

Minutes of Perth Canoe Club Meeting Weds 5th Jan 2011

Agenda

- **Present** Gary Eggleston, Dave Mackay, Scott Burton, Kevin Knox, Richard Rogers, Beaton Lindsay, Kevin McHugh, Gillian Gillies, Sue Burns,
- **Apologies** Duncan Davey, Dave McElnea
- **Previous mins read and agreed**
- **Website Fees** It was mentioned that a past club member was still paying for the annual website fees. Gary will pass on info so that the club pays this small fee from now on.
- **Logo for club and Possible sweatshirt.** With growing membership it was thought beneficial to have a club logo and possibly use this on a club sweatshirt. Sue will look for past ideas for a logo and Gary will contact the company the SC A use, to look at costs for club t-shirts/sweat-shirts.
- **Kit List** Kevin Knox has compiled a kit list and we should encourage all the club, particularly newer members to print this off and use. List will be displayed on the website.
- **Access to club Minutes** To access the club mins on the website, has entailed requesting and using a password and few people have had success with this. Those at the meeting agreed there was no reason for limited access and the minutes in future will be displayed on the website with unlimited access.
- **New Disclosure Process/PVG** A planned meeting with the Sports Development Team to get this new process underway, was cancelled due to the bad weather. There is a new meeting on the 26th Jan, between 7 and 9pm at the North Inch Campus in Muirton. Jacqueline Anderson is hopefully going to attend this.
- **Tay Descent** Following the success of the Tay Descent last year, it has now been confirmed that the event will take place this year on 22nd Oct.
- **Club Memberships** With increasing memberships it was agreed that any potential members to the club would be allowed to attend one pool session or river trip, but after this time should become a member of the club. This is to ensure that all regular participants in the club are signed up to our paddlers agreement . It was also agreed that no

applications would be accepted by any member of the committee, unless there was a completed application form, signed paddlers agreement and relevant payment.

- **Membership/Contact List** *This is still being updated, but we hope to have access to this soon.*
- **Canoe Polo** *The recent polo session was very successful, but since we are unlikely to form a team and take part in competitions, we will only organise such sessions on an ad-hoc basis, some-times towards the end of sessions.*
- **Possible visit to Strathallen** *Gary will contact the relevant people to hopefully arrange a visit to Strathallen, to have a look at the facilities there and maybe access the pool for an additional session.*
- **Camping/Kayak orientated holiday in the summer** *For many years a weekend or longer trip to Sandend campsite has proved very popular with members in the club. Sandend is about a 3 hr drive from Perth, and in the middle of the Moray Firth coast, between Cullen and Banff. During the school holidays many families from the club spend time at Sandend campsite, which is a small family run campsite, next to a fantastic beach for watersports. There is a small harbour for beginners/improvers and the main attraction is the kayak surfing, (if the wind is in the right direction). Small coastal trips are also possible if someone is competent to lead such a trip. There are families from the club at Sandend between the 3rd and 12th July and 30th July to 8th Aug and possibly at other times. If you need more info, please speak to Gary, Richard or Sue. The campsite is very popular and it is recommended to book early if intending to go. To book, phone Bernard on 01261-842660 and if you mention you're from perth canoe club you may get a good spot near the beach.*
- **3 Day Canoe trip on the River Dee** *Gary has led a number of open canoe trips and this year intends to paddle along the river Dee, starting at Braemar and ending in Aberdeen. The sections are 33, 40 and 29kms, with campsites in Ballater and Banchory. Dates are the May bank holiday, Sat 28th May to Mon 30th. No prior experience is necessary, since a training day on the Tay could be organised prior to this trip and the river is mostly easy going grade 1 or 2 water and you can portage the grade 3 bits. The 2 club open canoes are still available and there are*

some options of borrowing further boats from the SCA or locally. Let me know of any interest.

- **Ideas for further trips** If anybody has any ideas for trips, then the best place to mention them is at the pub meet. I would suggest that you plan ahead and organise dates at the earliest opportunity.
- **Pool Sessions** Were discussed in detail and it was recognised that it is difficult to cater to all interests and abilities, but that we are trying to offer a varied programme. Kevin Knox has now organised the sessions for the next 3 months and these have now been advertised. It was agreed that the priority for the sessions should be, beginners/intermediates/capsize and rescue training and rolling sessions. Canoe polo may take place towards the end of some sessions and the pool sessions will come to a close towards the end of April. Please see the website or previous e-mail regarding planned pool sessions.
- **River Trip update** These will run every 2 weeks, starting from Sunday 16th Jan and the meeting place is at the Tiso car-park at 8am. Dave McKay is the main point of contact for these trips.
- **Meal/Drink in town** There was a successful meal/drink last year which approx 20 people attended, turning into a long night for some! The intention is to go to a Thai restaurant in Perth, meeting at 7pm on Sat 12th March. Beaton has kindly offered to make the booking for this, so if interested please let him know by e-mail.
- **4 Star Training** The club is hoping to organise a 4 star training course/assessment in the spring/summer, so if interested please forward any names to Gary. 4 names of interest so far.
- **First Aid Training** The club hopes to organise some in-house first aid training by a recognised provider. Names to Gary if interested.
- **Kinloch Rannoch weekend** The club are looking to book the outdoor centre in Kinloch Rannoch which the council own. Hopefully this will be in April and if this goes ahead, places will be offered to the canoe club and the local triathlon club who are training for the Etape bike race in May. Hopefully this will be confirmed in Feb.
- **Grant Application** Last but not least, the recent grant application made on behalf of the club by Gillian, Richard and Kevin McHugh, has been

successful and the club has been awarded £7,500 to purchase approx 4 slalom kayaks and the associated equipment, paddles, spray-decks etc. The sizes of the boats have yet to be decided, but the emphasis is on younger paddlers to get them introduced to slalom. This funding came from the Lottery, via Sport Scotland's Awards for All. Strathallen School have had a similar successful bid and it is hoped to tie in with Strathallen to maximise the access and use of this equipment. Further details to follow, but it is hoped to purchase this gear to have ready for the spring/summer.

- **AOCB**
- **Marina plans** Kevin McHugh provided some info on plans for a small scale marina near Perth Harbour. This is in the initial stages and not definite, but an exciting prospect for Perth in years to come.
- **Possible tie-up with the Water-ski club** It would be ideal to have a base and ready access onto flat water and the location of the local water-ski club is ideal. We have a possible contact to explore this and Beaton has offered to follow this up.
- **Extension of Pool session time** It has become evident that the disabled group who use the training pool immediately after the canoe club, do not always need a full hour or all of their planned bookings. Contact will be made with this group to explore any possible extension to some of our pool sessions.