

# British Universities Lifesaving Club's Association

Summary of Lifesaving Sport meeting with the Royal  
Lifesaving Society 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008

30<sup>th</sup> March 2008

British Universities Lifesaving Club's Association

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## 1. Introduction

On the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008 the RLSS held a meeting on the future of lifesaving as a sport. What follows is a brief summary of what was discussed at that meeting. If you have any questions/opinions then please do not hesitate to email [sportdevelopment@bulsca.co.uk](mailto:sportdevelopment@bulsca.co.uk).

## 2. Attendees

- Elouise Greenwood
- Ronnie Claudin
- Anna Walters
- John Stainer
- Michelle Weedy
- Adrian Lole
- Janet Castro
- Dominic Robertson
- Ian Hutchings

## 3. Apologies

- David Cosstick
- Elaine Lewis
- Gary Lee
- Kate Wade
- Louise Wells
- Mathew penny
- Nick Farmer
- Paul Moore

## 4. Attendee Selection

The following is a brief explanation of why the group of people who were selected to attend the development workshop were selected.

*"While the group of individuals may be on the working group, the actual selection of the members has not yet been completed. Those people who were invited were for one of two reasons, either they sat on the last working group or had shown a commitment to lifesaving sport (for example, national coaches). Each area will come up with their aims and objectives (in line with RLSS development / business plan), and once this has been accepted by the NDC and the Board this will then go on the web site. I have spoken to the website guys and we will be getting a section on the website that we'll be able to fill with all the relevant information."*



## **5. How does the RLSS management structure work?**

The RLSS has a UK management board which controls the strategic direction of the RLSS. The members of the Management Board are elected at the AGM. The RLSS Management Board currently has three groups feeding into it. The National Communications Committee, the National Development Committee, the National Education Committee. The RLSS Chief Executive and other senior staff at River House support the operation of the Board. A complete breakdown of the structure can be found in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

## **6. BULSCA links with RLSS**

When BULSCA was first set up there was a large amount of work achieved by the likes of Robert Sharman, John Morely and Alex Bazin in representing both BULSCA interests and what BULSCA can offer the RLSS in terms of development. The potential of this partnership has not been fully realised.

Currently BULSCA clubs sit within their respective branches and regions. Club members are eligible to attend branch and regional meetings and to get elected into posts within the various committees if they so wish.

## **7. Sport and Recreation Working Group (SRWG)**

Within the current infrastructure the development of sport is being dealt with by the National Development Committee (NDC). A Sport and Recreation Working Group was set up in order to steer the development of sport for the NDC.

Working with the support of the previous Sports Development Officer the Sport and Recreation Working Group made some progress, but struggled to set a clear agenda and framework for delivery.

To improve the links between the S&RWG and NDC a new Volunteer Sports Development post is to be created with the responsibility of working in partnership with the staff Development Officer. This person will be elected to sit on NDC and will have a clear brief.

Below are initial lists of aspects which are involved in sport which it is believed the SRWG should look into, this is by no means an exhaustive list, if there are any glaring omissions please bring it to light sooner rather than later.

- Officiating
- Events
- Publicity
- Universities
- Technical
  - Rules
  - Equipment



- Controls
- Health and Safety
- Sport Science
- Long Term Lifesaver development (LTLD)
- Coaching
- Grass Roots
- National Team
- Sport Development

It is considered that this working group should be a sub group of experts advising the national development committee chairperson on how best to develop lifesaving sport, the chair person then uses this advice to make a case for lifesaving sport to the management committee to support it in whatever way it feels necessary.

Special mention needs to be made on several areas specifically technical and health and safety.

### ***Technical***

Currently the RLSS has a college of referees based on a system which is and has been used in Europe for a long time. The college of referees is responsible for the appointment of referees, running training courses for judges and holding a list of judges for bona fide competition organisers to contact when required, but most importantly it is responsible for setting the rules for events. It is hoped that the SWRG will be able to provide enough technical information to the college of referees to review rules for existing events and write rules for future events.

### ***Health and Safety***

Due to a recent incident in the Leeds classic a review of diving from blocks with a torpedo buoy was made. It was found that the event had not been adequately risk assessed leaving the organisers and the RLSS open to legal problems. Efforts are being made to solve this problem including risk assessments for each individual event and a review of competitive starts with and without fins. This is an area which BULSCA can offer help.

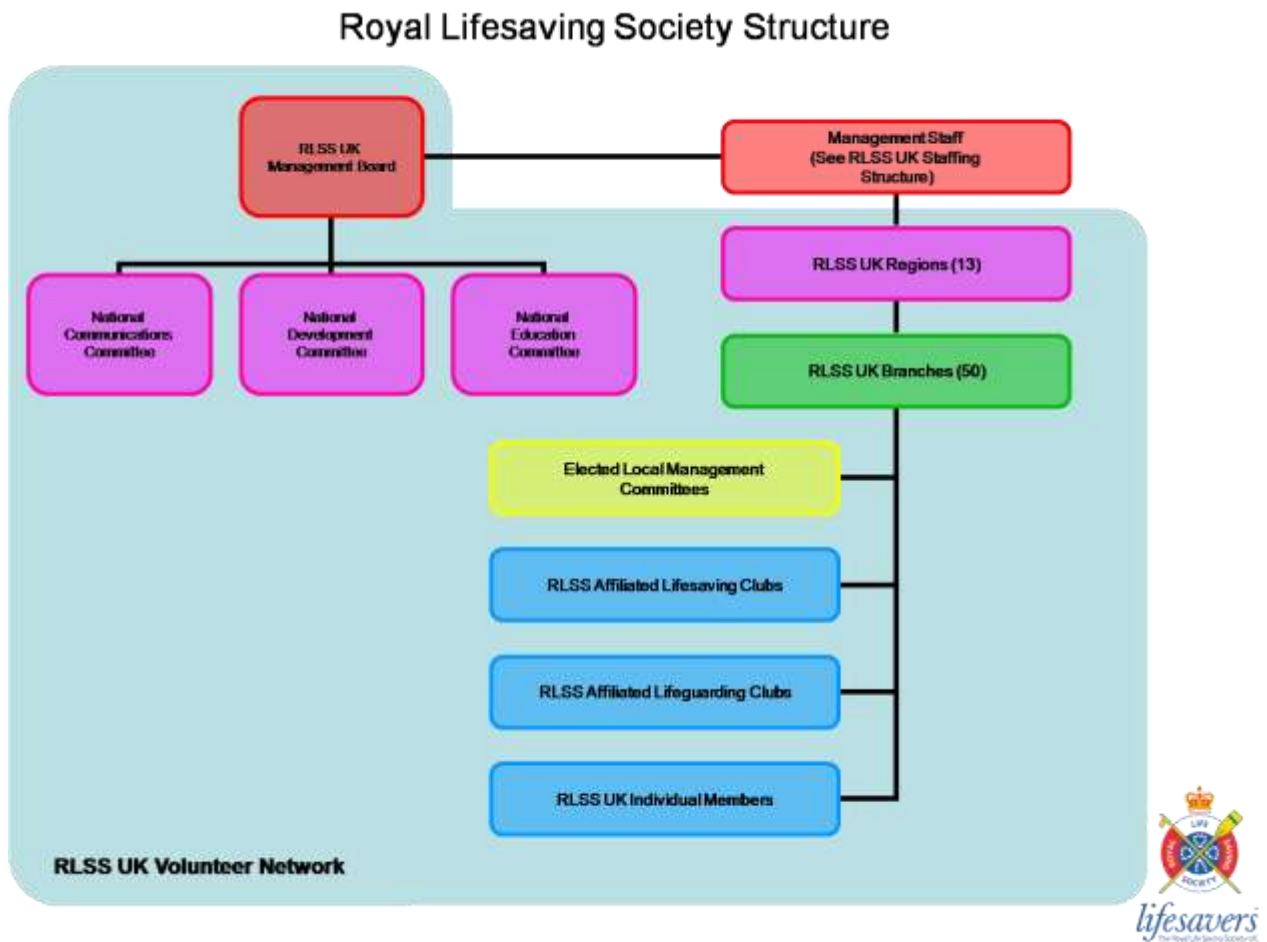
## **8. BULSCA “Old Boys”**

There is an interest within the RLSS to retain BULSCA old boys within the RLSS structure. However there is currently no network to support this transition. An investigation needs to be made into what old boys would expect of a support network.



## Appendix 1

### RLSS Structure



## Appendix 2

### RLSS Staffing Structure

