



O U R C s

Captains' Meeting Agenda

Thursday 1st Week, Hilary Term 2025

19:30, 23rd January 2025

Doctorow Hall, St Edmund Hall

Chair: [James Hopkinson \(OUBC\)](#)

1. Welcome

Attendance:

College Clubs: 46

OUBCs: 5 (4 voting)

Blues: 0

In the absence of the Chair, it was resolved that James Hopkinson would chair the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Available at <https://ourcs.co.uk/organisation/meetings/>

3. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

4. Squad Reports

OUBC Men's President Report – Tom Mackintosh

The OUBC Men's squad has been progressing well since our last meeting. Flooding and severe weather events unfortunately cancelled all regattas we had planned throughout the season. Under marks guidance there has been a growing confidence within the squad, and it was a shame we couldn't put this to the test against some external competition.

Our senior members of the squad are showing great elements of leadership with most posting personal best times and impressive ergo scores on 5km and 30min open rate tests. Nico Kohl was a real standout. His 30min score would have him ranked #1 in the 2021 Kiwi 8+

The leadup to trial 8's had some consistent training on the tideway and there is a sense the squad is getting more comfortable on the course. I was proud of how the men raced during trial 8's and they provided some great racing to watch. There is the belief within the squad that all of Oxford won on the day, and both crews tested each other under race like conditions.

Our training camp from 4th Jan was, in my mind, a great success. The chance to row in favourable conditions enabled crews to make changes and establish a sense of rhythm within

the boats. While there is still work to be done, the foundations are there, and I believe we can find much more speed as the season progresses. Morale was high within the squad, and I sense everyone benefited from some time to focus on training.

There is much more work to be done, and I'm excited for the next 3 months of training.

Tom Mackintosh

OUBC Women's Team Report

Despite challenges with weather and flooding in Oxford, the women's side have taken many positive steps forward in the last term. Following the cancellation of Fours Head and Wallingford Head, we had the opportunity to race the University of London in an informal Tideway fixture. Racing in matched crews, all boats won their respective pieces against a top-ranked university program.

Regular testing on the ergo has built confidence in our physiology, with almost all athletes achieving personal bests on 2km, 5km and 30 R20 tests. In particular, the squad was very proud to see both Sarah Marshall and Alexia Lowe hit sub 7:00 personal bests in their 2km tests at GB Trials. We were also very excited to see Heidi Long achieve a 6th place finish at Senior GB Trials in the 1x.

Trial Vllls week brought another great opportunity to bring the team together, rehearse the details around Boat Race Day, and learn from a full run down the track at race pace alongside another boat. Despite the final margins between crews, every athlete involved came away with a stronger sense of the mental and physical demands of the race.

Our overseas camp in Spain was hugely productive. We enjoyed making the most of extensive mileage, great weather conditions and fantastic recovery facilities at our venue.

Led from cohesion of the coaching staff between men and women, there is a real sense of the "one club" mentality emerging this season. There is great sense of unity amongst athletes across the whole club and a recognition of the benefit of supporting each other towards our common goal of winning the Boat Races.

I am very confident in the physiological base and technical foundations we have established over the last term, and am looking forward to continuing to press on through our preparation for the Boat Race in the coming months.

Annie Anezakis

All reports accepted as read.

5. **Transfers** – Oscar Hayden to speak

Objections may only be made if:

The athlete is not a bona fide student, fellow or visiting student at the college they are transferring from.

*The athlete has never been a **student** member of the college they are transferring to.*

Transfers under A1.2.a

- Isabel Doherty, Balliol to St Hilda's
- Sian Dennett, Keble to Balliol
- Lukas Krone, Exeter to Merton
- Emma Belhafda, Oriel to Wolfson
- Simon Martina Perez, Magdalen to Hertford

Transfer ratified with no objections.

6. **River Closures** – Jack Davies to speak

a. **Isis Winter League**

IWL C: Sunday 26th January (2nd week) - 12:00 until Closing Time or End of Racing

IWL D: Sunday 9th February (4th week) - 12:00 until Closing Time or End of Racing

Proposed: Jack Davies (OURCs)

Seconded: Oscar Hayden (OURCs)

b. **Torpids 2025**

Rowing On: Friday 21st February (5th week) - 8:30 until Closing Time or End of Racing

RO Contingency: Sunday 23rd February (6th week) - 8:30 until Closing Time or End of Racing

Torpids Main:

Wednesday 26th February (6th week) - 11:00 until End of Racing

Thursday 27th February (6th Week) - 11:00 until End of Racing

Friday 28th February (6th week) - 11:00 until End of Racing

Saturday 1st March (6th week) - Opening Time until End of Racing

Proposed: Jack Davies (St Hilda's/OURCs)

Seconded: Oscar Hayden (OURCs)

Closures ratified with no objections.

7. **Extension of Student Status under A1.1.a.i.1** - Thomas Haward to speak

Jonathan is a member of Wadham 2023-24 (MSc) who is retaking enough exams to qualify as a part time student, with units and classes spread across all three terms of the year. He has continued as an associate member of Wadham MCR and Boat Club and is living in Oxford, though he does not pay tuition fees (preventing true part time student status). Jonny took up rowing as a novice in MT23, competing in the second open side Wadham boat during Summer Vllls 2024. His current student status ends at the end of MT24, we are asking to extend it until after Summer Vlls '25. This

is as it would be 'beneficial to his life in Oxford while suspended' as referenced in the 2022 minutes on the topic, specifically because having such a large workload while not afforded true membership of the university creates a difficult living situation for the year.

Proposer: Thomas Haward (Wadham)

Seconder: Katherine Land (Wadham)

It was explained that Jonathan was currently retaking some of his exams this year, and due to his situation, they were applying to extend his student status from last year.

It was noted that the rule permits suspended students to keep their full student status, and due to the unique situation OURCs are currently unsure if Jonathan falls under this rule. While the motion was of course able to be voted on, it may have no effect, or may not be required at all, and this would be brought to the next Captains' Meeting once it was clarified.

It was also noted that the phrase "beneficial to life in Oxford" was minuted as it was said but is not a rule and not part of the "extraordinary circumstances" that this rule requires.

Vote:

For: 50

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

No objections

8. **Changes to the Code of Conduct** – Alex Rigamonti to speak

2.8 Rules Specific to the Isis

[...]

b. Scheduled Restrictions

[...]

~~ii. Extra Slots are awarded at the discretion of the OURCs Committee. Applications must be made to the Sabbatical Officer prior to the publishing of the agenda for the first Captains' Meeting of each term and will be announced at that meeting with immediate effect.~~

ii. Clubs with a high number of crews may apply for an extra slot through an application to the Sabbatical Officer prior to Sunday of 1st Week. Ten extra slots (two per weekday) are awarded each Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, with no club having more than one extra slot in a term.

1. Extra Slots will be allocated based on a Club's expected number of crews, minus the number of racking spots in use elsewhere, starting with the largest Club. In the event that multiple clubs have an equal number of crews, priority should be given first to clubs unable to train during the Proctors' closure (as defined in 2.6.o), and then to clubs that did not have an extra slot in the previous term. Clubs that provide significantly inaccurate information will be placed at the bottom of the list for the next term.

2. The Sabbatical Officer will announce the recipients of an extra slot on Sunday of 1st Week with immediate effect, alongside the information provided by all applicant clubs and the ranking used to allocate the slots. The results of the process should then be discussed at the first Captains' Meeting of Term.
3. Rules under 2.8.b.ii apply only during a trial period ending on Saturday of Week 8 HT25. After that, the wording of 2.8.b will revert to its original form as of 22/01/2024, unless otherwise renewed in a Captains' Meeting.

Proposed: Alex Rigamonti (University)

Seconded: Isabel Warnock (St Hugh's)

Alex outlined the motion. He explained that it had three parts, firstly that extra slots would double to 10. Secondly that the slots would be announced on the Sunday of 1st Week of each term, and could be later challenged at the Captains' meeting, rather than waiting for the captains' meeting to announce and challenge them. Lastly, that these rules would be a trial for this term, and would be reconsidered at the last Captains' meeting of term.

The Chair outlined the current process, currently the number of crews on the Isis are requested from clubs, along with external training and the Sabbatical Officer indicates which are most likely to get a slot when also considering previous slots, with the rest of committee agreeing or disagreeing.

It was noted that the way that the rules were written would lead to clubs with a single more crew being given a slot, even if the later deciding factors were all in another clubs favour. It was suggested that discretion be reintroduced, rather than a punishment in the next term, to prevent any strange results with the power to challenge any changes at the Captains' meeting.

Friendly amendment accepted:

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1. Extra Slots will be allocated based on a Club's expected number of crews, minus the number of racking spots in use elsewhere, starting with the largest Club. In the event that multiple clubs have an equal number of crews, priority should be given first to clubs unable to train during the Proctors' closure (as defined in 2.6.o), and then to clubs that did not have an extra slot in the previous term. ~~Clubs that provide significantly inaccurate information will be placed at the bottom of the list for the next term.~~
 - a. The OURCs committee can depart from this process within reason when awarding slots but must explain all changes at the first Captains' meeting. Changes may be challenged and overturned by majority vote.

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Vote:

For – 41

Against - 5

Abstention - 4

9. Lifejacket Workshop Outcome – Oscar Hayden to speak

Clubs will have received an order form for parts or lifejackets on Wednesday. Please fill that out – hopefully a discount will be found as part of a bulk order.

Clubs were reminded of the RNLI's advice that lifejackets over 10 years old must be removed from service as clubs were "semi-commercial". All clubs were asked to check that their lifejackets had crotch straps, and they were less than 10 years old and appropriately serviced.

10. Hilary Term Swim Tests and Capsize Drills – Oscar Hayden to speak

Swim Tests will take place on the 28th of January and the 2nd of February. Capsize drills will take place on the 21st and 28th of February.

Please remind your attendees that they must speak to the OURCs sign-in desk when they do the test. If they do not, it is not guaranteed that they will be noticed, and they may very well complete and pass the test without anyone realising they were there. If this happens, the result will not be recorded and cannot later be updated.

There are lots of swim test and capsized drill spaces remaining – please book your club members onto them if they need.

11. Treasurers Report

Profit and Loss	
OURCs	
For the period 11 November 2024 to 19 January 2025	
Account	11 Nov 2024-19 Jan 2025
Turnover	
Autumn Fours Entry Fees	880.00
Interest Income	16.51
Total Turnover	896.51
Gross Profit	
	896.51
Costs	
RowSab Salary	8,914.90
A4s expenses	526.52
Cannon expenses	1,971.73
OURCs Jackets	384.60
Isis Spring League Expenses	12.50
Isis Winter League Expenses	151.54
IT Subscriptions and Consumables	79.20
Launch Expenses	1,486.03
Summer Eights Expenses (unpaid from last year)	87.80
Swim Test Expenses	28.00
Total Administrative Costs	13,642.82
Profit	
	(12,746.31)
Other Income	
Training Fines	25.00
Total Other Income	25.00

Fee Increases:

Two years ago, the entry fees for IWL, Torpids and Summer Eights were increased to make up for a significant deficit that OURCs had been running for previous years. They were increased by a substantial percentage (50%)

To avoid another situation where OURCs must raise fees by such a margin in a few years, and to ensure that the cost of increases is split over several upcoming years, we seek Captains' approval to raise the entry fees for boats that row on in both Torpids and Summer Eights to £90, from £75. This is an increase of 20%. The fee for boats who do not row on will be unchanged.

The reason an increase is needed is due to an increase in expenditure by OURCs in running races: cost of support for volunteers has gone up by around 20%, safety launches owned by OURCs will need over £3000 of repairs to ensure medical cover is sufficient and at the moment we are on track to lose £1000 this term, with a successful Torpids 2025. To compound this, OURCs had an equally challenging year last year and among other costs lost £1000 on a cancelled Torpids last year. Furthermore, both the launches and tannoy system are due to be replaced in the near future and this comes at large expense.

No objections to the fee increase.

12. **AOB**

IWL C: Please note in your crew notes if they are novices.

Extra Slots:

Monday:	Exeter	Wolfson
Tuesday:	University	Worcester
Wednesday:	New College	Green Templeton
Thursday:	St Hilda's	Queen's
Friday:	St Catherine's	St Peter's