

British Universities Life Saving Clubs' Association

Mid-Season General Meeting Minutes 2015



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In Attendance

BULSCA Committee:

Chair: Sam O'Connor

Treasurer: Helen Morris

Championships Co-Ordinator: Jamie Roberts

Development Officers: Rebecca Ewers

Social media: Emily Castle

Clubs:

University of Bristol: Alexander Blandford and Sophie Priddis

University of Birmingham: Julia Whitworth and Evie Longshaw

Loughborough University: Rob Forster and Douglas Willetts

University of London Union: Tony Bowerman and Ran Sing Saw

University of Nottingham: Hannah Smallwood and Frazer Whittaker

University of Southampton: Bobby Anderson and Lowri Burridge

Universities of Sheffield: Michael Kirkham and Shannon Potter

University of Warwick: Ben Prime and Tim Alexander

Swansea University: Joshua Hale and Tom Sharp



1. Welcome and Apologies

Sam (Chair) welcomes everyone to the meeting. He then explains the meeting procedures to all in the meeting.

Apologies from committee: Tania Pearson – Secretary and Adam Martin – Development Officer

Apologies from clubs: Plymouth

2. Officer's Reports

2.1 Sam O'Connor (Chair)

- Sam said he has found it interesting and tough. Especially with the moving of competitions and Student Championships and Scott resigning. He generally aims to run BULSCA within spirit. Things may not have been done according to the book, however the league has been successful and aim to produce a fair set of outcomes.

2.2 Helen (Treasure)

Helen explained about the money situation. She has also bought a number of judges T-shirts and committee t-shirts.

2.3 Rebecca (Club Development)

Rebecca stated that Boot camp went well at start of the year and said thank you to everyone. She is planning a Judges course and a Lifesaving Instructor course in Sheffield and NPLQ TA over Easter in Warwick. She asked everyone to please respond if you are interested/ haven't had the email. In terms of the Czech Republic Trip, Tania is running it. It will be open next week for entries and £200 per person including flights and food.

2.4 Emily (Social)

She said competition reports have gone up this week, although there has been some problems with wifi. In regards to photo albums, she said live tweeting at Championships will take place and photos. Photos from competitions will also go up.

2.5 Jamie (Championships Co-ordinator)

She said Championships will be held at Hengrove, She will send out the pack this next week. There is a range of prices so she asked everyone please state what they can do at the highest and lowest price. She also asked for people to fill in the google sheet which has been sent out. Helen added the sponsorship pack will be send out

3. Approval of AGM Minutes

These were approved.

Accepted: 9

Rejected: 0

Abstention: 0



4. Matters arising from AGM minutes

Alex Blandford (Bristol) asked why has the bank not switched over? Helen (Treasurer) said this is a more complicated process in terms of a new bank form. Sam says this is not an issue. He continued to say although it is not ideal that Ed has access to the account he is on the committee last year and he is working with the committee and we would thank him for this. Josh Hale explained that Swansea have had problems with Lloyds Banking.

Shannon (Sheffield) asked about emails as Sheffield have not been receiving emails. Alex (Bristol) suggested that all relevant announcements go on the website or on the Facebook page. Sam praised the use of facebook.

Sam was asked about the manifesto claim to create development plans for clubs and was asked update. Sam said the original plan was to do it via email, and he did this at Bootcamp as discussed training plans, budget. He said this was the relevant audience.

Sam (Swansea) asked why did Swansea get a angry email about membership payments when this was the earliest that have paid in year. Helen (treasurer) said that she gave clubs one month and then sent out email asking for payment. She apologized if this was angry however she gave a deadline, which should have been abided by. She stated all clubs have now paid apart from Plymouth.

Alex (Bristol) asked if RLNI involved in Championships? Jamie has emailed them this week. Alex (Bristol) asked if this is this too late? Jamie said no.

5. Proposals

Proposal A: Clarification on competition funding

Sam explained the process of proposals.

Bobby explained his proposal. He said he has received clarification on competition funding, however he didn't know BULSCA already did it. He asked if something was already on it?

Sam said it is a legitimate question. Sam said the idea is not to make money or loss. It is ideal to make between 0-£100. He carried on to say BULSCA competitions at the AGM based on predictions. This is not an official procedure in place. Committee said to encourage clubs to run at balance. They continued to say the budget was not for a fresher's comp.

Committee started to Birmingham, asking about the budget and stated procedures will follow. This is because Birmingham did not give a budget for the competition based on 42 teams. Their budget did not account for extra teams and there may have been more money involved. Committee have asked for a new budget and will investigate accordingly. Rules are in place to stop clubs making money. Adam said rules were about the £100 limit. Adam said we should reject this proposal.

Josh Hale (Swansea) asked do clubs make a formal declaration after a competition of profit and loss? Sam said currently no, committee spoke about this. He said BULSCA do not want clubs to profit however the budget of a competition is not predictable because of extra charges such as accommodation. Sam did not feel that the aim is to penalize clubs if they make too much money e.g. £150. He said if we bring in regulation we would have draw a red line of money a club could make. Josh Hale (Swansea) said but should clubs not discuss this? Sam said himself and the committee feel that when a club has made too much money, we will investigate this. He also said this is not a usual competition. Josh Hale (Swansea) said but should clubs not declare it? Sam



stated most of the times it will be written off but it would mean that clubs could be aware. Jamie added the idea that clubs should be breaking even

Alexander (Bristol) asked how this came about. He carried on saying the bidding process everything is submitted in terms of the budget, you have to stick to it. And if the club deviates from this they need expressed permission from the committee to change. The fact that Birmingham changed they should have got permission from committee. He asked why the committee not insisted on the committee page. Tim (Warwick) answered that Birmingham were originally not meant to be Fresher's competition. Josh (Swansea) said Birmingham did well to run a competition. Jamie (Championships co) also added that committee did not follow procedure; it was a very short time frame. Emily (Social) said it is not the first time which a budget has been investigated. Jamie (Championships co) added the successful running of a competition was the important part. Alexander (Bristol) said any time a club changes to a competition budget it needs to be done through. Sam (Chair) said no club suggested that a budget had changed. He added there was a changed in circumstance rather than a change of budget. If a club wants to change their budget or if the nature of the competition changes. Michael (Sheffield) said the budget did change.

Alex (Bristol) said Oliver Coleman and himself discussed and came up with a suggestion. He said the idea to put the excess into the Championships budget will benefit all the clubs. It will benefit the clubs to bring teams to Championships. Sam asked should we divide the money up between the clubs. Bobby said the proposal stated to give money to BULSCA or club

Evie (Birmingham) asked how much money would be taken? Over £100? Sam said if a club was to make more than £100 at a comp and the committee investigated, anything more than £100 should be taken and divided up between clubs. Josh (Swansea) suggested after every competition a club should declare profit/ loss. It could be suggested that money is given to clubs which made a loss. Evie (Birmingham) said wouldn't clubs make a loss and just get the money back. Clubs could declare and propose that this money is being given to certain clubs. Jamie said this is an extreme circumstance, they need to break even. Alex (Bristol) added it is okay to make a small amount of money. He added they have to declare, anything over £100 is distributed to the clubs based on entry. Jamie also added competitions should be made as cheaply as possible. Sam agreed with Alex as £100 is good amount.

Suggested - AMMENDMENT – 1.1.12.14 – Clubs to send a post competition budget to BULSCA committee 21 days after a competition anything over £100 would be redistributed to clubs by number of teams paid entry in proportion to the total teams.

- 1.1.2.14.2 Clubs then have 30 days to return any profit or the next competition (whichever is the latter)

Alex (Bristol) said to split is proportionally down to the nearest £1. Sam added budgets are different for clubs, small amount of money are important. Rob (Loughborough) asked would the process not equal itself over the process of the year. Bobby said but not all clubs run a comp so wouldn't benefit, would lose this £4/5 each competition. This was agreed by Sam. Josh (Swansea) asked if this would be easy to do? Alex (Bristol) said some clubs would use cash could be 30 days or next the competition so cash can be used. Sam stated this will have an affect. Rob (Loughborough) said sometimes budget change, if you come to a competition and the prices go up? Sam answered that entry comps are set at AGM. He said mid season changes to entry are rare. Alex (Bristol) said this has happened once. Bobby (Southampton) are we going to include fines? Every day you are late you get £5 fine and then £1 after day. If you are late paying clubs back.

Bobby accepts Amendment.

AMMENDMENT

- 1.1.12.14 – Clubs to send a post competition profit/ loss to BULSCA committee 21 days after a competition; anything over £100 would be redistributed to clubs by number of teams paid for entry in proportion to the total teams paid to enter. Amount returned is



- 1.1.2.14.2 Clubs then have 30 days or the next to return any profit or the next competition (whichever is the latter)

Harry (Birmingham) (Speaking rights) asked what is the minimum, which were send back to a club? Sam said rounded down to each club - £1 to each club.

Sam propose to move to a vote. Everyone voted to take to a vote.

Accepted: 7

rejected: 1

Abstention; 0

Amendment accepted, proposal accepted. Takes affect from the next season.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Write section and amend for the 2014/15 competition manual	BULSCA Secretary in Association with the BULSCA Webmaster	August 2016
Investigation in to Birmingham	Committee	ASAP

Proposal B: Clarification on the changes to Fresher's rules.

Online vote: 4 votes hence move to discussion.

Rob (Loughborough) stated that at fresher comp that the rules should be relaxed. There is nothing detailing which rules change. This means there is inconsistency. Document for speeds rules which are changed for fresher's which means that competitors will know. Fresher comps have different rules and therefore change. The process lacks consistency, it will help officials judge and fresher's to practice skills.

Sam stated ideally all rules are always implemented. Head referee has the right to be more lenient. He said the tradition at fresher comp to be more lenient.

Judges panel would like to clarify rules; they are the same at every comp. If comps follow the rules they will not be penalized. The benefit of doubt has been applied generously as Fresher's competition. Clear deliberate breaches have been penalties. There is no reason why leniency is given to A teams not B teams. There is generous benefit of the doubt given to competitors in order to encourage competition. Sam said he rejected the proposal on the basis that if we bring in a rule we will have to follow the rule book to the letter and have no flexibility. Rob (Loughborough) asked why is one rule more important than another? Alex (Bristol) wanted clarification on Judge's at Fresher's and asked which rules would change? Rob (Loughborough) said Basis was either if there was a deliberate advantage gain or if it a rule which is in the rule book to be a safety issue, for example; SERC CPR on a live casualty as these would be penalized.

Rob (Loughborough) asked why have Loughborough been penalized for tumble turning? They did it last season and it was a rule? Alex (Bristol) said this should have been implemented. Evie (Birmingham) said tp encourage Fresher's to compete but is it the role of the club to encourage participation despite the penalties or DQ's. She asked should we not stick to the penalties anyway? Alex (Bristol) said if you define this leniency, this would give more experienced teams



an advantage as they would use them to their advantage. Sam (Chair) had two ideas 1) learn properly from the start as there would be too many penalties and hard to score and can result in miserable for team 2) specify which rules are implementing and too what extent as this would allow clubs to use this rules to their advantage. Alex said there is grey area of leniency for the referee to decide – if it is not deliberate act. Doug (Loughborough) said Penalties are a reason not to use it if they are successfully used. Rob (Loughborough) added at competition, there was variation between the judges. Alex (Bristol) added a point of clarification which standard practice that two judges have seen and agreed on a certain outcome and then will implement a penalty if required. The Head referee will make the overall decision. Fresher comp focus on safety hence DQs. Judges had an obligation to follow rules. Rule about tumbling on leg for of medley was voted in by clubs 3-4 season ago. This was because the RLSS did not have short course rules. Rob (Loughborough) why was this not followed in these seasons? Sam said he doesn't know, some judges may not have known of these rules.

Rob (Loughborough) said there are rules which are more lenient in Fresher's, could we do this in advance, why aren't we specifying these rules? Alex (Bristol) said this has been done? Emily (Social) said if we write the rules which would be made more lenient this would allow clubs to cheat. Alex (Bristol) added it is hard to work out when someone gains an advantage. Sam added if you had to define what rules would change it would take a long time. Rob (Loughborough) stated there are common rules which change every year so why not define them. Shannon (Sheffield) asked why would you publish leniency? Bobby (Southampton) said the Head referees are at different comps and this causes variation but there is disparity between every league comp Alex (Bristol) clarified that meeting before the competitions to discuss which specific rule we would follow to the letter (the safety ones) every other rule is a grey area and it is only when there was a deliberate advantage made. Jamie (Championships Co) said defining leniency would mean you would teach fresher in a certain way but next competition this would change.

Josh (Swansea) propose to a vote. 9/9 voted to move to a vote.

Accepted: 1
Rejected: 7
Abstention: 1

Proposal rejected.

6. Appointment of a new data manager

There were no applications to Sam. Sam suggested to an online vote based as it was quick term around. Alex (Bristol) asked why did Scott resign? Not based on the role.

Vote to do an online vote for this role.

Accepted: 9
Rejected: 0
Abstention: 0

POSTPONE ELECTION.

7. A.O.B

Suggested BULSCA Medical advisory Panel

Steph (previously in BULSCA) what is taught in lifesaving. She has written SERCS and judged them. She has offered to be an Medical advisor for SERCS. She said she has offered to advice for SERCS on a medical ground as medical treatment for casualties and presentations for casualties. Sam suggested that there is a page on the website where you can ask question and contact Steph. He added Judges Panel is a lengthy process and it is understandable why an



alternative process could be beneficial. If you have questions about treatments/ medical then this page would be a way to contact. Michael (Sheffield) stated this is a fantastic offer. He added if the Judges panel over rule Steph, her role is only advisory, however she is in the medical profession. Josh (Swansea) suggested keeping this role informal as there may be more people would like to be involved. Sam agreed with informal nature as it is a new nature. Tim (Warwick) suggestion that there should be a trial period to be reviewed at AGM? Alex (Bristol) asked how you make it known to SERC writers that Steph has the knowledge. Sam said under the SERC writers tab, and make competition organisers aware. Emily (Social) suggested to also use the Facebook page.

BULSCA Medical advisory Panel Suggested by Alexander Blandford (Bristol)

Sam agreed as this is still informal but gives it weight which means SERC writers will use it. he said to set up an email account associated with this role. This email would only go to the people on this panel. Michael (Sheffield) asked will there be a requirement for this panel. Alex and Sam both said we can discuss this in the future when it becomes formal.

CONTACT DETAILS – stephanielaurawilson@gmail.com

SERC writers

Rebecca (Club Development) said SERC writers for all competitions have been affiliated with Birmingham for this season. She added there is no rule against this but it would be good to get diversity within the SERC writers. Jamie (Championships Co) said to encourage finalists to write SERCS to get more variation. Alex (Bristol) said to encourage people to write sercs. Rob (Loughborough) asked how do you do this? Alex (Bristol) clarified the role of the competition organizer to choose serc and therefore encourage people to write them. Josh asked is there a mailing list. Sam said yes there is a mailing list for SERC setters for people to join if they are interested in SERCS. Jamie suggested a Google doc for people to express interest in writing SERCS at the beginning of the season.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Steph appointed as BULSCA Medical advisory, need to set up an email account	BULSCA Chair	ASAP

8. Confirming the Date of the Next Meeting

Sam said next meeting will be the morning of Loughborough on April 23rd 2016.

Meeting Closes

