

# **Held at Southampton University Students' Union**

**10:00am 7th May 2006**

**Present:** - Stuart Richardson (Chair), Alex Bazin (Secretary), Representatives of Southampton, Birmingham, Warwick, Nottingham, Manchester, London, Bath and Loughborough Universities.

**With:** - Stuart Ward and Mel Hargreaves (Judges), Charlie Hawker.

**Apologies:** - Aberdeen, Cambridge.

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## **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate representation of the meeting.

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## **Chair's Report**

The chair gave a brief verbal summary of the year. He reported that he has very much focused on BUSA this year, and was pleased to confirm that the application has been submitted; he stressed it was incumbent on future chairs to continue this process. He expressed some disappointment that clubs that had been expected to come into the league had not materialised, but that some showed promise for next year. He finished by highlighting the increasing cooperation of the RLSS, particularly that their new development officer seems keen to assist BULSCA.

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## **Secretary's Report**

The secretary briefly discussed the previous year, including moving to a new host with an updated website design. He also mentioned contact he had received regarding some additional university clubs. As always he stressed the importance of clubs keeping contact details and term dates current, and submitting as much material as possible for the website.

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## **Constitutional Changes**

None were presented.

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## Competition Events

**Dry SERC** - Discussion was held over whether a dry SERC should be compulsory for league competitions and/or the nationals. In favour it was noted that this is compulsory in the RLSS Nationals, it was also viewed that having fewer events reduced the perceived value of the nationals. The only point raised against this change was the possible lack of bodies and judges at smaller competitions; it was felt that this could be alleviated by having a simple incident if necessary.

**RESOLVED** - Dry SERC to be compulsory for all competitions, including the nationals.

**Extra events** - A lengthy discussion occurred over the including of extra point scoring events in league competitions. Whilst all were in agreement that the variety these events bring made certain competitions special, many felt that there should be a drive towards consistency for league events. Other points raised included the time taken to train for non-standard events and how this might be affected if they were not included in league results.

**RESOLVED** - Extra events shall be zero weighted for league results.

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## Rule Changes

**Changes noted** - The following changes were noted (changes in *italics*):

- 5.3.5.3 Real fire, live wires, or *hazardous* chemicals shall not be used
- 1.2.2.1 The Head Referee may not occupy the roles of: Starter, Head Marshall, Head Scorer, Head Timekeeper
- Include an increased time allowance of 3 minutes for incidents held in a 50m pool (as per ILS standard)
- 5.8.4.1 In addition to the General Rules, the following behaviour shall result in *disqualification*

**Rules upheld** - The following rules were discussed and reaffirmed:

- 5.3.10.1 The marking sheets shall be prepared with one (1) judge marking the entire scenario, including specific marks for; effective control of the scenario effective communications effective prioritisation of the casualties effective captaincy. **ADDITIONALY** it was felt that this judge should not mark any casualties.
- 5.3.1.5 This rule shall only apply to an Aquatic SERC event. The Management Committee shall ensure that a large box is available and shall be clearly labelled with the word "Glasses".

- 5.5.1.4 Any competitor starting before the starting signal has been given, shall be disqualified and their team shall be placed last.
- Speed events should remain contested over 4x50m with the exception of the 4x25m manikin relay.

**Seeding for speed events** - Southampton proposed that A teams be seeded together for the purposes of increased competitiveness in the speed events. Speaking against this proposal it was noted that this assumes a stratification of abilities between A and B teams that is not evident, and that this may disadvantage the faster B teams.

**RESOLVED** - Seeding rules to remain unchanged.

**Rigid backlines** - It was felt that moving to rigid backlines was a desirable aim and could be achieved fairly cheaply.

**RESOLVED** - Competitions to use rigid backlines for the start of 06/07 season.

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## **Results and Appeals**

**Results publication** - The following procedure for the publication of league results was approved:

- Results announced on the night stand for that competition and any medals awarded remain with those presented with them, regardless of subsequent changes to results. Clubs may arrange representation of medals between themselves.
- 14 days for host club and chair to prepare and publish provisional results for the league
- A further 14 days for clubs to examine and if necessary make enquiries about the results. If no matters are arising then the results will be made final within 28 days of the original competition. Otherwise results will remain provisional until any issues have been resolved.

**Appeals procedure** - The circulated appeals procedure was discussed. All welcomed the work that had gone into this document and appreciated it was a best practice guide to this subject. The following amendments were made and the procedure was

**APPROVED:**

- Quorum of the meeting shall be 5 persons
  - Travel expenses shall not be met
  - Fees may be paid in cash or cheque
  - No further appeal against the decision is possible
  - The SERC managers sheet shall be posted at the end of the SERC events
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## Socials

**Costs** - Concern had been raised over the escalating cost of food and socials, especially where large amounts of 'free' alcohol is included. Noting the rising costs to clubs of venue hire it was agreed to formally scrap the £5 per head food and social limit, but to reiterate that costs should still be kept to a minimum with 'extras' such as free alcohol being met from club's funds.

**Safe drinking** - It was felt desirable to introduce a safe drinking policy in order to ensure that BULSCA remains an inclusive organisation. Particular issues highlighted were that consumption of alcohol must be optional for participation in socials and that no-one should be forced to consume alcohol if they do not wish to. **ACTION** - Incoming chair to look at best practice from BUSA etc and draw up policy.

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## Competitions

**Freshers' Competition** - Southampton were selected to host the freshers' competition on the 28th October 2006.

**Championships** - The proposed championship event was approved to take place on the weekend of the 3rd and 4th March 2007 at Bath University. Bath were asked to help with accommodation and a small social on the Saturday evening, which they agreed to look into. Mel Hargreaves asked for further comments on the structure of the weekend to be sent to her at [championships@uni-lifesaving.org.uk](mailto:championships@uni-lifesaving.org.uk) by the 31st of May.

**Other competitions** - Without all details available it proved impossible to complete a draft calendar. Interest has been shown by Warwick, Bath, Birmingham, London, Nottingham and Loughborough. Other clubs are requested to contact [the chair](#) as a matter of urgency so that a schedule may be finalised.

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## University Teams

It was agreed that for those clubs unable to find a full team for various competitions, a combined university team would be helpful. The chair requested that names are sent to him for entry to Bournemouth Regatta. Details of a combined team for the RLSS Speed Nationals will be circulated in due course.

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## Publicity and Advertising

Bath proposed that BULSCA should produce material to market themselves to potential students through RLSS events. This was felt to be desirable once BULSCA has available funds.

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## **Elections**

**Chair** - After a brief speech Dan Graham (Manchester) was duly elected.

**Secretary** - After a brief speech Charlie Hawker (Southampton) was duly elected.

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## **Any Other Business**

**BULSCA account** - It was agreed that the RLSS would be approached to set up an RLSS/BULSCA holding account for BULSCA, with the chair as signatory. This would avoid problems with member clubs being unable to take responsibility for external accounts.

**Other officers** - A query was raised as to whether BULSCA needed further officers.

**ACTION** - Incoming chair to seek opinions.

The committee thanked Southampton for hosting the meeting and Stu for his hard work this year.

There being no further business the chair declared the meeting closed at 2:30pm.

The location and date of the next meeting will be the 4th May 2007 at Loughborough University. There will be a rules meeting in December 2006, date and time TBC.