**Liverpool Canoe Club Stewardship Group Meeting**

**Monday 2nd October**
**8:00 pm**

**Present**

Andy Garland – Chair Roy McHale – Vice chair

Keith Steer Ian Bell

Mark Benson Chris Marsden

James Gerrie John Allerton

Richard Clews Amy Newnham

Callum Cook

1. **Apologies** for Absence – John Cooke, Alex Peacock, Julie Brooks, Jim Duffy, Nikki Aldridge, Craig Ford
2. **Stewardship group – review of effectiveness - the idea of teams being coordinated by each coordinator**.

The plan was for different sections of the club to go into ‘teams’ made up of group leaders or coaches and assistant group leaders with a named co-ordinator on the Stewardship group, who would report back to the Stewardship group.

It was noted that in some areas this has been happening to some extent, but that in other areas it has not happened.

JA discussed the risk that group leaders take running a trip and felt there was limited support. He said there had been a lack of communication.

It was discussed that the section co-ordinators should have been providing support by meeting with their teams.

Actions

* Plan for each section to have frequent mini-meetings (on or off the water) e.g. each section should have a meeting in November, March and July.
* RC to review and update a best practise for co-ordinators list, share with Stewardship group, co-ordinators and put on website.
* KS Check ratios for leaders : paddlers in each section are displayed accurately on website.
* Make a template for emails for club trips – is there one on the website? Does it need to be reviewed?
1. **Organisation of AGM**

KS explained the usual order of the club AGM.

It was agreed that this format would be the same for the upcoming AGM.

The venue was discussed. Thanks to IB for use of the scout hut tonight, the current plan is to use the scout hut for the AGM.

Actions

* CC and AG to make an extra nomination each
* CM to check if Garston Memorial Hall would be a suitable venue.
1. **Review of the members Survey** – “we are listening” and priorities for improvement of the running of the club.

KS shared key findings on Powerpoint.

The questions asked had been to investigate whether people find it hard to move on from the docks.

Coaching can happen within the sub-groups to assist leaders.

If people want to use paid coaches, this can then be opened up to other club members.

JA suggested keeping club members updated.

Action

* Chair to email club members after the AGM to see if anyone wants to volunteer to become a group leader or assistant.
1. **Social media – Numerous Alternatives have been tested – not perfect.**

WhatsApp communities and Discord were discussed and how they link to the membership.

More developing and testing is needed to find something that is better than the current system.

JG explained how whatsapp worked effecively for a different club

1. **Coaches and Leaders discussion group** – WhatsApp model or similar is needed along with more volunteers.

Discussed as point 5, above.

1. **Peer trips and the club – policy.**  Currently allowed to promote but trips are private contracts between individuals and will not appear on the calendar or use club equipment. Would be ideal for social media chat.

Discussed with points 5 and 6, above.

1. **Trial sessions / student rates**

RC discussed proposal from Jake Diprose about LCC partnering with Liverpool University Canoe Club.

Actions

* One free trial session could work if a club member brought a friend or family member and took responsibility for them. How do we let members know about this? RC to work on details and propose a motion at AGM.
* RC to propose a motion for AGM - Student membership for full-time students to be the same as junior membership, currently £15
1. **AOB**

CM asked about risk assessments for individual trips

Action

* KS and IB to work on generic river or sea trip risk assessments that would be adapted by the trip leader on the day

It was asked who the coordinators will be next year

Actions

* KS to check which co-ordinators are happy to continue
* Ask if anyone would like to nominate themselves

The chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 10pm.