGS R.U.C.)
- New West Region Chairman appointed, Dave Woods (Ray Mallett outgoing chairman)
- West region (formally WEARA) umpires have been accredited as B.R. umpires without examination? Ray Mallett thanked by the chairman for his many years of service and considerable work he undertook to “marry” the WEARA group into the B.R. framework and deserved congratulation.
- Exams & Training, should we have “core standards” and some regional variations for local conditions? e.g. Thames launches. Clive Killick (Chairman Water Safety Sub Committee) reinforced the principle that we should have a defined way of examining candidates. The umpire’s license is National, and so the exam should reflect this. It was agreed there should be a standard approach. **Action:** A Standard Core will be generated by the secretary of the NUC.
- ‘Port’ and ‘Starboard’ terms when instructing crews. (a) Is there any need for instruction of this type? Why not just name crew? (b) Allow each regatta to determine its own nomenclature. (c) Use ‘Red’ and ‘Green’ as directions. The NUC discussed this issue a some length and recommended there be a review to consider how we make sure people understand implicitly any steering instructions so that they can act quickly to avoid collision.
- Boat Identification System, This topic is now part of the Rules of Racing. The group needed to find a common approach to dealing with people who had not correctly identified their boats. It was agreed that offenders would be given an Official Warning and required to place a temporary number on their boat. Offenders in Head Races may have time penalties applied, e.g. 10 seconds. Clive Killick will put this into the Control Commission Guide. RUC Chairman to cascade to Umpires via RUC’s.
- Clothing at Heads, It appears that competitors are not aware that they should be wearing regulation club kits at Heads. There followed a discussion, but no conclusion was reached.

John Purkess  
Chairman H & D ARA, Umpires Commission

*7. Report from Wessex Regional Rowing Council.*

## **WESSEX REGIONAL ROWING COUNCIL**

### **REPORT TO - HANTS AND DORSET ARA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MARCH 2011**

I am sure we are all looking forward to a warm spring, flat water and some enjoyable rowing. After a long cold winter, and constant news about economic cuts, rowing is a perfect distraction.

Unfortunately sport is not immune to the cuts. Government funding via Sport England has been reduced by 40%. However, rowing has fared better than most sports due to our continued success at Olympic and World Championships, making us a high profile sport.

Participation is the current theme from Government, wanting a fitter, more active nation with the obvious benefits on health, fitness, well-being etc., which all rowers have known for years. Therefore funding will go to the sport which can retain and grow its membership.

To this end, British Rowing has introduced the Explore Rowing programme - a package including stable boats (possibly coastal fours) to appeal to those who may not be serious racers but enjoy rowing as a recreational sport. This will attract funding of up to 50% from British Rowing to those participating organizations.

In our Region we have three schemes: Hengisbury Head Outdoor Centre, Portsmouth Outdoor Centre and the combined Isle of Wight Rowing Clubs. To promote the scheme there will be a series of challenges around the country. The first, I am proud to say, will be in our region - an 18 mile row from Hengisbury Head to the Needles, Isle of Wight and back this Spring. For details see [www.exploreroxing.org](http://www.exploreroxing.org) or follow links from the British Rowing website.

Wessex Regional Rowing Council will continue to support all rowing in the region in partnership with the Hants and Dorset ARA.

C W Eales  
Wessex RRC Chairman

## 8. Report from Divisional Rep.

### **Report from Divisional Rep. Mike Green on the British Rowing Council meeting held on Saturday 12th February 2011 – for the Hants & Dorset ARA AGM, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.**

#### 1) MATTERS ARISING.

1a. Junior Composite Quads rejected by Henley Royal Regatta. Any views to Mike Sweeney, Chairman. See his article in the Rowing magazine.

There will be women's junior quads in 2012.

1b. British Rowing cash reserves based on; annual expenditure, 1/2 in cash (for 6 months operation) and 1/4 in reserves (for 3 months operation). Current cash well above this requirement (R Patterson).

1c. Selection Appeals procedure now modified and approved by meeting.

#### 2) FISA.

Di reported successful FISA coaching conference.

Application submitted for World Cup event at Strathclyde in 2015.

#### 4) INTERNATIONAL REPORT.

David Tanner absent at GB Trials. He had submitted British Rowing Selection Policy.

Accepted with minor amendments.

#### 5) FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Both National and International finances in line with budget.

Budgets for 2011/2012 tabled and agreed.

#### 6) NATIONAL REPORT.

6a. Tabled by Rosemary Napp, which also contained 2009-2013 Bi-Annual Review for Sport England.

Rowing numbers only increasing in recreational rowing.

6b. Explore Rowing now beginning to gather momentum. Agreement with Sea Scouts and Scout Association to access Learn to Row programme and resources.

You might be interested to know the IofW Clubs, Hengistbury Centre and Portsmouth Water sports Centre will all become Explore Rowing Centres. The Needles Challenge is take place in May 2011, based at Hengistbury.

6c. Comprehensive Spending Review. Still awaiting financial decision on proposed 40% cuts on capital funding. Rumors indicate improvement to only 25% cut.

6d. Club and Coach Programme likely to suffer. Coaches have been written to, existing contracts will be honored. A new programme to be launched, CCP coaches invited to apply.

6e. Boat Navigation Licences. Details published on BR website.

#### 7) REPORTS FROM REVIEW GROUPS.

7a. At this time: Gary Harris - Participation, Anne-Marie Phelps - Club Support and Mark Blandford-Baker - Committees.

7b. Mark's is the group activity that the H&D and Wessex Clubs, etc need to take due note of.

There is a published report which raised much discussion at Council. Steve Bull has copy.

Broadly as well as the considerations and recommendations of the Review, the effect on us will be the reduction of representation on Council to one person (currently Div 22 Rep and Chair Wessex RRC).

Colin Eales will be dedicating one Wessex meeting to this Review. Recommend you attend.

7b. Anne Marie's report has an inclusion on succession planning in Clubs.

Clubs demonstrating good practice and engaging with the education/support processes should be given priority of BR staff time

Another key area is considered to be funding: The BR website sets out simply the possible areas for funding.

#### 8) BRITISH ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

2011 at Nottingham. There will be Coastal Fours and Single Sculls offered.

#### 9) NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

9a. Explore Rowing, now up to 28 schemes approved (50% of target).

9b. Understand retirement age rule being considered regarding the restrictions being modified.

9c. Junior Inter Regional Championships at Nottingham on Sat 9th April. Henley Stewards have withdrawn their financial assistance.

9d. Volunteer of the Year Awards to be rescheduled to coincide with the Coach of the Year awards.

9e. the use of Port and Starboard is to be given greater emphasis.

9f. Use of mini-buses in London exhaust emission zone. Fee of £100 from April 2011.

Recommend Clubs check The Transport for London website.

#### 10) NATIONAL COACHING COMMITTEE.

10a. 2011 Coach Educators Update Workshop on Sun 3rd April at Marlowe (South).

- 10b. Much consideration being given to Sustainable Coaching pathways and raising standard of the Coaching Community.
- 10c. Coaching stream e-mail communication now operating for BR registered coaches.
- 10d. There is planned a 2 day Junior Coaches conference for September 2011.

11) NATIONAL COMPETITION COMMITTEE.

- 11a. Updating rules of racing will take place from February to remove repetition and streamline.
- 11b. 2011 Regatta calendar will be published in Rowing magazine and Almanack.
- 11c. Status comparisons, including the Hants & Dorset, have been produced and will be made available on the BR website.
- 11d. Any new Clubs affiliating must submit all required documents at time of application, or application will be rejected.

12) BRITISH ROWING MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS AT 31/01/2011.

- 12a. The Wessex region is the 9th largest out of 13 with 857 registered members. Junior 14's and Junior 18's account for 469 of these.

13) WATER SAFETY COMMITTEE.

- 13a. It has been agreed all regions adopt the practice in the Thames Region that all Event Risk assessments and Safety Plans are sent to the RWSA one month in advance of the event. If not done the event can be stopped.
- 13b. New Incident reporting system out in the next 3 months.
- 13c. It is worth noting what happened at Evesham and Hexham incidents, i.e. equipment failures, coaching practice and weirs

14) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.

- 14a. Div Reps were asked to vote for up to 6 out of 7 candidates proposed.

Mike Green, Division 22 Representative. 20th February 2011.

**Hants & Dorset ARA Safety Meeting. at Southampton A. R. C. on Saturday, 5th February, 2011 – Report to 2011 H&D ARA AGM.**

Eight clubs represented - NOT represented - Newport, Shanklin, Poole and Westover. Concern was expressed at these Clubs failure to attend – which arguably shows a poor attitude to safety. The meeting agreed that failure to be represented at the Safety meeting and the poor impression that gives should be one of the criteria that might lead to a re-audit of their regatta.

The Report given to the Associations Autumn Delegates meeting was circulated and a report given on the National Safety Meetings attended.

Club Safety Audits/Gap Analysis - For 2010/2011. Div. 22/ Wessex Region status as – 15 completed, 3 not required (linked clubs) – 80% compliant. Nationally the figures are – total 530 - 307 completed, 223 missing – 58%. Figures as of 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2011. One audit was outstanding from Wessex – BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY. It was stressed that it was very important that audits are completed honestly hi-lighting genuine problem areas/areas of concern – which we than might be able to help resolve and that that these are recommendations – not rules – and seen as best practice. As long as you are working towards complying or have unique circumstances that explain a deviation – then no sanctions will be imposed (cant anyway). But if there is an incident at your Club you need to be able prove you have tried to comply or this may affect any insurance or legal claims.

The sections where Wessex Clubs had more than 4 Clubs that had stated that they still needed "to be addressed" were reviewed and analysed by the meeting - i) require all those involved in rowing to be trained and have had practice in the use of a throw line? - all involved is not practical - coaches – yes. Often pointless in a Coastal environment. k) Ensure lifejackets are frequently checked for damage, leaks and gas cylinder integrity and that the check is recorded in a maintenance log? l) Require junior beginners to wear a PFD until they have completed a swim test, received training in capsizing procedure and reached a satisfactory level of competence in, for example, a single sculling boat? – Impractical, depends on risk assessment. a) Require all launches to carry a plate stating the maximum weight it can safely support, together with this translated into the number of adults? – most seem to be plated. b) Require launch drivers to hold, as a minimum, the RYA Level 2 powerboat certificate (appropriate to water conditions; tidal v non-tidal) or equivalent training? Key is "or equivalent training – what happened to the BR "Level 1"? c) Have a method to check the nose weight of the trailer? - double axel – very unlikely to exceed nose weight on vehicle.

The on Line Incident Reporting is working reasonably well the biggest problem remains the non-reporting of incidents. No national statistics are available yet - 39 incidents were reported in the region. Itchen and Ryde are the "un-safest" Clubs in Wessex! – or the most thorough at reporting incidents - Shanklin, Bournemouth Uni., Canford and Winchester are the safest! plus Newport – there one "incident" was reported by Ryde. It would seem unlikely that these clubs did not have a single or near incident during the year – and this questions their reporting procedures.

Safety incidents Reported by H&D (& Wessex) Clubs in 2010 at the 2010 Hants & Dorset Events - race officials reports showed – safety related incidents at 12 of these events. BR on-line incidents reports submitted for 10 incidents (2 at one Regatta). Would expect to see BR incident report from Club involved and event safety advisor.

Four boat inspections undertaken during the season - as always – faults with heel restraints was by far the most common accounting for around 75% of faults found with lack of boat Id as the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest fault. There was some discussion on how to get this message across to the Clubs that heel restraints needed to be checked before every outing, weather training or competition, and it was agreed to continue with the note that was added to the Club briefing document at H&D Regatta's to ask Club representatives if there boats complied with British Rowing's water safety code plus the additional rules imposed by Hants & Dorset Safety commission – and to remind Club representatives to check all heel restraints before going afloat. It was also agreed that at one or two random events a 100% heel restraint check would take place.

A check on all Life Jackets was also undertaken at Woolston Regatta – the first the Water Safety Commission has done – with some interesting results and this was to be repeated at a 2011 event.

The meeting agreed that the current procedures for inspecting boats should continue with a random inspection of boats at three or four events in the coming season in addition to the 100% heel restraint check and Life Jacket check.

The British Rowing boat identification system, now in force nationally at all BR events, has already been fully adopted by the Association and it was agreed that this should now be regarded as mandatory – with a "fault found" notice issued for any non-compliant boats – but boats would not be prevented from going afloat. Delegates were reminded that boat ID should also be on coaching and safety boats.

The meeting briefly discussed last seasons Regatta/Event Audits where all H&D permit granted events had submitted safety audits and two had been re-audited by the Safety Commission. The re-audits did not reveal any major safety issues at either event. It was agreed that this procedure, should continue, but that re-audits would only be undertaken where requested or where concerns were raised or on an occasional random basis. It was felt that the race officials reporting system already hi-lighted safety concerns and this would be used alongside safety commission members observations to hi-light events where safety a re-audit would take place – as well as Clubs failure to show an appropriate attitude to safety matters – like failure to attend the safety meeting or apparent failure to submit on line incident reports.

Association owned Safety equipment was reviewed with a reminder that it was the Regatta's responsibility to ensure that the Safety equipment was available at the appropriate time and fit for purpose on the day. Regatta Committee's must check the equipment upon receipt, well before the day of the Regatta and ensure that the equipment was handed over in time to the next Regatta. . The use of the sound signal device for finishing races was also not acceptable - Regatta's must provide their own and the safety Kits were for the use of Hants & Dorset ARA Race Official and not for the Event safety boats which must provide their own equipment. The status of the kits when returned at the end of the 2010 season was reasonable – except for the Loud Hailers were two new one had been purchased. Five Life Jackets are being serviced by Crewsaver with only minor repairs required – at a cost of £82.19.

**The recommendation to the Associations AGM that the format of the Hants & Dorset Water Safety Commission should consist of - Mark Viner, remaining as Chairman with Steve Bull, Gary Joyce, Trevor Gay and Sam Doddy as Commission members.**

The Venue for 2012 Safety meeting, in line with the established rota was agreed as Christchurch on a date and time in February, 2012 that would be agreed with the Club.

The meeting also discussed - new Environment Agency Boat Licensing and the planned BR Explore Rowing event from Hengistbury Head, Christchurch, to the Needles. Concerns were expressed regarding the safety of this event – although BR had committed to send the Risk Assessment and safety Plan to the Regional Water Safety Advisor for review. This would be shared with commission members and Christchurch and Lyminster Safety Advisors for comment when received.

At the conclusion of the meeting those still in attendance joined the Water Safety Commission members in a re-audit of the Safety procedures and facilities of the Southampton Rowing Club – which was regarded as very impressive with only minor discrepancies noted.

Steve Bull.  
Association Secretary.  
February, 2011.