

# MUSAC Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007,  
Musselburgh Learning Centre.



Meeting Commenced at 19.05hr

**Present:** Ian Smith (BDO), Sandy McPherson (Chair) , Billy Symington, Rab Malcolm, Kenny Donaldson, Dougy Ritchie, Penny Dutton, Danny Dutton

**Apologies:** Tom Hares

**Chair:** Sandy McPherson

**Minutes:** Danny Dutton

SM: Opened meeting

IS: Proposed an agenda for the meeting, the points of which are dealt with as follows:

**1. Chairman's role.** Propose that SM as Chairman become proactive in setting provisional dates for future committee meetings and liaise with the Joint Secretaries to disseminate information throughout the club year. This was agreed.

**2. Vulnerable adults and children.** At this point PD raised the issue of vulnerable adults and children in the light of having attended a SSAC training day to raise awareness of the legal and practical requirements in dealing with such individuals. It was agreed that there was a need for the club to address this issue pending national guidelines being revised. It was further agreed that existing, prospective and future instructors should seek Disclosure to supplement their qualification. Meanwhile Instructors will need to be advised of their obligation in this area. PD to investigate further.

**3. Membership.** IS raised the issue of a disparity between club membership numbers and SSAC membership tally as supplied by SSAC HQ. BS pointed out that SSAC record some 56 MUSAC members who are paid up members of SSAC whereas in reality only 43 of these are paid up MUSAC members.

There are a number of issues here i) Insurance; SSAC membership automatically provides relevant personal liability insurance for any member affiliated through branch membership; this is a SSAC requirement.  
ii) There is a loss of revenue from those lapsed members who are still registered as members with SSAC.

It was agreed that lapsed members be contacted directly by email, telephone or in writing as appropriate to invite them to renew their membership within a proscribed time period. In the event of any negative response SSAC will be informed that they are no longer branch members. RM and DD to arrange.

In the event it should be emphasised that the onus is on individuals to ensure that their SSAC membership is kept up to date for insurance purposes, other insurances notwithstanding. SSAC do not actively pursue lapsed members so individuals need to be aware of their subscription renewal date.

MUSAC members need to be reminded that their annual subscription covers Branch Membership; any i.e. pool hire fees are incidental to this cost.

**4. Training Weekends.** IS raised the need to make Sports Diver and Master Diver training sessions separate in order to focus on the individual requirements of each award. This was agreed. SM to arrange.

It was further discussed that a 40% Basic Nitrox course is presently available to SSAC members to those holding Sports Diver awards and above. If there is sufficient interest within the branch it may be possible to hold an exclusive training session. This will be investigated further.

**5. Come and Try Night.** These have been successful events in the past. It was agreed that another be scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> May with 20 places made available. Applications for places to be made via IS as main contact. Advertisements will be made through posters and flyers to be prepared by KD.

**6. New Branch Instructors.** There has been no further advance with existing candidates. As such it will be necessary to find out whether they intend to continue with the process.

Candidates for additional BI's will be sought within the existing membership along with the required criteria.

**7. Web site.** IS apologised for the lack of the web facility. This is due entirely to his awaiting broadband provision at his new home and will be sorted very soon.

**8. Lectures.** These will start in May. Lecture notes will be provided / posted out to trainees ASAP. IS and DD to arrange.

Given that there are 14 lectures in the series and that these have been in the past given on a weekly basis it was agreed that combining or scheduling cramming sessions would be appropriate given that the summer season is almost upon us.

**9. MUSAC merchandise.** IS reported that the most common issue raised on the MUSAC Web Forum was that of the adoption of the Club Logo and the proposed logo-ed merchandise. Through his efforts he was happy to report

that Musselburgh Sub Aqua Club Leisurewear logo-ed items are now available. Price Lists and Order forms for items will be available on-line through the Website when live again; in the meantime Fax ready order forms are available. These can be circulated by email if necessary in the meantime. A small percentage of the cost will go to club funds for every purchase made so be generous with your wallet!

**10. Evening Diving.** The season is upon us and the East Coast beckons. Please inform your BDO as and when as appropriate.

**11. The Musselburgh Pool** will be closed between June 27 and August 1.

It is likely that Wednesday diving venues will be arranged informally during that period.

**12. Scheduled Trips and Dive Nights.** SM said that there were still places available on the Friday evening boat dives from St Abbs on May 25 and July 6. These need to be advertised. SM or DD to do. Where relevant could persons make sure they have paid their deposit for the Summer Isle trip in June and the Scapa Trip in July 2008.

**13. Lottery.** IS reported that there was some progress here and that the present state of the application would be reported shortly or at the next committee meeting.

**14. Social Events.** It is hoped that a number of events will be announced in the near future.

**Meeting Closed at 20.20 hrs**

It was agreed that the next committee meeting would be on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

Danny Dutton

Joint Secretary MUSAC

