

ERTC MINUTES 22ND JANUARY 2012



Present: Stuart Kelly, Nicki Weller, Andy Jones, Tony Fagelman, Neil Pike, Rachel Paul, Paul Kitchen, Graham Parker, Dave Kingaby, Chrissie Law, Vanessa Lewis, Nicki Uglow, Paul Verdicchio.

Apologies: Karly Good, Amanda Jay

Guests: Sue Jay (Flight), Sue Skinner (Twisters), Claire Francis (Twisters), Craig Carter (Levitation), Luis Pires (Cangaroos), Ali Macrae (Cangaroos), Sonia Verdicchio (Rotations), and, towards end of meeting Olive Law (Brentwood).

Meeting started 5pm

1. MINUTES

[Last minutes of 12th November 2011](#) approved.

2. E-VOTES

Two e-votes were conducted since last meeting as follows:

1. Decision on whether, or not, to move grade D competition to an earlier date than 22nd January to facilitate attendance at Club Conference. **Decision** – No.
2. Decision on whether to move March grading to a week earlier to avoid middle of school holiday. **Decision** – Yes.

3. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

Paul Verdicchio was welcomed to the committee as the representative for Cambridgeshire

ECGA meeting was attended by SK & NW. They reported that ECGA were supportive of the committee and pleased to see progress. Minutes from the meeting will be available once they are approved.

A funding bid has been submitted for funds from regional rebate, these funds total £17k and ECGA has put forward a business case to secure the best it can from BG.

The regional rebate is not the only funding source and projects such as Regional squad can be funded by application over and beyond that.

4. COMPETITIONS

NP raised the idea of extra information to be added onto competition entry forms. In particular whether to ask if officials are very keen to officiate (e.g. to get comps in to move to next region) or keen not to (e.g. coach not desiring to coach). Proposed by NP, Seconded SK. **Decision:** Agreed.

NW raised the matter that many clubs were still paying entry fees by cheque rather than electronic transfer which adds unwelcome administrative overhead. There was some discussion as to whether to add an incentive to pay by transfer (i.e. charge more for payment by cheque) but no decision was reached.

NW raised the matter that accepting late entries and changes can result in a shortage of trophies and suggested that these should not be accepted in future. DK thought that trophies were not the issue but whether we want to allow members to progress, he suggested that by adopting a 'standard trophy set' for the year we could over-order so there was always a small extra stock available to allow for late entries. There was further debate on this topic but no specific decision was made.

NP raised the fact that whilst we recognize top-three with trophies and winning team with medals, there is no recognition for qualifiers. SJ mentioned that in the past medals used to be issued to qualifiers and NP also raised the thought of certificates which could, almost certainly, be added to T-Score with minimal problem. NP

could arrange for some certificate blanks to be pre-printed with the T-E logo and printed at the competition day to present to all qualifiers. NP proposed, AJ seconded. **Decision** - Agreed.

AJ wanted to say thank you to NP for great work on computers which greatly eased the running of the day which saw 363 paid entries.

5. COMPETITION JUDGES/COURSES

AJ is running a County & Club course 28-29/4/12 in Cambridge Regional College under tutelage of Peter Heames and, all being well, will be qualified to run future courses. On this basis AJ expects 2/3 courses to be run this year.

There was discussion about the new 'Validation Panel' at the end of the day. 17 competitors were eligible, 10 entered and 5 qualified as result, it was generally considered to be a good thing allowing performers to progress if ready to do so. There was also discussion about the merits of extending this to Grade D although it was recognised this would have to have the blessing of BG. AJ proposed try to extend to D if approved by BG, NP seconded. **Decision** - Agreed. – AJ will check the possibilities.

VL reported that competitors and some parents were concerned that judging on panels 2 & 3 was thought to be inconsistent and also that there were 2 Levitation judges on same panel. AJ commented back that there were some odd spreads but felt that on balance judging is going in the right direction, GP concurred with this view. NP questioned whether it was time for another judging seminar (along the lines of that at Saffron Walden last year) ahead of the next grading, but no formal decision was made on this point.

AJ requested that grade F groups were put on a panel before grade D again at the next competition as it was felt that this worked well with the judging panel.

SS raised a concern that some parents noticed judges changing scores after looking to the side, some conversation ensued in which it was acknowledged that this is an issue which can be managed by a strong experienced Chair empowering judges to be confident in their scores.

OL asked whether chairs are encouraged to challenge judges during trial judging whether, for example, move X was a zero or 1. TF suggested the idea of running a judging seminar alongside the regional development day. NP suggested sending a guidance pack out with comp information e.g. "Judges, remember this, do that" – all these were considered useful ideas but no specific decisions were reached on them.

6. DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

PK reported that criteria had been posted on the website and that he had received a few comments. The development coaches are looking to long-term development so focus is on those showing long-term development potential – in looking at the competition today there are some grade F's who show strong potential. Entry to the first squad has been defined; retaining entry in squad will only be by consistent performance. Initial squad will be posted as soon as possible and will run on 1st April with involvement from Jack Kelly. 'Wildcards' are to give those in early career an opportunity to experience squad with a view to enthusing them.

Given the long term nature of this role on the committee SK proposed that consideration be given to giving the role an extended period of 2 years on committee. No objections were raised to this although there was not a formal vote.

English Championships are aim for this year, with as strong a squad as possible. CL raised a question of 17+ performers in the squad, in preparation for the English Championships, but a decision was not made on this.

Development coaches will establish norms and share with personal coaches to ensure development in forward direction.

7. COURSES

TF is planning 2 L1, 1 x L2, 2 x update 5/6 UKCC, technical updates this year. Level 3 modules are also being asked for to run in region, at present BG are not convinced of the demand.

A question was raised about funding for coach courses, none is currently available from ECGA but there is a monthly funding update issued from BG which we should update on website in due course.

8. WELFARE

KG had completed her section on the region website which DK thought was very well produced and worth checking out.

9. COMPETITORS' FEEDBACK

This had already been addressed in part in 5 above although VL reported that age splits still raise some concerns, mainly with parents; it was also suggested that it is often the older end that feel disadvantaged. After some discussion it was felt that whilst this concern is understood the recent practice of introducing more groups where numbers justified addressed this issue where it was reasonable to do so.

10. WEBSITE

DK reported that although still work in progress the regional website was now live. Some good material is already on there although some is still to be added. It was outlined that there were two main aspects to the site:

- News – this is where material that is transitory should be reported. Any news is also capable of being linked directly into clubs own newsfeed, facebook pages etc... through the use of RSS,
- Pages – this is where more 'sticky' content such as policy, processes etc... will be retained including, of course, archive material such as competition results and committee minutes.

11. AOB

SJ, who had previously been on the regional committee for 25 years as schools coordinator asked why the committee no longer allowed members who do not hold a position. It was suggested that SJ should have a role on the Committee in Competitions. This was proposed by SK, seconded by NP and agreed that SJ should organise a Veterans trampoline event later in the year at her club in Harlow (Flight).

Actions arising - SK to contact ECGA to see if they will fund the event, taking any profit (if any). NP to E-mail all clubs on SJ's behalf to advertise the event and gauge feed back to how many competitors would take part and whom, what grades and ages this competition will cover.

The meeting closed at 6:15.