

Cambridge University Bowmen Committee Meeting

2020-2021 Committee

Thursday 21st January 2021

Attendees

- Robert Spencer (RS)
- Liam Pattinson (LP)
- Yuhang Xie (YX)
- Vicki Hodgson (VH)
- Alexander Kent (AK)
- Abi Pearce (AP)
- Sam Kitson-Platt (SK)
- Lukas Činčikas (LC)

Summary of action points

- LP to finish check ins for equipment loans.
- LC to double check unpaid fees/follow up on Michaelmas reminder emails.
- VH to create Varsity risk assessments.
- LC to issue CSA refunds.
- VH to finish updates to Privacy Policy.
- RS to take novice Varsity suggestion to UOCOA.
- AP to email the beginners and novices.
- LP to return bowstrings to Clickers.
- LC to liaise with LP regarding bow loan fees.
- LC to liaise with LP and AK regarding their refunds.
- Senior committee to meet regarding budget.
- SK to ask alumni for additional website content.
- LP to continue beautifying the website.

Meeting started: 20:02 GMT

Previous minutes

- YX proposed, AK seconded.

Privacy Policy

- Rs requested an update on the 2020-21 Privacy Policy.
- This is ongoing; VH aims to complete it by the end of the month.

Varsity

- Novices
 - UOCOA have expressed concern that their novices have not had enough shooting or competition experience to compete at Varsity 2021; they've requested that there's no Varsity for novices, or perhaps that last year's novices compete instead.
 - The committee felt that it wouldn't be appropriate to have the 2019-20 novices compete (particularly as many are no longer in Cambridge) and that it would be unfair to eliminate novices from Varsity entirely, especially when they may have some chance at outdoor shooting.
 - LP suggested putting the novices at a shorter distance; though this would make them ineligible for blues, it would still allow them to attend without too much pressure.
 - LC similarly suggested that the novices shoot a non-competitive round, again perhaps at a shorter distance.
 - YX suggested that the novices be asked for their opinion, as those in their final year may want to compete regardless.
 - RS will suggest to Callum that the novices shoot a more relaxed format.
- VH to use recent advice from AGB about competitions and outdoor shooting to create risk assessments.

Beginners' course

- Given that Lent term is going to be mostly or entirely remote, with students not expected to return to Cambridge, finishing the beginners' course during the indoor season looks incredibly unlikely.
- RS and AP both agreed that the course would realistically be finished outdoors.
- To keep engagement up in the meantime, AP would like the committee to run some seminars for beginners: an equipment/bowstyle session, a competition format/etiquette session, a warm ups and reversals session, perhaps a pared-down S&C session.
- AP to put together a schedule; other committee members to help in running some of these.
- Seminars to take place on Sunday mornings during the latter half of the usual Sunday shooting session.
- AP agreed to write to the beginners specifically, to reassure them that we've not vanished.

Novices

- Going forward, the committee will assume that we'll not be able to use the EWR for this academic year.
- AP suggested that it may then be unfair to make it compulsory that novices attend Sports Hall sessions (should shooting resume during the indoor season). However, RS was keen that the novices attend once per week at minimum, and pointed out that the committee would likely be able to book more Sports Hall sessions using the refunds from the first half of Lent term.
- In short: novices will be required to attend one session per week minimum, but can choose which slot(s) work best. At least one experienced mentor should be at a session to observe a few ends for each novice.
- SK asked, and it was agreed, that the novices will be encouraged to take less alumni-friendly timeslots, to leave the Friday evening/Sunday morning sessions available for those with Real Jobs.
- AP would also like the novices to be required to attend the seminars for beginners as well.
- AP and RS would like to have a novice 'boot camp' at the beginning of the outdoor season when all novices should be back, to catch them up after several months of not shooting.
- AP asked whether there were any provisions in place yet for the novices at BUTTS next year; RS encouraged that this be brought up at the AGM.

Competitions

- LP raised concerns that he was yet to hear anything regarding BUCS.
- RS may have some insider captainly knowledge, which he will share with LP; the prevailing wisdom was that BUCS will realistically be cancelled.

Equipment

- LP to return bowstrings to Clickers.
- The committee agreed that Michaelmas equipment rental should be extended further into Easter term, as the likely lack of shooting in Lent term makes it unfair to charge for a full term.
- However, the long vacation may still be a separate charge, if the outdoor season is reasonably normal.
- LP asked LC whether he had sent on a list of names of those who owed fees, and asked who he should chase up; LC to liaise.
- LC to refund equipment officers.

Financial status of club

- Partly due to the precautions we took at the beginning of the year, and partly due to our expenses being far lower than expected, the club is doing well financially.
- This should mean we can run some additional indoor sessions, and/or more Wilberforce Rd sessions if we're unable to shoot outdoors at Churchill.
- LC requested that the senior committee have a budget meeting in the next week or two.

Annual Dinner

- YX has not needed to find an alternative venue, as Sidney Sussex are now able to accommodate us on our preferred date of the 22nd of May.
- The booking is provisional, and won't be confirmed/formalised until lockdown is over, but the committee agreed that this wasn't a problematic policy as the date is similarly provisional for CUB.

Web updates

- LP is currently working on the alumni section; SK offered to ask alumni for more content, LP expressed that Varsity proposals are particularly fun.
- The history section has been extensively reshuffled, with Varsity records now moved to archives, so the history page can be more about the club as a whole.
- We have run up against SRCF limits, so some old photos should be removed and put in a webmaster-dedicated google drive folder.

AOB

- **Current status of shooting (RS):** Perhaps unsurprisingly, shooting is non-existent until we hear otherwise from the Sports Service, at which point we'll likely hold an emergency meeting.
- **Reversals (LP):** While the S&C was not well attended, the committee does want to see reversals starting up again from next week; RS will draw up a schedule for who can run it.
- **Partial fee refunds(LP):** LP raised the question of whether the committee should consider some partial membership fee refunds if there is no shooting in Lent term. RS countered that 1) the club is continuing to run what we can; 2) future committees will need a healthy financial standing; 3) refunds may increase attrition. YX and VH suggested that we return to this question once we know what the outdoor season will be like. Perhaps a better alternative is offering returning members reduced fees going into the 2021-2022 academic year.

- **CAA shoot (SK):** The committee agreed we wouldn't be able to commit to hosting this.
- **Socials (YX):** Now that term time has started again, we'll be picking up the Friday weekly socials until shooting resumes; YX requested that committee members pipe up with fresh ideas.

Meeting concluded: 20:52 GMT.