**Michaelmas Term CUCBC Captains’ meeting**

Sunday, 2 October, 2022

Virtual meeting

Attendees: Luke Barratt (CUCBC/ former FaT Captain), Cat Darsley (CUCBC/ former Lucy Cavendish Men’s Captain), Luke Pattison (CUCBC), Limeng Zhu (CUCBC/ former Girton Captain); Representatives from: Addenbrooke’s BC, Christ’s, Churchill, Clare, Clare Hall, Corpus Christi, CUBC, Darwin, Downing, Emmanuel, First and Third Trinity, Fitzwilliam, Girton, Gonville & Caius, Homerton, Hughes Hall, Jesus, King’s, Lady Margaret BC, Lucy Cavendish, Magdalene, Pembroke, Peterhouse, Queens’, Selwyn, Sidney Sussex, St Catherine’s, St Edmund’s, Trinity Hall, Vet School BC, Wolfson

*Not present – ARU, Murray Edwards, Newnham, Robinson*

1. No apologies were received.
2. Committee introductions

Limeng Zhu (LZ) chaired the meeting and introduced himself as a member of the CUCBC committee. Cat Darsley is Hon Sec this year and can be contacted with items for the agenda of future meetings. Luke Barratt is Events Sec.

Captains were reminded that the best contact for the Committee is the general email – committee@cucbc.org.

1. Michaelmas Term reminders

LZ noted that the role of these meetings is to flag rule changes and key reminders for clubs, and for captains to discuss potential rule changes and issues that they’ve had. CUCBC’s priority for MT is to facilitate a smooth-running term with both seniors and novices using the river. The CUCBC committee consists of student and alumni volunteers with an interest in keeping collegiate rowing going with minimal issues.

**All captains, coaches and coxes should be aware of key rules in the CUCBC handbook:** <http://www.cucbc.org/handbook>

Full term starts Tuesday, 4th October. CUCBC rules are relevant from then:

1. Early morning noise: there should be no coaching above the railway bridge before 07.30am, and no excessive calls from coxes. The first priority is to maintain safety, but we want to avoid noise disturbances to riverside house and houseboat owners.
2. Early Morning Marshalls (EMMs): these have been posted on the CUCBC website (homepage, righthand column, and [here](http://www.cucbc.org/marshals)) and start from 10th October.
	1. Two representatives should be in place from various Colleges each morning; please get there at least 5 minutes before lighting down.
	2. The EMM selected should be competent and aware of river rules. If fines are queried then CUCBC will contact the awarding EMM.
	3. Make a note of every College / university club boat that passes and every infringement of rules that you notice.
	4. Instructions are online, and EMM sheets should be downloaded. These can be printed or amended virtually. They need to be returned as per the instructions on the day of recording.
3. Lights on boats: ensure all boats pushing off within 15 minutes of lighting down are wearing lights, or all boats when foggy or visibility is otherwise poor. A clearly visible static light is required to be attached to the bow and stern of the boat – not a headtorch or jacket so that it remains visible despite movement of crew or cox.

***Please note:*** *town clubs may use different light systems, eg. a white light on the bow and a red AND white light on the stern.*

1. Flag and lighting up/down rules: The flag will be operational soon. Please pay attention to it! The flag won’t be changed more than once every couple of hours, and CUCBC will try to give notice the night before where the weather forecast requires it.

***Please note:***Coaches and coxes must exercise their own judgement about whether their crew is safe to boat, even if the flag is green. A green flag is not a license that everyone should go out: consider whether, for example, a novice crew and novice cox would struggle in the conditions (eg. because of wind). Safety should be their first concern.

Lighting rules: ensure all coaches and coxes know the specific push-off time relevant to their outing. In MT, novices are not allowed to boat before 07.30 or 15 minutes after lighting down, whichever is later (the point is to allow senior crews to get as far down the river as possible first).

1. Insurance notification reminder: all clubs must update this on the CUCBC website (this is a good chance to see if you can log in – you’ll need this for Uni Fours and Bumps entries!)
2. From the CUCBC Coxes’ Rep: you need coxes! Please give early thought to recruiting coxes and training them up. There have been issues in the last couple of years where coxes entered have been on the borderline of being allowed to sub in or race Bumps.
3. General reminders
	1. Students who are intermitting: eligibility rules for CUCBC-run races states that all rowers and coxes must be in *statu pupillari*, or have received approval from the CUCBC Executive Committee ([see here](http://www.cucbc.org/handbook/racing/general)). Intermitting does not prevent training with College or town club crews.
	2. Small boats: see [Rule 14](http://www.cucbc.org/handbook/rules/restrictions). It is recommended for single sculls to have a bank rider for at least 10 outings. Coxless IVs and quadruple sculls must have a banksteerer at all times, inside and outside Full Term.
4. Upcoming events

- Rob Roy Small Boats Head: 8 October (entries deadline 3rd October, [info here](https://robroyboatclub.net/events-2/rob-roy-small-boats-head))

- Uni Fours: w/b 31 October (entries open soon, details to follow)

- Queen’s Ergs: 6 November in the afternoon (back inside this year)

- Cantabs Winter Head: 12 November (details to follow but eights, fours and quads in British Rowing and Student categories, [watch this space](https://cantabsrowing.org.uk/events/))

- Emma Sprints: 20 November (email out soonish)

- Clare Novice Regatta: 26 November (email out soonish)

- Fairbairns: 1 and 2 December

1. Eligibility exceptions: [more info here](http://www.cucbc.org/handbook/racing/general) (applies to CUCBC-run events only – mainly Bumps and Uni Fours). Please email the committee.
2. Reminder of new spinning zone: this trial is for this term only, with a discussion to follow at the Lent Captains’ meeting to decide whether to continue. It was proposed to support novice crews in being legally able to have shorter outings in order to finish their outing in time for lectures etc, and to be able to train between Jesus Lock and the boathouses.
	1. Priority is to be given to crews boating/ returning to boathouses between Caius and Christ’s.
	2. Ensure that houseboats are avoided at all times, and that coxes know how to manoeuvre.
	3. This is a new rule: please ensure that all coaches are aware!
	4. It was clarified that this rule is for weekday mornings only, before 08.30.

Trial rule (revised):

**28. As a trial, for Michaelmas term 2022 only and during weekday mornings before 8.30am, novice boats travelling downstream only may spin between Caius and Christs' boathouses, with priority given to boathouses between the spinning zones. This is to be reassessed at the next available captain’s meeting following the trial.**

1. AOB
	1. British Rowing rules on swimming ability have been updated. CUCBC will discuss how this may affect its rules in this area, and how these rules apply to coxes.
	2. A question was raised over whether CUCBC plan to review its policies for trans\* and non-binary athletes, following British Rowing’s recent updates. Peterhouse will submit a proposal to be discussed at the Lent Captains’ meeting.
	3. Felix from CUBC shared the following with captains: CUBC are keen to support college rowing this year. Please contact him at adminsec@cubc.org.uk if they can help in any way. The Development Squad will be run by Autumn Mantell (Women’s Assistant Coach) and Bill Lucas (Men’s Assistant Coach), who will be in touch with captains shortly. Some triallists will soon be returning to college rowing; please let Felix know if there are any welfare issues. He wished clubs good luck for the year.

Additional Note: Captains should be aware that CUCBC will be keeping an eye on how busy the river is getting this term, regarding future rule changes to help keep crews moving easily ([See Rule 8](http://www.cucbc.org/handbook/rules/restrictions)).