

MUSAC Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 23 September 2009 @ Musselburgh Learning Centre



Meeting Commenced at 19.00hr

Committee Members: Ian Smith (BDO), Sandy McPherson (EO/Chairman), Karen Shaw (Treasurer), Iain Shaw (CM), Kenny Donaldson (CM), Fiona Smith (Secretary)

Apologies: Tom Hares (CM), Craig Dugdale (Equipment Officer)

Non Committee: George Steedman, David Carruthers

1. Branch Diving Officer - Ian Smith

- There are two pool trainees (Jean-Marc and Alan Ballantine). In the open water the club has eight trainees (Denis Ledward, Dianne Blyth, David McCulloch, George Wilson, Clare Dillon and Duncan Campbell).

Branch instructor training - Craig has attended this and has to complete pool and open water assessments.

- All trainees have now completed the written paper with high pass marks. Well done.
- I have the Master Diver material and test paper, which I am studying so I can deliver the lectures confidently, other Master Divers to be approached to hopefully assist.
- SSAC new mandatory rules and recommendations out, email sent to all Instructors for feedback, poor response, BI meeting to be held, some grey areas in the mandatory areas to be clarified, emails sent to SSAC.
- 8 potential new members, do we re-open pool training and when? Proposed inviting the 8 people on the waiting list to come along on Wednesday 21 October.

Every weekend is a training weekend, all welcome.

- Boat diving on the Friday night - some trainees are able to go on the boat dive after completing at least ten dives, rescue and/or assisted ascents.
- I will not be standing for BDO position next AGM, this is down to primarily interference from other less active Instructors within the club with my safety and competence being put into question at every possible turn, I'm happy for those to take over the position and do the better job that they think they can do. I have generally enjoyed being the BDO within the club but have not enjoyed the internal politics and nit picking.

I would like to thank those that have assisted me throughout my period as BDO in particular those who nominated and seconded me for the Sunnto award (Iain and Karen Shaw) and a special thanks to Dougie & Fiona as without them it would have been an impossible job.

I'm still very passionate about the club and still think it is one of, if not the best branch around, and I would say that our safety record speaks for itself. The club is and should be bigger than any Individual as the definition of the word 'club' would indicate, it is the whole membership that makes the club what it is.

- Finally
I would like to clear all trainees on the books before I handover, both sport and master divers and BI's, and will still be active as an Instructor (assuming the next BDO wants me to be).

2. **Expedition Officer - Sandy McPherson**

- Proposed training weekend on November 22 - looking into using Oban again, due to success of last trip. Another training weekend to be organised in March.
- Sandy is organising the Scottish Sub Aqua Club Dive Conference on Saturday 14th September at Eyemouth High School (9am to 5pm) with a Ceilidh to follow at Scoutsroft Caravan Park. Tickets available online from 1st October 2009 www.scotsac.com

3. **Treasurer - Karen Shaw**

- Bank balance just under £6000. We have 50 paid up members.
- KS will be keeping a £50.00 float to pay for little things, instead of writing cheques.
- Large purchase was the laptop. Another outgoing is the room hire at the Learning Centre, (approx £10 per hour).
- We have received a credit back from pool hire for VAT paid (£320).
- Pool fees have dropped back to £47.00 per session.
- KS/Committee monitoring club monies throughout this year with regards if there is a need to increase club levy in 2010.

3. **Equipment Officer - Craig Dugdale (in his absence)**

- An Air Card has been set up for the club bottles in Edinburgh Dive, the only people who can use this are: Craig Dugdale, Dougie Ritchie and Ian Smith. This card will be sent to Karen with an invoice once a month, the signatures will be checked and anyone else who signs this will be charged for their fill.
- CD to have a look in the cupboard and see what the club needs from the dive show in October.
- Decanter is broken, has to be handed into Edinburgh Dive to see if they can sort.

4. **Secretary - Fiona Smith**

- FS has looked into hiring caravans for the ScotSAC Conference on Saturday 14th November. Scoutsroft have caravans available at £25.00 per person on a bed and breakfast basis.
- Some MUSAC members have indicated they would like the Christmas 'do' to be at the Rugby Club again this year, although it is Pentland's turn to put the event on. FS will contact Pentland and ask if they would be interested in doing the rugby club again. Rugby club is only available 4th or 5th December. Other clubs to be approached, Borders and Forth.

As per previous email the new licensing laws the Rugby Club can only book the hall with a ratio of one rugby club member to six people attending ie for 60 peeps going for a boogie we would need six rugby club members. Jim Brodie is looking into this for us.

- From 1st October 2009 SCOTSAC will be located in new offices:

ScotSAC
Caledonia House
South Gyle
Edinburgh
EH12 9DQ
Scotland.
Phone - to be arranged
Email hq@scotsac.com

PLEASE SEND ANY MEMBRSHIP RENEWALS/APPLICATIONS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS FROM 1ST OCTOBER.

Any Other Business:

- KD to approach Sport Scotland regarding another lottery grant. What does the club need? FS will send out an email to members asking for suggestions for club equipment.
- KD - suggested looking into hiring a minivan for dive weekend.
- IS suggested a variety of semidry suits to allow trainees into open water training.

Meeting Closed at 2000 hrs

Fiona Smith
MUSAC Secretary