

Exec Meeting Minutes 29/11/2020

1. Reviewing Freshers and First Term

a. What went well during Freshers? What could have been improved?

It was concluded that the overall taster sessions went very well, there was high attendance, and we had many new sign ups. However, it took a lot of time for people to sign up due to there being such a high demand for places. Mark mentioned that we should try and invite the key/good freshers back to keep them interested.

b. What did you like about the structure of sessions this term? What could we improve on next term?

All the sessions were essentially taster sessions with a couple of skills added in, so next term we shall try and implement a more structured session which keeps the freshers interested. It was suggested by the exec to add more fun and activities to the sessions, such as more specific skills sessions and teaching them to advance their paddling ability; primarily for people who come every week so they can add on skills.

It was also mentioned we'd need to keep sessions assessable to all members, even those who can only come less often. Make sure they don't miss out, maybe make sessions independent of each other. Mark suggested isolating the sessions so if they miss a session, they can just learn that skill at a later date. He also suggested following the old 2-star syllabus. **Action point: print and distribute a copy of the 2 star lists for leaders to keep with them on the water**

It was suggested to keep a poster of a list of skills in the boat house so that freshers can read it and see if they want to learn anything from it.

c. What could I do next term to better lead the club?

Laura mentioned that we should make sure that all leaders and sub leaders should be 100% confident when it comes to supervising the groups, just in case one leader must take care of a capsizer.

The running of sessions is solely dependent on the covid rules next term

Lucy: TD said that ideally testing will be done ~once a week for those participating in sports. This might put freshers off if it is a lot of effort. It might be university wide. Not just for sports.

Tom is to continue organizing his polo sessions, and Lucy happy to continue hosting Wednesday sessions.

d. Canoe session, sprint session options

Laura is happy to run canoe sessions as she has 3 star canoe and is confident to lead them. Would encourage more from households to come along and bring housemates, solves issue of 2 in the boat and social distancing.

Martin is happy to continue with his sprint sessions. They were very successful last term and enjoyable to run. Laura requested to hold her sessions an hour later for those who don't have 9ams but still want to do a morning session.

e. Releasing sign ups more fairly

More careful when making signups so members don't bulk up/oversubscribe then drop out close to event time- means others can't join.

2. Team Durham Update

a. Update

No sessions to happen after November lockdown so that students are not encouraged to stay. Can only happen if they are using all their own kit, even then not advised.

Team Durham to try running a first aid course In January – **Lucy to put a poll on the chat closer to the time.**

S and C to continue with same people next term

Weekly testing (minimum) and if we want contact in our sessions, a test would be required right before the session. Might have to change start times should this happen.

Abi mentioned that tests are only valid for 24hrs, but Tom (who works at the covid testing sight) says that it is still advisable to have the test right before for extra safety

Lucy to contact the to see how late they are doing the testing to see whether this will stop us from holding evening sessions.

3. Solo Paddling Rules Update

Create a list of possible solo paddlers. To be able to solo paddle they must have passed a course that enable them to be qualified to paddle alone. You **MUST** be on the list to paddle, no exceptions.

Callum will be storing his boat in the boathouse for free from now on

4. FSRT Course

Kelan to run FSRT course for us. Only issue is cold environment, a few hours in the pool would be greatly beneficial but is limited from covid rules. **Laura and Martin to try and make contact with swimming pools to see if they'd accept us.** We'd also have a couple hours in the river if the weather isn't too awful. Tom also mentioned he would be happy to help.

5. Swim tests & Booking Pools

- a. Volunteer to contact Hartlepool, Darlington & other pools if necessary to ask about the likelihood of getting bookings next term.

Laura and Martin said they'd be happy to try and make contact with swimming pools to see if they'd accept us for FSRT

We need to organize swim tests for the freshers, in a booked pool ideally. Usually done in the Durham school pool for the Rowers, **Tom to organize these.**

Could do them during pool sessions, but for now we are under the assumption that these will not happen.

6. Christmas Risk Assessments & Safety

- a. We need to create a pool RA and river trip RA and get this signed off by TD before

Lucy to put together a risk assessment and Tom volunteered to help. Tom to use the template suggested by Mark. Deadline is the 1st session of 2nd term, but ideally submitted before Christmas period ends. Tom to send it to Lucy to check over.

- b. First aid kits: TD want to help us restock. Somebody needs to make a list of what we have/haven't got.

Martin to check the inventory of the first aid kits.

7. Financial Plan

- a. TD have asked us to make one/update one

What are we likely to need in the next 5 years? We need to make an inventory of what equipment might need replacing. Mark mentioned that the polo boats might need looking at soon.

Matt and Grace to contact Callum about the 5 yr plan and to look on the Team Durham website.

8. Leaflet for Prospective Students

Lara to reply to email about this

Show variety of types of kayaking we do etc

Focus mainly on polo/white water as the leaflet is mainly targeted at Scholars.

Ask for clarification criteria for leaflet

9. Other notes

- a. Don't forget to collect rashies from George
- b. Don't forget to pay membership! **Laura also mentioned that exec members who bought a hoodie need to transfer the money over to her**
Grace need to chase up anyone who bought stash from the boathous

c. Update: internal events on the website

Internal events are now available- only exec and admin can view these.

V. Social media should be COVID friendly. i.e no pictures of people closer than 2m or not observing covid rules. If they are from pre-covid, please clarify this in the caption

Note: There is post to be collected for the club at the Palatine Centre. Grace to do this/check the pigeon hole. There is a pigeon hole at the SU that definitely has something in, but is not open till after lockdown.