

MINUTES

In Attendance:

David Joy (DJ)	Chief Executive
Lee Pooley (LP)	Head of Coaching and Qualifications
Ed Christian (EC)	British Canoeing ECLN Representative
Doug Cooper (DC)	Scottish Canoe Association (SCA)

Also In Attendance:

Natasha Devonshire (ND)	Coaching Development and Engagement Lead
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Apologies:

Dan Golder (DG)	Canoe Wales (CW)
Sid Sinfield (SS)	Performance Coach Developer
Peter Mulhall (PM)	Canoe Association of Northern Ireland (CANI)
Graham Lyon (GL)	British Canoeing Awarding Body

1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming the group online, highlighting that the agenda included two key topics of discussion which will influence the next 12 months.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting (No41), July 2020

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

4. Matters Arising (Not covered by the agenda)

The Chair highlighted that the conversation at the last meeting around the Leadership Orientation and the challenges faced by the sector was really helpful and insightful. Following that discussion, BCAB have provided financial support to the National Associations, to use towards the running of the Leadership events, enabling a reduction in price to the events.

5. British Canoeing Board

The Chair highlighted that since the last CSG was only few weeks ago, there was no major update from the Board.

6. British Canoeing Coaching Development Projects

Verbal Update and Progress Report

LP shared that the new CPD process will be announced tomorrow (20th August) at midday across the National Associations. This will include a video from CAG explaining the changes.

The Covid-19 update about delivering qualifications was shared publicly on the 31st July. CAG agreed that the guidance was supportive and will share if there is a trend in the type of questions that come back so this can be added to a FAQs documents.

The running of qualifications are slowly starting to pick up. BCAB have started certificating regulated qualifications and there has been an increase in Leadership training.

LP shared that a new eLearning package has been launched, aimed at new paddlers. Across the UK and Europe, we have seen an increase in the number of paddlers so a supportive eLearning has been developed, giving guidance on equipment, safety and access.

The Leadership project is progressing well. The Technical Groups have completed a significant amount of work during this period. On the 2nd September, the necessary documents will be shared with the Delivery Centres, ahead of the Provider events. The supporting resources will then be developed ahead of January, such as the Self-Analysis Tool, guidance for leading in an unfamiliar environment, etc.

The Performance Coach is gaining interest. The audience of coaches has been widened, providing more accessibility. Mentoring is already taking place and we hope the Community Events will be able to run, in line with local Government guidelines.

7. Stronger Together Extended Strategic Plan

Discussion paper

The groups suggested at the last meeting that the extended strategic plan needs to focus on support and rebuilding the industry. There has also been a huge amount of change in the past few years so thought needs to be given to what is proposed. CAG are in agreement with this and suggested that there may be capacity to start a safety review phase in 2021.

It was suggested to look at further future proofing of qualifications, which could be online delivery, parts of assessments that could be digital, delivery mechanisms considered, etc. This will help to give Providers flexibility in how they deliver, depending on social distancing as well as possibly engaging more learners by offering different approaches. The aim is to allow Providers to be more agile, given external circumstances. These would not be fundamental changes and the syllabus and assessment criteria would stay the same.

The Chair shared that the next 18 months would be about embedding qualifications and helping people to understand the pathways. We need to support communities of coaches coming together.

The group suggested that the proposals look appropriate to move forward. It was suggested that more clarity is needed around the detail. LP will provide the detail and look at what other projects may impact coaching from other areas of the organisation, feeding these into the extended strategic plan for implementation. It was suggested that at the next meeting, to discuss the longer term plan.

8. Competence of coaching and leading in clubs

8.1. Current position

8.2 Competence Framework for English Clubs – discussion paper

8.3 Future of coaching and leadership qualifications in clubs

LP shared that this is an English project but there has been some concern from the National Associations. It has been identified that in England that where people could be qualified by experience, it was appropriate that we provide guidance for club committees to consider.

A competency framework has been developed, with the aim for club paddlers to work towards and hold a British Canoeing qualifications.

It was suggested that this seemed similar to the Technical Advisor system, making it clear what level of certification people need to hold in a Technical Advisor role, similarly in a club to sign off the competency framework. The document states that these people should hold a qualification to help with the robustness of such a framework approach.

For clarity, it was suggested to use the terms qualified and certificated to separate the two.

9. Awarding Body Update

Verbal update

LP shared there are some changes within the external regulation so BCAB are going out to recruitment to support the external assessment process. This is an area to work with Delivery Centres to ensure the standardisation of assessment practice.

10. Any Other Business

None noted.

11. Date of next meeting

18th November 2020 - online meeting 10.30 – 12.30