



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY COMBINED BOAT CLUBS

Captains' Meeting, Magdalene Cripps Court

5pm on Thursday, 21st January, 2010

MINUTES

Present: Holly Hedgeland (**HH**, chair), Tom Davies (**TD**), Adam Lister (**AL**), Dan Wilkins (**DW**), Julian Granger-Bevan (**JGB**), Christopher Kerr (**CK**), Derek O'Brien (**DO**, minutes), Alistair Chappelle (**AC**), College Captains.

HH opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies** for absence had been received from: *Peter Convey (CUCBC Chair), Richard Hamersley (CUCBC Deputy Chair), Magdalene Men, Christ's Women, Churchill Men, Churchill Women, Girton Women, King's Men, Queens Women, Sidney Women, Downing Men, Corpus Men.*
2. The **minutes of the previous meeting** were available on the website. The minutes were approved by all present.
3. There were **matters arising** from the previous minutes.
 - A captain enquired about why the "2 boat rule" was brought in during the previous term. **HH** confirmed the procedure for the CUCBC Exec to bring in the rule. In general, if boat numbers reach around 60 consistently for a few days, then the rule will be implemented.
 - Captains asked about the possibility of novice/senior mornings, where some periods of mornings were reserved for either novices or seniors. **HH** explained that this type of idea should be investigated further, but that the rule would lose effect in Lent term when there were no longer any novices.

ACTION: DW to create section of website where daily boat numbers can easily be entered and displayed on the CUCBC website.

- **DO** made the comment that any system we brought in should be easy to implement. The captains suggested that we try out a new rule which will be enforced faithfully by all captains.
- A rule was suggested: “For the 10 minutes following lighting down, no boat will be permitted to be on the water, save for [XXX] and university crews.” A **vote** was held by captains to determine whether the [XXX] should read:
 - a. college first boats : **23**
 - b. first crews and men’s crews in the top 2 divisions of lent bumps and women’s crews in the top division of lent bumps: **15**
 - c. first crews and men’s crews in the top 2 divisions of may bumps and women’s crews in the top division of may bumps: **6**
- **HH** proposed a motion that that a vote be held to implement this rule, reading: “For the 10 minutes following lighting down, no boat will be permitted to be on the water, save for college first boats and university crews”. She proposed that the rule apply between Monday, 25th January, 2010 and Saturday, 27th February, 2010 inclusive. A vote was held.
 - a. For: **39**
 - b. Against: **6**
 - c. Abstained: **2**

HH announced that the rule would take effect beginning the morning of Monday, 25th January, 2010. **ACTION: DO** to e-mail captains with information on the rule change.

4. **HH** said that new **CUCBC bills** are available. LMBC, King’s, and Addenbrooke’s have still not paid their bills from last term. If bills are not paid by **Monday, 1st February**, then those colleges will not be permitted to enter the Lent Bumps.
5. **DW** opened discussion on **Lent Bumps**.
 - For any queries relating to bumps, please e-mail <dan@cucbc.org>. Dan will be organising the Lent Bumping Races.
 - All the details are online, including dates and times. Online entry is open now, which can be completed online by signing in to your account at CUCBC and going to the “Bumps Entry System” tab.
 - Entry fees this year are £36 per crew. This equates to one pound per day per person per crew.

- All coxes who will be competing in Lent Bumps **must attend** the coxing meeting held before bumps.
- There will shortly be an e-mail from **DW** requesting umpires to volunteer to help run the bumps races. How many umpires a college has offered will directly affect the number of marshals that college will be forced to provide for the races.
- Exceptional rowers must be declared to **DW** by Tuesday, 26th January if they are to be eligible to compete in bumps.

6. Boat Identification

HH asked that clubs ensure they have their full alphanumeric boat codes displayed on all their boats, and that all boats clearly display the sticker which shows they have been registered with the conservancy.

7. A.O.B.

AL discussed the issue of safety:

- He asked that all ARA (British rowing) safety forms be completed immediately if they have not been. These were due in last 31st December, 2009. If you do not complete this form by 23rd January, your club will be ineligible to compete in ARA races (i.e. Head of the River and WeHORR). If this form is still not completed by 13th February, your club will be ineligible to row.
- **AL** said that he will be performing spot safety checks on the colleges who have not yet submitted these forms.
- Clubs should check that their **lifejackets** are in working order, and that their coxes are aware of how to use them in an emergency. It is now part of CUCBC policy that coxes' lifejackets may be inspected, and they may be asked to prove they can operate the lifejacket. If a coxswain fails to provide a working lifejacket, or does not know how to operate it, they may not be permitted to race.

TD asked that clubs teach their crews to spin quickly, as spinning is often a main cause of river congestion. In particular at Baitsbite lock, crews should not spin above the sign instructing rowers to spin, as this holds up the river and has the potential to cause a dangerous situation if a crew becomes trapped too close to the weir.

AC introduced the idea of college boat races at the Henley Boat Races this year.

- One college crew from Oxford would race one college crew from Cambridge between 12:30pm and 1pm on 28th March over a course approximately 1500m, for both men and women.
- **AC** said that it is hard to determine who the fastest Cambridge crew is, and CULRC and CUWBC do not have the time to truly determine who this might be. So as a provisional idea, they would ask, in order
 - i. Head of the lents races
 - ii. Second of the lents races
 - iii. Third of the lents races
 - iv. Fourth of the lents races
 - v. The crew who has gained the most places in the first division of the Lent races
- Several captains disputed the method for determining the fastest crew, and Queens men informed them that although Queens M1 were 13th in the lent tables, they are quite a fast crew this year, having won Fairbairns. **AC** said that any other system for determining the fastest crew would have to be determined by the individual college clubs (i.e. individual sparring).

HH made a few reminders to captains:

- There have been complaints about early morning noise, and that, as always, this should be kept to a minimum. This is especially important as lighting down becomes earlier.
- **HH** apologised to Queens' Men and Christ's Women for not providing their second crews with medals having won their respective second division categories in University Fours. Having re-read some old discussions, it was deemed that these crews should receive medals for their accomplishments. These medals will make their way to those clubs shortly.

A captain enquired as to the procedures for setting a flag. **DW** explained these procedures and they can be found on the CUCBC website.

8. The **date for the next meeting** was set for Sunday, 21st February. This will be the pre-lent bumps meeting.

HH closed the meeting as there was no other business.