

ST FRANCIS PADDLING CLUB

AGM MINUTES

17 MARCH 2021

QUAYSYDE, ST FRANCIS BAY

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Peter Mitchley	Henri Alers	Ken McGregor
Mandy McGregor	Stephan Vorster	Ana Maria Hay
Gail Brooker	Ingrid Falconer	Carol Rothero
Mike Stark	John Falconer	Denys Rothero
Pete King	Charlie Jonsson	Lorraine Maree
Frank Dabrowski	Dappie Prinsloo	Stephan Maree
Anita Dabrowski	Dave Louw	Xandri Maree
Stephan Vorster	Marie Louw	Daryl Staples
Richard Poole	Nigel Harvey	Chris Middleton
Gerard Demkes	Richard Arderne	Paul Middleton
Magda Boshoff	Phillip Smith	Bruce Brooker
Johan Viljoen	Steph Arndt	Christelle van Wyk
Jen Vallance	Cath Mitchley	Koos van Wyk

APOLOGIES

Lynn Slogrove	Nina & JEF Forrer	Brian Wells
Dirk Ellis	Joan Pratt	Madelaine Barry
Cath & Clinton Hempel	Ron & Maddy Sams	Andrew Bowren
Marc Schwitter	Nevil & Penny Hulett	Jenny Rayment
Andrew Barton	Andrew Carter	Marion Smith
Tim Briscoe	Jo Brown	Dick Brombacher
Dirk Harding	Brett Wilson-Jones	Alison Bosch
Sean Jacklin	Dean Black	Byron Andrews
Gary Atkinson	Tim Lippstreu	Frank & Trish Baker
Russell & Micky Sadler	Carmel Billson	Pete Hoffman
Candice Peltenburg	Pete Maskew	Richard Foulds
Phil Honey		

WELCOME

Pete Mitchley welcomed all and thanked those present for the good turnout.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2020 AGM

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mike Stark.

MATTERS ARISING

Nil.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Pete regretted that the Covid lockdown had resulted in most races and time trials being cancelled or postponed. All club activities had been minimal in the past year. The highlight had been the hosting of the SA Marathon Paddling Championships. This was pulled off quickly and efficiently thanks to a hard working team led by Nigel Harvey and Frank Baker (See Competition Report below). Russell Sadler's contribution had helped to bring our venue to a wider audience who had all been impressed with the venue.

With only a small number of serious competitors in the club Pete felt the emphasis on the social aspect of competing should be encouraged. He urged members to consider entering the 27km Freedom Challenge surfski event in Cape Town and making it a team outing. Unfortunately the planned outing to the Knysna club had to be cancelled because of Covid rules.

He notified members of the updating of the club logo to make it easier to reproduce on kit and letterheads. He thanked Marie for arranging the website upgrade. She will continue as Website Manager.

Steph explained that trying to get quotes for club kit had been extremely difficult during lockdown but she promised to continue the search.

Pete warned that the clear up of craft left lying around would be ruthless and members double docking craft in the racks would be penalised.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Gail Brooker reported that in spite of there being no club races club funds were at a record high with R60,000 in the a/c. The SA Marathon Paddling Championships had brought in R27,000.

The Movember collection had been an overwhelming R12,000 that had delighted Hospice which was having a particularly difficult time as lockdown prevented their usual fundraising events from being held.

The racks continued to be in great demand. The upgrades done by Richard Poole and Stephan Vorster made them even more popular and another source of income.

The Development programme always needs funding so members were asked to consider any donation no matter how small.

The latest member tally stands at 139. It had been agreed that fees would remain at 2019/20 rates. Gail reminded members of the essential 3 step to membership payments viz.

1. Club fees (Snr – R290, Jnr & Students – R105, Family – R185. 10% reduction before 30 April. Online payment available on website)
2. CSA fees (Members need to buy a licence on the CSA portal)
3. Rack fees (R600 per rack space to members who have paid the first 2 fees)



	2019/20	2020/21		
1 Mar	R 19 370.34	R 30 640.88		
28 Feb	R 30 640.88	R 76 499.30	28/02/2021	
				Developmt funds included in bank balance
				Available for Club
				R 16 382.73
				R 60 116.57
<i>Income Total</i>	<i>R 218 179.72</i>	<i>R 130 417.04</i>		
Membership Fees	26 682.50	33 932.50		
ECCU & CSA Fees	14 215.00	0.00		
Rack Fees	51 745.00	52 395.00		
ECCU/SA champs	12 150.00	27 583.95		
ECCU - Development Coaching	0.00	0.00		
Races	81 160.00	0.00		
Website sponsorship	0.00	0.00		
Donations	400.00	0.00		
Movember	1 630.00	12 700.00		
ECCU Development Programme	30 000.00	3 500.00		
Raffle - Quaysyde	0.00	0.00		
Rash vests	0.00	0.00		
Bank Interest	197.22	305.59		
<i>Payments Total</i>	<i>R 174 268.18</i>	<i>R 84 558.62</i>		
ECCU - CSA fee, CSA Indemnity fee	14 500.00	65.00		
ECCU/SA champs	14 733.62	2 750.00		
ECCU training		0.00		
equipment/repairs/banner/medic kit	4 192.00	7 957.71		
Development Coaching				
Website	865.00	1 224.00		
Race expenditure - prizes, ambulance, NSRI, stickers, food etc.	69 267.50	5 668.00		
club tops/AGM/year end braai/Stationery/Gifts	6 662.04	5 846.39		
Hospice	1 630.00	12 700.00		
ECCU Developmt Programme	28 509.92	2 117.27		
Quaysyde site rent	30 000.00	32 500.00		
Racks	3 550.50	13 588.25		
Rash vests		0.00		
Other		0.00		
Bank Fees	357.60	142.00		

RACE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

This portfolio had been vacant throughout the season which had not been a problem due to lockdown. However the SA Marathon Paddling Championships had been successfully run.

SA PADDLING FESTIVAL ST FRANCIS OCT 2020 (Nigel Harvey reports)

THE PREPARATION AND THE ORGANIZING

Our Chairman, Pete Mitchley, very bravely agreed to take on, not one, but two National events over one long weekend with the Covid virus restrictions very much in place. Pete asked Frank Baker and myself to organize the event and within a very short time I received a message from both Dave and Marie Louw advising that they were committed to helping put together this event. Daryl Staples, who was involved in the very successful 2018 SA Canoe Marathon Champs, also agreed to come on board. To have people with this experience from the previous competition was a big factor in being able to put the event together in such a short time.

What started off as a low budget, no frills affair gained momentum when four people all with a strong connection to St Francis came on board as the main sponsors collectively, coming up with money that allowed us to be more inventive in our approach to arranging the event.

China Silver Asset Management in conjunction with World Surf Ski League came on as the main sponsor for the Surf Ski event. The other three sponsors, PW Harvey & Co, Carey Olsen and Ricky's Drift supported both the Surf Ski and the Canoe Marathon event. Our thanks to the Sponsors for their support and particularly to PW Harvey and Carey Olsen who have supported Surf Ski paddling in the region for a long time.

One also needs to recognize that we had a total of 6 weeks to arrange the event and for this reason we allowed the entries to stay open to within 4 days of the event starting. This led to some anxious moments with probably a quarter of our entries being received in the last 2 days. Added to this our

planning was based on 240 individual entries for each of the 3 events. In the end we got 328 individuals which far exceeded our expectations. On top of this for the first time we had Stand up and paddle board participants taking place. This led us to calling the event "The South African Paddle Festival".

I would like to recognize and thank the organizing committee for their commitment and effort. Mike Stark: who secured Kouga and SAP approvals which I can assure you was not an easy job, especially with the Covid virus in play.

Mandy Mc Gregor: who managed the marshals and with her team of helpers put together and distributed the goody bags.

Pete Mitchley: Canoe Marathon Race Director and Covid Officer. 2 tough jobs.

Russell Sadler: Surf Ski Race Director who was tested with the sea conditions on the day.

Dappie Prinsloo: who was responsible for safety,

Daryl Staples : involved in both the Surf Ski and Canoe Marathon courses which had their challenges when the spit was breached 3 weeks before the event and we had to prepare a new course and portage configuration.

Trevor Wright: for his role in managing the traffic in a location where this is little or limited parking

Frank Baker: for coordinating all of the activities and giving direction to the team.

What was amazing to see during this event was the involvement of 50 plus volunteers from our local community, who are not members of the club, but were willing to give their all to this event which was after all over 3 days.

Lastly I would like to thank Marie and Dave Louw not only for their unprecedented time that they gave to these 3 days but also for the knowledge and experience they brought to the event. They were involved from the timekeeping to arranging the canoe course to the site infrastructure. And more.

THE RACING

SA CHAMPS SINGLE SURF SKI

The decision around whether to go to sea or not for the Surf Ski event was a tense affair but by all accounts probably the right decision in the end. Safety first - Someone summed it up for me:" There were 20 unhappy guys and 140 happy guys" .

At least we can say that Hank McGregor was able to grab a small wave in the river mouth that propelled him to victory. Nick Notten was second and Kenneth Rice third.

How the sport of surf ski paddling goes forward will be interesting to see as there is currently no mechanism to allow the good paddlers to go to sea, when it is on its head and the rest to paddle on a less technical course.

Phillip Smith was our club's best paddler with a 11th place finish The woman's event was won by Jenna Ward. Amica De Jager was our club's best woman's performer in 6th place.

DASH FOR CASH

The top 5 male and female paddlers from the mornings surf ski race came together at 3 pm on Saturday to sprint around the island twice , a distance of 2 km. The event turned out to be an awesome spectacle with Hamish Lovemore taking out Hank and going on to win R5 000. Jenna Ward was the ladies' winner. What a great event this turned out to be. Something for the future.

K 1

It appears everyone liked the course, including the portage that had to be moved to The Cove. This also turned out to be a great vantage point for people to watch the event.

A rising star in the form of Hamish Lovemore has arrived. He did a great job in being crowned SA K1 Champion again pipping Hank, who is by the way is double Hamish's age. Ulvard Hart was second.

Phillip was again our best finisher in 14 th place.

The woman's event was won by Esti Van Tonder.

K2

Another great race with some strong combinations on the water. Hank and Hamish broke away with 2 laps to go and no one was going to catch them.

Phillip teamed up with Luke Stowman from Paarl and finished in 5th position.

The woman's event had Saskia Hockly and Jenna Ward as the winners.

MEDAL RECIPIENTS and TOP POSITIONS FROM THE ST FRANCIS PADDLING CLUB

SURF SKI

11th Sen Men: Phillip Smith

6th Female: Amica De Jager

2nd Sub Grand Master Men: Andrew Carter

1st Grand Master Men: Gordon Spalding

K1

14th Sen Men: Phillip Smith

2nd Great Grand Master: Frank Dabrowski

K2

3rd Boys U14: Charaldo Leeu and Elricho Peterse

1st Ladies Sub Masters: Penny Hulett and Stephanie Arndt

5th Sen Men : Phillip Smith and Luke Stowman (PRL)

1st Grand Masters Men: Gordon Spalding and Lee McGregor (Kin)

3rd Sub Great Grand Masters Men: Russell Keet (Bor) and Nigel Harvey

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Dave Louw stated that the lack of training, TTs and races had meant a break in all development programmes. He has started a new group of 20 recruits, 7 of whom have completed the proficiency award. With the 7 who qualified last year he has a good group of 14 that he would like to get to time trials regularly. He suggested an incentive to encourage attendance: once a month the group would be given a meal at Quaysyde. After some discussion on what should be served to them it was approved by the majority.

Discussion ensued on how to get more integration of the Development paddlers into club social activities.

Dave expressed concern for Felix Muchika who needed a better craft. It was agreed that a club boat of greater than beginner's status is needed

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Richard Poole has stood down but will complete the work he and Stephan Vorster are busy with. Marie Louw will manage the rack administration and maintenance.

CAPTAINS' REPORT

Men -Pete King regretted the lack of action during lockdown. He urged members to consider joining him at the Freedom Challenge.

Ladies – Steph Ernsten reported that there were now 27 female members. The Tues morning group was currently meeting at 07:15 and was well attended.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	Peter Mitchley	067 255 5305
VICE CHAIRMAN	Cath Mitchley	082 718 9701
SECRETARY	Mandy McGregor	083 232 2217
TREASURER	Gail Brooker	083 647 9778
WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR	Marie Louw	076 751 4718
RACE CO-ORDINATOR	Lorraine Maree assisted by Frank Baker	083 255 7069 082 892 4664
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	Dave Louw	082 722 2345
EQUIPMENT & RACKS	Marie Louw	076 751 4718
SURF SKI REPRESENTATIVE	Clinton Hempel	076 412 6091
SAFETY OFFICER	Dappie Prinsloo	082 513 1757
CLUB CAPTAIN	Peter King	082 492 7048
LADIES CAPTAIN	Steph Ernsten	071 392 5530

GENERAL

1. Pete and all present thanked Gerard Demkes for generously providing a 9l bottle of Fat Bastard red wine that kept proceedings flowing smoothly.
2. Mandy reminded Phil Smith that there were a number of members who had paid for half hour coaching sessions with him prior to lockdown. He promised to carry through with the programme.
3. Pete pointed out the importance of having a Plan B should Quaysyde be sold and the club lose access. He reported that a number of options were being considered should the need arise.
4. It was agreed that on the first Wed of each month something special should be done at the TT e.g. Mixed Doubles, Hounds and Hares. Richard Arderne was nominated as the co-ordinator.
5. Richard Arderne reminded the meeting of the upcoming King of the Kromme event held annually over the Easter weekend.
6. Belated Awards: Because the 2020 End of Year function had not happened the award winners were announced.

Most Regular Attendance: Richard Poole & Frank Baker

Most Improved: Andrew Barton

Outstanding club member: Charlie Jonsson

Junior: Oli Mitchley

Master: Gordon Spalding

Senior: Phil Smith

CLOSE OF MEETING

19:26 Meeting ended