

MUSAC Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at the Learning Centre, Musselburgh

Attending Committee

Members: Ian Smith (*IS*) : Billy Symington (*BS*): Douglas Ritchie (*DR*): Sandy McPherson (*SMcP*): Kenny Donaldson (*KD*)

Non-voting Attendees:

Gillian Donaldson (*GD*) Danny Dutton (*DD*) Fiona Smith (*FS*)

Apologies: Penny Dutton (*PD*)

Agenda: To ratify and conclude the Committee meeting of 7 June 2006 with specific reference to training issues and Try Dive requirements plus AOB.

Sandy McPherson Chairperson

Opened the meeting at 19.00 and welcomed people in attendance.

Ian Smith Secretary

Initially proposed names of two volunteers to take over the role of Club Secretarial work, Penny and Danny Dutton. This was seconded and passed unanimously. SMcP proposed a vote of thanks for IS's past sterling work as secretary. IS said he would be briefing DD and PD as to what that role required during the coming weeks.

In the light of previous enquiries into training procedures SMcP proposed and produced drafts for Training Charts that would be for Instructors use. The aim is to identify all trainees needs by way of a pool and separate open water chart. There is no intention to in any way replace existing training sheets or logs merely to assist in identifying individuals' progress over time. Some discussion on the merits of this proposal ensued and it was agreed to try out the pool training chart as a gauge. The charts will be A3 size, and kept in the equipment store. Instructors are asked to initial relevant boxes after completion of assessments.

IS and BS stressed the need for trainees to produce their individual training sheets for inspection and signing off at the appropriate time wherever possible. IS reiterated that as BDO he has ultimate responsibility for members training schedules.

Pool Training Cards. It was proposed to present these in a new, probably A5, double sided format. These would be laminated for use by instructors and may be attached to Instructor BCD, to be produced by SMcP and DD. Larger versions of these and the proposed training charts may be produced for poolside use as required.

SMcP produced Coast Guard phone list, IS mentioned that this info was already on the Dive Marshall Sheets.

The mention of the above prompted an enquiry as to the whereabouts of printed Dive Marshal sheets in the equipment room. (These can in any event be downloaded from the website). This led to a more specific discussion on the ability of people to locate themselves sufficiently well on a map or chart to inform their whereabouts to the coastguard, especially in the event of an emergency. It was decided that lists - similar to the training sheets - would be compiled of the most popular shore dive sites to include details of access etc + Latitude and Longitude and NGRs as a guide and placed in the welcome pack. DR to produce east coast and KD west coast lists. Some details are already available on the web site and additional material can be obtained from other clubs sources. Google Earth web site recommended for Lat. and Long. fixes.

Try Dives. This topic was broached at the previous meeting. Some advice has been sought on CRBS requirements that would be needed for BI level upwards if teaching or supervising children. Children are required to be tall enough to stand at chest height in the water in the shallow end of a training pool to be eligible for a Try Dive.

New B.I.s The Committee recognises the need for new B.I. s to assist with training in the future. Candidates are being sought amongst existing club members who have previously begun but not completed B.I. training and others members fitting the right criteria are to be encouraged.

Lottery Funding. It is understood that money is available on the basis of annual submissions to the Small Awards Fund that can provide up to £5000 at a time. A previously un-submitted application to obtain Lottery funding has unfortunately lapsed. A further application is to be made. The earlier application was largely drafted by Colin Forbes (CF) and IS and it is agreed that CF should be asked if he is willing to re-engage with this process. Notwithstanding KD and GD have offered to look at the application forms required to make a new submission.

Equipment. In the light of the discussion on funding it was proposed by BS to compile a list and cost of items of equipment that might be replaced if a successful bid was made. The potential benefits and cost effectiveness of a specialised casualty dummy were discussed briefly as part of rescue training requirements. It was decided that this would not represent a circumstantially viable purchase.

Extended Pool Training. Due to Musselburgh pool closing for a period over the summer and the number of trainees needing to complete their pool training options have been looked at to extend training at another venue. FS has enquired about the use of the Commonwealth Pool and an application form is being sent out. A suitable evening – not necessarily a Wednesday - will be arranged providing trainees undertake to attend. The additional cost of the pool hire is not met by the existing membership pool fees and will need to be covered by persons wishing to attend. It is possible that the novelty of a new venue will attract other club members also.

Club Logo. Further discussion on this subject was deferred but it seems likely that the final version will be presented as *fait accompli* to avoid any further delays in using it for promotional and display purposes.

The meeting closed at 20.15 hrs

Minuted and transcribed by DD