

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Ashley Metcalfe (AM)	Chief Executive
Lee Pooley (LP)	Director of Coaching and Qualifications
Ed Christian (EC)	British Canoeing ECLN Representative
Doug Cooper (DC)	Scottish Canoe Association (SCA) Representative
Jet Moore (JM)	Canoe Wales (CW) Representative
Sid Sinfield (SS)	Performance Coach Developer
Graham Lyon (GL)	British Canoeing Awarding Body

Also In Attendance:

Natasha Devonshire (ND)	Coaching Development and Engagement Lead
Nancy Squires (NS) - Joined for Item 5	Director of Governance
Cath Cooke (CC) - Joined for Item 5	Safeguarding Manager
Darryll Shaw (DS) - Joined for Item 5	Head of Coaching and Partnerships

Apologies:

Robin Gregg (RG)	Canoe Association of Northern Ireland (CANI) Representative
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1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed the group to the meeting, highlighting his recognition of the role Coaching has to play across the whole of the organisation. This Chair is looking forward to working closely with this group on coaching and leadership matters.

No new declaration of interest were highlighted.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting (No47), Mar 2022

4. Matters Arising (Not covered by the agenda)

The minutes of the above meetings were agreed as accurate recordings of the proceedings.

LP shared that the Coaching Diploma will be discussed at the next meeting. This is a considerably busy period and there are no clear conclusions around the Diploma at this stage. There are currently 6 candidates who are being fully supported through the programme. We will ask existing and previous candidates for their feedback and a briefing paper will be share ahead of the November meeting.

5. Safeguarding Responsibilities and Considerations

NS introduced CC, who joined British Canoeing last year as the Safeguarding Manager. NS and CC work closely together on safeguarding considerations and requirements. NS highlighted two topics for discussion, (1) equivalence training and (2) safeguarding as a prerequisite to the Paddlesport Instructor course.

NS discussed the equivalence training accepted, through the different courses. NS suggested to streamline the list of courses we accept and limit the face-to-face training, with a longer-term possibility of providing our own in-house training.

The group discussed that safeguarding is not a prerequisite of the Paddlesport Instructors course. Instructors will be deployed within a club or centre and at that point, and the deployer will decide what type of safeguarding they require.

The group agreed that creating an embedded culture of safeguarding is important. It was noted that there is a Safeguarding credential policy, for those working towards a qualification, and a policy, G21 highlighting safeguarding training for various roles across the organisation. Therefore gaining a qualification and being deployed by a club is in two different policies. The deployer is ultimately responsible whether they have training for the role.

To note, the majority of safeguarding undertaken is the BCAB eLearning or UK Coaching course.

The group highlighted the need to consider those who volunteer across multiple sports and the requirements imposed on them by each NGB.

The group were happy to find a consistent approach, utilising a small number of organisations that to provide a minimum standard of training. Therefore, there will be no need to review courses on an ad hoc basis. It was suggested to reword the existing policy, sharing it with CAG, to see how much impact this would have.

Action: NS and CC to reword the existing Safeguarding policy and share it with CAG.

In light of the Whyte Report, further discussions will take place so this may come back to CSG.

The group discussed the option of having Safeguarding training as a Paddlesport Instructor prerequisite. It was noted that Paddlesport Instructors cannot work independently, it is up to the deployer as to what safeguarding is required. If the Instructor wants to run the Start or Discover Awards, British Canoeing do require safeguarding on record.

It was suggested that as an entry point qualification, we should ensure candidates have safeguarding at the beginning of their learning journey, to ensure this is embedded.

The statistics show that 40% of instructors are from commercial organisations and 24% are voluntary groups, such as the Scouts. For these audiences, they require safeguarding to be done after the course, as this is specific to the role they are doing. Furthermore, the safeguarding industry currently does not have relevant training for 14 – 18 year-olds.

6. Fee Structure for January 2023

Paper circulated

LP shared that CAG and BCAB completed a review of the fee structure to find out whether it was still appropriate.

The group thought these were reasonable changes. It was suggested to ensure this is communicated appropriately, giving everyone lots of notice.

7. Paddlesport Instructor Review

Paper circulated

Following the launch of any new regulated qualification, the BCAB Committee stipulated that there is a 3 year review and if there are limited changes or concerns, this can move to a review every 5 years.

LP shared with the group the results showing that there are high levels of satisfaction, ranging from 87% to 93%, candidates are happy with the content. There was a lot of positive feedback about Providers and how the course was engaging, fun and enjoyable.

The Report highlighted 6 recommendations which the group discussed.

The group highlighted that this is evidence that the Paddlesport Instructor is working well.

The group highlighted that there are a lot of comments about mixed craft. LP suggested that this will be addressed through Moderation. Mixed craft was seen as beneficial to the industry and community. There will be an additional option of the SUP Instructor, aimed at those who only Stand-Up Paddleboard.

It was suggested to provide options of how you use the award within the Course Guide.

8. Lifeguards Search and Rescue Award

Paper circulated

LP shared that following the Chair of the Lifeguards Committees presentation at the previous meeting, further investigation was requested by CSG about the Lifeguard Search and Rescue Technician course.

The group agreed with the recommendations. This report adds robustness to the decision. It was suggested to ensure we support any transition stage.

9. CSG Terms of Reference Review

The group discussed the Terms of Reference and questioned whether we needed additional representation within the group. However, the group thought that a smaller group was efficient and there is the opportunity to co-opt as necessary.

It was suggested whether there is a bigger strategy piece of where we want paddlesport to be in 4/8 years, bringing in young paddler representation. The TOR does not need to change but this is a way for the group to be even more strategic.

It was questioned whether the group should be renamed the Coaching and Leadership Strategy Group.

10. Awarding Body Update

Standard agenda item – no update for No 48.

11. Any Other Business

None noted.

12. Date of next meeting

TBC