

National Sea Fishing Committee

From: Michael Hassen, Secretary to the National Sea Fishing Committee
To: All members of the National Sea Fishing Committee
Subject: Representation on the National Committee
Date: 24/3/22

During the recent survey in respect of the shore scoring system the number of representatives allocated to the Committee from each region was raised by two members: Police Scotland and the Metropolitan Police.

As Secretary I stated I would raise the issue at the next meeting which is to take place on the 24th April 2022.

Current Position

Within the Police Sports UK (PSUK) constitution the following regions are identified:

No. 1 North West - Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Isle of Man Constabulary.

No. 2 North East - Cleveland, Durham, Humberside, Northumbria, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire

No. 3 East Midlands – Derbyshire, Leicestershire Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire

No. 4 West Midlands – Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Mercia, West Midlands

No. 5 Eastern – Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk

No. 6 South East Hampshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Thames Valley, City of London

No. 7 South West - Avon and Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, States of Jersey Police

No. 8 Metropolitan - Metropolitan Police

No. 9 Wales - Dyfed Powys, Gwent, North Wales, South Wales

No. 10 Scotland – Police Service of Scotland

No. 11 Northern Ireland - Police Service of Northern Ireland

No. 12 British Transport Police

No. 13 Civil Nuclear Constabulary

No. 14 Ministry of Defence Police

No. 15 National Crime Agency

Whilst the regions are allocated there is somewhat of a disparity in the number of officers and staff represented in each of the regions e.g.

Metropolitan Police has over 46,000 staff,

Police Scotland has approximately 13,000,

No 1 region ((North West) has 25,910 staff,

No. 7 region (South West) has 17633 staff.

No 12 region (BTP) has 678 staff and

No 15 region (National Crime Agency) there is no easily accessible data available.

I have not covered all regions as obtaining data in some areas is time consuming, and the dip sample of regions gives the Committee a reasonable spread of data.

The data does seem to show a wide range in the number of staff represented from 46,000 in the Metropolitan Police to 678 within the BTP.

The source for the composition of any National Sporting Sections is the PSUK Constitution, **Section 13 which states:**

13 NATIONAL SPORTING SECTIONS SHALL BE COMPOSED OF:

13.a Chair appointed by Council and normally of Chief Officer rank. Retired officers may continue as Chair of Section.

13.b Section Secretary, Treasurer and Council Representative elected by the Committee.

13.c These roles can be held by the same individual person if appropriate.

13.d Co-opted members.

13.e it is recommended that at least 50% of all Section Committees shall be serving police officers or police staff

As Secretary I understood that the National Committee was populated by a single representative from each region. This is not mandated by PSUK. This leaves the Committee in the position where its membership is open to negotiation. The lack of a formal constitution for the section is problematic as this is one of a number of issues which currently have no solution.

Recommendation for discussion

1. The Committee consider creating a constitution – see later Agenda Item.
2. Discuss the representation of each force within the Committee and consider if regions 12- 15 can stand as separate regions due to their small numbers.
3. Identify the current representation on the Committee and the range of forces covered
4. Are the criteria for additional representation to be the size of the region in staff potentially available or the actual number of each the active section members? Or indeed some other methodology
5. Should each region/force have 2 representatives -one for shore and one for boat fishing?
6. Does any decision made regarding membership need to go to PSUK?

Conclusion

The difficulty for this Committee is that functionally they do not have guidance from PSUK, which may be intentionally to allow flexibility across a range of sports. However, without such guidance the Committee would be open to some difficulty if challenged regarding membership without a formal, agreed structure. A Constitution seems a sensible way forward and would deal with the discussion points raised above.

This document is submitted for your consideration.

Michael Hassen

Secretary National Sea Fishing Committee