

**Newhaven Gig Rowing Club Committee Meeting
Sunday 19th November 2017
Dex's Office, Trafalgar House, Newhaven**



Minutes

Attendees:

Nikki Tweedie, Dexter Allen, Mark Syrett, Graham Precey, Chloe Sands, Bob Rattray, Caroline Dean, Nicky Rattray, Rachel Beardsworth, Tracy Day, Isabel Allen.

Apologies:

Mark Beaumont.

Action and Decision Table:

Actions	
ALL	To feed ideas on channels of communication for promotion to RB.
Rachel Beardsworth	To bring a schedule of promotion to the next committee meeting
Isabel Allen	To think about the best way to engage potential junior rowers.
Nikki Tweedie	To meet with the new marina owner as Chair of the gig club to discuss how to move forward.
Nikki Tweedie	To communicate to members about the option to join a crew and to contact a designated cox to express interest.
Nikki Tweedie/ Chloe Sands	To get feedback from members on how they feel about set squads etc. and bring back to the next meeting.
Coxes	To amend the detail of rows on the booking calendar to ensure it is clear which rows are for closed squads and which are open.

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Apologies noted as above.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Action Review

2.1 Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a correct record.

2.2 Outstanding actions were discussed and the Action Log was updated.

2.3 Regarding action 69/17, the committee need to identify different communication channels so Rachel can put together a schedule for promotion for the next year.

ACTION: ALL to feed ideas on channels of communication for promotion to RB.

ACTION: RB to bring a schedule of promotion to the next committee meeting.

3. Junior Rowing

- 3.1 Isabel was welcomed to the committee as the new Junior Officer.
- 3.2 There needs to be better communication with potential juniors rowers however the issue with outstanding DBS checks means that junior rows cannot yet take place.

ACTION: IA to think about the best way to engage potential junior rowers.

4. NGRC Home/Surf Shop

- 4.1 From 10th December the marina will be run by a new owner. Mark Beaumont and Graham Precey are talking to the new owner about an agreement but cannot give any more information at this time.
- 4.2 The current gig shed has a 15 day lease but the sea cadet hall is always available for storage.
- 4.3 The club currently receives a 50% discount on the mooring fees so around £290 per month needs to be included in the finances as a contingency which also includes the proposed 3% increase in mooring fees from next year.

ACTION: NT to meet with the new marina owner as Chair of the gig club to discuss how to move forward.

5. Website and Membership

- 5.1 Discussion took place around club member expectations and the following issues were identified:
 - a) Feeling of exclusivity with crews.
 - b) Disparity between what the club is able to deliver and the expectation of members.
 - c) Reduced personal service since moving from Facebook to the website.
 - d) Lack of clarity on why row rejections occur.
 - e) Lack of clarity on the website on which rows are for set squads only.
- 5.2 The following responses to the issues were discussed and agreed (letters correlates with above):
 - a) It was agreed that it is important to have set squads to ensure that people are happy rowing together and all have the same aims. It is also important for many to have reliability and a set time when they can row. It is usual for rowing clubs to have both open rows and set squads.

It was suggested that the current squads remain in place and the option to join a squad is advertised to members. If there is enough demand others can form their own squads and train together at a time that suits them and with people they wish to row with. The next years' race schedule can then be looked at and each race crew can be assigned to a different race event (the process for this is still to be decided). This will ensure all who want to join a squad can and all squads have the option to enter various different races.

It was agreed that members wanting to join a squad should be told to contact Nikki Tweedie, Rachel Beardsworth or Graham Precey to express their interest.

ACTION: NT to communicate to members about the option to join a crew and to contact a designated cox to express interest.

ACTION: NT/CS to get feedback from members on how they feel about set squads etc. and bring back to the next meeting.

- e) Currently all rows on the website are presented as open rows for anyone to book. The rows for set squads (Tuesday night Men, Thursday night and Saturday women and Wednesday night mixed) need the detail amended so it is clear that they are for closed squads only and that open rows are for anyone to book.

ACTION: Coxes to amend the detail of rows on the booking calendar to ensure it is clear which rows are for closed squads and which are open.

5.3 It was agreed that mixed ability rows should not take place as this may affect the expectations of members.

6. Club Coach Training

6.1 This item was not discussed.

7. Maintenance

7.1 The fort is booked and Amelie needs to come out of the water on Saturday 25th November.

The remaining items on the agenda were not discussed.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 17th December, 9am. Dex's Office, Trafalgar House, Newhaven.