



Competition Committee Meeting Minutes - 07/03/2018

Attending

Philip Mather (chair)
Andrea Richardson
Bryce Dyer
Nick Watt

Apologies

Glenn Eldridge
Fiona Batson
Kerry Baker

Approval of Minutes

No prior minutes to approve.

Reports & Prior Business

Proposed rules distributed beforehand, no prior business.

New Business

Agenda

Short Introductions

- Philip Mather
- Bryce Dyer
- Andrea Richardson

Outline of the committee's purpose.

Completion of, amendments to and approval of the rules & scoring.

Year ahead preview: Races, bibs, reserve dates and venues etc.

Items and date of next meeting: Review of first two races & date poll to be sent.

Minutes

Philip: General welcome, personal introduction and explanation of previously assisting UK SUP (Jo and Pete) as motivation for continuing some form of racing this year. Overview of myself and Mark as Directors running GB SUP as currently a limited company (moving to CIC) with Amanda Kelsey on maternity leave effectively. Working in IT as a computer engineer by day, company happy for me to hold a voluntary Director role but cannot be paid as contracting in IT is very common and would complicate tax and be considered moonlighting.

Andrea: Personal introduction, currently looking into sponsorship opportunities to get younger paddlers involved, paddling at Bray Lake. Team manager for Naish this year.

Bryce: Senior Academic at Bournemouth University sports technology and research, SUPing approximately 4 years and heavily involved in a number of other lycra related sports (cycling etc). Keen on the transparency offered by initial setup of GB SUP.

Nick: Personal intro, involved in SUP about 10 years as co-founder of BaySup and Sup Store. looking to continue the work of UK SUP Clubs in growing racing.

Philip: General overview of current position and immediate future including:
Website now live for a while and "About Us" page updated with profiles of everyone involved in Competition and Event Committees which Mark will be chairing. Event Committee will focus on pre and post race activities and pushing engagement versus the technical aspects, logistics, rules and appeals covered by the Competition Committee.

Whilst UK SUP/Jo continues the ultra distance races (from Aus) we were currently focusing on short course racing this year and had few further plans for future years at this time. Literally just continuing what had come before for the time being.

Both BSUPA and Canoe Federation have asked to use one/some of our race results as published in their qualification for other (international) events, no formal agreement beyond having a "seat at each others tables" and sharing of posts around social media. Philip is currently sitting on the SUP Working Group of Canoe England as an example.

Initially GB SUP has been setup as a Limited Company whilst bank accounts are sorted out but we're current doing the paperwork to move to Community Interest Company and will always be not-for profit. Will update on progress with this.

Bryce: Recommends making clear the nature of setup on website.

Philip: Competition Committee is also responsible for dealing with appeals, in the first instance the Race Director (normally the host of the SUP Club) will deal with all matters relating to the race (safety cover etc) with GB SUP supplying kit (bibs) and coordination (webscorer etc). Should the Race Director wish to refer a matter to the committee with the evidence provided in the appeal after the race the committee can review it.

Philip: On points and scoring:

Rules are much the same as before. Restructured and worded but just based on UK SUP, SUPAA etc... left compatible with all other bodies but these will from here on be taken as our own set of rules to be developed for our races.

Points now have added tie breaks, as a matter of terminology the Series has Evenets and events will have one or more Races. Tie break is a Count Back on race that was run first for event, then next one etc.. not biased to discipline. First principle for ordering is the Race Director's logistical preference, if order of sprints vs distance can be balanced across series then I might ask to run it in a particular order but this is only a request/recommendation not requirement or instruction. Series tie breaking is done via an unordered Count Back of event results then on extra completed results. Does reward those who do extra beyond 3.

Also moving to 600 points rather than 500, no practical difference but avoids half point situation and divides nicely is all.

Points are awarded based on average position over event when multiple races are involved, this avoids a slight imbalance between single and multiple race events that was raised last year.

Points for 1st, 2nd and third are escalated, modeled beforehand with last year's results this is to spread the top positions out to avoid ties. Only done on the practicality of having the right trophies and not lacking when people tie.

Bryce: Spare medals may also have been because of drop in attendance.

Phil: Hoping to address this with scoring and inclusion of some of the bigger/established races as requested by questionnaire but have also considered issues around keeping the option of moving around new/smaller clubs and venues.

Discussion of particular races and features of current races between all participants, raised issues of having a decent mix of different race types (technical, distance, sprint and DW). Happy with current mix for this year and going forward but needs to be a topic for future consideration and discussion. Issues around running specialised "mini-series" or sprint style specialisations vs dividing of existing paddlers.

Mark and Event Comm looking at producing a "Rookie's guide" introducing basic rules and "what to expect on the day" video or guides.

No concerns about points system or rules, therefore ratified for publishing, short conversations have been held with those not on call.

Philip: Current progress in setting up series:

Ltd company has been formed, Pay Pal being connected to Webscorer (now done) so that Cardiff registration can be opened (next couple of weeks). CIC application will then take place.

Brian of Blue Chip has Battle of the Thames covered, bibs are being lent by Tushingham via Fiona. Currently investigating custom shirts (contacted Animal, Prolimit, Crewroom and very generic mesh bib seller). Also intending to sell Racer Numbers as Webscorer allows returning paddlers to have their numbers reused.

Mark is looking into sponsorship and funding opportunities but that's further down the line after we become a CIC. Was looking at training for those involved, SUPAA advertise Race Director training?
Bryce: Chase Kosterlitz was behind it, winding down now as off to surf instruct and moved on a bit.

Nick: Did standardise for a while. Could assist with putting together a guide but also that none of them really offered a particular backing.

Phil: That was pretty much what we wanted to do, merely produce a document/guide (much like the rules) about how we would like to run a race. Not binding and not a "qualification" in anyway (not our focus).

Nick: Chris Kenyon also produce a similar thing for a magazine.

Announcements

Next meeting to be after at least two of the races, meeting poll to be sent at a later date.

Philip Mather

Chairman/Secretary

24/03/2018

Date of Approval