

**THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HANTS. & DORSET AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE BTC ROWING CLUB, SOUTHAMPTON, ON SATURDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2012 at 10.30am.**

There were 27 delegates in attendance when the Chairman, John Purkess opened the meeting at 10.50pm and expressed his disappointment that three clubs – Newport, Westover and Worthing had failed to send any representatives although Newport and Westover had sent their apologies. Apologies were also received from Colin Eales, Chairman Wessex RRC and Southsea R. C; Brian Gowman, Westover; Chris Foad, Itchen Imperial; Sue Sothcott and Pete Jacobs; Poole and Royston Carver, Christchurch.

The minutes of the last AGM had been circulated with the agenda and were not read at the meeting which agreed to accept these as a true record on a proposal from D. Woodford, seconded A. Wigmore.

The following matters arising from the Autumn Delegates meeting were noted -

- 1) The Association Secretary had circulated the contact details for new Wessex Region PDO as requested.
- 2) Status comparison – BR/Hants & Dorset ARA – while this has finally been considered and accepted by the BR competitions committee and published on the BR web site unfortunately it is wrong – some of the numbers being misplaced and one part missed off. This has been pointed out to BR on a number of occasions but still no correction has been made.
- 3) H&D Vice President Kevin Ayles had agreed to chase Bournemouth University with regards to the outstanding Hants & Dorset Affiliation fees but no progress had been made.
- 4) The venue for the 2014 South Coast Rowing Championships was an agenda item.
- 5) With regards to BR's request to discuss issues with the Wessex Region – one informal meeting had been held - no further discussions have taken place.
- 6) The South Coast levy was an agenda item as was the 2011 South Coast Rowing Championships at Dorney Lake, Eton Final accounts and the Regatta dates for the 2012 season.

The Secretary's Report on the 2011 Season had been circulated in advance of the meeting (*see appendix 1*) and was accepted by the meeting following a proposal from A. Parsons, seconded by L. Foad . The Association Secretary also reported on the activities and correspondence undertaken on behalf of the Association since the Autumn delegates meeting which included preparation of information on the 2011 season for the British Rowing Almanac and South Coast Rowing handbook; arranging the Racing Officials Meeting in January and the Water Safety Meeting in February; Association Bulletins plus various correspondence with a range of related organizations including local authorities, the South Coast Council, CARA and WEARA and British Rowing and thank-you's for services rendered and assistance given. The Association secretary reported that ten of the twenty-one fines imposed for Late Scratching were the subject of appeals - and were reviewed by the Associations Executive Officers at the delegates meeting and all ten were upheld with the fine refunded. On behalf of the Association the Association Secretary recorded that he had attended, on a regular basis the Wessex Regional Rowing Council Meetings and have attended two British Rowing Water Safety Meetings in his capacity as Water Safety Advisor to the Wessex Region and as a member of the Hants & Dorset Safety Commission. The Hants & Dorset ARA web site - [hdara.co.uk](http://hdara.co.uk) - has been maintained although there has been no further development of the site at this time. It was noted that the Secretary had ample stock of H&D Stationary and Championship Medals but had used the last Coxswains cap last year - so there was a need to purchase some more. They were last purchased in 2006 from New & Lingwood Ltd., and cost £323.88 for 6 – around £54 each – which was likely to be more six years later. The meeting agreed that alternative providers should be sought – and Keith Warland agreed to pursue this with the supplier of the Race Officials Kit.

The meeting then considered the Treasurers report and adopted the balance sheet (*See appendix 2 & 3*) which included the accounts from Swanage Regatta - on a proposal from K. Ayles, seconded by J. Adams. It was noted that a further quantity of South Coast Championship medals would need to be purchased before we host the next event in 2014.

The meeting then elected the Association Officers for 2012 as follows –

President – Ian Hutchings of Coalporters, agreed unanimously on a proposal from J. Purkess, seconded by A. Parsons. Ian then addressed the meeting, thanking the Association for his election and retiring President Mark Viner for his many years of service – and presented him with his Past Presidents badge.

Chairman – John Purkess was re-elected on a proposal from S. Bull, seconded by J. Bailey. It was noted that this would be Johns 4<sup>th</sup> year of a maximum of five in office.

Hon. Treasurer – Keith Warland was re-elected on a proposal from M. Bradbeer, seconded by J. Adams.

Hon. Secretary – Steve Bull was re-elected on a proposal from J. Purkess, seconded by D. Woodford – and the meeting agreed that his honorarium should remain unchanged at £500 – on a proposal from L. Foad, seconded by J. Bailey.

Hon. Auditor – Pete Staddon, was re-elected on a proposal from J. Purkess, seconded by B. Sivier.

The meeting then re-elected J. Bryant, K. Ayles, B. Gowman, J. Purkess, John Adams, K. Fraser, S. Sothcott as Vice Presidents of the Association on a proposal from A. Radcliff, seconded by T. Gay with no additions – and it was noted that the following Life Vice Presidents - B. Hartland, E. Shergold, S. Moody, M. Green, P. Glover, P. Trist, K. Warland, S. Bull, L. Foad, J. Bailey, D. Woodford, R. Siver, M. Viner and A. Wigmore – retained their positions with no additions.

The Hants & Dorset ARA South Coast handbook was briefly discussed and it was confirmed that this would be in the same format as 2011/2012 – and it was believed that the current cost would be maintained. The handbook was only waiting for the information from the AGM. Publication was expected at the end of April – and it was hoped that they would be printed in time to be handed over at the special SCC EGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

The South Coast levy on entry fees [currently £1 per seat] was reviewed by the meeting and the correspondence received before last years delegates meeting from BTC Chairman making the point that “There are no adult small boat events at most South Coast regattas. For those rowers who are not part of a 'four', or who have concentrated on their small boat racing during the year, they feel disenfranchised by the event. Yet they still contribute to the event each year. Whilst it is appreciated that these events require careful time management, the disparity in return for these rowers is causing disquiet at club level.” After some discussion – where the point was made that the Hants & Dorset ARA is hoping to offer open events in small boats at the 2014 South Coast Championships Regatta the meeting agreed to keep the levy the same for 2012 on a proposal from S. Bull, seconded by R. Sivier.

The rates of subscription, regatta permit fees and entry fees for the year [currently: Subscriptions - £2.50 per registered member/minimum £106; Regatta permit - £20; Entry fees - £3.00 per seat + £1.00 South Coast levy] were then considered by the meeting. There was a proposal from S. Bull of Ryde R. C. to increase the entry seat fee by £1 to £4 per seat plus the £1 SCC levy. This proposal was expanded to leave event permit fees and rates of subscription unchanged and was seconded by John Bailey – with the proviso that the increased entry fee was used to improve the facilities for race officials and competitors and to enhance safety – and on this basis was accepted by the meeting.

The Regatta dates for 2012 were confirmed as follows -

H&D CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA'S IN CAPITALS. *Junior Events in Italics.*

Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Southampton Eight and Small Boats HARR.
Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Christchurch Head of the Stour.
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup> April.	Southampton Coastal Fours HARR.
Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May.	BOURNEMOUTH REGATTA.
Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> May.	RYDE REGATTA. Note: <u>Early start/9.00am.</u>
Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup> May.	SHANKLIN REGATTA
Saturday, 26 <sup>th</sup> May.	COALPORTERS REGATTA.
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> June.	MILFORD (Lymington) REGATTA.
Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> June.	POOLE REGATTA.
Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> June.	CHRISTCHURCH.
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> June.	SWANAGE REGATTA .
[Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July.	Celebration on Rowing on the South Coast, Weymouth. [BR Event.]
Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> July.	WOOLSTON REGATTA.
Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> July.	SOUTHSEA REGATTA.
*(Friday, 13 to Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> July	GB National Junior Championships. (Nottingham). <u>TBC.</u>
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup> July.	NEWPORT REGATTA.
Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> August.	ITCHEN IMPERIAL REGATTA.
Saturday, 18 <sup>th</sup> August	BTC REGATTA.
Sunday, 19 <sup>th</sup> August.	Provisional date for Hants & Dorset Championship and South Coast Selection row-offs if required. Dockhead, Southampton. 11.00am.
Saturday, 8 <sup>th</sup> September.	South Coast Championships Regatta, Bideford, 9.00am start.
Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> September.	<i>South Coast Junior Regatta. Bideford. 10am start.</i>

The dates still to be advised were - Itchen Junior Sprint Regatta, Coalporters Junior Regatta, Wessex Junior Regatta (Bryanston and Coalporters Winter Sculls HARR if they were taking place.

The following points were also made – what small boats events would be held at Newport and Coalporters – it was noted that events should be offered and withdrawn rather than added at the last minute; Secure storage will be available overnight at Christchurch after Poole Regatta the day before; There would be an early start – 9.00am at Ryde – and Shanklin due to the tide; Clubs should try and support the BR Celebration of Rowing on the South Coast at Weymouth on 1<sup>st</sup> July, the day after Swanage, but this was – up to the individual clubs.-

There was a new format for BR Nat. Championships Regatta with J14 to J16 juniors competing at Nottingham after school exams in July with J18s and seniors racing at Eton Dorney during October in a move to attract more elite rowers and raise

the prestige of the event. This should make it easier for H&D crews to compete and there was no longer any requirement to offer H&D points to encourage attendance.

The meeting agreed that Swanage Regatta, now confirmed for the 30<sup>th</sup> June, should be organised as in previous years with a committee and support drawn from all Association Clubs – to be coordinated, primarily by E Mail, by the Association Secretary. It appeared that most of the Clubs and individuals usually involved were prepared to be involved once again.

Denny Woodford then Reported on the South Coast Council AGM – a report that had been circulated with the Agenda for the meeting (see attached – Appendix 4.). Arising from his report was the issue of a limit of fifty from each Association for this year's South Coast Rowing Championships reception. Usual attendance from each Association was sixty plus – and the meetings discussed various ways of reducing this – eventually deciding that the Association Executive Officers would make the decision although with the guidance that Race officials on the day should have priority over Club representatives.

The meeting then discussed in some detail the proposals for changes to the South Coast Council Rules from WEARA and CARA and directed its delegates to vote at the Special General Meeting of the Council on the 28<sup>th</sup> April as follows –

- 1) To allow Composite crews in the Veteran Championships and Veteran Open Events – delegates instructed that there should vote against any change in this Rule – i.e. Composite Crews allowed in Veteran Open events – three from one club, one from another – but not in the Championship event.
- 2) Introduce the BR age handicap system in Veteran events – delegates instructed to vote against this change – considered to be too complicated to administer in our racing environment – with Coastal conditions and running starts – and no handicapping data existed for Coastal Boats.
- 3) Specify the length of the Course for Veteran Championship and Open events. The delegates were instructed to vote against any change to the use of the full course for the Championship Veteran Event – but that some discretion should be allowed in the open events.
- 4) Create a Ladies Junior Senior Championship. This proposal had been withdrawn.
- 5) Promote some Junior Events to Championship status. This proposal probably generated the most discussion – but in the end the meeting instructed its delegates to vote against at this time, to allow the Hants & Dorset ARA to develop the infrastructure required to support Junior Championship events – with the suggestion that this should be introduced from 2014. *Clarification – would this disqualify those juniors involved from competing in other Junior and open events as per the existing rules?*
- 6) A consequential amendment – not relevant if proposal (5) rejected.
- 7) Specify the length of the Junior Course – the delegates were instructed to vote in favor of this proposal.
- 8) To increase the number of events that competitors can enter in the open Regatta. The delegates were instructed to vote in favor – but that the number of events should be limited to two and doubling up was entirely at a Clubs risk. i.e. vote in favor or proposal 8.2. *Clarification – if a two day event – see (11) would this be two events on each day?*
- 9) This proposal had been withdrawn.
- 10) Include in the open Regatta events which two or more Associations have annual prizes – with the stated proviso that this proposal is not binding on a regatta organizing committee and does not require them to hold an event if they feel there would be insufficient time to do so – the delegates were instructed to vote in favor.
- 11) Allow the Regatta to become a two-day event – the delegates were instructed to vote in favor.
- 12) Improve clarity of arrangements for Junior Regatta – the delegates were instructed to vote in favor.

With regards to the revised proposal from CARA regarding the other two Associations being allowed to take up any Championship place not fulfilled by one of the Associations – a very similar proposal has already been rejected by the Hants & Dorset ARA and the Association could see nothing in the revised proposal to alter their view – and delegates were instructed to vote against this change.

Following a recommendation from the Umpires Sub Committee the meeting then agreed that the Hants & Dorset ARA Racing Officials for the 2012 South Coast Championships at Bideford would be as follows -

CHAMPIONSHIP UMPIRE –	Pete Staddon.
STARTER –	Ian Hutchings
JUDGE -	Mark Viner.
OPEN UMPIRE –	Alan Stewart.
RESERVES –	John Adams, Brian Gowman.
JUNIOR REGATTA –	STARTER – Alan Stewart
	UMPIRES – John Adams
	JUDGE – John Purkess
	RESERVES – Pete Staddon.

The meeting then re-elected the delegates to the South Coast Council - Bob Sivier, Denis Woodford and Andy Sothcott on a proposal from Ted Shergold, seconded by John Bailey. It was noted that - Brent Hartland, Ted Shergold and Keith Warland remain Life members of the South Coast Council.

The accounts for the 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta had been circulated in advance of the meeting (see attached – Appendix 5) but there were still one or two issues to be resolved and the meeting was unable to adopt them at this time. The Chairman of the 2011 Organizing Committee – Mike Green – agreed to work with the Treasurer Sue Sothcott – with a view to have finalized accounts available for adoption at the Autumn Delegates Meeting.

Following the formation of a steering committee drawn from the H&D Affiliated Clubs and involving most of those involved in organizing the 2011 Championships and a meeting, a proposal and presentation document for the venue and organization of the 2014 South Coast Rowing Championships, at Swanage in Dorset was circulated for approval at the meeting. This was agreed on a proposal from S. Bull, seconded by K. Ayles. This presentation would be submitted to the Special General Meeting of the South Coast Council at Bideford, on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, for Council approval. The Association Secretary would prepare a number of copies of the proposal and presentation which would be handed out at the meeting by Denny Woodford who would brief the meeting on behalf of the steering committee.

There were no amendments and additions to Association Rules to be considered by the meeting.

Following a further recommendation for the Umpires Sub Committee election of the following racing officials for the 2012 season was agreed - FULL OFFICIALS. John Adams, John Bailey, Steve Bull, Les Foad, Pat Glover, Brian Gowman, Carole Wall, Ian Hutchings, John Purkess, Pete Staddon, Mark Viner, Keith Warland, Alan Wigmore, Denis Woodford, Martin Bradbeer, Andy Sothcott, Alan Stewart, Chris Eveleigh, Andy Parsons, Pete Diffey (20). ASSISTANT OFFICIALS. Simon Clements, Bob Springbett, Trev Gay, Chris Foad with the addition of one new assistant official – Sharon Ayles, from Ryde (4).

A report on the Race Officials Meeting of 21/1/12 had been circulated in advance (see attached, Appendix - 6 ) and was accepted by the meeting. The Umpires Commission/Committee consisting of - Chairman – Andy Parsons, Commission Members - John Purkess, John Bailey, Martin Bradbeer, Keith Warland, Alan Wigmore plus Mike Green (consultant) was accepted by the meeting following a further recommendation from Race Officials Meeting, with a vote of thanks passed to retiring Chairman – John Purkess.

The meeting also discussed the charge on Clubs who run an event but have less than two active Officials available for at least three events the meeting eventually agreeing with the Umpires Committee that this should be increased to £100 per official for the 2012 season and that other more punitive measures may be considered if this change did not have the desired effect.

A Report from the Wessex Regional Rowing Council by its Chairman, Colin Eales had been circulated in advance (see attached – Appendix 7.) as had a report from the Divisional Rep. Mike Green (see attached – Appendix 8) in the format of a General Communication on the current and future working relationship with British Rowing.

There was further comment from M. Green and others at the meeting – including the thought that we should try and steer BR to call our form of rowing – “British Coastal Rowing” as opposed to FISA; the lack of planning and consultation by BR and their regional employees with Wessex (and H&D?) regarding type and timing of BR courses staged in the region; the emphasis BR were putting on participation – almost to the exclusion of all other activity; BR membership concessions granted to Gig Clubs; the “doom and gloom” surrounding future funding and the possibility of H&D block affiliation for BR membership – which could benefit both organizations. These points would be pursued through the Wessex Regional Rowing Council as the body that represented British Rowing in the region.

The meeting then considered and agreed a proposal from Steve Bull, seconded by John Purkess that the Hants & Dorset should continue to make a donation of £250 to the Wessex Regional Rowing Council – but that in light of the likely BR constitutional amendments that would create a split region – Wessex West and Wessex East – the contribution was exclusively for the use of Wessex West.

The report from the Safety Committee and the Associations Safety Meeting of 4/2/12 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting was then considered (see attached – Appendix – 9) and all the recommendations adopted including the appointment of the Safety Committee for 2012 – which was - Chairman – Mark Viner. Committee Members – Steve Bull, Gary Joyce, Trevor Gay, Gary Walters, Peter Lamb.

A progress report from the two newly appointed Sub Committees - was presented to the meeting by their secretary – Jeff Watling – and a written version of the report was handed out (see attached – Appendix 10). The meeting agreed that good progress was being made – but attendance at meetings was disappointing – and all clubs were urged to send representatives.

The Prize Presentation arrangements for 2012 were discussed and the 2011 balance sheet adopted on a proposal from L. Foad, seconded by P. Staddon, a copy of having been handed out at the meeting (see attached – appendix 11) and thanks

expressed to Amanda Hames for organizing the event. The 2012 – event would once again be at the Novotel, Southampton, on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> November. The cost of and method of allocation of tickets were areas of discussion.

Among the items briefly discussed under any other business – the recent Head of the Stour and some bad language at the event; the Coastal HRR; a planned Audit of membership; Lymington's New Clubhouse and the course for the 2012 South Coast Championships at Bideford.

There being no other business the meeting finished at 3.30pm with thanks to BTC for hosting the meeting and providing lunches. It was agreed that the Association Officers would set a date for the Autumn Delegates meeting once the Southampton F. C. Fixture lists were known.

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J. Purkess.  
Association Chairman.

*Minutes taken and written by Stephen C. Bull, Association Secretary. April, 2012.*

Attached and forming an integral part of these minutes.

Appendix 1. Secretary's Report on the 2011 Season.

Appendix 2. Treasurers Report and balance sheet.

Appendix 3. Swanage Regatta Accounts.

Appendix 4. Report on South Coast Council AGM.

Appendix 5. The accounts for the 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta.

Appendix 6. A report on the Race Officials Meeting of 21/1/12

Appendix 7. Report from the Wessex Regional Rowing Council.

Appendix 8. Report from the Divisional Rep.

Appendix 9. Report from the Safety Committee and the Associations Safety Meeting of 4/2/12

Appendix 10. Report from Sub Committees.

Appendix 11. Prize Presentation Evening, 2012 Accounts.

Appendix 1. Secretary's Report on the 2011 Season.

### **The Hants & Dorset Amateur Rowing Association Secretaries Report on the 2011 Coastal Season.**

The Association was probably fortunate to complete the full thirteen regatta championship program in 2011 with poor weather in the early part of the season leading to the postponement of Lymington Regatta and curtailment of the Regatta at Shanklin - where seven events were not completed - and challenging conditions at a number of other events. It is to the credit of Regatta Organisers and Clubs alike that, with the exception of Shanklin's lost events the full program was completed – including a new course for Poole and the postponed Lymington Regatta eventually taking place as the last Championship event of the season.

The Association granted permits to 17 events – the 13 Championship Regatta's, 3 Head races and one Junior Regatta. Entries in the Championship Regatta's were down by twenty-one over the season – but this is almost entirely accounted for by Newports decision not to include any small boat events – so entries actually remained static. Seven Regatta's had entries exceeding one hundred crews and scullers at entry close – another four exceeding this figure when late entries were taken into account. Southsea, as always, had the largest entry as a combined event with CARA – Swanage had the largest entry of the other Regatta's

BTC retained the Men's Senior Fours Championship once again, after a slow start, eventually dominating and winning seven of the twelve championship events – and going on to secure the South Coast Championship title. Their challengers came from Itchen, with three wins, which secured them the 2<sup>nd</sup> slot at the South Coast Championships – and from Coalporters, with two wins – who received some consolation when they won the open Senior Fours at the South Coast.

The Men's Junior Senior Fours events was one of the seasons most closely fought competitions with Christchurch and Lymington battling it out during the season with Christchurch's six wins from Lymington's four securing the Championship – these two crews going on to represent the Association at the South Coast Championships where Christchurch triumphed with Lymington finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

The Men's Junior Fours was dominated by the Southampton Squad, with eight wins, to comfortably win this Championship and go on to secure the South Coast title as well. Coalporters three wins gave them the runners-up spot – and another first and second for the Association in the Championship regatta. A single win for Ryde gave them third place.

Five different Clubs had Men's Novice Fours wins during the season with BTC and Ryde sharing the Championship with four wins each. Coalporters and Southampton both had two wins with Lymington managing a single win.

The Ladies Senior Fours was another close contest with Christchurch's six wins securing the Championship over Poole with four – these two crews representing the Association at the South Coast Championships with where Poole turned the tables but could only finish 2<sup>nd</sup> with Christchurch in third.

The Ladies Junior Fours Championship was won fairly convincingly by Southampton with eight wins from Southsea with four and Shanklin taking one win. Southampton were equally impressive at the Championships winning fairly comfortably – with, once again the other Hants & Dorset representatives, Southsea, in 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

As with the men's event five different Clubs won Ladies Novice Fours events – Southampton's four wins giving them this Championship outright with BTC and Newport with two wins and Shanklin and Poole with one each and composite crews winning two of the events.

The Veteran Fours Championship was retained by BTC with five wins – but this may well be challenged next season with Poole, Lymington and Ryde, each with two wins a piece likely to challenge BTC's dominance of this event. BTC and Lymington represented the Association at the Championships with Lymington coming home in 2<sup>nd</sup> place – and BTC a disappointing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Two Clubs contested the Men's Senior Pairs title – with Lymington claiming the Hants and Dorset title, with seven wins, from Poole with four. Itchen Imperial's seven wins in the Men's Junior Pairs also secured them the Hants & Dorset Title with Southampton as runners-up with three wins and Southsea snatching a single win. The Ladies Senior Pairs was a much closer contest – with Itchen Imperial emerging as champions with six wins from Southampton with five.

In the single sculling Hants and Dorset Championships it was Ian Hayden of Ryde who emerged as the winner of the Men's Senior title, with four wins, in a very competitive competition which saw Schriber of Poole, Kelly of Coalporters and Gisborne of Southsea all win two events and Riceman of Itchen with one. The Junior Sculls event saw a strong performance from Leelodharry who won the Championship with six wins from Nunn of Southampton with three. In the Men's Novice Sculls – eight different scullers, from seven different clubs won – but amazingly no sculler achieved the two wins required to take them up to Junior status. There were wins for Bladen and Williams of Coalporters, Rose of Christchurch, Lloyd of Shanklin, Lewis of BTC, Fancourt of Southsea, Fryer of Lymington and Stringfellow from Itchen. The two wins from the Coalporters scullers giving them the Hants & Dorset Championship.

The Ladies single sculling events were dominated by Itchen Imperial with Jess Bull winning the Senior title from club colleague Kirsty McGregor-Ritchie, with five points against three. R. McGregor-Ritchie won the Junior Championship fairly convincingly with eight wins – the only challenge coming from Harrison of Southsea who won on two occasions. To complete the trio of Hants & Dorset Ladies Sculling Championships Itchen also claimed the Novice title with two wins from Fancett and one from Fagan – the challenge coming from Coalporters and BTC who had one win apiece – Carr for Coalporters and Hume for BTC.

Bryony Reeve, of Ryde was awarded the Coxswain of the year's trophy in a very close contest with Joe Bull of Lymington and Chole Weaver of BTC. The Archie Fraser Memorial Trophy for the best performing Hants & Dorset Club, in the Championship and Open events at the South Coast Championship Regatta went to Christchurch with Southampton runners-up – but in consolation Southampton were asked to hold the Eileen and Eric Crow Aggregate Cup on the Associations behalf, as the major contributor, after the Association won this trophy as the best Association in the Championship events. The R. S. O "Hank Carr" Trophy for the Club winning the most Championship points in the season went to Itchen Imperial, with Southampton runners-up once again.

*Registrations were 53 higher than the previous year at 727 – an increase of around 11%. Christchurch are the largest Club by registration, followed by Southampton and Coalporters.*

The Associations success on the water at the South Coast Championship Regatta confirmed the Associations position as the most successful of the three Rowing Associations on the South Coast and the organization of this very successful event by a committee drawn from nearly all the Associations Clubs is a good indication of the Associations strength off the water. However many challenges remain – the re-structuring of British Rowing and our place in the sport, the growth in gig and offshore rowing and the perception of Coastal Rowing within the sport and by British Rowing in particular and the difficult financial climate being just a few. But on balance it can be argued that the Hants & Dorset Amateur Rowing Association has, at the very least, held its own, in difficult circumstances.

Steve Bull,  
Association Secretary.  
November, 2011.

Appendix 2. Treasurers Report and balance sheet.

**HANTS & DORSET AMATURE ROWING ASSOCIATION**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR 2011**

<u>INCOME</u>			<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	£	£		£	
<b><u>AFFILIATION FEE</u></b>		<b><u>SOUTH COAST LEVY</u></b>	<b><u>SECRETARY</u></b>		
BTC	181	244	POSTAGE	210.43	
CHRISTCHURCH	286	268	STATIONARY	88.93	
COALPORTERS	301	287	SAFETY	223.87	
LYMINGTON	163.5	283	S.C. ENTRIES	120	
NEWPORT	106	208	WEB	43.64	
POOLE	168.5	369	PHOTOS	7.75	
RYDE	178.5	336	ALMANAC	20	
SHANKLIN	106	283	CARTRIDGES	57.3	
SOUTHAMPTON	221		<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>771.92</b>	
SOUTHSEA	178.5	258	<b><u>SEC HON</u></b>	<b>500</b>	
WESTOVER	166	343	<b><u>DONATIONS</u></b>		
WORTHING	106		WESSEX	250	
ITCHEN IMPERIAL	156	330	<b><u>SOUTH COAST</u></b>		
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>2318</b>		LEVY & INSURANCE	250	
SWANAGE		365	<b><u>MEDEL ENGRAVING</u></b>		
WOOLSTON		347	RYDE	250	
<b><u>TOTAL S.C.LEVY</u></b>	<b>3921</b>	<b>3921</b>	<b><u>CUP REPAIRS</u></b>	<b>133.5</b>	
REGATTA PERMITS	320		<b><u>CREWSAVER</u></b>	<b>82.19</b>	
FINES	290		<b><u>SKOOLKIT</u></b>		
INTEREST	7.53		UMPIRES KIT	241.3	
ARREARS	105		<b><u>ARA OFFICIALS</u></b>	<b>240</b>	
UMPIRES KIT	223.05		<b><u>HANDBOOK</u></b>		
DINNER DANCE			A.J.JEWELL	729.5	
2009-10 PROFIT	124.4		<b><u>DORNEY</u></b>		
			SOUTH COAST		
			CHAMPIONSHIPS	10402	
<b><u>SWANAGE</u></b>			<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>13850.41</b>	
<b><u>REGATTA</u></b>					
PROFIT	693.76				
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>8002.74</b>				
BANK ACCOUNT C/A	31.12.10	3724.7	BANK ACCOUNT C/A	31.12.11	4332.42
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	"	20461.05	SAVINGS ACCOUNT	"	14027.58
SEC/CASH IN HAND	"	-0.07	SEC/CASH IN HAND	"	-21.99
EXCESS EXPENDITURE	"	-5847.67			
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>		<b>18338.01</b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>		<b>18338.01</b>

CHEQUE NOT CASHED CURRANT ACCOUNT NO 000319 £24

CERTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FROM BOOKS RECORDS INFORMATION & EXPLANATIONS I HAVE RECEIVED

AUDITOR  
DATE

  
25/3/12

Appendix 3. Swanage Regatta Accounts.

**SWANAGE REGATTA ACCOUNTS 2011**

	<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>
	£		£
ENTRIES	1327	TROPHYMAN	320.04
PROGAMMES	21.8	MARSH BOATS	130
LATE ENTRIES	306	INSURANCE	
DONATION	50	2010-11	196
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>1704.8</b>	SEAT LEVY	365
		<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>1011.04</b>
<b><u>PROFIT</u></b>	<b>693.76</b>		

**SOUTH COAST SEAT LEVY**

	<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>
	£		£
<b><u>YEAR</u></b>			
2004	1954.5		
2005	1661		
2006	3138		
2007	4011		
REPAID	3946.07	DORNEY	6853.5
2008	3718		
2009	3724	DORNEY	1000
2010	4001	SPONSORSHIP	100
SPONSORSHIP	100	DORNEY	10402
2011	3921		
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>30174.57</b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>18355.5</b>
	£		
FUNDS AVAILABLE	11819.07		

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	£
CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES	43126
SOUTH COAST MEDALS (64)	320.97
UMPIRES KIT	103.84
REGISTRATION CARDS	105.28
POINTS CLAIM CARDS	213.38
BLANK CARDS	38.54
RULE BOOKS	22
COXSWAINS CAPS	52.5
CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS	1708.14
MADAL RIBBONS	0
PAST PRESIDENTS MEDALS	145.5
TIES	71.5
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>45907.65</b>

<b><u>DEBTORS</u></b>	£
BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY	
SEASON 2003-4	106

**REPORT ON SCCRC AGM HELD AT CHRISTCHURCH ON SAT 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012  
COMPILED BY DENIS WOODFORD.**

**Finance**

Awaiting levy from H&D of £334.50 which will now be entered in 2012 accounts. Balance in bank at end of 2011 was £968.01 exclusive of 2011 levy.

Proposal by CARA that levy should be paid by end of October following championships and accepted by council. Vote carried.

**Communications**

CARA highlighted the problem of letters arriving too late for proposed rule changes and discussion at association delegates meetings and proposed a new rule that 31<sup>st</sup> October should be closing date for inclusion for AGM and 30<sup>th</sup> November for the agenda to be issued. This to be added to Rule 8. Vote carried unanimously.

**Eton Dorney 55<sup>th</sup> Championship Regatta and 6<sup>th</sup> Junior Regatta**

All agreed it was a good regatta with minor comments which were answered by Peter Staddon and H&D delegates. PA system was poor, good for competitors but not for spectators. Jeff Hutton thought there was no atmosphere – “why was there no big screen?” (Perhaps we should ask if CARA will supply a screen on the beach at Deal 2013!)

**Summary of Officials' Reports**

These were received and discussed in detail as an agenda item for the first time and various items were recorded and are available on request. Paul Hoveman CARA commented “Why were we not advised that officials were not required until later?” PS stated that all officials were given a copy of the timetable of the day. A long discussion followed. PS answered that for the Junior Regatta Officials were allocated duties. Some were happy to be on all day, others were not.

It was agreed to amend Rule 21b – organisers to nominate officials from all three associations.

**Water Safety Report**

This was the first time a Water Safety Report has been received from the Championship Regatta Safety Officer. All agreed it was a good report and a welcome addition.

**Matters arising from the report**

It was reported that there was a Club missing from the Captains' Briefing – the roll call at the Captains' Briefing showed Bexhill to be the only club missing. Graham Dawes stated that a Bexhill representative was present. A debate followed. Bexhill should have paid a fine before being allowed to compete. DW proposed a SCCRC person be at the briefing to check the roll call and impose fines on missing clubs as required.

During the lunch break GD phoned the Bexhill Captain who confirmed that he was in attendance at the Captains'

Briefing at Eton Dorney and in fact had travelled with Martin Holden and Worthing Club Captain. DW informed council which then accepted no further action to be taken.

It was reported that certain individuals had ignored safety guidelines – Jane Perry said she tried to stop coaching from the towpath but could not identify the clubs involved. Having threatened to disqualify the crews, one person stopped but others carried on.

All agreed Gary Joyce was to be commended for the report.

Jimmy Jewell requested a copy of the Safety Plan for use at Bideford, as did Jeremy Holmes for Deal. Hon Sec. To follow up with Gary to see if this is possible.

**Captains' Briefing**

Conducted without problems.

**Officials' Briefing**

Conducted without problems.

**Receive proposals for the venue for the 2013 – 57<sup>th</sup> Championship and 8<sup>th</sup> Junior Regattas for approval**

Jeremy Holmes presented Deal's proposal and explained the prepared handout to the council.

A short discussion followed on the course and alternative course at Folkestone. If the weather is extreme from the south-west a course for the Championship only is possible at Herne Bay.

All agreed good clear proposal. SCCRC to advise on events to hold.

### **Update on preparations for the 56<sup>th</sup> Championship Regatta and 7<sup>th</sup> Junior Regatta to be held at Bideford.**

Jimmy Jewell presented Bideford's Championship Regatta and also explained that clubs will be allocated to Reds or Blues.

This will be a 2-day event Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, start time for the senior regatta 9 a.m. over 2000 metres. Junior Regatta, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September, start time 10 a.m. over 1000 metres.

### **Reception**

This will be held at the civic town hall at 7 p.m. on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September with a maximum of 150 people attending. Each association is required to submit a list of attendees as there is a limit of 50 persons per association.

The draw will take place at Bideford Blues Rowing Club at 9 p.m. where all competitors, supporters and officials will be welcome.

The alternative course will be Appledore 1800 metres boating from Bideford although Jimmy Jewell did state that if it is too rough at Bideford it will be too rough at Appledore but they are keeping within the rules.

### **Deal 2013**

A presentation was made by Jeremy Holmes from Deal ARC. Senior and Junior Regattas will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, in coastal boats only. The primary reserve course will be Folkestone, west of the rowing club. The secondary reserve course will be Herne Bay with championship events only.

### **H&D 2014**

Detailed letter from H&D was read by DW and accepted. A confirmed venue will be required at Bideford EGM on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

### **Proposals to change rules and recommendations**

CARA proposals – these were addressed at the H&D Delegates Meeting in October and confirmed voting in accordance with instructions from the meeting.

### **Rule 9**

Association contributions carried by 9 votes.

### **Rule 24**

Entrance fees carried by 9 votes.

### **Rule 25**

Championship selection rejected by 6 to 3 votes.

### **Rule 32**

Captains' Briefings carried 6 to 3 votes.

Since the meeting a fresh proposal has been received from CARA to further amend Rule 25.

[a] Each association has the right to nominate crews that will represent them in the six championship events and are not bound to nominate their champion crew or runner up.

If one of the associations cannot fulfil their representation, even if the association can only submit one crew in any one status, then the other two associations may enter an additional crew in that status without charge. The association that cannot fulfil their representation must try to give the other two associations as much notice as possible being not later than the closing date of entries of that championship of their failure to fill.

### **WEARA Proposals for Rule changes**

Due to the CARA and H&D Delegate Meetings being held prior to receiving these proposals it has been decided to allow time to respond after both associations have completed their AGM meetings. H&D – March – CARA – April.

A special EGM has been called at Bideford Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012 prior to the Bideford course inspection meeting to allow voting on the revised proposals which is intended to be actioned for the 2012 championships.

WEARA will re-visit their proposals after guidance from H&D and CARA on our personal thoughts on how some changes would be accepted or rejected and have now re-submitted them to H&D and CARA. It was felt that both CARA and H&D would reject their proposal number 9 (To remove novice events from the championships) which they have since done with the new submission.

Both WEARA and CARA proposals to be discussed at the H&D AGM along with any proposals from H&D.

Appendix 5. The accounts for the 2011 South Coast Championship Regatta.

**Accounts for Dorney SCC 2011 - 8th March 2012.**

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2011</u></b>
Hire of Lake and Facilities	£7,402.00
Marquees & Tentage	£110.64
Toilets/ Portaloo / Caravan	£1,118.00
Communications - PA System & Radios	£218.40
Insurance - ARA Civil Liability	£100.00
- Catamarans	£147.34
Site Cleaning	£204.00
Buffet for Reception 180 @ £13 per head	£1,555.44
DJ	£250.00
Prizes, Mugs & Pennants.	£2,870.68
Postage & Stationary	£233.00
Programme Printing for 1000	£1,010.00
Medical Support	£605.00
Safety Boats	£1,000.00
Umpire Cataramans - 4 World Champ Boats	£1,623.27
Umpires Food - 10 SCC & 13 H&D	£99.78
Scout Troop Donation	£500.00
Number for Competitors	£100.74
Race Timing	£760.00
Bank Charges - Cheque Cancellation	£10.00
Website Hosting	£10.34
Total	£19,928.63
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
Balance Brought Forward	£5.46
H&D Levy	£11,402.00
South Coast Levy	£38.00
Programme Sales	£171.00
Entry Fees	£2,996.00
Merchandising	£333.08
Vehicle Parking	£2,522.60
Sponsorship	£2,014.18
Club Pitches	£540.00
Website Link Sponsors	£200.00
H&D Dinner Raffle	£205.00
Interest	£0.17
Grants	
Total	£20,427.49
<b>Surplus /Deficit</b>	<b>£498.86</b>

**THE ASSOCIATION RACING OFFICIALS MEETING, SATURDAY, 21st JANUARY, 2012.**

**SUMMARY OF MAIN DECISIONS.**

National Umpires Committee – but while the Chairman of the H&D Umpires committee still has a right to attend he no longer has a vote. Agreed better if we maintained our independence – even if that meant a loss of voting rights.

The recommendation to go forward to the Associations AGM for membership of the Umpires Commission – Chairman – Andy Parsons; Committee members – John Purkess, John Bailey, Keith Warland, Alan Wigmore, Martin Bradbeer and Mike Green in an advisory capacity - which was proposed by Steve Bull and seconded by Denny Woodford.

Officiating at events other than H&D Championship Regatta's - we should try and provide them with at least some qualified race officials – and that race officials should report on these events in the same way as they do a Hants & Dorset Championship Regatta..

The Officials Report Forms and Regatta De-Brief Forms agreed to continue with the current policy.

It was agreed that existing system of examination of Full and Assistant Racing Officials should be maintained with Full Officials - John Adams, John Bailey, Pat Glover, Denis Woodford, Alan Stewart, Carole Wall and John Purkess due to be reassessed this year.

It was confirmed that Assistant Race Officials have to have officiated at least ten Regatta's over two seasons before they are able to apply for promotion to Full Official and face the panel with their portfolio and that they should have officiated at a number of core Regattas and in all disciplines – the core Regattas were - Bournemouth, Southsea, Christchurch & BTC/Woolston. Pete Diffey of Poole had been promoted to full official for 2011 and Trev Gay had fulfilled the necessary requirements and would be assessed for full official status for this season by the Umpires Committee.

Mentoring/Assessing/Reporting on Officials/Assistants. It was confirmed that Simon Clements and Bob Springbett still wanted to be Assistants and that Chris Foad was considering his position. One new assistant, Sharon Ayles, a member of Ryde was proposed and accepted by the meeting, subject to ratification at the Association AGM. John Purkess agreed to create a “welcome” document for new Assistant Race Officials and that he would take over the role of organizing the assistants, after consultation with Keith – as he has access to E Mail – which was seen as the best way to manage the process.

The charge on Clubs who run an event but have less than two active Officials available for at least three events and it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Hants & Dorset ARA that this should be increased to £100 per person with effect from the 2012 season and that if Clubs fail to respond further punitive action should be taken that might include the suspension of their Regatta permit, withdrawal of race officials for their event or suspension from racing – and that this should be an Agenda item at the AGM. Following analysis of availability and officiating in 2011 events – Newport and Southsea would be charged/fined £100 and Westover - £50 for 2011 and this would be added to their 2012 Affiliation fees.

PASSED.

H&D Coxswain of the Year – agreed to continue with the systems where Racing Officials make the nominations on the debrief form after each event. And that Club should complete a form on the day of the regatta confirming the coxswains for each crew – which should be handed in at registration or the Captains briefing and made available to the Race Officials at the de-brief.

There was no clarification of any existing rules required

The Insurance of Officials via BR membership was then reviewed by the meeting, which agreed to recommend to the Association AGM a continuation of the current system with a contribution of £25 – the recreational BR membership fee being available to each full and assistant official who makes themselves available for at least

three events in 2012. Also agreed that any Race Official who is 70 or over but is "able and willing" to go afloat would be allowed to do so subject to the appropriate facilities being available including an appropriate method of getting the umpires to and from the Umpires boat.

The Safety Equipment provided for Racing Officials reviewed – no changes.

Pete Staddon mentioned the Association four Small Loud Hailers that he is holding (used by Umpires at the 2007 and 2011 South Coast Championships) which were not really suitable for Race Officials use and would be offered to Clubs at £10 each.

The Race Officials for 2012 South Coast Championships at Bideford, subject to ratification at the Association AGM were agreed as follows -

CHAMPIONSHIP UMPIRE –	Pete Staddon.
STARTER –	Ian Hutchings
JUDGE -	Mark Viner.
OPEN UMPIRE –	Alan Stewart.
RESERVES –	John Adams, Brian Gowman.

JUNIOR REGATTA –	STARTER –	Alan Stewart
	UMPIRES –	John Adams
	JUDGE –	John Purkess
	RESERVES –	Pete Staddon.

Appendix 7. Report from the Wessex Regional Rowing Council.

## WESSEX REGIONAL ROWING COUNCIL REPORT TO HANTS AND DORSET AGM

24 MARCH 2012

Last year British Rowing went through a major re-organization programme. This was to make it fit to face the challenges ahead, i.e. post-Olympic cutbacks to sport along with the UK financial problems. The next few years will prove to be difficult for all sports' Governing Bodies. Rowing will be no exception. The re-organisation will include a paid Chief Executive Officer for the first time and a much reduced British Rowing Council (roughly half the size). How does this affect Wessex?

Big changes for 2012. Wessex Region has been doubled in size to include Sussex and Kent coast (Division 21b CARA) . This is a massive region, a distance of 370 miles from Lyme Regis in the west to Deal in the east, all to be covered by volunteers. Detail of how we meet this challenge are still being worked out. At present we propose to split the region into Wessex West and Wessex East with a combined AGM.

The new Region will be represented at Council by only the Chairman. In the past this area would have had four seats at Council. Mike Green, as Div Rep, no longer has a seat at Council but there is definitely a need for Mike to continue his work with the clubs within Hants and Dorset (Division 22). The Div Rep role needs defining.

At Club level things should carry on as normal, but keep at eye on the noticeboard. There could be some important issues to vote on at the next few Wessex meetings with far-reaching consequences. Rest assured that we will do our best for the region and for Hants and Dorset.

2011 was business as usual with Katherine Morris fitting in well, meeting clubs and getting to know her region. Now, of course, it is twice the size. How her workload is to be organised will be interesting.

Appendix 8. Report from the Divisional Rep.

## GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS ON CURRENT AND FUTURE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH BRITISH ROWING.

As you are no doubt aware the February 2012 BR Council meeting was postponed until the 14th April.

Matters have probably been more active on Colin Eales's side with the merging of the CARA into Wessex. Colin has submitted a proposal letter to Di Ellis, and she has been good enough to respond with some suggestions.

For myself one or two comments had been fed to me about the apparent current BR impressions of the H&D ARA Clubs. I in turn saw fit to circulate the 20th Feb e-mail below to all the H&D Club Chairmen. To date 2 acknowledgements and with one of these a Chairman indicated that they appeared to be a reasonably set of questions, and yes many of the points do need addressing.

So as a suggestion, maybe the e-mail points to be used for "constructive discussion" to take the Association through the next 20 years. There is also the work being done by the sub-committee on H&D Constitution and Regatta/Racing Rules. Jeff Watling has drafted some interesting questionnaires.

Without being too pessimistic, we are at a little bit of watershed situation as I see it.

Mike G.

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E Mail sent to H&D Club Chairman

Dear Hants & Dorset Club Chairman,

I am contacting you in my role as the Division 22 Representative, because a number of things are coming to light where our current working relations with British Rowing appear to be a little strained.

I have my next British Council meeting on Saturday 14th April, but would like to do some sounding out, to establish, if there are issues I should be taking up on your behalf prior to that meeting. Apologies if you are already in discussion with BR Representatives on your own Club matters.

Listed below are a number of topics, issues, etc that might be causing concern and internal Club discussion.

- 1) Restructuring of British Rowing, with the Wessex Region having to incorporate the Coast Amateur Rowing Association.
- 2) The request by BR for participation numbers to be reported on a quarterly basis.
- 3) The presence of BR staff in the area (Hants, Dorset & IOW) carrying out projects, e.g. Bournemouth Beach, Explore Rowing Centre's, Schools Indoor Rowing, Gig Rowing, Excel Project, etc.
- 4) Support by BR HQ & Regional Staff (Direct or Indirect).
- 5) Communications by BR, i.e. Newsletters, correspondence, divisional representative, etc.
- 6) Information on Courses and Workshops. Apparently the following scheduled events have had to be cancelled because of lack of support: Strength & Conditioning Workshop, Rigging Workshop, First Aid Course, UKCC L2 Course. Because I attended the recent Core Body Workshop I know this was not particularly well supported either.
- 7) This area or region is struggling to find persons to head up the Wessex Region team for the Junior Inter Regional Championships at Nottingham on Saturday 28th April. Believe there is a Junior Coaches meeting shortly to address at this late stage.
- 8) Apparent demands by BR to increase BR registered members.
- 9) Your interpretation of BR messages about future grant aid being focused on multi-sport-activity Clubs.

These are some of the immediate things that come to mind, I am sure there are others.

I have done this to try and promote some ideas, discuss objectively, plan and action how we can move forward. From recent feedback I have received about some of BR's staff perception of us, we are not currently seen as being supportive of BR. BR is being subjected by Government to many actions and targets, e.g. participation, growth, greater justification for ongoing and future grant support for the sport. Unfortunately

this is being cascaded to Clubs during difficult economic times. I do feel we must be pro-active in identifying our needs and communicating these to BR in a professional manner, so that we secure the support we require and when.

Sorry to have rambled, but felt I had to put something out to Club Chairmen for consideration and action.

Remember the Olympics commencing in July, we could well be faced with the pleasant challenge of increased interest to take up rowing. Using the current Olympic jargon "Are we ready" ?

Regards Mike Green, Division 22 Representative

Appendix 9. Report from the Safety Committee and the Associations Safety Meeting of 4/2/12

**Report on Rowing Safety in the Hants & Dorset and from the Hants & Dorset ARA Safety Meeting at Christchurch R. C. on Saturday, 4th February, 2012 for the Association AGM, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2012.**

The Association's Annual Safety meeting took place at Christchurch R. C on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2012. All H&D Clubs and events were represented except BTC, Southampton R. C./Woolston Regatta, Southsea and Coalporters. Concern was expressed at these Clubs failure to attend – which arguably shows a poor attitude to safety. The meeting agreed that failure to be represented at the Safety meeting and the poor impression that gives should be one of the criteria that might lead to a re-audit of their regatta or Club. All Wessex region/non H&D Clubs were invited but did not attend.

The Association Secretary, who serves on the British Rowing National Water Safety Committee in his capacity as Wessex Regional Rowing Council Water Safety Advisor, reported on the National Safety Meetings held and attended since the last Association Safety Meeting.

Club Safety Audits/Gap Analysis – All Div. 22/Wessex Region Clubs had completed their Club Safety Audits – except Icena – a non- racing club linked to Winchester School. There were complications with the Bournemouth and Solent University Clubs audits but these are now resolved although the RWSA has requested that the regions PDO or one of her team carryout a re-audit of Bournemouth University Boat Club in light of some concerns expressed by BR. The sections where more than five Wessex Clubs had indicated still needed "to be addressed" were reviewed and analysed by the meeting.

The on Line Incident Reporting is in its third year and has been fairly successful and well received nationally and within our region. Biggest problem remains the non-reporting of incidents although this is improving. There were 62 incidents reported in 2011 (27 in competition) against 39 last year (see analysis attached) which is considered to be better reporting rather than a worsening record. The types of incident reported, with last year's figure in brackets, is as follows – Capsize – 18 (24); Collision – 19 (7); Swamping – 13 (2); Health – 10 (4); Equipment – 2 (2); Land – 1(1); Criminal – 0 (0); Trailer – 0 (0). Newport, Bournemouth Uni., Canford and Winchester did not report any incidents which seemed unlikely. A number of the incidents recorded in the region where discussed by the meeting, for trends, learning points and good practice. .

Safety incidents Reported by H&D (& Wessex) Clubs in 2011 at the 2011 Hants & Dorset Events were then reviewed. Of the 17 events awarded H&D permits Race officials reports showed – safety related incidents at 11 of these events. BR on-line incidents reports were submitted for 27 incidents. 10 of these incidents were at one event – Shanklin – where there was considerable difficulty getting afloat that eventually led to the abandonment of the Regatta.

The meeting was shown the results of the four boat inspections undertaken during the season with details of the faults found. As always – faults with heel restraints was by far the most common accounting for around 72% of faults found with lack of boat ID as the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest fault (17%). There was some discussion on how to get this message across to the Clubs that heel restraints needed to be checked before every outing, weather training or competition. For the second successive year a check on all Life Jackets was also undertaken at Woolston Regatta at a 2012 event. The meeting agreed that the current procedures for inspecting boats should continue with a random inspection of boats at three or four events in the coming season in addition to the 100% heel restraint check and Life Jacket check.

The meeting discussed last season's Regatta/Event Audits. All H&D permit granted events had submitted safety audits and one – Poole Regatta had been re-audited by the Safety Committee – which did not reveal any major safety issues. It was agreed by the meeting that this procedure, which the Hants & Dorset ARA has had in place for some years should continue, but that re-audits would only be undertaken where requested or where concerns were raised or on an occasional random basis. It was felt that the race officials reporting system already hi-lighted safety concerns and this would be used alongside safety committee members observations to

hi-light events where safety a re-audit would take place – as well as Clubs failure to show an appropriate attitude to safety matters – like failure to attend the safety meeting or apparent failure to submit on line incident reports.

The Association owned Safety equipment was reviewed by the meeting and those in attendance were reminded that it was the Regatta's responsibility, not the Racing Officials, to ensure that the Safety equipment was available at the appropriate time and fit for purpose on the day. Regatta Committee's must check the equipment upon receipt. The use of the sound signal device for finishing races was not acceptable and the kits were for the use of Hants & Dorset ARA Race Official and not for the Event safety boats which must provide their own equipment. The kits had suffered from the usual "wear and tear" – and around £70 has been spent bringing the kits back up to the standard expected. Five of the Race Officials Life Jackets (including the missing one) were serviced by Crewsaver in 2009. The other five in 2011 – at a cost of £82.19. The Committee will have first five serviced again by Crewsaver in 2013/ and five in 2015.

After a brief discussion it was agreed to recommend to the Associations AGM that the format of the Hants & Dorset Rowing Safety Committee (Note: re-named "Rowing Safety Committee to bring in line with British Rowing.) should consist of - Mark Viner, remaining as Chairman with Steve Bull, Gary Joyce, Trevor Gay, Gary Walters and Peter Lamb as Committee members.

The Venue for 2013 Safety meeting, in line with the established rota was Southsea on a date and time in February, 2012 that would be agreed with the Club, who were not in attendance – although there was a view expressed that it might be interesting to audit Westover, who were next in line, while they were based at the Hengistbury Head Outdoor Centre

Under any other business the meeting discussed – the prevention of Weil's Disease, following an incident on the River Itchen; the Danger of Wing Riggers; BR Guidance – Safety incident where umpires launch and safety boat available and there were several general enquiries from new CWSA's answered.

At the conclusion of the meeting those still in attendance joined the Rowing Safety Committee members in a re-audit of the Safety procedures and facilities of the Christchurch Rowing Club – which was regarded as very good with only minor discrepancies noted.

Recommendations for approval at the AGM –

- To continue with the note that was added to the Club briefing document at H&D Regatta's to ask Club representatives if their boats complied with British Rowing's water safety code plus the additional rules imposed by Hants & Dorset Safety commission – and to remind Club representatives to check all heel restraints before going afloat.
- At one or two random events a 100% heel restraint check should take place
- A check on all Life Jackets was also undertaken a 2012 event.
- The current procedures for inspecting boats should continue with a random inspection of boats at three or four events in the coming season in addition to the 100% heel restraint check and Life Jacket check.
- Event re-audits should only be undertaken where requested or where concerns were raised or on an occasional random basis. A Clubs failure to show an appropriate attitude to safety matters – like failure to attend the safety meeting or apparent failure to submit on line incident reports could result in an event re-audit.
- Agree to spend up to £100 to bring the Safety Kits up to standard and to have five of the Officials Life Jackets serviced by Crewsaver at the end of the season.
- To recommend to the Associations AGM that the format of the Hants & Dorset Rowing Safety Committee (Note: re-named "Rowing Safety Committee to bring in line with British Rowing.) should consist of - Mark Viner, remaining as Chairman with Steve Bull, Gary Joyce, Trevor Gay, Gary Walters and Peter Lamb as Committee members.

Steve Bull.  
Association Secretary.  
February, 2012.

## **Hants and Dorset ARA Rules and Competitions Subcommittees**

# **PROGRESS REPORT FOR HANTS & DORSET ARA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **Introduction**

The Rules and Competitions Subcommittees have met on three occasions. Adam Ratcliffe has been appointed Chair and Jeff Watling Secretary. The notes of the February meeting are attached to this progress report.

### **Rules Subcommittee**

Subcommittee members have been active in reviewing the rules and constitutions of similar bodies, e.g. CARA, British Rowing and Thames ARA. They have also looked at how the rules could be streamlined, voting rights etc. The Subcommittee are proposing the following:

- The current “Rules” should be rewritten into the form of a “Constitution,” (see attached headings and transferred rules paper)
- A “Council” should be introduced to replace the current “Executive.”
- the “Executive” should then comprise four principal officers: President, Chair, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer. These to be given more authority and empowerment to take short term decisions on matters of immediate concern.
- To review the current eligibility for voting at meetings, probably not to exceed more than two delegates per club and one per registered regatta.
- To review Life Presidents’ appointment and voting rights.
- To review the appointment of Trustee Members (there appears to be no guidance on this) duties and period of tenure.
- To review rules with regard to fines, either to build in some elevation to keep them in line with inflation or to permit annual review at the AGM.
- Where there is reference to other “associations” to amend to “organisations” to recognise British Rowing and the Wessex RRC.
- To delete the Channel Islands from the area statement.
- To revise any cross referencing to match with rules of racing etc.
- To write a constitution to suit the Clubs in the Hants and Dorset and ensure general approval. Any consideration to the Coast ARA should appear in the regatta and racing rules
- To ask Clubs to consider the new headings included in the draft headings and transferred rules paper to ensure they are required and appropriate.

Once the work on the Constitution is complete the Subcommittee will review Regatta Rules and Recommendations to Regatta Committees

Clubs are asked for support in the above proposals and work programme and to ensure that they are represented by sending delegates to the subcommittee meetings.

### **Competitions Subcommittee**

The Competitions Subcommittee is attempting to establish whether the Association is meeting the needs of Clubs and their membership with regard to competitions, including regattas, head races etc. In order to achieve this it is essential to establish the mix of the active membership of clubs, equipment available and views of members with regard to competitions. To this end the Subcommittee are proposing:

1. To survey clubs with regard to active/racing membership, coaches, boats and equipment.
2. To seek the views of competitive rowers and coaches on matters concerning Hants and Dorset competitions, regattas, head races, status, etc. plus any other views that club members may have.

It is proposed that the survey concerning membership should be sent to Club Secretaries through the Hants and Dorset ARA Secretary in the normal way. This survey will be treated as confidential and only composite information will be circulated outside the Competitions Subcommittee.

The views of the competitive rowers and coaches will be sought through a written questionnaire, sent to club secretaries as above but also through a small number of face to face meetings after regattas or set up at the convenience of club members, for example, on the Isle of Wight if the Clubs were kind enough to invite the Subcommittee to attend an “interested parties” meeting.

On completion of the surveys the Subcommittee will be in a better position to make recommendations as to the future of competitions within the Association.

Clubs are asked for support in the above proposals and work programme and to ensure that they are represented by sending delegates to the subcommittee meetings.

### **Timescales**

It is proposed that the draft revised constitution should be available for comment by September 2012 and an amended version submitted for approval at the 2013 Hants and Dorset AGM. This should include Regatta Rules and Recommendations to Regatta Committees, depending upon how contentious these turn out to be.

The Competitions Subcommittee will report back/make draft recommendations to the 2012 Autumn Delegates Meeting.

### **Thanks**

Thanks to Gary Joyce, Mike Green, Steve Bull and Adam Ratcliffe for their data collection and research to date.

Jeff Watling  
16 March 2012

Appendix 11. Prize Presentation Evening, 2012 Accounts.

## **Hants & Dorset Presentation Dinner 2011**

Saturday 12th November 2011

Novotel Hotel, Southampton

### **BALANCE SHEET**

<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
Ticket Sales	Raffle		35.00
225 x £26	5850.00	Hotel	5399.00
Postage		11.04	
Raffle	140.00	Printing	21.25
Photocopies		8.00	
Disco		250.00	
<b>£5,990.00</b>		<b>£5,724.29</b>	
Balance c/f		<b>£265.71</b>	

2012 Dinner details:

Saturday 10th November 2012

Novotel Hotel, West Quay Road

A. Hames.