

# British Universities Life Saving Clubs' Association

Annual General Meeting  
09/04/2020



# British Universities Life Saving Clubs' Association

## Annual General Meeting - 09/04/2020 Executive Summary

### 2020/21 BULSCA League Calendar

Bristol (Freshers' Competition)	07/11/2020
Nottingham	28/11/2020
Birmingham	05/12/2020
Warwick	06/02/2021
Southampton	20/02/2021
Loughborough	24/04/2021

### Committee Elect

Chair – Ben Barker  
Secretary – Michael Kirkham  
Treasurer – Emma Smith  
Data Manager – Jared Wray  
Championships coordinators – Julia Whitworth and Ellie Murray  
Club Development – Emily Goodwin  
Communications secretary – Adam Lane  
Club Recruitment – Ellie Lavelle

### Proposal Outcomes

- 1. League Structure Reform 1**  
Rejected
  - 2. League Structure Reform 2**  
Accepted
  - 3. League Structure Reform 3**  
Rejected (online vote)
  - 4. League Counting Team Application**  
Rejected (online vote)
  - 5. Competition Results and Awards Reform**  
Retracted
  - 6. Officials Uniform Update**  
Rejected (online vote)
-



## **British Universities Life Saving Clubs' Association Annual General Meeting Agenda**

Location: Online using Jitsi Meet (<https://jitsi.org/jitsi-meet/>)

Date: Saturday 9th May 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

### **1 Welcome and Apologies**

### **2 Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

### **3 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

#### **3.1 Report on BULSCA Recruitment Officer Position**

### **4 Officer Reports**

#### **4.1 Julia Whitworth, Chair**

#### **4.2 Michael Kirkham, Secretary**

#### **4.3 Andrew Scoones, Treasurer**

#### **4.4 Hannah Smallwood, Development Officer**

#### **4.5 Jared Wray, Data Manager**

#### **4.6 Sophie Priddis & Stéphanie Panagi, Championships Coordinators**

#### **4.7 King Yee Cheung, Communications Officer**

#### **4.8 Joshua Hale, Recruitment Officer**

### **5 BULSCA Committee Officer Elections**

#### **5.1 Chair**

Declared candidates: None

#### **5.2 Secretary**

Declared candidates: Michael Kirkham

#### **5.3 Treasurer**

Declared candidates: none

#### **5.4 Club Development Officer**

Declared candidates: none

#### **5.5 Data Manager**

Declared candidates: Jared Wray

#### **5.6 Championships Coordinator**

Declared candidates: none

#### **5.7 Communications Officer**

Declared candidates: none



## **5.8 Club Recruitment Officer**

Declared candidates: none

# **6 Competition Applications for the 2020/2021 Season**

## **6.1 Allocation of Freshers Competition**

Applicants: Bristol, Nottingham

## **6.2 League Competition Allocations**

Applicants: Loughborough, Birmingham, Bristol, Warwick, Southampton, Sheffield, Nottingham

# **7 Discussion of Proposals**

## **7.1 League Structure Reform 1**

Committee recommendation: Discuss without Recommendation

## **7.2 League Structure Reform 2**

Committee recommendation: Discuss without Recommendation

## **7.3 League Structure Reform 3**

Committee recommendation: Reject without discussion

## **7.4 League Counting Team Application**

Committee recommendation: Reject without discussion

## **7.5 Competition Results and Awards Reform**

Committee recommendation: Reject without discussion

## **7.6 Officials Uniform Update**

Committee recommendation: Reject without discussion

# **8 Date of Next Meeting**

# **9 Notices from BULSCA Committee**

## **9.1 BULSCA Judges Panel Vacancy**

## **9.2 BULSCA Awards**

# **10 Any Other Business**

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## 1 Welcome and Apologies

Julia Whitworth and the committee welcome to all in attendance to the 2020 BULSCA AGM.

**Attendees:** (Julia Whitworth, Michael Kirkham, Jared Wray, King Yee Cheung, Sophie Priddis and Stéphanie Panagi, Joshua Hale) BULSCA Committee, Birmingham, Bristol, Loughborough, Nottingham, Sheffield, Southampton, Swansea, Warwick, Felix Ng (BJP)

Club	Representative 1	Representative 2
Bristol	Jason Grice	Natalie Smith
Birmingham	Amy	Alastair
Loughborough	Tom	Isabel
Nottingham	Aoife	Bradley
Sheffield	Peter	
Southampton	Madeline	Emily
Swansea	Teg	
Warwick	Jacob	Chris

## 2 Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Michael Kirkham proposes a vote to accept the minutes.

Seconded by Jared Wray.

8 votes for. 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.

2020 Mid-Season GM Minutes are accepted as accurate.

## 3 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

### 3.1 Report on BULSCA Recruitment Officer Position

Appendix A contains the report on BULSCA Recruitment Officer Position written by Joshua Hale.

Ellie Murray: Was there a common theme to problems with clubs who initially expressed interest.

Josh: Don't know exactly, people interested seem to get busy with university work and stop replying to communications.

Felix Ng: What recommendations do you have for next officer?

Please see report.

Ben Barker: What can BULSCA community at large do to help?

Josh: Next Officer should look into involving everyone, looking at friends who are going to uni, postgrads going to new universities. Tried my approach as in report, next officer can look in to new strategies.

## 4 Officer Reports

### 4.1 Julia Whitworth, Chair

This season it has been a pleasure to see clubs performances both in league competitions and at the championships and to work alongside the committee. Obviously, this season hasn't ended the way it normally has, with the final competition being cancelled out of anyone's control, however all clubs have dealt with this news really well and have been continuing to be a positive presence,



putting on lifesaving quizzes, exercise sessions, or fundraising targets which is lovely to see. Before that, this year we had 6 league competitions (Nottingham, Sheffield, Bristol, Birmingham, Warwick and Southampton) as well as our Student Championships. The league has again been very exciting this year and it is great to see so many clubs involved within both leagues and in the top spots. Very well done to Bristol and Loughborough respectively for their A+B league victories, as to ever other club for brilliant performances throughout the season. I have been really proud this year when at competitions with the sportsmanship and positivity spread between clubs, I think it makes a massive difference to the whole atmosphere and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all individual club committees for their efforts to maintain this. It has also been great to see so many clubs getting involved with fundraising this year, leading courses at their universities and getting together for varsity competitions – this all has a massive impact on recruitment as well as community engagement. The Student Championships were as always brilliant to be a part of and the performances and volume of lifesavers at the event was so lovely. It was particularly special for the two Greek teams who joined us and we look forward to welcoming them again in the following years. Well done to Loughborough for their outstanding performances over the duration of the weekend, retaining their title of champions and a special additional mention to Birmingham for bringing 2 full squads again. I would like to also thank all of the committee for their dedication and hard work throughout the year, alongside their busy schedules, they have done a brilliant job. A further thank you to all of the judges, helpers and BJP who without we would not be able to make these competitions run. I plan to stay involved with lifesaving and help wherever I can and I wish everyone the best of luck for the future seasons. Lifesaving Love, Julia x

#### **4.2 Michael Kirkham, Secretary**

This year as secretary I have attended all general meetings and as many committee meetings as I can to record what has taken place. I have not achieved my goal of updating and refining the BULSCA cloud document storage and guidance documents. This is something that must be done in order to allow the smooth running of BULSCA in all areas, hopefully the next secretary will have the time and drive to undertake this huge task. I have done my best to support the current committee with my 10 years of BULSCA experience, providing knowledge on various issues. I hope I have been helpful in supporting the committee in fulfilling their roles.

#### **4.3 Andrew Scoones, Treasurer**

Unfortunately, it's been tricky as treasurer as I've not been able to get access to the accounts; in retrospect I should have made copies of all paper work, as the paperwork went missing and spare copies would have made my life much easier. Whoever takes over, I recommend starting afresh from the previous treasurer, doing as much as possible in person and having copies of the hand over paper work.

At the start of the year I was talking to first aid companies about sponsorship, and looked into becoming an amazon affiliate. I didn't see much benefit from amazon as there isn't much I thought clubs would buy off amazon, but other people might think differently. There was some interest from first aid companies, but perhaps too late as conversation started once the league had started and clubs had their kit already; further, some terms wanted (i.e. exclusivity as provider for universities) I thought was hard to give. Finally, sponsorship feels like BULSCA endorsement and it was quite tricky to find companies who were interested where all their products satisfied the BULSCA rules.

In conclusion, it's been a frustrating year trying unsuccessfully to sort out the bank admin, and I wish luck to whoever takes it on.

Please find a statement of accounts on the next page.



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Transaction Date	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Balance
27/03/2020	UNII OF BHAM INST 84582		1172.75	4601.47
26/03/2020	THE INNS COURT CC 300000000584639308 312 BULSCA 309483 10 26MAR20 08:24	360		3428.72
26/03/2020	PARKWOOD LEISURE 500000000581287638 HENG021641 090720 10 26MAR20 08:18	4255.33		3788.72
19/03/2020	J WHITWORTH BC20-16 500000000579102322 309080 10 19MAR20 15:19		44	8044.05
16/03/2020	KIRKHAM MA MICHAEL KIRKHAM 38221748589694000N 601315 10 16MAR20 22:17		27	8000.05
16/03/2020	WARWICK STUDENTS		35	7973.05
16/03/2020	BENJAMIN HOLLOWAY 200000000575459467 CHAMPS REFUND 090129 10 14MAR20 12:37	407		7938.05
09/03/2020	JOSHUA J HALE 300000000578734921 VOLUNTEER RECOGNIT 309845 10 07MAR20 22:55	52.85		8345.05
05/03/2020	UNIVERSITY OF BRIS UNIVERSITY OF BRIS 23023309994785000N 601712 40 05MAR20 02:44		843.25	8397.9
04/03/2020	SWANSEA UNIVERSITY SWANSEA UNIVERSITY		407	7554.65
02/03/2020	ANGELL C R PLYMOUTH FEES 2020 318107719491922001 402534 10 29FEB20 19:49		35	7147.65
02/03/2020	FIELDING DAVID BC20-01 FP20060010103539 070116 10 29FEB20 12:08		95	7112.65
28/02/2020	ANGELL C R BC20-14 PLYMOUTH 909240708432822001 402534 10 28FEB20 23:48		602	7017.65
28/02/2020	SUSU - CLUBS BC20-13 32144535096683000N 601907 40 28FEB20 14:45		508	6415.65
28/02/2020	WARWICK STUDENTS		410	5907.65
27/02/2020	STEPHANIE PANAGI 100000000569039180 CLAIM20200227 070246 10 27FEB20 12:47	360		5497.65
27/02/2020	SOPHIE PIRDDIS 100000000569015140 CLAIM20200227 600203 10 27FEB20 11:47	298.83		5857.65
27/02/2020	SOPHIE PIRDDIS 200000000568920420 CLAIM20200223 600203 10 27FEB20 11:43	295.94		6156.48
27/02/2020	STEPHANIE PANAGI 100000000569011969 CLAIM20200210 070246 10 27FEB20 11:39	1139.8		6452.42
26/02/2020	PANAGI STEPHANIE SPANAGI TSHIRT FP20057005439594 070246 10 26FEB20 18:49		13.5	7592.22
25/02/2020	THOMAS HARRY STRAW BC20 10 000000FT200568KZK3 230580 10 25FEB20 23:34		709.5	7578.72
25/02/2020	B HOLLOWAY BC20-15 SWANSEA 500000000570026772 309199 10 25FEB20 22:57		407	6869.22
24/02/2020	THE UNIVERSITY OF UON STUDENT UNION 5019291256730000N 605094 10 24FEB20 19:29		614	6462.22
21/02/2020	DHP FAMILY LTD DHP BC20-TS		750	5848.22
18/02/2020	FORD S BC20-03 RP4679963340804700 200459 10 18FEB20 22:38		30	5098.22
18/02/2020	CZAJKOWSKA M BC20-11 RP4659981771333200 202360 10 18FEB20 20:51		191.5	5068.22
17/02/2020	SOUTHAMPTON UNIVER BC20-08 200000000565107694 309172 10 16FEB20 15:54		251	4876.72
17/02/2020	GOODWIN E L BC20-04 RP4659981443310900 208513 10 15FEB20 09:19		43	4625.72
13/01/2020	T SHARP SWANSEA MEMBERSHIP 600000000553664513 309894 10 12JAN20 21:52		35	4582.72
10/01/2020	SUSU - CLUBS SHEF STUDENT UNION 13144518947044000N 601907 40 10JAN20 14:45		35	4547.72
02/01/2020	RLSS UK MEMBERSHIP 10013000	68		4512.72
02/01/2020	LOUGHBOROUGH STUDE PPY001656/24		35	4580.72
20/12/2019	SMALLER EARTH LTD CAMP CANADA 16023428196896000R 162406 40 20DEC19 04:20		500	4545.72
17/12/2019	UNIVERSITY OF BRIS UNIVERSITY OF BRIS 13030125810588000N 601712 40 17DEC19 03:02		35	4045.72
11/12/2019	SOUTHAMPTON UNIVER AFFILIATION FEE 500000000542770177 309172 10 11DEC19 18:28		35	4010.72
10/12/2019	THE UNIVERSITY OF UON STUDENT UNION 23030127517772000N 605094 40 10DEC19 03:01		35	3975.72
03/12/2019	SWANN R J BIRMINGHAM FEE RP4679964645921400 207237 10 03DEC19 15:54		35	3940.72

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#### **4.4 Hannah Smallwood, Development Officer**

The BULSCA committee has not received any contact from Hannah since the mid-season GM.

#### **4.5 Jared Wray, Data Manager**

Not received

#### **4.6 Sophie Priddis & Stéphanie Panagi, Championships Coordinators**

##### General

Overall, and we hope that everyone will agree, we feel that Champs this year was a huge success! We feel that we organised the many aspects of the competition at a good pace, and as a result were well prepared for the weekend by the time it came around. The smooth running was also purely down to the work of the officials and helpers, who we still cannot thank enough.

The biggest take away for us, which we think would work well again, was having two coordinators contributing to the work load. Neither of us would have had enough time outside of full time jobs and other commitments if organising the competition solely, but between us we were able to divide jobs equally, playing to personal strengths, and fitting in different tasks around busy-ness at various times of the year.

Communication was important between ourselves, as we live in different parts of the country so didn't see each other in person very frequently like back in the good ol' days. As well as regularly talking via text, we would skype every few weeks as needed to catch up, record progress, discuss next tasks etc. Meetings became more frequent after Christmas, with at least weekly meetings in the 1-2 months leading up to the weekend. As much as we would recommend having 2 coordinators, it will only work if the 2 are able to communicate freely and openly with one another, and able to combine and compromise on personal ideas for the best outcome.

##### Attendance

The event was overall well attended this year, with some competitors from non-BULSCA clubs. A large team attended from Greece, forming a squad from Athens University and a GLSA team. With the new partnership, it is likely that attendees from international Universities will increase in the future.

We were able to advertise the competition date much earlier this year, which we worked hard to do in order to be able to secure enough officials for the event. We have had a lot of positive feedback from officials, most of whom are alumni or not affiliated with BULSCA, for securing and sharing the date so soon as this allowed them to plan their weekends well in advance. We also adjusted the Championships Rulebook to ensure that we would have enough helpers to run the day smoothly. Both these things played a big factor in making the event enjoyable for everyone.

##### Documentation

We created a BULSCA Championships Google account, which we shared with personal accounts also and meant that it was extremely easy for us to access everything we needed and keep up to date with each other, what tasks we were working on and what needed doing. We had a 'Champs Dump' sheet which is where we divided tasks, set deadlines when we needed, and recorded ideas/notes etc. Having a Google drive also meant that we could create a folder which was able to be viewed publicly. It was easy to keep this up to date with information, rulebooks, entry packs etc and any other relevant Champs stuff, it was all in one place and easy to access on most (all?) devices.

Over the course of organising the competition, a lot of documentation is accumulated meaning that the existing dropbox and onedrive is already full, so having extra online storage space is very





useful. We copied a few things that we found useful over to the new drive, but all the old stuff is still available to access.

At the time of writing (15/04/202), scoresheets and results still need to be scanned and uploaded to the drive. Delay in this is due to Sophie picking up keys for new house on the Monday following champs and spending any spare minute (excluding working/eating/sleeping) decorating/ moving. Rest assured it is on the Lockdown To-Do List, and will aim to finish this by handover if not before.

#### Location

All suitable 50m pools were contacted soon after last year's AGM. These included locations we'd been to previously and pools that were more centred. If all of these options were exhausted we would have looked into pools further away from BULSCA clubs. This year, Hengrove was the only pool who responded with availability on one of the 2 weekends that we thought would work well around Easter vacations and other large events. Coventry was the other favourable option however as a new pool was being built for this year, we didn't want to take the risk in booking in case of delays or teething issues. This could be a good option for next year in terms of location for the more northern-based clubs, cost dependent.

We think Bristol is a good location and easily accessible from most areas of the country. Hengrove as a pool is one of the cheaper ones to hire and we think had a good atmosphere, there is also a hotel nearby within walking distance where many of the officials chose to stay.

The community hall we hired for accommodation was great, Lisa and Jo were very accommodating for us and are more than happy to have us back in the future. They would also be able to provide catering for the evening meal, which would work out much cheaper for everyone, and easier to arrange!

#### Merch

As much as we loved our logo, it was very difficult to find merch providers who could print in full colour for an affordable price. Profit made on merchandise was very minimal as we sold it on for near enough cost price. Recommendation for future is to keep branding simple, or so it is able to be easily simplified to 1 or 2 colours.

#### Improvements

Saturday evening meal: we know it was expensive. Trust us when we say that we explored MANY options, in the end we went with a work friend's mum's new business. It would have been great if the community centre mentioned something sooner than Saturday evening but at least we know for future, and at least a small local business was supported.

Timing Scoreboard: sorry we couldn't get this working on the day. The issue was down to miscommunication on both our end and the pool end - they assured us that a member of staff would be able to connect the timing pads to our scoring system but turns out this wasn't the case. The electronic timing was still working and was used and recorded on the day. We have ideas to pass on to the new coordinator(s)/ committee with regard to scoring, and Andrew is going to write some guides on the scoring system to help future scorers.

RLSS recognised: although the event was a recognised RLSS event, a reply to our application of recognition to a while to come and required chasing up. We'd recommend applying and getting confirmation for this as soon as possible. This may allow the opportunity for the event to be used for GBR One Team selection.

#### Sponsorship + Finance



Steph and King-Yee put together a fantastic sponsorship pack to send out to potential sponsors. A sponsorship deal was agreed with Camp Canada, who attended the event and gave some great feedback, they were impressed with the level of skill and competition displayed, and are keen to arrange something next year. There is also another summer camp who are interested in sponsoring next year - there may be some potential for these companies to 'bid' against one another if they wish to have exclusivity in their area again next year. Other sponsors were Thekla, Boost (who sent 240 free energy drinks to hand out over the weekend) and Kind, who came on Saturday and handed out loads of free protein cereal bars.

A majority of the financial sponsorship went towards feeding officials and helpers, which we believe was a very worthwhile investment. Having this extra financial buffer also meant that we didn't raise any entry fees this year, and actually lowered the fee for additional relay teams. We were also able to save a lot of money on the SERCs in the end by having good personal connections. However, pool prices are increasing each year, 50m pools are *-expensive-* to hire for a whole weekend. We would recommend increasing squad entry fees next year to compensate, particularly if the same level of financial sponsorship isn't achieved. We were almost charged £800 more for the pool than what we were initially quoted, we were able to have this waived this year due to different staff at the pool end, but this might not happen again.

Overall we made a good profit which can be used for BULSCA in the next season, whether to purchase the set of competition ropes or to be used towards champs next year. We were careful with finances in case of new costs in the upcoming season(s), insurance being the best example if the RLSS ever decides to stop providing this for us in the future. A detailed financial report from Steph can be found at the end of this report.

#### Dates for next year

After looking at each BULSCA club's University vacation dates, we think that the following weekends could be suitable for hosting the BULSCA Championships next season:

1. 20-21 February
2. 27-28 February *The equivalent weekend worked well for champs this year*
3. 6-7 March
4. 13-14 March (Start of Oxford's Easter vacation)
5. 20-21 March (Start of Southampton and Warwick Easter Vacations)
6. 1-2 May (End of Loughborough's Easter Vacation)
7. 8-9 May

It is always worth liaising with RLSS/ SLSGB/ SLSCA Wales to find out when their Nationals are, as this may affect attendance of both competitors and officials, particularly if on the same weekend or on a consecutive weekend. This may also affect the ability to book a pool. There are currently no advertised dates released yet for next year's events, but it is possible that they already have a provisional booking/ date in mind. We think that the most ideal weekend would be 6-7 March as this doesn't clash with any BULSCA Universities' vacation dates. Later dates in May are included if required, however these would not be ideal as clubs would not have been able to train as effectively in the lead up and may encroach on summer revision and assessment periods.

(See 'Championships Finances Document for further information)

## **4.7 King Yee Cheung, Communications Officer**

### **Introduction**

The role of BULSCA Communications Officer has been a rewarding experience and allowed me to utilise my previous Publicity Officer skills from my time on UoSLSC's committee to get involved



with lifesaving from a different perspective. The aims I set out to achieve were to keep our members updated with the latest BULSCA news, as well as to promote university lifesaving to the wider community. This season I have taken a rather new and different approach to this role and I am happy with the positive results.

### **Accomplishments**

#### *BULSCA Championships*

This year I have worked closely with the Championships Co-coordinators to reach out to the wider community and to help improve the Championships experience. This was a new approach for this role. I created an official BULSCA Championships sponsorship pack that was targeted at several businesses. As a result of this sponsorship pack and large social media following, Stéphanie and Sophie successfully landed four sponsors. This went towards making Champs a better experience for all competitors, officials, and helpers (please see their officer report for more information). Most importantly, these partnerships create valuable links between university lifesaving and large businesses and promote lifesaving to the wider community. Since November, I have liaised closely with the social media team at Camp Canada to fulfil the agreements of our sponsorship. Hopefully the results from this will also help BULSCA financially over the next year.

#### *BULSCA Social Media*

To carry on the work of my predecessors, I have been updating our social media pages frequently, mostly via sharing all your news and successes on our Instagram story. Our most interacted with social media post was the International Women's Day post! I have also managed our mailing list and sent out all relevant emails on time on everyone's behalf. We briefly had some technical issues with the BULSCA website, so I was unable to update this for a long time, but it is now up and running again.

As of 17<sup>th</sup> March, we had: 506 likes on Facebook, 583 members in our Facebook group, 719 followers on Twitter, 347 followers on Instagram, and 84 subscribers to our mailing list. These numbers are continually increasing, so thank you to everyone who has been supporting and following BULSCA communications.

### **Other considerations**

At the time of running for this role (at the AGM in 2019), I did not anticipate that I would be starting a PhD in the following few months. I would've therefore liked to have done more with the role but considering the time restraints due to my academic commitments, I am happy with what I have achieved.

I'm glad I decided to focus on the sponsorship side of things as this is quite new for BULSCA and will definitely help us develop in the long run. To help clubs in the future, I will send out the template for the sponsorship brochure so you can try and create your own.

However, had I have had more time, I would've chosen to write more post-comp reports and articles for the RLSS magazines, and would've even liked to have created a collaborative promo video for university lifesaving. This is something for future Communications Officers to think about.

For anyone thinking about running for BULSCA Communications Officer in the future: this role is perfect for anyone who sits around on Facebook or scrolls through Instagram all day, just like me! It doesn't take too much time out of your studies and is definitely a rewarding experience.

### **4.8 Joshua Hale, Recruitment Officer**

Please see report in Appendix A.



## **5 BULSCA Committee Officer Elections**

### **5.1 Chair**

Candidates: Ben Barker

Ben is elected BULSCA Chair.

### **5.2 Secretary**

Candidates: Michael Kirkham

Michael is elected BULSCA Secretary.

### **5.3 Treasurer**

Candidates: Emma Smith

Emma is elected BULSCA Treasurer.

### **5.4 Club Development Officer**

Candidates: Emily Goodwin and Ellie Murray

Emily is elected BULSCA Club Development Officer.

### **5.5 Data Manager**

Candidates: Jared Wray

Jared is elected BULSCA Data Manager.

### **5.6 Championships Coordinator**

Candidates: Julia Whitworth and Ellie Murray (Joint)

Julia and Ellie are elected as Joint Championships Coordinators.

### **5.7 Communications Officer**

Candidates: Richard Evans and Adam Lane

Adam is elected as BULSCA Communications Officer.

### **5.8 Club Recruitment Officer**

Candidates: Ellie Lavelle

Ellie is elected BULSCA Recruitment Officer.

## **6 Competition Applications for the 2020/2021 Season**

With the current lockdown, we are going to vote on the league as if it will take place normally, but the next committee will need to take things as they come, possible change which comp is freshers comp if first comp is cancelled. Clubs can re-apply for competition hosting if theirs are cancelled.

Many clubs have accrued large fines this year for missing competition deadlines. Due to this, the BULSCA committee plan to fine 20% of total fines earned and send out a document detailing them. If this happens again next year, then fines should be applied. The fine details are listed in the manual, please inform your competition secretaries.

### **6.1 Allocation of Freshers Competition**

Applicants: University of Bristol and University of Nottingham.



Michael: Nottingham, why don't you ask other clubs for equipment so you don't run medley? Medley is not recommended as a freshers event.

Nottingham: Our club don't have the kit, but could borrow it.

Emily G: Masters Nationals is the weekend of the 24th, could cause problems with judges.

Multiple clubs: Would prefer a later date for the competition in order to allow for more preparation.

Nottingham amended the preferred date to 7th of November.

Bristol amend their preferred date to November 7th

Bristol are voted to host the Freshers comp

## **6.2 League Competition Allocations**

**Loughborough:** see application

Michael: why are you making a £200 loss?

Loughborough: because the pool is expensive, but this loss is covered by our budget with the union

**Birmingham:** See application

Looking at different accommodation from previous years to better meet demand.

**Warwick:** See application

**Southampton:** See application

**Sheffield:** Amend preferred date to avoid RLSS nationals. 28<sup>th</sup>.November, then 21st

Michael: Why are you predicting a £160 loss?

Sheffield: The sheet is not necessarily accurate in calculating based on our expenditures. This year made a £60 profit. Probably similar.

**Nottingham:** See proposal

Calendar proposed by algorithm:

Bristol Freshers'	07/11/2020
RLSS Nationals	14/11/2020
Nottingham	28/11/2020
Birmingham	05/12/2020
Warwick	06/02/2021
Southampton	20/02/2021
Loughborough	24/04/2021

Sheffield is not allocated a competition.

The calendar is accepted.

## **7 Discussion of Proposals**

Are going to discuss proposal 1, then hold questions, then 2 and hold questions, then discuss both in tandem if necessary. The vote will be held using STV with a simple majority.

Unfortunately, during the discussion the Secretary had connection issues, so the discussion may not be complete, but the final details are accurate.



## **7.1 League Structure Reform 1**

See Appendix B.

Michael: Why 10 teams per league?

Ben B: based on previous competition years

Adam L: 33 different counting teams this year, so split that way

Notts: How will this make things fairer and more competitive? Our teams are rarely the same from comp to comp. How will this affect smaller clubs like this?

Ben B: team doesn't have to have the same members for every competition.

## **7.2 League Structure Reform 2**

Ellie: see Appendix C.

Bristol: Would it be better to be able to choose which league you enter with each comp, as choosing at the start of the year could prevent clubs from reaching their potential.

Ellie: to prevent folks playing the system. This was designed to be a more minor change to address the problem.

Adam Lane: If only 3 clubs have sent a B team to every comp, then if we change the system, only 3 teams will enter the A league.

Ellie: Would be no change from our current system where only half the leagues have teams regularly competing. With improvement B clubs could move to compete in A. And why would clubs choose to not compete in both if they can?

**Amendment** proposed by Bristol: *Clubs register for A and B league at the start of the year meaning that you enter 1 team into the A league and the rest into the B league at competitions. Unless only 1 team can be entered at a competition where the club decides which league to enter. Non-counting teams would not be affected.*

*Affiliation fees paid to BULSCA would remain the same.*

*Clubs should submit which league/s they are entering prior to the deadline of team entry for each competition.*

Amendment rejected by Ellie

Vote by clubs: **Amendment accepted**

Amendment proposed by Ben Barker.

Abolish league structure entirely.

Amendment rejected unanimously by Ellie and clubs.

Vote conducted on both proposals (including 'reject both') by STV.

Amended proposal 2 is accepted.

Emily Goodwin: League structure might be something good to look at as part of Josh's offered review of BULSCA (see AoB).





### **7.3 League Structure Reform 3**

Rejected in online vote.

### **7.4 League Counting Team Application**

Rejected in online vote.

### **7.5 Competition Results and Awards Reform**

Proposal retracted due to rejection of proposal 1.

### **7.6 Officials Uniform Update**

Rejected in online vote.

## **8 Date of Next Meeting**

Suggested mid-season GM for Birmingham or Warwick competition, depending on availability.

## **9 Notices from BULSCA Committee**

Jamie Roberts has joined the BULSCA Judges Panel for next year. Please submit an application to join to the BULSCA committee if you are interested. We need more applicants to ensure smooth running of the league

For the BULSCA Awards, the recipients are:

BULSCA Club of the Year: University of Bristol Club

BULSCA Sportsperson of the Year: James Blaby

BULSCA Volunteer of the Year: Ben Prime

## **10 Any Other Business**

Joshua Hale: My formal offer to BULSCA is a full review of BULSCA; Aims, objectives, how everything is run. Through facilitated workshops to reform BULSCA for the future. Aiming to modernise and re-centred in student voice.

Chris Quinn (University of Warwick) has developed simple to use, effective training SERC producing software. Please get in touch with him to access it to use or training.

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## Appendix A:

### Review of the BULSCA Club Recruitment Officer

We are now 2 years into 3 of trialling this new role to see if we can attract more clubs to BULSCA. I have been successful in identifying and establishing contact with one student led club at Falmouth and Exeter (FXU) down in Cornwall. They are interested in signing up to BULSCA but as of yet the haven't actually joined. There have been many other leads such as Exeter, Manchester, Leeds and clubs in Ireland. All of which fell through. Student start interested but then drop off and stop replying. I have spent 2 years working on variety of actions and it's clear that it's a lot of work for little results.

#### Looking forward what needs to happen?

- Establish a step by step pack that's user friendly and accessible on how to set up a club. Including what is a lifesaving club and the benefits of having one.
- Establish a working group of members of the community who can assist in setting up clubs
- Lobby RLSS to prioritise the creation, ongoing support and development of clubs. RLSS REM (Regional Engagement Managers previous CDPC's) regularly go into Universities and work with Students Unions. Either supporting the creation or signposting to BULSCA to support the creation, because having a club will significantly support in drowning prevention campaigns and education.
- Encourage clubs to talk to Alumni who maybe doing further studies at different Universities to encourage others to set up a club(s)
- Reach out to community clubs in University Locations to see if they could facilitate a student arm to the club.
- Overhaul the whole of BULSCA to reinvigorate the passion for student leadership in lifesaving.

#### History of why we this was proposed

We are losing clubs faster than we are recruiting them. BULSCA needs to have an individual dedicated to the task of supporting the creation and recruitment of new clubs. This will provide better competition and an expansion for student lifesaving. We currently have had 10 clubs compete this year and there are over 100 universities in the UK. We currently reach less than a 10th of Universities and need to recruit more or face the possibility of dissolving in the years to come. Student lifesaving teams also bring a lot to drowning prevention and our expansion will only positively benefit the cause that is close to all members. Since 2009 we have lost, Aberdeen, St Andrews, Bath and in their place only recruited Sheffield.

#### Role duties (specific to role)

- Facilitate the induction of new clubs in to BULSCA (none to join)
- Develop and maintain recruitment documents and procedures (Done now need to maintain)
- Actively seek to support the creation of new BULSCA clubs (ongoing)
- Support new clubs in their first 2 years (none)

I appreciate this is a short document, but I firmly believe in short and to the point (when writing) to ensure its accessible please free to ask any questions.

**Joshua Hale Club Recruitment Officer 2018-2020**



## Appendix B: League Structure Reform 1

<b>Is this an Online Voting Proposal or a General Meeting Proposal?</b>
General Meeting
<b>Proposer Name and Position</b>
Ben Barker - Official
<b>Second Name and Position</b>
Adam Lane - Official
<b>Aim – What do you want to achieve?</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A league structure that encourages a fairer and more competitive environment for all levels of ability throughout the whole BULSCA League Season.</li> <li>2. A league structure that more closely aligns us with other sporting institutions, e.g. BUCS or the Football League.</li> </ol>
<b>Background – What do we need to know to consider the proposal?</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Currently the leagues are separated into A-League, which only contains the “A-Team” from each club, and B-League, which contains every other counting team. The B-League therefore has a wider variety of abilities as well as having the potential to be nearly three times the size of the A-League.</li> <li>2. To be an “A-Team”, the requirements are to be the first counting team of a club, meaning the A-league is not necessarily representative of the highest sporting ability within BULSCA.</li> <li>3. In recent competitions, there have been B-Teams and C-Teams which have scored higher than A-Teams, including B-Teams that have even won a competition.</li> <li>4. There are teams who do not feel the competitive benefit of competing in every competition. The difference in ability levels means that for some teams the outcome of a competition results in little gain in terms of league positioning.</li> <li>5. So far in this BULSCA season there have been 33 league-counting teams.</li> </ol>
<b>Proposal Details – What, specifically, do you want to do?</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Abolish the current A-League and B-League.</li> <li>2. Create three new leagues. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The leagues will be named Division 1, Division 2 and Division 3. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The first league, Division 1, must contain ten teams, per season.</li> <li>ii. The second league, Division 2, must contain ten teams, per season.</li> <li>iii. The third league, Division 3, shall contain all remaining league-counting teams, per season.</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. The positions of teams within a league will be decided by a point system. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. At each competition, the teams are ranked against all other teams in an overall ranking only.</li> <li>ii. At each competition, the highest scoring team from each league will receive 10 points. The second highest scoring teams will receive 9 points. This continues so that the lowest scoring teams from each league receives 1 point.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>



- iii. Where a league has more than ten teams, the tenth lowest scoring team through to the bottom scoring team from that league, all receive 1 point for that competition.
- iv. If a team, in any league, does not attend a competition, they receive 0 points for that competition.
- v. If a team, in any league, is deemed non-counting by the BULSCA requirements, they receive 0 points for that competition.
- vi. The more points a team has, the higher the team is placed within the league. The team with the most points is ranked highest.
- vii. If two or more teams have the same number of points as each other, then the team with the higher number of 1<sup>st</sup> placings will be placed higher in the league. If the number of 1<sup>st</sup> placings through the season is equal, then the team with the higher number of 2<sup>nd</sup> placings is placed higher. This repeats until the order has been decided. If the order is still undecided, then the total score of each competition, is summed and then will decide the league positions. If the order is still undecided, the position will be decided by a coin toss by the BULSCA Committee Chair.
- viii. At the beginning of each season, every team's accrued points revert to zero.
- c. The leagues shall have a promotion system.
  - i. The three highest placed teams from the second league will be promoted to the first league at the end of the BULSCA season.
  - ii. The three highest placed teams from the third league will be promoted to the second league at the end of the BULSCA season.
- d. The leagues shall have a relegation system.
  - i. The three lowest placed teams from the first league will be relegated to the second league at the end of the BULSCA season.
  - ii. The three lowest placed teams from the second league will be relegated to the third league at the end of the BULSCA season.
- e. Teams that do not compete for a year will then re-enter in the lowest league, regardless of previous seasons performances. Previous seasons performance will only come into consideration for mitigating circumstances or when there are enough teams that more leagues are deemed necessary. All decisions relating to the re-entry of a team are at the discretion of the BULSCA Committee whose decision is final.

#### Timetable and Actions – What do we need to do?

Action	Deadline
Vote on proposal.	AGM
Rank and divide all teams from the 2019/20 season on overall results.	Aug 2020
Announce new league structure.	Sept 2020
Enforce and monitor for the 2020/21 season.	June 2021



## Appendix C: League Structure Reform 2

### Is this an Online Voting Proposal or a General Meeting Proposal?

General Meeting

### Proposer Name and Position

Ellie Murray, Sheffield

### Second Name and Position

King Yee Cheung, BULSCA (Communications) / Sheffield (Publicity)

### Aim – What do you want to achieve?

To remove the requirement for clubs to enter an A league team before being able to enter a B league team in order to increase competition in the B league and encourage development.

### Background – What do we need to know to consider the proposal?

The BULSCA league conventionally operates on a system which requires clubs to first enter an A team to a competition before being able to enter a B team.

The main problems with this system are summarised as follows:

- It makes the B league less competitive, as placing is determined not on clubs' performance alone but also 'who can find 8 members to compete' - which is biased against smaller clubs;
- It enables clubs who do enter 2 teams for a competition to enter their 'weaker' team as A in order to enter a 'competitive' B team - essentially swapping what should be their A and B teams;
- It means that members who have \*exclusively\* competed for a B team throughout the season can be "poached" for the A team at a competition because the club could not enter 8 members - this is demoralising for B team competitors as it implies their league "doesn't matter" when compared to the A league.

Our system means that many clubs with few members - who frequently have a smaller pool of less-experienced members - are forced to compete with larger clubs who are generally performing at a higher level. It enables and encourages these less-developed clubs to scrape together 8 members and enter their highest performing 4 as a B team and the remaining 4 as an A team.

The league structure also means our B league places are currently not achieved purely on performance, but also on which clubs can consistently scrape together 8+ members to attend a competition. Only 3 of the 8 clubs in this year's B league have managed to enter a B team to every competition.

Essentially the setup gives an advantage only to clubs who are able to consistently enter 2 teams, since they are allowed to compete with the "best" as well as the "less-experienced" level - whereas clubs with fewer members can only compete with the "best". This is not the case for other University sports, where clubs can enter the league most appropriate to their level.

### Proposal Details – What, specifically, do you want to do?

The specific proposal is that:

- Clubs will enter the league/s via email to [league@bulsca.co.uk](mailto:league@bulsca.co.uk) before the freshers' competition entry deadline.
- Registering with the A+B leagues means that a club must enter 1 team at a competition into the A league. All other teams must be entered into the B league.



- Registering with the B league means that a club can only enter teams into the B league\*.
- Non-counting teams would not be affected as they do not count towards leagues.
- Affiliation fees paid to BULSCA would remain the same from clubs, regardless of which league/s they enter, to ensure clubs who want to compete in B only act in good faith and that BULSCA's finances are not affected.

*\* This would be the only change to our current system, which requires clubs to enter one A league team before entering as many B league teams as possible.*

**Add rule 2.2.3.1.1. :**

*2.2.3.1.1. Clubs should submit which league/s they will enter (A+B or B only) to [league@bulzca.co.uk](mailto:league@bulzca.co.uk) before the deadline of team entry for freshers' competition.*

**Amend rule 2.2.3.3. :**

*2.2.3.3. Multiple teams from a university registered for the A and B leagues shall be differentiated with a letter after the BULSCA approved team name, following the sequence:*

- *University Lifesaving Club A;*
- *University Lifesaving Club B;*
- *University Lifesaving Club C; and so on.*

**Add rule 2.2.3.3.1. :**

*2.2.3.3.1. Multiple teams from Universities registered for the B league only shall be differentiated following the sequence:*

- *University Lifesaving Club B;*
- *University Lifesaving Club C;*
- *University Lifesaving Club D; and so on.*

**Motivation – Why are you proposing this?**

This proposal suggests that clubs be allowed to choose to enter either both A+B leagues or the B league only when paying affiliation fees at the start of the season.

The benefits of this proposal:

- Stops preventing smaller clubs from placing well in the B league at the end of the season if they could not enter 8 members at all competitions;
- Allows clubs to plan ahead as to their strategy for the season - i.e. if many experienced members are graduating, a club could decide to focus efforts on the B league and development instead of being forced to enter A league first;
- It would not affect clubs who wish to enter the A league.

One criticism of the proposal is that there would be nothing to stop a high-performing club dominating the B league by registering as B league-only. However, as demonstrated by the current league results, it would be of no benefit for such a club to do so since the top 3 clubs in the B league are also the top 3 in the A league.

**Timetable and Actions – What do we need to do?**

Action	Deadline
Amend rule 2.2.3.3.	Before next season
Add rule 2.2.3.3.1.	Before next season