



O U R C s

Captains' Meeting Minutes

Thursday 6th week Michaelmas Term 2022
7.00pm, 17th November 2022
Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre, Worcester College

Chair: James Doran (OUBC)

Attendance:

College Clubs: 58 (56 voting)

OURCs Committee: 7 (6 voting)

Blues: 1

Absences: New

1. **Welcome**
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Available at www.ourcs.co.uk

3. **Matters Arising**

No matters arising

No objections. Minutes ratified.

4. **OURCs Committee Elections** – Natasha Smith to speak

- a. Secretary
Q Sun (OURCs/SEH)
Proposed: Ty Rallens (OURCs/Merton)
Seconded: Toby Whitehead (SEH)

It was explained that the term of our interim secretary is coming to an end, as such a new secretary must be elected. Q stated that as he is the current treasurer, the result of the election will only take effect at the end of term to allow time to find someone to take on the role of OURCs Treasurer.

Voting:

Abstentions: 0

For: 63

RON: 0

Q Sun elected as Secretary

- b. Sponsorship Officer
Ty Rallens (OURCs/Merton)
Proposed: Theo Duke (Merton)
Seconded: Becky Hore (OURCs/Somerville)

It was explained that as Ty is the outgoing Secretary, this election will take effect at the end of term.

Voting:

Abstentions: 0

For: 63

RON: 0

Ty Rallens elected as Sponsorship Officer

5. **Transfers under A1.2** – Natasha Smith to speak

Objections may only be based on the following:

- *Athlete is not a member of the college they are transferring from*
- *Athlete has never been a member of the college they are transferring to*
 - Sacha Mouzin: Keble to Linacre (papers in order)
 - Hamza Ahmad: Oriel to St Catherine's (papers in order)

Ratification of all appointments as a slate.

No objections. Ratified.

6. **Extension of Student Status** – Natasha Smith to speak

Simple majority to pass

Alex Wythe is a Christ Church rower who has shown exceptional dedication to the club, competing in inter-college rowing for 3 years, and coaching for 1 year. Christ Church Boat Club is therefore a major part of Alex's life in Oxford. Due to unfortunate events beyond his control and through no fault of his own (retirement of supervisor necessitating completion of a taught-masters degree not offered at the University of Oxford) Alex has been forced to suspend his studies for the 2022/23 academic year. Because of the importance of the Club to Alex, he would greatly appreciate and benefit from a continued full and active association with Christ Church Boat Club. We would like to request an extension of Alex's student status until 17/06/2023 from the captains to allow him to compete in Torpids and Summer 8s 2023.

Written approval from his Senior Tutor (Merton) has been received by the Rowing Sabbatical Officer.

Proposed: Max Crane (ChCh)

Seconded: Ayman D'Souza (ChCh)

It was asked if Alex would be rowing in a top boat and what his experience was. It was stated that he rowed in Isis for a year, and was part of the lightweight boat last year. He would like row as he had intended to, however was forced to suspend due to his supervisor's retirement.

It was noted that he is a full time student at Brookes, and could row with them if he wished. The proposer stated that he would not qualify for a Brookes boat and does not want to commit to the rowing schedule, nor could he row for the lightweight Blues this year as he is

not a full student of Oxford University. There was concern raised over the precedent being set by allowing a full-time student of a different university to row as a full member of a college club.

It was suggested that the rule being used in this case could be amended to restrict athletes from being a member of the first boat, this was not put forward formally.

There was discussion regarding if Alex needed to row in the first boat, and why Christ Church need to use this rule instead of having Alex participate as an associate. The proposer asked why it mattered, and that this rule had been applied to similar cases and passed, that the contention was coming from Alex having been a blues rower.

Voting:

Abstentions: 19

For: 26

Against: 16

Motion passes.

7. **Amendment to the Rules of Racing** – Markus Baumgartner to speak
Simple majority to pass

The aim of the rule change is 4-fold:

- 1) Provide an alternate pathway for substitution more in line with the Oxford Student needs and sensitive to the examination schedule frequently interfering with the Bumps racing schedule.
- 2) Allowing increased participation in bumps by reducing the number of crew members required to be on stand-by as substitutes for higher crews.
- 3) Implement points 1 and 2 without adversely increasing the administrative burden on OURCs.
- 4) Implement points 1, 2, and 3 without harming the integrity and the competitiveness of bump racing.

Rule addition (in red):

A3.5.f. Where a competitor for any day (excluding Rowing On) has a race time which clashes with a university examination or viva, an 'examination substitution' will automatically be permitted under the extraordinary substitution rules, under the following conditions:

- i. A clashing examination or viva is defined as an exam or viva which finishes within 90 minutes of the expected division start time or starts within two hours of the expected start time of the affected competitor's division.
- ii. A copy of the affected competitor's timetable must be submitted to the race committee by either a time and date explicitly declared prior by the event committee, or 23:59 on the Sunday prior to the first BUMPs race affected. Submission must occur along with a cover note explaining the timings of the clash and the intended substitution or chain of substitutions.
- iii. The substituting competitor must be eligible to row in the crew they are substituting into under the normal rules of racing.
- iv. The substituting competitor must be ordinarily competing with a lower-ranked crew of the same college.

- v. Competitors being substituted under this rule can only compete in one crew on any given racing day.
- vi. Further chains-of-substitutions needed to fill resulting gaps in lower-crews can be approved and submitted as a slate subject to the same criteria in A3.5.f.ii through to A3.5.f.v.
- vii. Competitors substituted under this rule will be allowed to return to their original crews on later days.
- viii. Applications made under this rule will be approved by the Race Committee unless they have a reason to believe it is being made in bad faith or to gain an unfair competitive advantage

Proposed: Markus Baumgartner (Balliol)

Seconded: Antoinette Randet (St. John's)

A discussion point about how to fill holes which may be caused by moving crew members up. It was then pointed out that ordinary substitutions can be used to fill any holes created.

A friendly amendment regarding a clause to only apply the rule twice per crew was debated, however the proposer suggested point viii could be used to cover this. It was stated that an amendment could be added later if deemed necessary.

Voting:

Abstentions: 1

For: 62

Against: 0

Motion passes.

8. **Proposed request to amend the Code of Conduct** – Dorothea Stark to speak
Simple majority to pass

Currently the rules allow certain graduate colleges and single sculls to row outside the usual weekday morning closures. I propose pairs and doubles be included in this exemption as it continues the spirit of the rule in that only small boats may be allowed out, while opening this opportunity to those who may not wish to or are not able to row a single scull for any reason.

This motion would not enact the rule change, but instead trigger a vote on whether OURCs should petition the Proctors to make the change below. Any rule change would need to be put to the Proctors and approved by the University Rules Committee before it would come into effect.

Change:

2.6.o. As decreed by the Proctors, no member of a Member Club, as defined in 1.3, may row at the following times:

- i. Before Opening Time or after Closing Time.*
- ii. Between 8.30am and 1.00pm on weekdays between 1st and 8th week inclusive, unless:*
 - 1. from the following College Boat Clubs: Green Templeton, Linacre, St Antony's, Wolfson*

2. *in a single scull*
3. *with the Proctors' permission*

To (changes in red):

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- i. *Before Opening Time or after Closing Time.*
- ii. *Between 8.30am and 1.00pm on weekdays between 1st and 8th week inclusive, unless:*
 1. *from the following College Boat Clubs: Green Templeton, Linacre, St Antony's, Wolfson*
 2. *in a single scull, double, or pair*
 3. *with the Proctors' permission*

Proposed: Arthur Bown-Mazzoni (Worcester)

Seconded: Dorothea Stark (Worcester)

Voting:

Abstentions: 0

For: 63

Against: 0

Motion passes. Proposed rule change will be put to the Proctors.

9. **Amendment to the Rules of Racing** - Ty Rallens to speak
Simple majority to pass

A3.7.j.iii requires that "The slowest Men's crew, and the slowest Women's crew, shall automatically be deemed not to have qualified, even if the event is otherwise undersubscribed".

This change is intended to prevent A3.7.j.iii from excluding more than one crew in the event of a tie for last place in an undersubscribed event.

Change:

A3.7.g *In the event of crews having an equal time and if this affects the starting order, the crews involved may organise a private rerow and notify the Event Committee of the result.*

To (changes/amendments/additions in red):

A3.7.g In the event of crews having an equal time and if this affects the starting order **or the number of qualifying crews**, the crews involved may organise a private rerow and notify the Event Committee of the result.

Proposed: Ty Rallens (OURCs/Merton)

Seconded: James Marsden (OURCs)

It was stated that this rule is necessary for safety. When a tie occurred in Torpids 2022, SUs interpreted the rules such that both crews could qualify, this amendment would allow for a tie break to occur.

Voting:
Abstentions: 0
For: 63
Against: 0
Motion passes.

10. **Ratification of Club Safety Reviews** – Natasha Smith to speak

- Brasenose - £0
- Brasenose - £100
- LMH - £60
- Lincoln - £60

No objections, ratified.

11. **AOB**

a. **Autumn Fours winners** – Natasha Smith to speak

Tankards were presented to the winning crews from Autumn Fours 2022:
Univ W4+ A and Jesus M4+ A.

b. **Nephthys Regatta winner** - Tom Wagstaff to speak

A trophy was presented to the winning college from Nephthys Regatta 2022, Keble College

c. **Amendment to the Code of Conduct** - Ty Rallens to speak
Simple majority to pass

These changes support the opening up of the existing training times on Sundays to more crews. Sunday mornings before the 8am closure for town clubs are little used, so if some colleges put out more than two crews the overall traffic would still be quite light. It is understood that the Sunday afternoon 1-crew restriction was voted in by captains in order to have training time when the river was less crowded, to enable higher rate training. The proposers believe the current Captains Meeting value the opportunity for more training on Sundays, even if the river will be a little bit busier for everyone.

NOTE: This motion does not change the town club closure from 8am until 1pm on Sundays. Any clubs taking advantage of the relaxed restriction in the morning must still ensure that all crews land before 8am. This is crucial for safety because the town clubs start head races at that time.

Change:

2.8.b Scheduled restrictions

Member Clubs must observe the following restrictions:

i. On weekdays before 8.00am, during Peak Term of Michaelmas and Hilary, College Boat Clubs can only have one crew on the water at any one time, except with the written permission of the OURCs Secretary or having been granted an Extra Slot. On weekdays before 8.00am, during Peak Term in

Trinity, College Boat Clubs can have no more than two 4s or 8s on the water at any one time, except with the written permission of the OURCs Secretary.

ii. On Sundays during Peak Term, College Boat Clubs can only have two crews on the water at any one time before 8am and one crew water at any one time between 1pm and 7pm or Closing Time (whichever is earlier) unless awarded an Extra Slot in Michaelmas or Hilary Term or with the written permission of the OURCs Secretary. This restriction does not apply to single sculls.

iii. 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.

iv. On weekdays between 5.00pm and 7.00pm, during Peak Term in Trinity, only athletes fulfilling the following conditions may be on the water:

- 1. Crews entered for the Senior divisions in Eights (as defined by the Rules of Racing)*
- 2. The top crew of the division below the Senior Divisions in Eights*
- 3. All college 1st Vllls*
- 4. Single Sculls*

To (changes in red):

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- ~~2. The top crew of the division below the Senior Divisions in Eights~~
- ~~3. All college 1st Vllls~~
- ~~4. Single Sculls~~

Proposed: Lloyd Arnold (Univ)

Seconded: Ty Rallens (OURCs)

A point was raised regarding extra slots on Sunday, to which it was stated that this rule change would only impact one Sunday before Peak Term ends. There was discussion of delaying the rule coming into effect until after Michaelmas Novice Regatta, but this was not put forward as a friendly amendment.

Voting:

Abstentions: 0

For: 63

Against: 0

Motion passes.

d. **Light Blue flag** – Becky Hore to speak

A reminder about the rules regarding novices on light blue flag was given:

- ****Rules for novice status coxes on Light Blue Flag:**
- ****Novice status coxes with at least one full term of coxing experience may train under the following four conditions:**
- ****1. The outing must occur between Sunrise and Sunset (2.1.a);**
- ****2. Other than cox, the crew must be senior - At least 4 rowers with 3 terms experience, no rowers with less than one term;**
- ****3. The crew must have a bankrider equipped with a throw-line and a mobile phone pre-programmed with the number of the Iffley Lock-keeper (01865 777 277); and**
- ****4. The names of the crew and bankrider must be registered at least 2 hours in advance at the following URL: <https://forms.gle/4XxUp1GrdtZZhPMi8>.**

e. **EA licences and BR safety audit** – Natasha Smith to speak

A note to say thank you for clubs submitting their BR safety audit promptly. A reminder was also given that clubs need to register boats and launches with the EA (Environment Agency), which can be done via the BR website. It's come to our attention that not all clubs are aware of this requirement and should check their registrations are in date.