

Minutes
National Sea Fishing Committee
General Meeting
8 pm Sunday 27th November 2022
Zoom Meeting Commencing at 8 pm

1. Roll Call

Chairman: Jim Campbell, Northumbria Police - retired
Secretary – Mick Hassen, Northumbria Police – retired
Treasurer: Mark Northam, South Wales Police – retired
Chris Adams, Metropolitan Police - retired
Gregor Hay, Police Scotland
Nick Lark, Hampshire Police
John Wright, South Yorkshire Police - retired
Ian Hinchliffe, Norfolk Police
Medwyn Jones, Gloucestershire Police- retired
Peter Morgan, Northumbria Police – retired
Andy Cleeve, PSNI
Ian Hinchcliffe, Norfolk Police

2. Apologies for absence

Donald Campbell, West Midlands Police – retired

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes for the meeting of the 24th April 2022 were agreed as accurate.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

- Shore Fishing Policy
Peter informed the Committee that he had produced a policy but on reflection wished to amend it to cover issues which had come to light recently and to cover discussion points from this committee.

The Committee agree to defer this matter and asked Peter if he could produce the amended policy before Christmas. Peter Agreed to do so

Action: Peter to produce the policy before Christmas.

- Constitution

Mick gave an overview of the Constitution and informed the Committee that he had circulated the constitution to all known Regional Representatives. He stated that he had not had any additions or amendments suggested. He did raise the issue of a deputy for the Chair which was not covered. It was agreed that the vice chair would be elected at the AGM. This person must have voting rights.

An additional point was raised and agreed: the secretary would send out a message to all regional representatives informing them of the need for a representative on the National Committee.

Action: Mick to amend the Constitution as agreed.

- Administrative access to PSUK website

MH informed the Committee that access to the PSUK website had been declined. The Committee noted this. No further action required.

- Sea Angling rules

MH identified that some of the content of the current policy was outdated. E.g., that only 4 teams from a region could fish the National Championship. This was a legacy from when there was greater competition for places. The Committee agreed that this needed a review and the Chair agreed to undertake the rewriting of the policy.

Action: Jim to rewrite the policy

- Creation of barbarian teams

JC updated the Committee that he had rewritten the policy prior to the Boat Championship and circulated the document in April 2022. He gave a brief overview of the policy which was agreed by the Committee. No further action required.

- Fire Service Competition

Mark stated that he had had discussions with the Civil Service and the Fire Brigade. The Fire Brigade apologized for the problems at the last event where they only had 5 competitors. The Civil Service have agreed in principle to joining the event. MJ is to continue the dialogue with the Civil Service and update the Committee of any developments. The Committee gave their full support to Mark.

Action: Mark to update the Committee on developments.

- **Rename Kent Cup for JD**
Jim informed the Committee that he had spoken to John who had graciously declined the offer of renaming the cup.
No further action required.
- **Circulating and publishing winners of boat and shore events**
In the absence of DC, MH updated the Committee that he was receiving updates from Peter and Don which he circulated via PSUK website and the Facebook pages. It was noted that some tablets / computers were not showing all the information. MH assured them that he had 5 years data which he converted to PDF and forwarded for wider circulation and access. This seems to be a problem for some operating systems.
No further action required.
- **Captains of representative teams being automatically put on the team.**
MH updated the committee that he had been in discussions with members and had been unable to agree a different solution. The main problem was organizing the events. There is a limited number of individuals who will organize competitions and without their support the events would fail.
JW highlighted that the main problem was the Home Nations. A brief discussion took place before it was decided that it was not appropriate to discuss this further without all interested parties being present. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.
Action: MH to put this matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

5. Finance Report

Mark referred to a previously circulated.

The income for 2022 was £14,215.77

Expenditure was £12,736.88

This left £1,478.89 to be carried over to 2023.

Mark then added that he had paid for the Home Nations accommodation which leaves approximately £200.

A bid to PSUK for £6860 has been prepared but it is anticipated that the section will receive £5870.

MJ stated that due to the Fire Service Competition being slimmed down he has applied for a team of 8 rather than 16.

Anticipated funds for 2023 - £7348.89

The proposed expenditure on events were as previously agreed.

Mark informed the Committee that he had an amount of cash which had accumulated due to fees and subs which he is attempting to pay into the account but due to bank closures is proving more difficult than expected.

6. Reports on National Boat and Shore Competitions 2022

Boat Championship 2022

John updated the Committee re the boat competition. All went well with a good turnout, of 28 teams, and the usual fantastic comradeship between all competitors.

JW did highlight that the costs of the competition did escalate due to diesel costs and other inflationary pressures. The organisers nearly ran out of money and there was no surplus on this year's competition.

The Committee thanked John and Andy for their hard work and commitment to organise such a successful event.

MJ raised a concern that had been voiced regarding the draw and that perhaps future draws should be monitored independently.

The Committee noted:

- No formal complaint had been raised
- Casting doubts on individual integrity was very serious
- As a matter of principle the Committee trusts organisers to act honourably.
- Formal complaints will be investigated as stated in the rules of a competition.

The Committee decided to take no action.

Shore Competition 2022

Peter reported that the shore competition was a success with 100 anglers taking part over 2 days. He wished to thank all those involved in the organisation and for coming to the competition.

Gregor mentioned that there was a move to go to 2 hook competitions. Some discussion took place and there was a difference of opinion in the Committee so JC called for a vote on the matter.

Those wishing a 2 hook rule:	5
Those against a 2 hook rule:	1
Abstention :	1

The 2 hook rule was passed for the following reasons:

Fish conservation

Smaller bait packs are required

Less pollution caused by lost gear.

7. Representative Matches 2022

Due to time constraints this item was not discussed in detail.

Combined Services

MH asked that details be sent to him

Fire Service

Med stated that the event will take place on 23rd October

Home Internationals

MH asked that details be sent to him.

SAMF

MH asked that details be sent to him

Dates and venues for 2024.

JC asked for any information to be sent to MH

8. Update from PSUK

JC outlined 2 areas of business from the last meeting which were relevant to the Sea Fishing Section:

- a) In 2020 PSUK had a surplus of £107k however the latest financial report showed a deficit of £2k. Affiliation fees have been halved leading to the deficit.
- b) Eligibility for competition. Additional rules have been added in respect of members dismissed for gross misconduct or those placed on the barred list. These individuals cannot participate in any PSUK event.

9. Any Other Business

- a) The policy regarding boat positions for the Home Nations requires amending as there is a system in place to ensure a balanced of positions between all the teams. Details to be forwarded to MH
Action: Details of the change of policy to be forwarded to MH
- b) The use of Zoom and its time limits caused problems. The next meeting will be in person or using Microsoft teams

Date of next meeting

JC asked for volunteers to host the next meeting in May. Contact MH if you wish to volunteer.

The meeting was concluded at 9:45 pm.