

# MINUTES FROM THE BUSA AGM 2009 HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT DATCHET WATER SAILING CLUB, AT 18.30

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## MINUTES

Committee in Attendance: Ben Towell, Geoff Lennon, Jim Saltonstall, Jess Mapplebeck, Tanya Budd, Ed Green, Peter Wathen, David Atkinson, Ben Ainsworth.

JS welcomed the members to the 2009 AGM. JS expressed his concerns over the future of the BUSA events and the support the committee give these events by relying on a few members of the committee. Especially regional help. 'Stand up and be counted' be actively involved in the future of BUSA. If you don't the events will crumble and fold. BUSA has always had successful events. JS is disappointed to hear of a rule 69 hearing taking place last week. Have a good time but don't cross the line and bring the good name of BUSA into disrepute. A minority spoiling the event for the majority – this could affect future events. Glad to see old members coming back to help – JS thanked them. JS is pleased to see that BUSA numbers are on the increase and he hopes it keeps growing. Good luck for the rest of this season.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Claire Paramore, Chris Noble, Peter Johnson.

2. **Brief Summary of the Year:** See Annual Review.

Main issues:

Committee: We started the year with fewer members on the committee than needed. This put more strain on the existing members and should be avoided for 2009-10.

BT passed on a message of thanks from BUSC everyone for their help at the fleet racing for rescuing people and helping out getting everyone off the water. Plus to those who struggled in the snow to get to the team racing qualifiers.

3. **Future Changes:**

a) Entry deposits (non refundable): A non refundable entry deposit will be required for each team entering all BUSA events next season. This fee will be deducted from the entry fee once their place is confirmed. This is to encourage fewer drop outs and to ensure that the host universities are not left hugely out of pocket. Full details to follow.

b) Clarification of Team Change Rule: Changing name but same principles 2 crews or 1 helm. Full information will be published next season.

c) TR qualifier format – qualifiers will be run to a set criteria and standardised (accept SUSAs).

d) Bib hire – being repaired, but due to high cost of this we will charging a small fee for the use, plus the responsibility will be on the user.

e) Committee structure and performance – a working group to be formed. – BUCS are devolving power down to the regions. We've been asked to follow their structure. BUSA will set up a sub-committee to look into how we could do this – this group will report back at the AGM in 2010.

BUCS & BUSA – very tentative at the moment. We are the only sport who are not fully run by BUCS.

4. **Discussion Points:**

a) 3 Team limit (Team Racing): This query was raised by Chris Carden (Bristol). Committee Response - At the moment 4 or more are allowed to enter the qualifiers, but only 3 can go through to playoffs and finals. This is primarily to allow more institution to progress to the next level. BUCS are more interested in university numbers not team numbers.

CC Bristol – Confirmed they are happy with this explanation.

Southampton – Isn't it better to allow better teams through. Committee Response - The best teams do go through whilst maintaining a balance of universities represented that go through.

b) TRWG – who is on it and why? This query was raised by Ben Ainsworth (Southampton). Committee Response - TB, and area reps – qualifiers, wildcards etc. Area reps represent their areas – adding more means decisions happen less quickly. If things are not running smoothly or if there is a big decision then other members of the committee are contacted, if needed.

Bristol questioned – could you explain what they do? Committee Response - take entries, allocate places, wildcards, organise qualifiers, team changes.

c) Southern and Central Qualification Places. This query was raised by James Large (Southampton). After merging last year confusion arose after in 2007/08 both areas received a wildcard place. This year the area still received the same number of final and playoff places just no wildcards.

BA questioned – Why was it merged as he doesn't remember it being agreed.

- Committee Response (BT) – It was to bring it in line with the other areas which are bigger and was agreed to trial it this year and be reviewed by the committee for 2009/10 season.
- d) TR finals entry fee – why so high? (Via BUCS Manchester University). Committee Response - Last year the event found sponsorship, however this year and in this current climate no sponsorship was found. In previous years the socials and accommodation were extra; this year camping and socials (apart from the ball) were included. Brunel also had to hire in all the flights of boats as laser 2 were not allowed to be used.
- e) Others that are received.  
 Why are reserve lists needed? This query was raised by Southampton. Committee Response – It is a BUCS requirement so they can check every sailor with the university they are representing. – Basically out everyone on your list.  
 Can a knocked out team be used as reserves for another team? This query was raised by Southampton. Committee Response – BT will look into it further, but as they will have already competed in the championships they cannot represent more than one team. Ladies from a mixed team can move to a Ladies team if their mixed team is knocked out as they are separate championships.  
 Safety at the fleet racing – an official investigation has taken place and BUCS have taken steps to ensure this will not happen again.
5. **BUSA Members Co-Operation WE NEED YOU!!!!**  
 We need you to be proactive. We need you to be responsible to getting entries in on time, to help tow boats, offer support and to give constructive feedback.
6. **The process of communication for BUSA:**  
 Area reps – 1<sup>st</sup> point of call! If you get no response then please contact the secretary.  
 Website – always updated.  
 Be a member of the members Yahoo group. – All information is circulated though here.
7. **Next Year's Committee**  
**Men's Captain:**  
 Stuart Adams from Oxford: Proposed by Oren Richards and Ben Ainsworth.  
 Chris Carden from Bristol: Proposed by Jenny Style and Eddie Glennie  
 Stuart Adams – 5 votes  
 Chris Carden - 13 votes - ELECTED
- Vice President:**  
 Ben Towell from Newcastle: Proposed by Caroline Beveridge and Tanya Budd - Only nominee - ELECTED
- Chairman:**  
 Adam Sunman from Portsmouth: Proposed by Tom Cheney and Will Lord. - Only nominee – ELECTED (After much discussion due to the nominee not being present and concerns from the members present) If members are unhappy with the newly elected Chairman then they must put it in writing to the secretary.
- Southern Rep:**  
 David Whitmarsh from Solent. Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_ - Only nominee - ELECTED
- Ladies Captain:**  
 Claire Walsh from Bristol. Proposed by Chris Carden and Emily Crow - Only nominee - ELECTED
- Pending the resignation of AH, BUSA VP 2008-10, having had very little contact this season, BT also proposed TB as VP – the members agreed this.
8. **Any Other Business:**  
 BUCS Fleet Racing 2009/10 Will be hosted at QMSC – do you want socials organised? YES.  
 BA – Queried the standard of the Sunsail boats at the Yachting Nationals - they are not good enough. BA to e-mail full query to the secretary to pass on.  
 Regionalisation – Edinburgh worried too many weekends will be used up. – BT explained that SUSAs will not be affected by changes affecting the English areas.