

RYA NI Council Meeting
Wednesday November 26th 2008
Held at 62 Ballyholme Road, Bangor

Minutes

1. Apologies were received from James Ogg DSC, Michael Bell EDYC, Malcolm Beatty EDYC, Dermot Johnson HYC, David Young KYC, Frank Haslett RNIYC, Irene Aston RYA NI Hon Sec, John Magowan RYA NI Education, Training and Safety Committee Chairman, Bob Harper RYA NI Sailability Regional Coordinator, Eamon Masterson RYA NI Development & Training Manager, and Harry Hermon ISA CEO.
2. Minutes of the meeting held May 6th 2008 were agreed as a true and accurate record.
3. Matters Arising
All Matters Arising were covered in the other Agenda items.
4. Progress Reports
Performance (attached)

Training Work Plan (attached)

Business Manager (attached)
5. Sarah Noble from CAAN gave a short presentation on the data research survey commissioned by SNI and NITB. Council Members received a paper copy of the survey. The last survey of its kind was carried out 10 years ago. 30 sports are participating. It is aimed at getting approximate figures on participation and membership. All RYA NI Clubs and Training Centres have been sent the Excel version of the survey and asked to complete and return it via email. Council Members were encouraged to participate if their Club hadn't already completed it. LW to circulate the Excel version to Council Members. The Chairman thanked Sarah for coming.
6. The Hon Treasurer reported on the first half of the financial year. RYA grant of 18k, and SNI first tranche of 40,880 had been received. 40% of SNI tranche is expected soon. Finance was on track.
7. Equality
Operation's Coordinator Ronnie Browne reported RYA and the Home Countries are working towards the next level of the Equality Standard. Jackie Reid at RYA Hamble had prepared a draft document however the consultant's feedback was the document is too strategic there needs to be demonstration of activities and action. RB requested reports, from Clubs on their activities in this area, be forwarded to him for inclusion. A good outcome would be that RYA NI became the first sport in NI to achieve this level.
8. Child Protection
The Business Manager Lisa Waugh reported only 9 organisations had signed up to Access NI through RYA Hamble ; Antrim Boat Club, Belfast Lough Sailability, Killyleagh Yacht Club, Lough Erne yacht Club, Newcastle Yacht Club Ltd, Quoile Yacht Club, Royal Ulster Yacht Club, RYA NI, and Ulster Sailing School. A further 3 have contacted RYA and have been sent the

paperwork but haven't returned the signed agreements; Carrickfergus Sailing Club, Cushendall Sailing & Boating Club and Carlingford Lough Yacht Club.

11 applications have been processed 11 from Killyleagh, 4 from Lough Erne and 1 from Ulster Sailing School. Virtually all of the forms that were sent in had to be sent back to the Club or Centre as they hadn't been properly filled in usually the club failing to fill in their bit or check identity.

Further action needs to be taken by all Clubs and Centres hosting youth and junior activities as well as those clubs working with vulnerable adults. Council Reps asked to check status of their own clubs.

9. Investment in Performance Sport bid

The Chairman reported the bid was extremely well put together and congratulated everyone who helped put it together especially Ronnie Browne, Lisa Waugh, Richard Honeyford and Oliver Lynas as it was a real team effort. RB reported the bid went in on time (a few hours early). No response had been received yet from SNI. All responses received from Council were incorporated and the suggestions were very good. Key element of the bid was Staffing with RYA NI priorities as below

- Full time Development Officer
- Part time talent ID Coach
- Re structure of Governance
- Enhance Sailability

SNI Performance Consultant did provide some feedback on a draft of the document.

RB also stated with Eamon Masterson finishing at the end of March 2009 RYA NI the Executive wanted to get ahead with recruitment as soon as posts are secured. The Chairman reported SNI Performance Consultant Norma Bowman will put together a business case based on the bid however RYA NI will not have further input nor will it be shared with the GB. RYA NI is in a good position as one of the Governing Bodies with a 'Reasonable Assurance' outcome from the Governance Audit. Vice Chair Jay Colville stated if the bid is successful then Club Development will be at the top of the Agenda and Clubs will need to become more engaged.

RB also reported that one of the weaknesses of the sport as a whole is a lack of participation data. This situation is across the board and will have to be addressed.

10. Active Communities

RB reported the new Councils are being offered funds towards sports development. RYA NI has been approached by some of these Councils. RYA NI priority would be to use this opportunity to fund a post linked to an Elite Facility. A number of Councils will be advertising in the press.

The Chairman commented the process has been far from clear and our main difficulty will be if the process is replicated many times. The first official engagement has been with North Down BC.

RYA NI will try to meet the deadline and provide a response to any Council that requests one.

11. Cruising Conference

Maeve Bell reported the Biannual Conference is being held Jan 24th at RUYC. The Programme is one of the most exciting to date with four main areas being covered. Publicity materials have been circulated, please encourage people to attend. Full information can also be found on the RYA NI website www.ryani.org.uk

12. Environment

Maeve Bell reported she will be attending an all day conference tomorrow (Nov 27th) on Coastal Management and will be encouraging voluntary management. There is also a quarterly meeting of the NI Coastal Forum scheduled for next week (this forum is still finding its feet).

13. Volvo Ocean Race

The Chairman reported he and RB had met with Andy Duke from Greers of Antrim, the local Volvo dealer, who are keen to do something to celebrate the race having a stop over in Galway. They had suggested having a prize of a trip to Galway to be part of the event. The Chairman is waiting for feedback from AD. Some suggestions were put forward on how to select winners.

14. Sailability

Geraldine Duggan reported BLS had the SKUD dinghy ordered and it should be delivered in the spring. There will be a boat naming event that will include Tiffany Brien.

The Chairman said how pleased he is with the developments and progression within Sailability.

15. AOB (none)

16. Date of next meeting will be in February and will be circulated shortly.

Attendance List: Attached