

MECBC Committee Meeting - 7.30pm, The Bar

1. Welcome back everyone

Committee members present: Emily Busvine (EB) , Heather Dudley (HD), Yue Wu (YW), Lisa Kreusser (LK), Felicity Parker (FP), Chloe Legard (CL), Nadia Blackshaw (NB), Taine Ranaghan (TR), Zoe Ye (ZY)

General members present: Emilie Cousin (EC)

Apologies sent by: Ying Chow

2. Winston

a. What has been done?

The novice eight Winston is currently out of use and stored on a King's trailer outside the combined boat house.

King's would like their trailer back by the 5th November, however there is a chance that they will not actually need it.

TR: LBCs should plan novice sessions assuming that there won't be access to Winston. Bomber to check whether Winston could fit at Peterhouse, but this would be storage only (not for use).

Caus College boat house have space but their boatman is reluctant to rent out the space after many requests from town clubs. To make progress, our request needs to be escalated to a higher authority within the club.

TR: Possibility that Winston could be stored outside at Kings', but this is unlikely to actually go through. Rent at combined boathouse works out at about £3000/year - unfeasible.

Roland (Boatman at combined boathouse) suggested giving/selling the boat to one of the colleges at the combined boat house and renting it back whilst paying for insurance and registration. It would be stored outside and we may use it but not have access to the inside facilities of the boathouse. This is unlikely as other involved parties at the boathouse may object.

TR: Trinity Hall has space, but their boatman does not want the responsibility of other clubs' boats. **TR** is waiting to hear back, but thinks a positive outcome is unlikely.

b. What can we do next?

TR: will ask Christs Boatwoman if it could go with Christs' boats in storage (this is unlikely). Will also ask Robert Gardiner (W2 coach) to the Caius Bursar about the possibility of using their boathouse.]

The final and least desirable option is to sell Winston.

3. LBCs

a. Novice sign up

CL: About 80 people have signed up for tubbing. 5 have dropped out and about 10 have tubbed in a previous term.

b. Tubbing on Sunday

Committee help is needed for Sunday's tubbing session.

FP: Will create Google doc/poll so that committee members can sign up for a slot.

NB: Need three people there at all times.

CL: There will also be some spillover sessions on Monday morning as the tub can't be used on Saturday.

c. Coaches for novices

There will be 5 novice boats and an outing will be held every day in the week.

TR, Paivi Pirhonen, Amada Sjoval and **NB** are possibilities. **EC** could do one morning a week. Mark has suggested that those in W1 could have a coaching rota for the days that W1 do not have an outing.

EB: Crews 1, 3 and 5 could have permanent coaches, and 2 and 4 could be W1 rowers on rotation. W1 can go out on Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

d. Novice Training schedule and ergs

CL: Create Doodle poll to see if a crew can be formed that go out in the afternoons.

CL: will have further discussion with **EB** about novice training schedule after tubbing has taken place.

TR: might be available for coached ergs with the novices.

e. Coxes

CL considering novice coxing. **FP** and Georgia Semple (a novice rower) are also options. **EB** is to talk further with Georgia, who has had previous coxing experience.

EB: Christina can probably help with the first few novice outings whilst novice coxes are trained, but can't make a regular commitment.

CL: need to discuss novice coxes going out in senior crews with Mark and Robert.

FP: will novice coxes be introduced in normal senior outings, or will there be special additional outings?

EB: training outings could split between coxes since there are 5 novice coxes. This would minimise disruption to senior crews.

4. Michaelmas Senior Crews

a. Do we have enough for two boats?

Prior to novice sign-up it appeared that there would not be enough senior rowers to form two full crews.

EB: Depends on skill level of novices coming in from sign-up with previous experience, but looks like there will be two full senior eights.

HD: Crew selection will be next weekend (15th/16th October)

b. Coaches

Mark Jacobs for W1 and Robert Gardiner for W2.

c. Coxes

Discussed under point 3.e. Once novice coxes have received training with senior crews they can be assigned permanently to a senior crew or novice crew.

EB: Potentially EB and Georgia Semple for senior crews.

5. Land Training

a. New equipment

HD: 5 sets of 6, 8 and 10kg kettle bells have been purchased. Suggestions made to have one session for the whole club from a professional weight trainer to teach rowers how to use them safely. Quoted at £50 - would be a small contribution from each rower who participates. **HD** has someone in mind who could do a session within the next week, but would need a good level of participation.

It has not been decided whether the novice rowers should be invited to participate as they generally do not start weight training until their second term.

b. Prizes for participation

A. During term

HD: Would like to add these to the budget. Has already had a box of chocolate bars which were donated.

ZY: To add 'Totally Oarsome' stickers to budget. 35 stickers = £30.8.

B. Summer holidays

c. Ergs

HD: two a week set on Friday, compulsory for both senior crews. Mark and Robert can request changes to the content. Rowers can book a slot at the Porters' Lodge.

HD: A public spreadsheet of erg participation will be available.

Fitness session will be held on Saturday mornings at 10.15am and Thursdays at 6pm in the Squash Courts.

6. Fundraising This Term

NB: has updated sponsorship brochure and sent it out to some potential sponsors. She will also try to approach places closer to Cambridge, and those who might be interested in supporting a women-only club specifically.

a. 24 hour Ergathon

The 24-hour Ergathon fundraiser has previously been held in Lent term.

NB: Could get novices involved if we do it in Michaelmas - maybe give them the option of 15 minute slots. There are not enough senior rowers to run it without novices this term.

EB: agrees that this is a good idea depending on what time of term it is held e.g. week 6. Should not require as much organisation as previous years now that MECBC has their own ergs.

EB: consider promoting individual sponsorship of rowers.

b. Novice bake sales?

NB: If the Ergathon is held next term we could have bake sales every weekend around brunch time. Use themes/get different novice crews to bake every week. Even if ergathon is held in Michaelmas could do every second weekend. Perhaps introduce a competitive element between crews e.g. most money raised.

c. What do we want to spend the money on?

TR: Should think of small targets to keep up motivation if we do not have anything specific in mind.

NB: Footplate in Dame Rosemary? Could benefit from a service.

7. Empty Committee Places

- a. LBCs need help

See point 3b.

- b. Need for new social secretary

EC does not have enough time to dedicate to being Social Secretary, and does not want YW to end up with full responsibility of Social Secretary role. Would prefer a third person to step in.

Joanne Skinner and Barley Collier are interested.

EB: need to actually elect the replacement social secs. May have to hold a mid-term meeting.

8. Stash

- a. Crew shirts - do we want them?

Combined shirts for W1 and W2 so we can get silk screening from Talking Tees.

- b. Cheaper supplier than Godfreys - Stitch?

Not covered.

- c. Hoodies instead of t-shirts for novices?

Stick to t-shirts as these can be raced in at the end of term. They will also look better with multiple names on the back.

Novices will have the opportunity to order hoodies from Godfreys' once they join a senior crew in Lent term.

KW: will send out email explaining the decision and with a link to the Godfreys' website.

9. Payments

- a. Using Tilt for payments?

Not covered.

- b. Refund form for reimbursement

ZY: Would like to set up a reimbursement form for expenses (e.g. Bumps Breakfast supplies).

TR: has seen draft form and is very pleased with it.

10. TFL

- a. Replacement blade - new or second hand?

This has been included in the budget.

TR: has been looking at second-hand individual blades and will continue.

11. New Committee Members

- a. Does everyone know what they are doing?

EC: would like access to social sec handover documents (if these exist).

12. Socials

- a. Boatie blind date?

Not covered.

- b. Pizza night for novices

Organised by LBCs, to be held next Thursday.

HD: need to make sure that pizza hasn't been over-catered as in previous years.

- c. Other socials

EC and **YW** will make a plan of social events for the term on Sunday. This can be handed over to those who take on Social Secretary positions.

YW: First novice swap with Peterhouse has been organised. Girton and Emma are in the pipeline.

13. AOB

- a. Tasks for Computing Officer (**LK**)

- **LK** will manage email lists in future. Need to make sure that LBCs are under the 'boatclub-committee' mailing list as they appear to have missed some emails.
- **TR** will contact **LK** about the 'Support Us' page on the website. Link to Murray Edwards College page to be added.
- **LK:** will remove old novice tubbing information and sign-up form from website.

- b. Pictures of Owen Saxton

Friday, 7 October 2016

These have been requested by the librarian Kirstie Preest for an exhibition celebrating his retirement. They would particularly like some of him naming the boat 'Owen' or erging.

Ying Chow has sent some to **KW** and **HD** and these need to be forwarded to Kristie.