

Eastern Amateur Coastal Rowing Club 2019 AGM

Wednesday 20 Feb 2019, Dalriada

Present: Sean Watters, Brock Lueck, Geoff Lynn, Geoff Earl, Sharon Wallace, Peter Ashe, Trevor Laffin, Rosie Mulholland, Robin Irvine, Maddy Corbin, Claire Tochel, Nick Johnson, Adam Heffill, Emma Griffiths, Neville Rae, Alison Carlyle, Hattie Crawford, Patsy James, Sally Champion.

Apologies: Lauren and Gareth Salmon, Alec Martin, Niall Stirling.



1. Report from the Chair – Sean Watters

Thanks from SW to everyone for contributing to the successful running of the club. Hard to believe that this time last year we only had one boat. Much has changed in only 12 months. Good to bear in mind that although the worlds are coming up they are not the only thing on the horizon and there will be more to come beyond them.

2. Accounts – Claire Tochel

Are externally audited now that we are a SCIO. CT gave detailed summary of the club's financial position. Copy in dropbox under 'financial'. CT points out that we still haven't had a 'normal' year as each 12 months there has been unusual activity. However, with a hopefully settled move to Bellfield and proportional income mostly through membership fees we should be able to get a clearer idea of the financial picture longer term as the next 12 months rolls forward.

Aiming to have about a £1,000 reserve in the bank at the end of each financial year. This year we put membership fees up by a small amount to cover extra costs of moving. If we find we can, we will aim to reduce membership fees another year. Aim is not to make a profit but to remain financially healthy and sustainable.

All expressed thanks to CT for the work she puts in to this.

3. Bosun – Nick Johnson

Made point that there has been a big shift in the possibilities afforded with a second boat and that Bellfield gives us more stability. Mentioned Bellfield AGM taking place the following evening and urged any who could to attend. Reiterated need for us to be considerate tenants and neighbours. Suggestion to open gate into land at last minute to avoid any cyclist or car driving into it. Also vital we remember to lock the gate each time. Ramps are going in this weekend.

Important we look after the boats, all kit, inc trolleys and the new covers collectively. Matt is making supports for the new covers, Rosie and Trevor spent time researching the new covers and ordering them. Peter and Trevor have done lots of work on Sprite. New pins and routes being made for Skelf. Thanks to all for their help.

4. Membership – Robin Irvine

Maddy Corbin explained we did not do a 'Come & Try' event this year, we operate a waiting list already and anyone that was on it was invited to come out to see what they thought for 4 trial sessions. We are again closed to new members until September.

13 new members have signed up, meaning we have a better representation of ages across the categories and can now field a team in each. Robin shared document showing the spread across the club in terms of age and sex.

Neville and Geoff E expressed thanks for making them welcome as well as for the clarity of purpose the club offers.

Robin stepping down (having only recently taken over from Maddy) as he is moving away. Hannah Orrell has agreed to pick this up. Thanks expressed to Maddy for all the work she has put into making the system run smoothly.

5. Training committee – Alison Carlyle

There is a focus on the world championships in July but we will also be attending Broughty Ferry and South Queensferry regattas as well as probably North Berwick and perhaps one other too. Everyone should have a chance to experience a race who wants to this year.

Crew selection for worlds is being worked on and should be finished and public by the end of March.

Have had very useful training session from Alex Hilliam at Bellfield this month, many thanks to him. Will try to do more videoing and using of boats alongside each other. Continue to hold erg session on Thursdays and circuits on Mondays. Thanks to Emma Griffiths, Brock Lueck and Gareth and Lauren for facilitating this. Also planning a session on a stretch of canal near Cumbernauld in next few months. We also have detailed training plans, which again all take effort. Thanks to Gareth and Ailsa and Alex for these.

We have 12 youth rowers and we are trying to support them. They need a cox who is also a captain. Brock reminded all that to become a captain it's a self-selecting process, all details on website. Laura Plumb to circulate a date soon to involve club members, youth and their parents to see how we can best facilitate continued youth rowing.

Rosie emphasised importance of coxing and ethos of sharing this. Sally thanked new rota makers and Claire and Maddy for smooth transition of this. Will move to 75 mins on water for each crew once the clocks change.

Sharon said she might be willing to take on a rota during the summer for a week-day evening general sign up.

Thanks to Alison and Rosie who both sit on the two committees (general and training).

6. 2019 plans – Alison Carlyle

- Links with other clubs. Have put together a resource pack that we give out if other clubs ask for it. Seems to have been well received. Emphasised the responsibility we have to support the competitive sport of coastal rowing. Good for coastal rowing generally and good for our club specifically. Alex and Ailsa have also done some hands-on training in Cromarty.
- Will try and organise a social event after the worlds that we might be able to tie in with a plan that Alec Martin has been working on to launch an event called the F120. 120km of rowing around the Firth of Forth. Online log-in and routes. Could be done in stages or over consecutive days. Seen as a long-standing distance 'event'.
- Encourage more long distance/adventure rowing. Last year boat went to Ireland and Bute as well as two teams entering Castle to Crane. No reason why we can't do more. Guidelines are on the website.

- Maddy, Sally and Fiona are looking into getting funding for a mental health project using our boats and the opportunity to engage in improving mental health. Details are being worked on. Emma Griffiths mentioned community council funding possibility.
- Finally 2020 is the year of Coast and Waters. Be good to tie in with the SCRA for possible events.

7. Election of General Committee

Maddy Corbin, Sean Watters and Robin Irvine stood down.

Claire Tochel, Nick Johnson, Rosie Mulholland, Alison Carlyle, Sally Champion, Alec Martin were re-elected.

Niall Stirling, Hannah Orrell and Trevor Laffin were all newly nominated and seconded, and join the 2019 EACRC general committee.