

THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HANTS. & DORSET AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION, BTC ROWING CLUB, SOUTHAMPTON, SATURDAY, 6th MARCH, 2010 at 10.30am.

There were 25 delegates in attendance when the Chairman, John Purkess, opened the meeting. All Clubs and Events were represented except Worthing who had not sent apologies.

Apologies were received from - Brian Gowman, Westover; Alec Sweeny, Southsea; Andy & Sue Sothcott, Poole; Tim Bull & Pete Locke, Lymington.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read on a proposal from Alan Stewart, seconded by Les Foad 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) Concerns regarding Newport Regatta and in particular the Umpires Boat. Umpires Commission Chairman, John Purkess, had been in contact with Newport Rowing Club and received assurances that the issues were being addressed.
- 2) Southsea Regatta. John Purkess had been in contact with Roger Smith CARA Umpires Commission and Southsea ref. disputes over conflicting rules. No response from CARA to date. Alex Sweeny of Southsea had also been in contact with Roger Smith. Meeting agreed CARA flexibility was the main issue. One thought was that Umpires should have final decision over all issues and that this should be printed in the Regatta program. The Association Secretary was to write to CARA regarding this and other points raised.
- 3) Incidents at 2009 South Coast Rowing Championships – off the water. The requested apologies from and to the various Clubs involved and to the organizing committee had all been made and accepted as far as the Hants & Dorset ARA Clubs were concerned and the issues could be regarded as closed.
- 4) Presentation Dinner – missing Ladies Novice Fours Trophy, The missing Trophy had finally been returned at the Meeting by Coalporters and handed over to Lymington.

The Association Secretary then gave his report on the 2009 season (see attached - master only), which was accepted on a proposal from John Bailey seconded by Denny Woodford.

The Association Secretary then gave details of the correspondence he had undertaken on the Associations behalf since the Autumn Delegates Meeting, which included information on bulletins published, correspondence undertaken, the South Coast handbook, late scratching's fines, questionnaires and enquiries responded to, meeting minutes published and information on meetings attended and the Association Web site. A letter of thanks had been sent to Gareth Cook following the Annual Presentation Dinner in November and to Barbara Carr to keep her informed on who won the Trophy donated in memory of her late husband Hank.

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 until 2011.

The meeting then considered two requests for additional Hants & Dorset Championship Medals to be awarded – one from Westover Junior Men which met criteria laid down in H&D Rules and which the Executive Officers recommendation was that the Association approves the request. The other was from BTC for their Senior Men which did not meet the criteria laid down in the H&D Rules and where the Executive Officers recommended rejection. The meeting agreed with the recommendations made by the Association's Executive Officers on a proposal from John Bailey and seconded by Les Foad.

There was one other item of correspondence received which needed the consideration of the meeting - a letter from Adam Rose and Tom Jaokim of Christchurch asking the Association to consider the possibility of introducing status regression. This had already been discussed at the Autumn Delegates meeting where while some sympathy was expressed regarding their particular situation it was agreed that the possibility of introducing regression into our rules is more complicated than it sounds as it would have an impact on a number of rules, could effect the Championship league system and South Coast selection procedures and cause potential conflict with the other two South Coastal Rowing Associations. Further concerns were expressed at the meeting - regression could result in someone winning a lower than Senior H&D Championship more than once and the difficulty of maintaining a record of everyone's status. It was also argued that a regression rule would be very difficult to formulate. However while the meeting rejected the idea of any form of regression being introduced for the 2010 season the Association Secretary was asked to circulate the Christchurch letter to all the Clubs and to seek their views and suggestion on the wording for a rule. The idea that the H&D Forum should be asked to look at the issue was suggested by some at the meeting but others were uncomfortable with this as they regard the Forum as an unelected and undemocratic body – although anyone can attend their meetings.

The Treasurer then presented his audited report on the year 2009 (see attached) which showed the Association to be in a reasonably comfortable financial position. The treasurer advised the meeting that the South Coast Levy if retained at the current level would be around £20,000 by 2011 and while we should keep this ring fenced for the event this should be kept under review at Hants & Dorset ARA Meetings.

The meeting instructed the Treasurer to close the old Swanage Regatta Account and transfer the remaining funds into the Associations General Account and to investigate, in consultation with the other Executive Officers, possible accounts where the Association might earn a little more interest of the funds accumulated for future South Coast Rowing Championships.

The Accounts were adopted unanimously on a proposal from John Bailey, seconded by Denny Woodford with the thanks of the Association to Treasurer Keith Warland and Auditor Pete Staddon. The accounts for the Prize Presentation Evening were included within these figures as were Swanage Regatta.

The meeting then elected the Association Officers for 2010 as follows - President – John Adams, of Ryde, having completed his two year term was replaced by Mark Viner, of Lymington, on a proposal from Ryde Rowing Club, seconded by Denny Woodford and passed unanimously. The retiring President, John Adams thanked the meeting for their support for the past two years – and received his past Presidents Medal from the new President, Mark Viner, who thanked the meeting for the honor of being elected President. Chairman – John Purkess, was reelected on a nomination from John Bailey, seconded by Les Foad and passed unanimously (note. 2nd year of a maximum of five). Hon. Treasurer – Keith Warland was re-elected unanimously on a proposal from John Bailey, seconded by Denny Woodford. Hon. Secretary – Steve Bull was reelected unanimously on a proposal from Pete Staddon, seconded by Bob Sivier and the meeting also agreed that his honorarium should remain at £450 per year. Pete Staddon was re-elected as Hon. Auditor on a proposal from Bob Sivier, seconded by John Bailey.

The position of Association Vice President was then considered by the meeting following the confusion at last years 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. As a result of this decision 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 were elected as Life Vice Presidents of the Association.

J. Bryant, K. Ayles, B.Gowman, A. Wigmore, John Purkess and Ken Fraser were elected as Vice Presidents with the addition of retiring President John Adams, on a proposal from Ryde R. C. seconded by Keith Warland.

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 the same format and have the same cost 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.

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 Gary Joyce, seconded by John Bailey, that this should remain unchanged at £1 per seat although as all ready discussed the Associations should continue to review this fund.

The meeting then considered the rates of subscription, permit fees and entry fees for the ensuing year and following another brief discussion it was agreed, on a proposal from Pat Glover, seconded by Les Foad that these to should remain unchanged for 2010 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.

The Regatta dates for the 2010 season were then agreed with the following changes from the dates proposed at the Autumn Delegates Meeting –

- 1) Swanage Regatta was confirmed as 31st July, although their had been an approach from the Council of a change of date and they had indicated that they might want us to move away from the traditional last Saturday in July date in the future.
- 2) BTC confirmed that their Regatta would be held at Western Shore on the 12th June, with a possible full trial Regatta on the proposed Itchen course on the 3rd July.
- 3) Bournemouth and Christchurch Regatta's had swapped dates – Christchurch would now be on the 7th August and Bournemouth Regatta would be the last scheduled Regatta on the 14th August with the Westover Rowing Club hosting the Executive Meeting.

The Regatta dates were therefore agreed as follows -
H&D CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA'S IN CAPITALS. *Junior Events in Italics.*

Saturday, 20 th March.	Southampton Eights, River & Small Boats HERR.
Sunday, 21 st March.	Head of the Stour, Christchurch.
Saturday, 17 th April.	Southampton Coastal Fours HERR.
Saturday, 8 th May.	COALPORERS REGATTA.
Saturday, 15 th May.	RYDE REGATTA.
Sunday, 16 th May.	SHANKLIN REGATTA.
Saturday, 22 nd May.	MILFORD (LYMINGTON) REGATTA.
Saturday, 29 th May.	NEWPORT REGATTA.
Saturday, 5 th June.	ITCHEN IMPERIAL REGATTA.
Saturday, 12 th June.	BTC REGATTA (Western shore)
Saturday, 19 th June.	POOLE REGATTA.
Saturday, 26 th June.	WOOLSTON REGATTA.
<i>Saturday, 3rd July.</i>	<i>Possible BTC trial regatta on the River Itchen.</i>
Saturday, 10 th July.	SOUTHSEA REGATTA.
(Friday, 16 th to Sunday, 18 th July)	National Championships, Strathclyde).
Sunday, 25 th July.	<i>Coalporters Junior Regatta</i>
Saturday, 31 st July.	SWANAGE REGATTA Possible change? [subject to the approval of Swanage Council]
Saturday, 7 th August.	CHRISTCHURCH REGATTA.
Saturday, 14 th August	BOURNEMOUTH REGATTA.
Saturday, 21 st August.	Provisional date for Hants & Dorset Championship and South Coast Selection row-offs if required. Dockhead, Southampton. 11.00am.**
Saturday, 11 th September.	<i>South Coast Junior Regatta and South Coast South Coast Championships Regatta, Wimbleball.</i>
Saturday, 25 th September.	<i>Itchen Junior Sprint Regatta – 25th September.</i>

Dates still to be advised: Coalporters Winter Sculls HERR.

There will be no Wessex Junior Regatta at Bryanston School in 2010

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

The meeting then discussed the format of the Swanage Regatta Committee agreeing to maintain the method employed during the last three 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 – with concerns expressed about a missing base and the Ladies Junior and Senior Trophies. Tim Bull has indicated he is prepared to carry out the same tasks as he did last year, as have Sue and Andy Sothcott.

Denny Woodford then reported on the recent meetings of the South Coast Council on behalf of the Hants & Dorset Delegates that attended including the Council AGM of 16th January, at which he was elected Chairman for the next three years. The Council AGM had discussed the 2009 Championships at Folkestone – including the problems arising from H&D and CARA Clubs where Folkestone ARC consider both associations have dealt with matters to their satisfaction of FARC and consider this matter closed and the comments from H&D re start boat, umpires boats, poor commentary and reception all aired and noted as well as the need at future events for wheelchair access to Reception etc., to be considered. The Council also discussed the situation with Itchen ARC where entry fees were not enclosed with entry forms as required by rules and where Folkestone, after consultation with CARA, decided to allow Itchen to race on Saturday with a promise of payment by end of day. This did not happen; payment was eventually made at a later date minus entry fees for two crews who missed their race. This is not acceptable to SCC and a letter will be sent to Itchen ARC requesting payment by end of February or the club will not be permitted to enter any crews for 2010. The 2010 Championships at Wimbleball were also discussed in detail (see notes attached). A Presentation was made by Mike Green and Tim Bull on behalf of the 2011 Regatta at Eton Dorney which was well received by all the meeting. The usual request from WERA to use river boats was made but this was flatly rejected by H&D and it was confirmed that the junior racing will be in river and coastal boats and the South Coast Championships will be coastal boats (Rule No 9). The meeting agreed that Eton Dorney is the 2011 venue and the Dispensation is agreed for Rules 19 and 33. A letter from SCC will be circulated to all clubs, but especially West of England Clubs ask them why there was a lack of interest in the South Coast Championships. WERA were asked to adopt a veteran status for 40+ - at present 28+ - to allow WERA to be eligible to compete at SCC and a request from CARA to adopt antique gold medals for Junior and Open events was rejected by H&D and WERA but the South Coast Council had agreed a change in rotation from 2012 - which would be at Falmouth, followed by CARA in 2013 and the H&D ARA in 2014 and then rotate around the three Associations in turn.

The meeting then elected the following Racing Officials for the 2010 South Coast Championship Regatta at Wimbleball on the 11th September, on a proposal from M. Green, seconded by D. Woodford, as follows - Championship Events Officials – STARTER - Carole Wall, Christchurch R. C. UMPIRE - John Purkess, BTC Rowing Club. JUDGE - John Adams, Ryde R. C. Open Umpire – Chris Eveleigh, Lymington A. R. C. Reserve Championship Officials – Andy Sothcott, Poole A. R. C. Pete Staddon, Christchurch A. R. C. Mark Viner, Lymington A. R. C. Steve Bull, Ryde R. C. Junior Regatta. Andy Sothcott, Poole A. R. C. Pete Staddon, Christchurch A. R. C. Mark Viner, Lymington A. R. C. H&D Delegate for Boat Inspections - Steve Bull, Ryde R. C.

The meeting also agreed that a change to the Rules of the South Coast Rowing Council that “following the revelation that one of the WEARA Officials at the 2008 South Coast Championship Regatta had not officiated at any/or just 1 of their regattas that season it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to the South Coast Council that SCC Officials should have officiated in at least 3 regattas during that season”

The meeting also agreed a £60 contribution for repairs to the Bidiford Bowl – proposed by John Adams, seconded by Pete Staddon.

The meeting then re-elected the Associations South Coast Council delegates Bob Sivier, Denis Woodford and Andy Sothcott on a proposal from John Bailey, seconded by Pete Jacobs.

The Association Secretary, Steve Bull then gave a report on the plans for the 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta to be hosted by the Association at Eton Dorney. As already stated South Coast Council AGM was given a presentation by the organizing committee represented by Mike Green and Tim Bull. This was the same presentation, with a few very minor changes presented at the H&D Autumn Delegates Meeting. The SCC AGM accepted and agreed the H&D ARA proposal, with minimal questions asked – and agreed to the two rule deviations requested – start to be on the other side to what rules state and no alternative course. The Organizing committee currently meets every other month – at 6.00pm at Itchen Imperial Rowing Club – with the next meeting scheduled for 12th April. Anyone interested in helping is welcome to attend and we would like to encourage those Clubs not currently involved to have representation on the committee – as it’s an Association organized event. Copies of the presentation made to the SCC AGM were made available on a CD. The organizing committee requested a transfer of £500 from the H&D Accounts to the Organizing committee for initial costs which was agreed by the meeting.

The meeting then considered the amendments and additions to Association Rules as follows - .

1) That Veteran over 50 fours becomes a championship event in the 2010 season – proposed by Andy Parsons of Coalporters Rowing Club. Members of Coalporters veterans section feel the event merits championship status in that entries at all regattas are now consistently at a level where a high standard of competition takes place in this category throughout the season; offering championship points would give due recognition to the efforts being put in by over 50s competitors representing their clubs on the water and encourage still greater participation in this event in future seasons. After a brief discussion the meeting voted against this proposal and it was lost.

2) To consider a proposal, from the floor, at the Autumn Delegates Meeting, that Voting rights and attendance at Annual General Meetings should be in line with Executive meetings of the Association. i.e. two representatives per club, one per event, Executive Officers and Vice Presidents – excluding the two additional Club Representatives and one event representative currently allowed at Annual General Meetings by the existing Rules. This was proposed by Gary Joyce of Itchen Rowing Club and seconded by Chris Foad of Itchen but failed to get the required two thirds majority to pass the rule change.

The meeting did, however approve two additional Recommendations to Regatta Committees, as follows -

New 13. That where more than one event is taking place within a race then the lane draw should be grouped to make it easier for officials and competitors alike.

New 14. Regatta Programs should include the scheduled start time of the Regatta and the anticipated start time of each race.

The meeting then re-elected the Racing Officials for 2010 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 – plus Chris Eveleigh and Andy Parsons – promoted full official. ASSISTANT OFFICIALS - Simon Clements, Bob Springbett, Trev Gay, Pete Diffey plus Chris Foad was added to the list of assistant officials.

John Purkess, Chairman of the Umpires Commission then reported on the Associations Officials Meeting of 23rd January, 2010 where 18 Full and Assistant Racing Officials in attendance. Among the items covered and not already reported upon within these minutes were - 1) the thanks of the Chairman to those who officiated at Folkestone in very difficult conditions. 2) A discussion on the £50 charge on Clubs who run an event but have less than two active Officials. Southsea (0), Newport (0) and Westover (1) had failed to meet the criteria (at

least two full or assistant officials making themselves available for at least three Regattas) during the 2009 Regatta season. The officials meeting had agreed to recommend that the charge should be increased to £100 – but reduced to £50 when they had one Official that met the criteria. After some discussion this was agreed by the meeting but would not come into force until next year. 3) The Insurance of Officials via British Rowing/ARA membership where the officials meeting agreed to recommend to the Association AGM that up to the full cost of a non-racing membership, should be reimbursed by the Association which for 2010 would be £23 – which, with some Officials choosing not to re-claim the fee should incur a cost of less than £500 – a recommendation approved by the AGM on a proposal from Steve Bull, seconded by John Adams.

The meeting then re-elected the Umpires Commission of - Chairman - John Purkess. Commission Members - John Bailey, Keith Warland and Alan Wigmore plus Martin Bradbeer, of Itchen Imperial R. C. to replace Mike Green who had stood down – but would be asked if he would be willing to continue as an additional member of the Umpires Commission so that the Association could continue to benefit from his knowledge and many years of experience.

Colin Eales, Chairman of the Wessex Regional Rowing Council reported on the activities of the Wessex Regional Rowing Council and the ARA, his report covering the work of the Regions Coaching Development Officer; the £8.5 million funding/grants into Rowing Facilities 2003 to 2009; the appointment of Deputy Chairmen - Gary Harris and Ann-Marie Phelps; the approval of Hengistbury Outdoor Centre, as an Affiliate member; The draft budget for 2010/2011 which shows a deficit of £177,290; The Commonwealth 2010 games where there is no funding, athletes to self fund; No provision for CEO salary budget, only recruiting costs; the 17th May 2010 national launch of Explore Rowing at the Henley Rowing Museum; the British Rowing/BUCS for 2010 focus project. Southampton University had been selected from the Wessex Region and a Membership Group that is now up and working. Colin Eales also quoted BR Membership statistics - Wessex has grown from a total of 461 on 30/06/95 to 845 on 30/06/09 - nearly doubled in 14 years and commented on his work with the National Development Committee. Other points made - National Competition Committee – the New Chairman Peter Ibbotson; National Rowing Championships now re-titled British Rowing Championships; Executive Report: 2018 World Coastal Championships, applied for by Milford Haven. Several delegates at the meeting complained about the article in Regatta Magazine, supposedly on “Coastal” Rowing that had totally ignored our version of the sport and Cubs were asked to write to Regatta Magazine to complain.

The meeting then agreed on a proposal from Steve Bull, seconded by John Adams, that the Hants & Dorset ARA contribution to the Wessex Regional Rowing Council should be increased to £250 in 2010 and this was agreed by the meeting.

The Association Secretary reported on the H&D ARA Safety Commission Meeting held at Lymington Rowing Club on Saturday, 20th February with Mark Viner in the chair and all but Newport, Shanklin, Coalporters and Southsea represented – but with Canford School in attendance. The Association Secretary, who serves on the ARA/British Rowing National Water Safety Committee in his capacity as Wessex Regional Rowing Council Water Safety Advisor, reported that he had attended 2 of the 4 National Safety Meetings held in 2009 and had attended one meeting this Year at BR HQ on 16th January. Subjects covered at these meetings had been – 1) the Club gap analysis audit. 2) the ARA/British Rowing on-line incident reporting system. 3) the Appointment of Clive Killick as the Hon. National Water Safety Adviser & Chairman of the Water Safety Sub-Committee as Stuart Ward was standing from these positions; 4) Latest guidance from the NSC and FISA on heel restraints confirms we should continue to check that shoes don't go above the horizontal rather than a specific measurement; 5) the expensive but safe Shimano SRD 600 Rowing Shoe System; 6) the suitability of “tin fish” as safety boats as opposed to coaching boats. 7) Boat buoyancy and swamping situations and the misleading FISA guidelines on the subject; 8) Criteria for managing less buoyant boats. A formula for assessing has been developed and is being tested – and checked by the British Marine Federation. 9) Car topping and trailering boats and the new guidance that has been published. 10) Vespoli hatch covers. 11) Launch Driving – Level 1 club administered training. In conjunction with the RYA. 12) New business – Strategy & Action Plan. With regards to the Club Safety Audits/Gap Analysis - he was pleased to be able to report that the response in Wessex was 100% - the top responding region nationally. The topics where Wessex Clubs had a “YES” response of less than 75% were reviewed with a number of points raised with regards to the wording and format of the questions. The on Line Incident Reporting has been up and running since 1st January and appears to have been fairly successful and well received nationally and within our region. 41 incident reports have been submitted by Association/Wessex Region Clubs using the new procedure – and the National Safety Committee have published national and regional statistics based on these reports as of the end of 2009. It is clear that a number of incidents have gone unreported (as they did with the old system). The information and stats will therefore only ever be as good and complete as the incidents reporting allow them to be. The main issue nationally remains the lack of reporting of incidents by some clubs and efforts are to be made to make the process even easier – by pda? mobile? – perhaps a monthly report from all Clubs even if no incidents recorded - are all ideas under consideration. A number of Wessex Clubs had not reported any incidents at all – which is surprising – especially when the safety commission was aware of incidents at some of these clubs. A number of incidents which raised issues were considered in detail by the meeting. The meeting was shown the results of

the four boat inspections undertaken during the season with details of the faults found. As always – faults with heel restraints was by far the most common accounting for 89% - 24 of the 27 faults found. It was agreed to add a note to the Club briefing document at H&D Regatta's to ask Club representatives if their 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. The meeting agreed that the current procedures for inspecting boats should continue with a random inspection of boats at four or five events in the coming season. It was also agreed that an inspection of all life jackets would be undertaken at one event – to assess if there was a significant issue that needed to be addressed. Whether the ARA/British Rowing boat identification system, now in force nationally at all BR events, should be fully adopted by the Association was discussed. Currently this is only a recommendation within the Hants & Dorset ARA although any Coastal boat used in a BR event has to have an ID code and so many of the Associations fleet of boats now complies. The meeting agreed that with almost all events in the Association insured through British Rowing and with the legal risk of non-compliance the Association should continue to move towards full compliance. Therefore the meeting recommended that this year, while boats without ID would not be prevented from going afloat at H&D permit issued events these would be reported as a fault with full compliance envisaged for 2011. Delegates were reminded that boat ID should also be on coaching and safety boats. The meeting briefly discussed last seasons Regatta/Event Audits. All H&D permit granted events had submitted safety audits and two had been re-audited by the Safety Commission – Ryde which had been re-audited because of the conflict of interest because the event Safety Advisor is also Regional Safety Advisor and the Wessex Junior Regatta at Bryanston – at their request. It was agreed by the meeting that this procedure, which the Hants & Dorset ARA has had in place for some years, and goes further than current British Rowing requirements, should continue, but that re-audits would only be undertaken where requested or where concerns were raised and on an occasional random basis. The Association owned Safety equipment was reviewed by the meeting with the following points recorded - THROW BAG (Grab Line) - 2 in good condition - and would appear to be unused – ONE MISSING – replacement required if not found (around £25). LIFE JACKET - 2 in good condition - and would appear to be unused – ONE MISSING – replacement required if not found (around £50). LIFE JACKETS - Only 9 left jackets returned – ONE MISSING. If not found will need replacing (around £50). Of major concern were the three missing items, regarding which all clubs had already been circulated, and that would require replacement if not located by the Association AGM. - around £125. After a brief discussion it was agreed to recommend 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 2011 meeting would be held at Southampton Rowing Club on a date to be agreed between the Secretary and Southampton Rowing Club. There were one point raised by the meeting – Privately owned sculls needed to have boat ID – as it was noted that a scull found in the river Itchen without a sculler – had no ID – and the emergency services had to contact all clubs in the area to see if anyone was missing. It turned out to be a privately owned scull that had been thrown into the river by vandals. The meeting approved all the recommendations made by the H&D Safety Commission.

The meeting agreed that the arrangements for the Prize Presentation evening will be similar to last year with Gareth Cook once again agreeing to organize the event at the Novotel in Southampton, booked for Saturday, 6th November – with no increase in the ticket price.

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.

The only items of any other business was the comment that we needed to raise the profile of our version of Coastal Rowing, especially with British Rowing and an update from Westover and Bournemouth Rowing Club regarding the situation with their Clubhouse where the Council proposals were still on back foot so for this racing season at least it was business as usual.

Their being no other business the meeting closed at 3.34pm with thanks to BTC for their hospitality.

H&D ARA Chairman.

[Minutes taken and written by Steve Bull, Association Secretary, 7/04/10].

ATTACHMENTS.

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

- 1. A copy of the Association Secretaries Report on the 2009 Season.*
- 2. Audited Financial Report on the year 2009 including the Presentation Dinner and Swanage Regatta Accounts.*
- 3. Notes on the 2010 South Coast Championships at Wimbleball.*

Hon Secretaries Report on the 2009 Season.

The Hants & Dorset Amateur Rowing Association granted permits to twenty events in 2009 –including the thirteen Regattas that make up the Championship program, four head races and three Junior events. Unfortunately one of the head races – the Coalporters winter sculls and one Championship Regatta, at Bournemouth, were lost to the weather and were not able to be re-scheduled. Entries, at close of entry (i.e. before any late entries or scratchings) over all the events granted a permit was 2,101. The entries at the thirteen Championship Regattas were 1,421 – an increase of 40 or 2.8% over the 2008 season total of 1381. The largest Regatta, as always, was Southsea as it is a combined event with the Coast ARA Clubs – this had 207 entries - slightly down on 2008. Over half the Regattas had an entry exceeding 100 with 11 of the 13 showing an increase over the previous year.

In the Men's Senior Fours BTC, the dominant club in this event for most of this decade, retained the Championship, with six wins and points, in spite of a late start which saw Ryde and Itchen as front-runners. Itchen's challenge, they recorded two wins, lost momentum in mid season leaving Ryde as BTC's main challengers their four wins putting the title in doubt to the last Regatta. These two crews went on to represent the Association at the South Coast Championships in Folkestone where BTC were runners-up and Ryde finished in a disappointing 4th place.

The Men's Junior Senior Fours was a two-horse race between Coalporters, the pre-season favorites and surprise challengers Shanklin and also went down to the wire with Coalporters coming from behind to clinch the Championship at the last Regatta of the season where they recorded their seventh win, Shanklin finishing the season with five. So it was Coalporters and Shanklin who represented the Association at Folkestone where Coalporters again had the better of their rivals, but failed to win the South Coast Championship finishing in 2nd place with Shanklin in 3rd.

The winners of the Men's Junior Fours Championship was also a surprise if only because the crew started the season as Novices, winning the first two regattas to gain promotion to Junior status and going on to win a Championship clinching seven regatta's at this status. Coalporters were the runners-up with four wins and these two represented the Association at Folkestone but were once again unable to secure a victory finishing in 3rd and 4th place respectively.

The Men's Novice Fours Championship was won by Lymington with four wins from two crews and the runners-up were Westover where a second crew adding another win to the two won by their Championship Junior crew at the beginning of the season and Southsea who also won on three occasions with two different crews. Poole recorded one win – as did Christchurch – but their point was withheld as the crew included an unregistered oarsman.

Coalporters continued their domination of the Ladies Senior Fours Championship recording eight wins during the season to comfortably retain this Championship. The limited challenge to their dominance came from BTC and Poole who each won one Regatta – BTC joining Coalporters to represent the Association at the South Coast Championships. Here Coalporters once again proved their quality winning in style to retain this title with BTC in 4th place.

Coalporters completed a double winning the Ladies Junior Fours Championship fairly comfortably with five wins to Poole's two – and Christchurch also winning one regatta – but once again losing the point because of an unregistered oarswoman. Worthing won three events but with no registered oarswoman were unable to claim any points. Coalporters and Poole represented the Association at Folkestone – Coalporters finishing in 3rd with Poole in 4th Place.

Lymington completed a double of Novice Fours Championships winning the Ladies event with four wins from two crews, proving how successful their learn to row program had been. Southampton, Itchen and BTC all recorded two wins each and Poole recorded one win.

BTC retained the Veteran Fours title with another dominating performance winning at nine Regattas with the only real challenge coming from Lymington who won on three occasions. These two represented the Association at the South Coast Championships but will be disappointed with their 2nd place – with Lymington finishing in 4th.

Ryde retained the Men's Senior Pairs Championship dominating the event for most of the season recording wins an eight of the ten events held – Itchen taking the other two points available.

There was similar domination in the Men's Junior Pairs where Poole won six of the seven events and claimed the point as Southsea as first H&D Pair to finish.

The Ladies Senior Pairs Championship was won by Coalporters – their 4th win at the last Regatta of the season securing the title in slightly controversial circumstances over runners-up Southampton who had three wins. There were also two wins for Itchen and one for BTC.

The Men's Senior Sculls was dominated by one Club – with four Scullers from Ryde taking all the eleven points available. Mike Jenner's five wins secured him his first Senior Sculls title over previous champion Nick Pike with four wins, Ian Hayden with two and Matt Allsopp who took the point at Southsea.

There was further success for Ryde in the Men's Junior Sculls where Tom Clark's five wins secured him this Championship after a season long battle with Pete Lock of Lymington who won on three occasions. Ben Ade of Ryde recorded one win as did Graham Baggaley from Southsea and Schiber from Poole.

Disappointingly there were no Ladies Senior Sculls events held during the season and it can only be hoped that the emerging young Ladies Scullers from the lower statuses will eventually strengthen this status.

A point in case would be the Ladies Junior Sculls Championship won convincingly by Emiley Comoford of Coalporters with nine wins and the runner-up K. McGregor-Ritchie from Itchen who won on two occasions.

There was also strong competition for the Novice Ladies Sculls Championship with Itchen emerging as the winners with three wins from two Scullers – with Shanklin, Coalporters and Christchurch sharing the runners-up slot with two wins each with Westover taking a single win.

As series of well-supported non-championship events were also staged throughout the season – including Veteran 50 Coxed Fours, Coxed Quad Sculls, Double Sculls and J16 events.

Coalporters impressive haul of forty-one Championship points won over all events gave them the R. S. O. "Hank" Carr Trophy as best Club with Ryde, with twenty-nine points won as runners-up.

The Coxswain of the year, in a close contest - with fourteen different coxswains from nine different clubs in the reckoning – was won by Sophie Maxwell from BTC Rowing Club.

The Archie Fraser Memorial Trophy for the best performing club in all events at the South coast Championship Regatta was won by Poole and the Evening Echo Trophy, presented in memory of Arthur Chatfield, for an outstanding contribution to Hants & Dorset and Coastal Rowing was awarded to Penny Glazzard of Coalporters.

Registrations in 2009 totaled 669 – an increase of 89 or 15% on the 2008 figure of 580. 556 of these were recorded at first registration with 122 added during the season. The largest Club, by registration is Christchurch with 109 followed by Southampton with 77, the smallest is Shanklin with 18 registered members – although Worthing did not actually register any members – and did not claim any points for their wins. Southampton showed the biggest increase in registrations – and if you exclude Worthing – Coalporters the biggest drop – although they still had the 3rd highest registrations recorded.

There are a number of encouraging aspects to this season, giving grounds for some optimism, with registrations and entries both increasing and encouraging levels of participation at Novice level - but we can certainly not afford to be complacent. There clearly remains a lack of understanding about "Coastal" rowing within the ARA/British Rowing and the growth in participation in "off-shore" and "gig racing" presents a challenge. But our "league" system leading to the Association Championships is a very positive aspect of our Association – which the ARA/British Rowing would do well to take note of. They have nothing like it – and I believe other regions would benefit from a similar regionally based competition system

Steve Bull.
Association Secretary.
February, 2010.

Wimbleball 2010

- Good update and presentation received from Steve and Andrea Worley.
- Junior racing will commence Saturday 11th September at 10 a.m. – 1000 metres.
- South Coast Championships will commence Saturday 11th September late morning – 2000 metres.
- Completion of racing approximately 5 p.m. with the Bowl race.
- Start line will have large lane number on the bank behind start visible to all crews.
- Lane markers at 500 metres. These two items are already in place.
- Reserve course will be across the bottom of the lake at approximately 1500 metres.
- There will be a commentary afloat and approximately 750 metres along lake bank to finish line.
- Umpires and safety boats all in hand and will be subject of March meeting.

Note:

Wimbleball is a twilight zone for mobile phones

Reception

This will take place at the Lake in a marquee with 150 capacity.

Local dignitaries will be attending along with an international oarsman if possible, who will present prizes - outside if dry in - marquee if wet.

Draw

- Steve Worley was not impressed with Folkestone and is going to ensure a good reception with the three Presidents being better involved – he had a long chat with H&D delegates after meeting.
- Various tents will be erected for changing etc.,
- A bar will be supplied by Taunton Brewery and will be open all day Saturday.
- Food will be supplied by club catering, bacon butties, burgers, cakes, tea a coffee, jacket potatoes and Ice cream.
- Saturday evening will conclude with a disco in the main marquee – no charge
- A hog roast will be available at a charge
- Unlimited parking on site is available at an approximate charge of £3 per car.
- Unlimited tent and camping on site also at an approximate charge of £12 per tent.
- Both items operated by South West Lakes in lieu of charge of £1300 to Wimbleball Club.
- Toilet facilities on site will be supplemented by South West Lakes who will be supplying additional portable units f.o.c on site.

First Aid

- This will be supplied by the St John's ambulance/complete with ambulance.
- Steve and Andrea Worley have a team from their own club and also the South West Lakes team who will be assisting with the Regatta. They have recently had the iron man competition with 6000 people in attendance.
- Both H&D and CARA delegates requested that WERA ensure full operational support for this event, this was confirmed by Ray Mallett who will raise this at their AGM.
- All looks very positive at present.
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Next SCC meeting will be at Wimbleball on March 27th 2010 at 11.00 a.m.
