



BRITISH CANOEING

Slalom Committee

Twentieth

Annual Consultative Meeting

25th November 2023 Commencing at 10:00

Location: British Canoeing HQ, National Water Sports Centre, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, NG12 2LU

Agenda





1 Welcome by the Chair

- 1.1 Apologies
- 1.2 Conduct of meeting
- 1.3 Appointment of Tellers

Two tellers are required to count votes in the room. Volunteers will be sought at the meeting.

2 Minutes

- 2.1 19th Annual Consultative Meeting (to be accepted)
- 2.2 Matters arising from those minutes
 - 2.2.1 SUP in Slalom (2022 Motion 6.8)

In the light of the establishment of a British Canoeing SUP whitewater group the slalom working group did not meet during the year, wanting to build on, rather than contradict the governing body stance. Hence there is no motion to the ACM this year.

2.2.2 Plastic Boat Event (ACM 6.5 / MA)

Although not advertised greatly after the ACM, and with some minor confusion about who could compete, 16 events were run with 24 paddlers competing during the year. It was decided not to bring forward any motions on this subject this year.

Open events can be run alongside events and prizes can be awarded for any required subset, e.g. plastic boats.

2.3 2022/2023 Committee Meeting minutes (tabled online for information)

3 Reports

- 3.1 Chair's Report
- 3.2 Treasurer's Report
- 3.3 Other Reports
- 3.3.1 Reports from Working Parties (Tabled, reviewed en bloc)
- 3.3.2 British Canoeing and Home Nations (Tabled, reviewed en bloc)

British Canoeing (Richard Ramsdale), England (Martin Spencer), Scotland (Stuart Pitt), Wales (Mark Abbott).

There has been no Northern Ireland representative during the year, so there will be no report

3.3.3 Athlete Representative (Zac Allin)

4 Elections

4.1 Vice Chair

Sally Atkinson has been proposed and seconded by the Slalom Committee. In the absence of any other nominations, she will be elected unopposed.

4.2 Secretary

There have been no nominations. Nominations will be sought and will be accepted until the election (Terms of Reference 5.4.c).













Committee Members

Term Expiring 2023: Dee Lindesay, Peter Curry, Jason Humphries. All have indicated their willingness to stand for a further term. Further nominations will be accepted up until the vote.

Term Expiring 2024: Donna Hawkins, Karen Crowhurst, Mike Mitchell.

4.4 Other Officials (normally elected 'en bloc')

Managed Calendar Officer	Dee Lindesay		
Ranking Status Officer	Nick Penfold	Entry Cards Officer	Les Ford
Ranking Officers			
K1 Men Premier	Tracy Wells	C1 Men Premier & 1	Oliver Snowdon
K1 Men Division 1	Les Ford	C1 Men Divisions 2 & 3	Nigel Evans
K1 Men Division 2	Craig Douglas	C1 Women Premier & 1	Sally Atkinson
K1 Men Division 3	Karen Crowhurst	C1 Women Divisions 2 & 3	Donna Hawkins
K1 Men Division 4	James Hastings	Canadian Doubles	Stuart Meakins
K1 Women Premier & 1	Sally Atkinson	Veterans All Categories	Paul Mew
K1 Women Divisions 2 & 3	Donna Hawkins	Officials Compiler	
		Annual Prize Co-ordination	Fiona Pennie

Ed Ecclestone award

Nominations are open until 19th November. The award will be decided by the previous five winners and will be announced at the ACM.

Motions

Unless specifically listed, the motions below are proposed by the committee. Wording in *Italics* are for explanation and do not form part of the motion. Bold Underlined text is to be added to rules; Struck through text is to be deleted.

Where a motion affects the Terms of Reference it requires a 2/3rds simple majority then approval by the British Canoeing Board.

Where a motion is marked 75/25 it will be handled under Terms of Reference 9.8 and voted on immediately. If the motion receives 75% support it will be immediately adopted, if it fails to receive 25% support it is immediately lost. If the motion gains support of between 25% and 75% it will be debated. Terms of Reference 8.8.

6.1 Multi Division Races - Practice

75/25

With the reintroduction of combined Premier / Division 1, there has been some confusion over the eligibility of those paddling different boats in the different divisions for organised and free practise.

A similar issue arises for veterans, being compared against a division with limited practice.

This motion has the effect that where an athlete completes in Premier in 1 class (no practice), and Canoe in Division 1 (or vice versa) they can take their official practice in the canoe, but not take any free practice in either boat.

A similar issue arises for veterans, being compared against a division with limited practice. Here if the veteran's run is to be compared with Premier runs, it should be under the same conditions of practice.

9.7 TRAINING

9.7.8 UK Where a competitor competes in more than one event, they may take any organised practice runs that are available for the class. If free practice is not available for one of the classes, they may not do free practice for either event.

9.7.9 UK Those competing in the veterans class are restricted by the practice rules for the highest ranking division to which they are being compared.













6.2 Inquorate WC1 Points

Proposed by Sheffield CC and seconded by CR Cats

It is important to note the following, whilst this will affect the whole WC1 category, given current participation levels it is unlikely to be in use at prem and division 1 races.

In 2023:

- In prem, every WC1 event was quorate.
- *In division 1, every WC1 event was quorate.* •
- In division 2, just under a third of division 2 races had inquorate WC1 events.
- *In division 3, over half of the races in 2023 had inquorate WC1 events.*

Analysis of the 2023 WC1 results was run using the current 1.28 against the MK1, the proposed 1.08 against the WK1 and the previously used 1.2 against the MK1. Each set of results has been run and converted to points using each of the afore mentioned conversions, providing a broad set of statistics to analyse.

Analysis of the results through the 2023 season show that using 1.08 against the WK1 would provide a more measured progression through the lower divisions at races that are inquorate. Further to providing a more measured progression for paddlers, it also has the potential to make more of the division 2 and 3 WC1 events quorate through the season, as analysis shows that it would reduce the number of paddlers with race winning points, therefore slowing promotion on 3 sets of full points.

For example at one race this year, in WC1 positions 1-4 gained 250 points, whereas using the proposed conversion, only 1-3 would have gained 250 points, meaning the paddler in 4th would have not gained a set of points to potentially promote them on 'three wins'. This would have led that paddler to compete in more races in division 3, therefore giving the potential to make more races in division 3 quorate.

Promotion on 3 sets of full points:

Promotion on 3 sets of full results does not necessarily mean three wins. As can be seen in the WC1 inquorate results, many of the 'wins' are not gained by winning the race as in other quorate events. This has led to a disproportionately high percentage of WC1 competitors being promoted when compared to other classes. As can be seen below.

Div 3 -Div 2:

12 of the 18 (66%) 3-2 promotions went up on 3 sets of 250 points. Only 6 finished in 1st place for each 250 points earned.

WK1: 8 on three wins of 22 promotions (36%)

MK1: 8 on three wins of 38 promotions (21%)

MC1: 4 on three wins of 12 promotions (33%)

<u>Div 2 -Div 1:</u>

9 of the 11 (81%) promotions went up on 3 sets of 500 points, only 5 on finished 1st for each 500 points earned.

WK1: 7 on three wins of 14 promotions (50%)

MK1: 5 on three wins of 19 promotions (26%)

MC1: 5 on three wins of 8 promotions (62%)

Why compare to WK1 not MK1?

1.08 against the WK1 has been proposed as this is the conversion used between MC1 and MK1. Comparing the WC1 to the WK1 means that the WC1 competitors are scored against other female competitors, as opposed to male competitors.

What if the WK1 is Inquorate?

In the case where WK1 event is inquorate using the formula outlined in rules 6.6.3 and 6.7.1, the WC1 score would be calculated and then the points divided by 2, meaning they have a halved points score. This then remains to be consistent with the MC1 compared to the MK1 in the case of the MK1 being inquorate. Whilst it is understood that WK1 events are inquorate more often than MK1 events, it would be inconsistent to have a different rule and calculation for MC1 and WC1 competitors in this instance.













Divisional Progression Impact

- 6.7.1 In the case where a Men's Kayak <u>Singles</u> event is inquorate, the points obtained using the quorate calculation will be divided by two before allocation.
- 6.7.2 In the case where a Women's Kayak <u>Singles</u> or <u>any Men's</u> Canoe <u>Singles</u> event is inquorate, points awarded will be those given to the athlete in the corresponding Men's Kayak event whose score matches the athletes modified score, which is calculated by dividing by the following factor and rounding down to the accuracy of the competition.

Women's Kayak Singles. 1.11 Men's Canoe Singles. 1.08

Women's Canoe Singles, 1.28

Note: Where the athlete's modified score does not correspond exactly with an athlete in the corresponding Men's Kayak <u>Singles</u> event, then the points awarded to the next highest placed Men's Kayak athlete will be used. In the case that the modified score matches the score of more than one athlete in the Men's Kayak <u>Singles</u> competition then the points awarded to the higher placed Men's Kayak athlete will be used. Multiple division competitions will be ranked against the highest corresponding Men's Kayak results.

6.7.3 Points are calculated against the Men's Kayak <u>Singles</u> scores to decide which phase the athlete would have reached, and that is used to allocate points. For example: Points are calculated against the Men's Kayak qualification result unless the modified score of the athlete in the qualification phase is equal to or less than the score of the last placed Kayak Man qualifying from the heats

6.7.4 Inquorate Women's Canoe Singles

6.7.4.1In the case where a Women's Canoe Singles event is inquorate, points awarded will be those given to the athlete in the corresponding Women's Kayak event whose score matches the athletes modified score, which is calculated by dividing by the following factor and rounding down to the accuracy of the competition:

Women's Canoe Singles. 1.08

Note: Where the athlete's modified score does not correspond exactly with an athlete in the corresponding Women's Kayak Singles event, then the points awarded to the next highest placed Women's Kayak athlete will be used. In the case that the modified score matches the score of more than one athlete in the Women's Kayak singles competition then the points awarded to the higher placed Women's Kayak athlete will be used. Multiple division competitions will be ranked against the highest corresponding Women's Kayak singles results.

6.7.2.2In the case where a Women's Kayak singles event is inquorate, the points obtained using the quorate calculation will be divided by two before allocation.

[div max] - ((position-1) x ([div max]/No. of host div comps)) Then divide the answer by 2.

6.7.3 Points are calculated against the Women's Kayak scores to decide which phase the athlete would have reached, and that is used to allocate points. For example: Points are calculated against the Women's Kayak qualification result unless the modified score of the athlete in the qualification phase is equal to or less than the score of the last placed Kayak Woman qualifying from the heats.

6.3 Age Group Prizes

75/25

In the UK age groups are currently quoted as Junior 16, Junior 14 etc. This can (and has) lead to some confusion in whether the age groups are exclusive. E.g. of the fastest paddler under 16 is actually 13, are they eligible for the Junior 14 prize?

To clarify / simplify this, age groupings should be changed to Under 14, Under 16 etc. This affects rule 2.6, 6.1.6, 20.8.4, 20.8.5 as a minimum. It is not proposed to re-engrave any of the perpetual trophies.

Junior age grouping names will be changed to 'Under x' throughout the rules.













6.4 Multi Class Discounts

Now that we have removed discounts for a second class, for junior paddlers and for double events, the expense of competing in both K1 and C1 has for some, become a serious obstacle, and may be constraining the take-up of C1. The expense for an individual is becoming significant; for a family the cost can be unacceptable. For example, a family of three competing at a double event in both K1 and C1 at Division 4 would need to have paid £6.60 x 12 - nearly £80 in 2023. Once in Division 2 this would have amounted to £14.30 x 12, or just under £172! For those on a limited budget, this outlay can be difficult to justify.

So, in the interest of increasing participation in C1, and more importantly, enjoyment of the sport, a significant reduction in cost when competing in both K1 and C1 is proposed. Previous changes to the fee structure have been made largely in order to simplify our charges, and the option proposed below considers this. It is proposed to halve the fee for entry in a second class - to align with what is already in place for C2. This is proposed for divisions 3 and 4 only, including division 2 would make the, already steep, rise to division 1 competitions even more extreme.

- Entry Fees are listed on various web sites or may be confirmed by email to the Slalom Committee Treasurer. The entry fee for the team event is at the Organiser's discretion but may not be higher than that listed in the published details.
- 6.2.2 Where an athlete enters two singles classes at the same competition / day, and at least one of those entries is in division 3 or 4, the lower of the two entry fees is halved.

e.g. an athlete enters division 2 K1 and division 3 C1, the entry fee for division 3 is halved

Then renumber following rules.

6.5 Rule 20.2.3 – Financial Support

75/25

The rules refer to the slalom committee offering financial support to organisers in two circumstances: Where a competition shows a deficit (20.2.3.b)

Losses resulting from cancelling a race (20.6.2 with an incorrect reference)

The proposal is that these are merged for simplicity, and that in all cases accounts for the competition must be provided if support is sought.

20.2.3.b If the accounts for a competition show a deficit, the organising group may make an application to the Slalom Committee who may consider giving limited financial assistance to offset costs necessarily incurred. To support any such application, full accounts for the competition must be supplied.

20.6.2 If there is no result for an event, entry fees will be refunded in full, to all entrants in that event, by the organising club or group; after that time no entry fees will be refunded.

Unless, on receipt of a report of the circumstances, the Slalom Committee determines otherwise.

If as a result of making a refund of entry fees, the organising group finds itself making a loss on that competition (see 19.2.3.b), it may make application to the Slalom Committee which is empowered to give limited financial assistance to offset costs already and necessarily incurred.

6.6 British Canoeing Rebranding

75/25

It is understood that British Canoeing are undertaking a rebranding exercise. This will involve the renaming of the National Federation and, it is understood, the National Associations. This should be reflected in both the Rules and the Terms of Reference.

Terms of Reference changes will need to be approved by the National Federation, so it will need to be changed before any other change will be accepted.

This meeting authorises the Secretary to amend both rules and Terms of Reference to reflect any rebranding exercise by the Governing bodies.













6.7 Officials Competition

The rules for the Officials Competition are extremely complicated and hard to administer especially when a competitor was promoted from one division to another.

It will still be possible to identify a winner of the Division B award by looking for the highest ranked div 2 paddler. The trouble this year was with the VETs. When looking at a set of results, I put the fast VETs in Div A and the slow VETs in Div B. This isn't very objective and will be harder if they are all in one list. The same problem will apply to unranked paddlers.

- 2.11.2 There is a competition series for Officials based on results at Officials' Competitions at <u>UK</u> Ranking Competitions.
- 2.11.3 For the purpose of this series entrants shall be divided into three divisions:
- a) Premier and Division 1,
- b) Division 2 and 3,
- c) Division 4.

(Renumber the following rules)

2.11.6 Points will be awarded in accordance with the athlete's result in the Officials Event regardless of category. Maximum points for each Division (A, B and C) will be 50Points and Points will be calculated in accordance with the formula: Points = 50 - (position in event - 1)

e.g. the second-place athlete in Division A would score 50 - (2 - 1) = 49

The fourth placed athlete in Division B would score 50 - (4 - 1) = 47

The fourth placed athlete in Division C also would score 50 - (4 - 1) = 47

2.11.8 Where an athlete wishes to compete in multi disciplines in the Officials Competition this will be at the organisers' discretion and subject to completion of the official's duties.

2.11.9 At the end of the season the points will be totalled for each athlete in accordance with their current division and prizes awarded as appropriate. In the event of a tie, the athlete with the greater number of entries will be considered to be the winner. If the result is still a tie, reference will be made to the best scoring results of the athletes concerned, and the next best, etc until the tie is resolved.

6.8 Use of Pronouns 75/25

The rules refer in many places to 'he' or 'she' this should be changed to 'they' for EDI purposes, unless specifically referring to an athlete is a gender specific class (e.g. rule 2.10.4.c).

- 1.12.4 UK The Chief Judge may discipline any athlete or official whose behaviour is detrimental to the proper and orderly conduct of the competition. The Chief Judge must notify the Jury, who may after continued offences by the person, disqualify him/her them from the competition (DQB).
- 2.10.2.b Any such athlete must first declare to the Veteran Ranking Compiler his/her their year of birth and current divisional status (if any).
- 3.8.5 <u>*</u> Each athlete is responsible for <u>his/her their</u> start number.
- 4.2.4 * An athlete may participate in a team event different from his/her their individual event.
- 7.5.3 * The Chief Judge is the final arbiter on all judging matters. When there is official television or official video of the competition, they may avail himself/herself themselves of the television or video footage to assist in their determination of any relevant matter or protest.
- 10.3.2 * The Start Judge determines if a second start is given and notifies the Chief Judge of his/her their decision.
- 10.16.1If an athlete competes in a boat or with equipment, which does not conform to the rules, the Chief Judge should disqualify <u>him/her them</u> for that run. (DSQ).













10.16.3 The following is considered as "outside assistance":

• Any aid given to an athlete or to his/her their boat.

20.3.5 Trade Stands/Trading. Where an Organiser permits either Trade Stands to be set up and/or trading to take place <u>he they</u> should ensure that the traders have the necessary Public Liability Insurance cover. A minimum of £500,000 cover is recommended. The Organiser is entitled to insist that the trader <u>show them shows him</u> the Insurance Certificate. A photocopy would be satisfactory.

6.9 Promotion from Division 4

Early in the 2023 season a group was set up to identify ways to improve participation in canoe slalom. We have had several formal meetings and multiple riverside conversations and have decided that action at division 4 is needed as priority.

The numbers entering the sport at division 4 has fallen dramatically and of those promoted to division 3 less than half apply for a bib. We feel that there may be a better retention level if paddlers are able to experience more races at the entry level before they have to enter the ranking system with associated expense of home nations membership, bib deposit and increased entry fee.

Any unranked paddler has the option of racing in the Novice event. The event is open to all beginners to slalom. There is no automatic promotion to division 3. Any paddler not previously ranked can apply for a division 3 bib and ranking. Whenever they or their coach feel they are ready, they can apply for their division 3 bib

Any paddler that is achieving consistently good results and would be placed in the top 50% of Division 3 should be encouraged to enter the divisional system by their coach or ranking officer. Immediate entry to division 3 is an option for any unranked paddler.

- 1.3.2 To compete in a **Novice event Division 4** (as an entry level event), you must satisfy one of the following –
- be a member of a National Association (BC, Canoe Wales, CANI or SCA) and this membership does not need to have competition rights OR
- be registered with the National Association as an associate club member of an affiliated club OR
- have day membership by completing the National Association taster form (this form covers you for competing on both days at a double <u>Novice event</u> Division 4)

1.7.1 UK An individual or a team event is declared quorate when at least 5 athletes or 5 Teams in Premier, Division 1, 2 or 3 or at least 3 athletes or 3 Teams in **Novice Division 4**-start in that event.

2.9.3.b The normal entry route into slalom is to compete at Novice levels until the athlete (or coach) feels they are ready to be ranked. They can then apply directly to the ranking officer to be ranked in division 3. is upwards, through promotion, from Division 4, and is most suitable for young athletes and those with little moving-water experience. However, for athletes who are already capable, direct entry into a higher division better suited to their paddling ability may be appropriate.

2.11.3 For the purpose of this series entrants shall be divided into three two divisions:

- a) Premier and Division 1,
- b) Division 2 and 3,
- c) Division 4

3.8.1 Numbered bibs, supplied by the Slalom Committee, are to be used at all Ranking Competitions except Division 4. Bibs are not supplied for use at Novice events.

- 3.8.3 Organisers may supply bibs at **Novice Division 4** events. Where bibs are not supplied, start numbers must be put on the front and back deck of the athlete's boat.
- 5.1.2 Division 4 Competitions Novice Events Single division events, open to novices and other Division athletes. Open to paddlers not previously, or currently ranked in that category. May be free-standing or combined with Division 3, Division 2/3 events and open events
- 6.1.3 Late entries made after the closing deadline will only be accepted:
- a) at the discretion of the Organiser and,













- where there is space on the published timetable and the entry limit has not been reached.
- A late entry fee is payable, unless the athlete has been promoted after the closing deadline. The organising club retains the extra charge in each case and may waive the charge at their sole discretion. There is no late entry charge for Division 4-Novice events. The late entry fees are linked to inflation as in Rule 6.2.4.

6.1.6.b Current bib number MUST be quoted, if known. If this is not known, then EITHER details of the slalom where promoted to the current division, OR details of entitlement to compete at the event concerned (e.g. the granting of ranking status - state RSC and enclose copy of letter giving status). **Division 4** Novice athletes do not complete this section.

6.4.1.d Newcomers to slalom, and any who have not been promoted from Division 4 and compete in Division 4 events, are not ranked until promoted to Division 3 or ranked into a division by the Ranking Status Officer in accordance with rule 6.4.2. Those paddling in Novice events are not ranked.

6.4.4 New athletes

- 6.4.4.a New individual athletes must compete in Division 4. Those of proven ability may apply for Ranking Status giving full supporting evidence why they should not have to begin in Division 4.
- 6.4.4.a New individual athletes may compete at Novice levels until the athlete (or coach) feels they are ready to be ranked. They can then apply directly to the ranking officer to be ranked in division 3 or above as appropriate for their paddling ability.

6.6.3 All Divisions (except Division 4)

6.8.1 Promotion from Quorate Division 4 competitions (See Rule 1.7)

6.8.1.a Promotion is achieved as follows:

- All Quorate Events: 1 in 5 (or part thereof).
- If in WC1 they would have been promoted in either the WK1 or MK1 event.
- Inquorate events, if their score would have gained promotion when compared to another quorate cvent.
- In all eases if their score is better than that of an athlete awarded more than 100 points in the corresponding division 3 event.
- 6.8.1.b In all cases where two, or more, athletes are tied on best run scores for the last promotion place from Division 4 then all such athletes are promoted.

6.8.2 Promotion in all other Divisions

Renumbering the following rules.

6.8.3 End of season results

Ranking positions are calculated using the best five results. In the event of a tie, refer to Rules 2.7 (championship tie break) or 10.18 (ranking tie break). Division 4 athletes are not ranked.

9.4.1 * The course for ranking events above division 4(not Novice events) must consist of a minimum of 18 gates and a maximum of 25 gates, of which six (6) or eight (8) must be upstream gates.

9.4.1.a UKAt division 4 races Novice events the course must consist of a minimum of 12 gates and a maximum of 25 gates, of which 4, 6 or 8 must be upstream gates.

11.2.5 UK Protest form deposit

- 11.2.5.a UKThe Chief Judge or Enquiry Desk will accept a protest from upon receipt of a deposit. The deposit is returned if the protest is upheld. If the protest is not upheld, or the protest is withdrawn, it shall be donated to a pre-designated charity (not to be the club itself) of the Organiser's choosing. The amount of the donation shall be recorded on the summary sheets sent to the Slalom Treasurer pursuant to rule 19.7.9.
- At Selection, and Premier events the protest fee is f.10.
- At Division 1 and 2 events the protest fee is £5
- At Division 3 events the protest fee is $\frac{1}{2}$ 3
- At **Division 4** Novice events there is no fee to register a protest.













20.1.5.d Short Notice Division 4 competitions Novice events may be added. Applications for such competitions to be made to the Slalom Committee in advance.

20.8.3 All promotees are to receive a memento, supplied by the Slalom Committee. Division 4 promotees must send the application form given to them by the Competition Organiser.

Renumbering the following rules.

20.8.7 Canoe athletes who have been in Division 1 (C1 or C2) are not eligible for prizes at Division 4 Novice C2 events in a new pairing.

Approval of the Calendar for 2024

There were too many division 1 races requested for 2024. The Committee are grateful to the clubs for cooperating in keeping the number of events within the limits agreed at the previous ACM.

Clubs are reminded that their competition cannot be accepted unless a Safety Plan has been supplied.

Discussion areas for 2024

8.1 Ranking system Mike Mitchell

Is the divisional system still worthwhile and good for the sport. Or should another system be considered. This is a point to discuss the options and approaches.

- 'Super Prem': merge Prem /1 for main races but have super prem for the defined athletes it smaller with less races
- French model
- How many divisions? 4,3, or open entry
- Are rolling points better?
- Only end of season promotion / demotion

8.2 Event Format Options

Andv G

Should we include / encourage other things on the schedule? Teams, Kayak Cross, Training sessions, Short course, other things?

Please be aware that club votes will only be issued to the registered club representative on the most recent registration form (https://bit.ly/BC-CSL-Reg).

If a club wishes anyone else to exercise their vote, whether a club member or not, a proxy form MUST be completed. This can give the proxy holder full discretion to vote as they see fit but authorises the committee to give the papers to a different individual.

Electronic proxies (https://bit.ly/SlalomProxy23) must be completed by midnight 23rd November.









