

MECBC Committee Meeting

5.00pm, Tuesday 7th June – The Bar

Minutes

Present: Heather Dudley (HD), Taine Ranaghan (TR), Laurane Saliou (LS), Emily Busvine (EB), Simona Sulikova (SS), Nadia Blackshaw (NB), Maria Rust (MR), Ying Chow (YC), Felicity Parker (FP), Kate Wilkinson (KW)

Apologies sent by: Emma Roth, Olimpia Onelli

5.00pm: meeting commences.

1. New LBC

Emma Roth was elected as an LBC but no longer has the time to get to the boathouse in the mornings as she is living further away. A replacement is needed.

- a. **Election for next year**
- b. **Anna, Amanda?**

General discussion:

- Chloe Legard is happy to help this term but does not feel able to continue to next term.
- Emilie Cousin is willing to coach, but does not want the full commitment of LBC. These feelings are echoed by a few others.
- Anna Gibbons is a possibility but may be busy with modern pentathlon.
- Amanda Sjoal has expressed interest in being part of the committee for next year, so is a potential candidate.

EB/LS: Mark thinks we should separate the role of LBC from coach as this would increase the potential number of coaches. Perhaps those in the senior squad could coach once a term/week. Either way, roles should be more clearly defined as ambiguity leads to confusion and ineffective coaching.

2. Ergs

The third erg had bad connection between the screen and the main body, so was not bought back to College. This means we still need to source one more erg.

- a. **Collection this week**
- b. **Can we get them before the end of the year?**

HD: aims to get this done before the end of term, but Taine and Kate are remaining in Cambridge so could continue the searching/collection.

General discussion: What to do with the extra money (£600 budget per erg)? Agreement to buy care products like cleaning fluids and cloths and some fitness equipment such as kettle bells. **HD** will look into this. Ergs don't seem to move in the squash court so no need for mats.

HD: Need a sign for the ergs in the squash court to discourage non Boat Club members from using them – “Property of MECBC”.

3. New coaches

a. New fellows will come to bumps breakfast

EB: Two fellows have expressed interest in the Boat Club and coaching. They will be introduced to the Boat Club at Bumps Breakfast. We are in need of novice coaches in Michaelmas as they are usually only two senior squads.

b. Lower boats? Novice coaches? (Question of payment)

There is a question over payment as we do not normally pay rowers who coach the lower boats. It is agreed to meet the fellows first and assess the situation again at a later date.

4. Winston

EB: would like Winston to be accessible again next year for the novices.

a. Combined boathouse is done

TR will also get in contact. Could put the spoons there as well as they are most likely to be the only oars used with Winston. Can move the novices back to Ying and the Peterhouse boat house when they start to feather.

b. Potentially Caius?

TR has been in contact with the upcoming Caius Captain and will find an opportunity to ask. Caius has made room for extra boats and suggested we contact them later. Would need to secure a boatman – Bomber has been a great asset and it may be difficult to find another.

5. Bumps breakfast

a. Set up volunteers; time etc.

None of the social secretaries attended the meeting, so discussion was suspended.

It is usual for the Committee to meet at 8.30am on Sunday to help set up, but this needs to be confirmed.

6. Alumni picnic

EB has sent email to all the MECBC members. Will publicise on MECBC Facebook page as well as the Bumps Facebook event.

a. Ditton meadows (along the reach)

There will be an area for spectators to have a picnic.

b. Email sent to members

c. Promote to other college members?

There is agreement that this would be a good idea.

7. Future training camps

a. Jess in London

Jess would be able to liaise with her London club. However there may be difficulties with accommodation for all the rowers together. Commuting from Cambridge is an option, although not particularly desirable.

b. Cheshire - get in touch with Claire Briegal

8. Sponsorship for next year

a. Get in touch with Jess by August/September

b. Other companies?

Good to approach companies when they do their budgeting for the year.

YC: start communication early so that a more gentle approach can be taken to start with. Alumnae dinners and picnics are a good opportunity.

9. Website/Facebook page (during bumps)

a. Meeting with Ying on Wednesday

Need to keep up with Oar of Phwoar and other regular posts. **TR:** suggests opening up availability for anyone on the committee to write an OoP post.

10. TFL Rental Scheme

Currently the first five sessions are free and there is then a £5 flat charge.

a. Pricing

LS: Outside opinion is that the current pricing scheme is way too low. Robert's son has been using the double and his current club/school offered £20 per session. **LS** asked for £15 in total to keep more in line with what is normally charged.

The more one person uses TFL, the less it is available for others to use. It might make sense to have a scheme that increases the cost with frequency of use so that people are discouraged from using it excessively. This is something for next year's committee to consider.

LS to ask Peterhouse officially about the use of their blades for TFL as we are unlikely to have the funds to buy a new one.

11. Robert's Blazer

a. Further funding required (not much)

KW: will ask the rest of W2 if they have contributed, and send around a general email. Will also call Kristie Shemilt of Collier and Robinson to ask about blazer delivery.

12. Transfer of documents to the new committee

Current committee should look at film **LS** has sent by email – should be very straightforward. If a current member has created Google docs they can transfer the ‘ownership’ so that they are under another account’s name.

13.AOB

a. Novices next year

Mark suggests that more time is taken over setting novices into crews that better reflect their current ability and potential. This could take place over half the term as most races don’t start until after this - novices can develop a lot over the term.

LS: Novice crews should be aware of the crew they have been placed in so that they understand the process of crew selection and the competitive nature of getting into a senior squad.

LS: suggests should set a minimum number of outings per week and get them to sign up for themselves. Would only need to find eight people who are available in one go.

b. Committee change over

Should look into making the changeover of emails and mailing lists more simple.