

Linlithgow Kayak Racing AGM

25th Feb 2019

Low Port Centre

Attendance: D Marshall, Nan Marshall, Neil Fraser, Corran Fraser, Patrick Armstrong, Pamela Armstrong, Kristina Armstrong, Simon Dean, John Lewis, Findlay Lewis, Dorothy Fleming, Martin Fleming, Aidan Leiper, Donald Gardner, Jack Brockway, Jacqui Brockway, Sandra Pirie, David Fisher, Alan Fletcher, Gerry Pennycock, Piers de Salis, Pete Easton, Karen Cadell, Gilbert Spiers

1. Welcome from LKR Chairman Derek Marshall
2. Apologies: Alexandra Armstrong, Skye Cadell, Max de Salis, Jason Toovey, Cecile Redmond, Sean Redmond, Amy Redmond, Neil Redmond, Diane Sharp, Terry Kowal, Matthew Kowal, Sara Gough, The McGowan Family, Johnny Cadell,
3. Minutes from 2018 AGM. Agreed. Proposed by JB, seconded by DG.
4. Chairman's Report. See Appendix 1
5. Treasurer's Report. This was her last report as she has now retired from the role.
6. Election of Office Bearers.
 - a. Chairman – DJM -
Proposed – P Armstrong, Seconded – A Fletcher
 - b. Secretary – Patrick Armstrong –
Proposed – D Marshall, Seconded – N Marshall
 - c. Treasurer – David Fisher
Proposed – J Lewis, Seconded – P Armstrong
 - d. Head Coach – John Lewis –
Proposed – J Brockway, Seconded – N Fraser
 - e. Child Protection – Jacqui Brockway –
Proposed – N Marshall, Seconded – A Fletcher
 - f. Membership Secretary – David Fisher
Proposed – P Armstrong, Seconded – J Lewis
 - g. Web Master – No nominee – D Marshall to take this on board
Proposed _____, Seconded _____
 - h. 2 or 3 x Ordinary Members

- i. Neil Fraser, –
Proposed – P Armstrong, Seconded – J Brockway.
 - ii. Piers De salis, –
Proposed P Easson, Seconded – N Marshall.
 - iii. Karen Cadell, –
Proposed J Brockway, Seconded – P Armstrong.
 - i. 2 x Junior Representatives
 - i. Findlay Lewis, –
Proposed – P Armstrong, Seconded – A Fletcher.
 - ii. Jack Brockway, –
Proposed – N Marshall, Seconded – D Gardner.
7. Adult Training Sessions. Proposed and discussed by Gilbert. There is a need for Adult Training for kayaking as there is a demand from parents and interested people. Gilbert has with Liselle Kemp set up a strategy to teach kayaking skills with a view not only for face participation but also for learning the sport. A variety of sessions were discussed including starter sessions and a group of lessons. Costs were discussed. A trailer has been purchased, by Gilbert Speirs, and there are enough boats. This proposal was enthusiastically agreed. Hope to start in Spring. Suggested fees were a taster session then £60 for 10 lessons.
 8. Club Fees for 2019. It was agreed to keep the fees as they are presently with Adults £25, Junior £15 and family £30/month. Hire of Club Boats was increased to £100 for the season then £50 afterwards with 5 races for LKR. Training Fees for Juniors to stay the same (Summer £24 month (£120 per summer, Winter Training – To break even). Adults - £60 for 10 Sessions It was agreed that this was cheap in comparison to other places. Following this there was a discussion about boat hiring and storage of boats. A strategy was required for a rolling boat replacement scheme. Sponsorship was discussed.
 9. LKR Kit – We are looking to place an order very shortly for new kit please add your details to the sheet at the table if you require any new kit.
 10. AOCB A strategy group chaired by David and including John Lewis, a Junior Rep, John Lewis and Gilbert to look at the club. Eg. Equipment for the club. Regatta Lead Organiser - tbc
 11. Derek asked for people to help organise the Linlithgow Regatta. People to consider volunteering. Jacqui Brockway has agreed to be Administrator.
 12. A big Thank you for Nan Marshall was given and roundly supported for all her help in the running of LKR by Neil. She was elected as an Honorary Member.

Appendix 1

Linlithgow Kayak Racing Chairman's Report to the AGM 2019

The 2018 Season was another very successful season. LKR has had with representation at every sprint and good number marathon competition in Scotland. Paddlers from LKR also took part in a number of sea races.

In **Sprinting** the **Scottish Sprint Championships** were held at Strathclyde Park in early-September & LKR came back with 44 individual Medals - 17 Gold, 17 Silver & 10 Bronze medals.

The **Scottish Sprint League**, held over 5 regattas LKR paddlers achieved the following results:

16 individual Medals – 8 Golds, 3 Silver & 5 Bronze medals.

Hannah Toovey – Gold, Szymon Sroka – Silver, Naomi Fisher – Gold, Kristina Armstrong – Bronze, Kacper Sroka – Silver, Max de Salis – Bronze, Jack Brockway – Gold, Matthew Kowal – Silver, Matthew Fisher – Bronze, Alexandra Armstrong – Gold, Freya Randle – Bronze, Joshua Fisher – Gold, Amelia Cadell – Gold, Finn Cadell – Bronze, Jason Toovey – Gold, Derek Marshall – Gold.

At the Nottingham regattas we had a total of 10 promotions over the season.

The **British Sprint Championships** in Nottingham were held at the September regatta and LKR paddlers came back with 18 medals – 6 Gold, 7 silver & 5 Bronze.

Of note here was that **Lewis Fletcher** won 2 Golds including the K1 200m which is the Blue Ribbon Event – this is the first time a paddler from LKR has won a Senior GB Championship.

At the same regatta **Josh Fisher** was awarded the Paddle-ability Endeavour Trophy.

Lightning

Our Lightning paddlers, who were competing at the 4 GB Regattas in Nottingham, could not replicate the previous year's success but still put in a good series of performances.

GB Representation

We had 3 paddlers competing for GB last season:

- **Lewis Fletcher** at Senior World Championships in K4 500m
- **Jack Brockway, Matthew Kowal & Alexandra Armstrong** at Piestanyi & the Olympic Hopes regatta.

Our own Sprint Regatta in May on the loch was a great success with 63 paddlers taking part, 24 from LKR.

Again this season the Scottish Sprint League trophy was retained by LKR – this is only the 6th time in 36 odd years that it has not been in the possession of Kirkcaldy Canoe Club & the 5th time in a row.

In **Marathon** our numbers taking part have held steady this season and it is great to see our Lightnings paddlers taking up the challenge against the other clubs.

In 2018 the SCA Marathon League Senior Men winner was Finn Cadell & the Senior Lady was won by Lizelle Kemp. The Senior Mens K2 was won by Jason Toovey & Derek Marshall.

Once again we were unable to get our hands on the Scottish Marathon Club Trophy which was won by Kirkcaldy CC again - more paddlers required to take part in these events please.

At the Scottish Marathon Championships, which were held in Perth, we won:

- K1 Marathon – 2 Gold
- K2 Marathon – 1 Gold & 2 Silver
- K1 – 5km Championships – 4 Gold, 4 Silver & 1 Bronze.

The SCA Most improved Paddler Trophy was awarded to Kacper Sroka.

Our own Marathon was again held in Linlithgow on the canal. We had 61 Paddlers taking part with 16 from LKR which was a great opening to the season.

This event which is suitable for ALL paddlers including Lightnings will again take place this year on Sunday 5th May on the canal. There will be distances for all abilities and I would encourage you all to compete & Alan will be looking for volunteers to assist on the day in due course.

The club took part in a number of Club events through the season.

Scottish Racing Week

This is a series of 5 races that take place over 8 days and we have the following category winner:

Long Course: 2nd Finn Cadell 3rd Simon Dean.

Short Course: 1st Derek Marshall, 2nd Jason Toovey. With Lizelle Kemp 1st Lady

Mini: 1st Kristina Armstrong

Lightning: Our best paddler was Szymon Sroka in 5th place.

Glasgow to Edinburgh

This challenge takes place over 2 days to cover the 56 Miles from the centre of Glasgow to the centre of Edinburgh. We had paddlers entered 4 different classes

In the K1 solo race Diane Sharp was 2nd Lady in a time of 11:17:56

We also had an entry in the entered a K2 Team Relay where we had 2 boats & 10 paddlers – an older paddler with a younger paddler.

This was great fun for both the paddlers & the support crews (5 cars chasing the boat across central Scotland for 2 days)

Our time was 8hr:45mins which was faster than the previous year despite the appalling weather on the Sunday

Devizes to Westminster

This is a 125-mile race that takes place every Easter where you have to portage with your boat 77 times.

Diane Sharp entered the 4-day K1 event but, having driven down to the start at Devizes, the event was cancelled due to the flooding on the

River Thames – That must have been a long drive back home.

GB Marathon Champs

The GB Marathon Championships are held, Reading on the River Thames. We had 6 paddlers attending who came back with 2 Gold, 1 Silver & 2 Bronze medals which I think you would agree is a very respectable result.

Hasler Finals

The British Club Marathon Championships
Alas we did not have any representation at this event last season & it would be good if we could this season.

Sea Racing

These races take part on the open sea where paddlers use “Surf Ski” kayaks or fast sea kayaks. This is a fast-growing part of our sport and their area number of our adult member who have taken part in these events both here in the UK and abroad.

LKR also organise 2 race series throughout the season in summer on the loch & in winter on the canal.

The Summer Series

Last year we were able to run all the 5 events as programmed with 31 paddlers taking part over the series with Lizelle Kemp, Derek Marshall, Kristina Armstrong, Kacper Sroka, Hannah Toovey & Szymon Sroka all winning their respective classes.

The Winter Series

These take place on the canal 5 times during the winter months and we had to cancel 2 due to ICE again for the 3rd winter in a row. We have 1 more event to come on Sunday 17th March – Hope to see you all there to kick start your season.

All of these events have been well attended and we encourage all new members to come along and give them a try.

Our Committee have been working hard at getting more paddlers on the water & this included parents.

It should be noted that our recruitment & retention of new Lightning paddlers at U10 &U10 was disappointing last season and we will be stepping up our efforts on this front for this coming season and any suggestions would be welcome.

At the end of the 2018 Sprint season 3 of our U14 paddlers were accepted on to the SCA Performance programme. This is a great testament to the hard work of the individuals & whole group.

Head coach, John Lewis, has faced his own challenges last year but with the assistance of George, Skye, Oliver, Pete & Derek delivered the session through the season and on into the winter.

Monday & Thursday night's winter Gym Sessions have, in the main been taken by John with the assistance of George & Pete.

The winter swimming sessions at the Academy on Wednesday nights have been taken by Derek with the assistance of Sean Redmond, taking on the life guard duties, and I like to thank Pete for providing cover when required.

All of these sessions are aimed at the lightning & Under 14 age groups paddlers and will stand them in good stead for the start of the season.

Our SCA squad paddlers, who make up 50% of the squad, continue to train at Ratho and already this year (2019 have been in Slovakia XC skiing & Portugal for warm weather paddling).

Again I would like to thank all my fellow committee members and coaches for their assistance over the last year, especially to Nan for her work and support, and last but not least I would like to thank our Mr Fix Its – Neil Redmond & David Dickson who has continued to work away in the background, refurbishing and repairing equipment - if a boat gets damaged please let us know so we can fix it.

It should be noted that we have 2 members of the committee who are stepping down after this AGM:

- Chris Wynne – who looked after our website &
- Nan Marshall – Treasure & Membership Secretary

We thank them both for their service to LKR over the years.