



O U R C s

Captains' Meeting Minutes

Thursday 1st week Hilary Term 2016

19:45 21 January 2016

Wolfson College

Chair: Maddy Badcott (OUWBC)

1. **Welcome - 49 voting members present**
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**
Available at www.ourcs.org.uk
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Squad Reports**
 - a. OUBC
 - b. OUWBC - Madeleine Badcott (president)

A vast amount of progress has been made in this year's team since my last report; we had a successful and very exciting Trial Eights race at the start on December, some solid training sessions in Wallingford on our return from London, and then a ten day break from team training over the Christmas period. On 28th December, the whole team flew out to Sabaudia, Italy, for our annual training camp, which was a fantastic opportunity for us to get experience rowing in different combinations and begin building our two crews for this year's races. Since our return from camp, we have been based at Eton Dorney for all training sessions on the water; last weekend we held a successful racing fixture for both eights against Oxford Brookes' first and second eights, in which both OUWBC crews put out dominant performances. With the first external racing opportunity of 2016 now under our belts, both crews are now looking forward to racing in London this Saturday at Quintin Head.

- c. OULRC
- d. OUWLRC - Lucy Roberts (president)

After erg testing and a number of side-by-side pieces on the water, two evenly matched crews, 'Venus' and 'Serena', were put together and went head-to-head at this year's Trial Eights. Unfortunately, the race was not as tight as was expected, with 'Venus' quickly gaining an advantage off the start and going on to win by two lengths. However, both crews believe that Trial Eights was an incredibly valuable experience, which enabled all athletes to experience the boat race course.

The squad took a short break at Christmas, giving athletes a chance to rest and recover from a term of hard work. After this break, OUWLRC flew out to Ourense, Spain for a 10-day training camp, where the squad faced some very challenging conditions. The conditions posed both a mental and physical challenge for all the athletes. However, despite the wind and rain we managed to accomplish a decent amount of training and make some significant

technical changes as well as learning a lot about ourselves and how important it is to stay both mentally and physically focused when rowing in such tough conditions. We also took the opportunity to continue seat racing. The reservoir featured a 2k 6-lane buoyed course which was ideal, and we were able to run a number of sessions throughout the camp.

We are currently in a period of erg testing and have a number of match fixtures organised with various clubs over the next few weeks. We are now working towards selecting crews for both the boat race and women's head of the river, which will be based on a combination of results from erg testing and seat racing, as well as overall performance. The squad are extremely excited to start racing.

5. River Closures

a. Isis Winter League

IWL C – Sunday 31st January (3rd Week) – 12:00 until Closing Time or End of Racing

IWL D – Sunday 14th February (5th Week) – 12:00 until Closing Time or End of Racing

Proposed: Jonathan Williams (OURCs)

Seconded: Yosiane White (OURCs)

Approved unanimously.

b. The Neptune Torpids, sponsored by Neptune Investment Management

Rowing On: Friday 19th February (5th Week) – 08:30 until Closing Time or End of Racing

Rowing On contingency: Sunday 21st February (6th Week) – 08:30 until Closing Time or End of Racing

The Neptune Torpids: Wednesday 24th February – Friday 26th March (6th Week) – 11:00 until Closing Time or End of Racing

Torpids: Saturday 27th February – Opening Time until End of Racing

Proposed: Jonathan Williams (OURCs)

Seconded: Yosiane White (OURCs)

Approved unanimously.

6. Safety

a. BR Safety Audits

Good job to all captains for handing these in before the deadline. Very pleased that not one college showed up on BR's list of late boatclubs!

b. Swim Tests

This Sunday from 2.30 to 4.30pm. E-mail sabbatical@ourcs.co.uk names to speed up registration.

There will be no other opportunity to test before Torpids.

7. Captains' COUR representative

COUR, the Council for Oxford University Rowing, meet once every term to discuss safety policy for Oxford University Rowing. The captains are represented at the meeting through a representative, chosen each year. Last term Jessica Dunham of Wolfson stood in due to miscommunication in the re-election procedure. The role is not onerous, it takes an hour each term, but it is interesting to meet people with other roles in the Oxford rowing community, and to listen to the matters that arise at the meetings.

Jessica Dunham is willing to continue this position for this year. Everyone in favour of this. Elected unanimously.

8. **OURCs Webmaster election**

- a. Nick Palmius (Wolfson)
Proposed by Jonathan Williams (OURCs)
Seconded by Yosiane White (OURCs)

Elected unanimously.

9. **Ratification of New College and Worcester College MTMs**

a. **New College**

- i. Lack of kill-cord while coaching from launch.
- ii. Kill-cord too short to reach coach
- iii. The kill-cord will be extended and secured in a safe position
- iv. "Wear your kill-cord stickers" will be attached to launch
- v. Other launch safety equipment is to be checked for compliance with BR advice
- vi. £50 fine is to be paid

b. **Worcester College**

- i. Lack of kill-cord while coaching from launch.
- ii. Better storage and distribution of kill-cords among coaches will be implemented.
- iii. "Wear your kill-cord stickers" will be attached to launch
- iv. Other launch safety equipment is to be checked for compliance with BR advice
- v. £50 fine is to be paid

Both ratified, no questions asked.

10. **Rules of Racing amendments**

Add A3.14.2 (and renumber subsequent parts):

"A3.14.2 Crews that stop under the reasonable misapprehension that they have bumped will be considered to have ceased to be part of the race from the moment of the reasonable misapprehension."

Change rule A3.15.1.a to

" A3.15.1.a In Torpids, the same as the starting order except that any crews which have been bumped are moved below the crew(s) which have bumped them."

Proposed by Jonathan Williams (OURCs)

Seconded by Joe Hitchen (OURCs)

Both parts of this rule change accepted and voted for unanimously.

11. **Extra Slots**

In Michaelmas the following clubs had extra slots: St Anne's, Jesus, Trinity, St Catz, Hertford, Mansfield, St Hilda's.

For Hilary Term:

Automatic allocation: Lincoln, Wolfson and Exeter.

Allocated through weighted ballot: Brasenose, St Peter's, Somerville and St Hilda's

Apologies to GTC, Jesus, Mansfield, Oriel, Queen's, Trinity, St Anne's, St Catz, Univ and Wadham

Schedule for Hilary Term:

Monday: Exeter

Tuesday: Lincoln

Wednesday: St Hilda's

Thursday: Somerville

Friday: Wolfson

Sunday 1-3pm: Brasenose

Sunday 3-5pm: St Peter's

12. **Transfers under A1.2**

These transfers are ordinarily approved, and all documentation has been received and is in order.

Objections can only be made on the following grounds:

i. The student is not a bona fide student of the college they are transferring from; or

ii. The student has not been a member of College Boat Club B.

- a. Somerville to Hildas: Amelie Gavard
- b. Wolfson to Pembroke: Katherine Erickson
- c. Hertford to Wolfson: Laura Faye Hawkins

Approved unanimously, no questions asked.

13. **Extended student status requests under A1.1.1a.i.3**

- a. Dorothy Makin from GTC
- b. Max Lau from Oriel

Approved unanimously.

14. **Honorary Student Membership under A1.1.1.c**

- a. Simon Birnbach to St Hugh's (documentation in order)
Proposed by Sam Johansen (St Hugh's)
Seconded by Nikki Ealey (St Hugh's)

Q. Is this student a visiting student or a research student?

A. Unclear on exact student status even with documentation - if a visiting student of St Hugh's then he is automatically a member and can row for them. If he is a researcher then this does not apply. Will be pushed to next Captains' Meeting in order to clear up exact status of this student. [Action: Rowsab]

- b. Laurel Kaye to Christ Church (documentation in order)
Proposed by Sophie Tiefenbacher (Christ Church)
Seconded by Thomas Clode (Christ Church)

Approved unanimously.

- c. Anna Kotova from Oriel to St Anne's (documentation in order)
Proposed by Thomas Munro (St Anne's)
Seconded by Alice Manly (St Anne's)

Reason for HSM: St Anne's very short of coxes due to coxes' lack of time for the club. St Anne's wants to ensure they have a cox that can cox their M1 in Torpids and are therefore requesting permission for Anna to cox for them.

Q. Is this really necessary? Surely motivating your own coxes to cox for you is the best solution? More clubs have a lack of coxes.

A. True.

Vote: 1 for, 21 against, 27 abstain - motion failed.

15. **Honorary Staff Membership under A1.1.1.c**

- a. Benedict Halbroth from Wolfson to Merton (documentation in order)
Proposed by Edward Thomas (Merton)
Seconded by Henrik Hanneman (OURCs)

Ben is Junior Dean at Merton but has not transferred student status. Would like to row with Merton this year.

Vote: 38 for, 2 against, 9 abstain - motion passed

16. **AOB**

- a. Entries for Torpids and IWL C are open.
- b. Central Marshals' briefing will probably be Tuesday 4th week.
- c. Appeals workshop?

Interest from slightly more than half of the college captains. Secretary to explore possibilities for this.

- d. Race-desk helpers
- e. Lecture theatre for Monday 5th week captains' meeting.
- f. Rules change for discussion: Rowing on

Add:

"A3.6.11. In the event of Rowing On being cancelled, the Race Secretary and Senior Umpire may allow divisions of rowing on crews to race on one or more days if they agree conditions are safe. New entries may be admitted to the regatta at the discretion of the Event Committee."

This would allow the RO divisions to run if the stream is too high for a full RO, but the river becomes safe for them to race on by or during the regatta (eg. heavy fog or a lightning storm on both potential days for RO). The start order would be determined by the existing rules; re-entered crews who were on the previous year's finishing order retain their place and additional crews are placed in random order at the bottom. Selection of who is allowed to race from the new entries shall be made using whatever information is available (eg. IWL results) and probably a ballot. One of the purposes of RO is to eliminate crews who are not competent enough to race safely, but we trust you to be sensible enough not to boat crews that don't meet that criteria.