

## Item 1: Welcome

The RE Chair welcomed everyone to the first full general meeting of the Recreation Sector in the 2020/21 academic year. Those present were:

| CSP                      | Role       | Name                       | CSP                | Role                         | Name                          |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| -                        | Chair      | Adam Turner                | -                  | Communications Officer       | Sophie Peng                   |
| -                        | Treasurer  | Ferdinand Krammer          | -                  | Equipment Officer            | Susan Rutter                  |
| <b>Appreciation</b>      | Vice Chair | Zhin Tan                   |                    |                              |                               |
| Alternative Music        | Chair      | Saajan Shah                | SCC Film           | Chair<br>Treasurer           | George Ordish<br>Yasmine Chan |
| AnimeSoc                 | Ambassador | Zhin Tan                   | Sci Fi             | Chair                        | Matthew Legg                  |
| Book Club                | President  | Matteo Di Venti            |                    |                              |                               |
| <b>Exploration</b>       | Vice Chair | <i>vacant</i>              |                    |                              |                               |
| Canoe                    | President  | Cameron Stanislawski-Doyle | Pilots             | President                    | Kristoff Ahlner               |
| Caving                   | Chair      | Oonagh Barker              | RCC Mountaineering | Chair                        | Ciaran Dowds                  |
| Gliding                  | Captain    | Antoine Aulnette           | Surf               | Vice Chair<br>Tour Secretary | Ivy Li<br>Rowan Hedgecock     |
| Outdoor                  | Chair      | William Morton             | Underwater         | Chair                        | Michael Sims                  |
| <b>Games and Hobbies</b> | Vice Chair | Wasim Ahmed                |                    |                              |                               |
| Bridge                   | Chair      | Ryan Tan                   | Quiz               | Treasurer                    | Susan Rutter                  |
| eSports                  | Chair      | Gordon Lee                 | RCC Chess          | Vice Chair                   | Wasim Ahmed                   |
| KnitSock                 | Chair      | Lucia Bustamante Vizcarra  | Skate              | Chair<br>Treasurer           | Josh Moody<br>Sophie Peng     |
| Magic                    | Chair      | Isabella Breslin           | Tabletop Gaming    | Chairentity                  | Kay Parker-Hunt               |
| <b>Vehicles</b>          | Vice Chair | Ammar Chaudhry             |                    |                              |                               |
| RCS Motor                | Chair      | Ammar Chaudhry             | Vehicle Design     | Chair<br>Treasurer           | Irene Saiz Foster Ng          |
| RSM Motor Club           | Captain    | Yasen Petiov Batev         | VVMC               | Chair<br>Derrick Rider       | Peter Torok<br>Andrew Beggs   |

Also present: Stephanie Yeung

Not present: ArtSoc, Baking, Botanical, Rock and Metal, Tea Society, Fellwanderers, Skydiving, Wilderness Medicine, Wakeboarding, Game Development, Gaming, Mahjong, Poker, RCC Juggling, RCC Yoga, Snooker & Pool, Table Football

## **Item 2: Apologies**

No apologies were received.

## **Item 3: Standing Orders**

The RE Chair advised the Committee that work on the standing orders was continuing and they will be brought to the March meeting.

## **Item 4: By-elections**

No nominations were received for any of the positions before the meeting. No nominations were received from the floor of the meeting. However, the Underwater Club Chair said that they would consider running for the position.

Anybody interested in running for the position of Secretary, Vice Chair Exploration or Events Officer should email the RE Chair with their nomination. An electronic vote will be arranged.

**Action: Club chairs to advertise the RE Sector roles available to their memberships and committees. Nominations to be sent to [re.chair@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:re.chair@imperial.ac.uk).**

## **Item 5: Club dormancy and inactivity**

No objections were received to merging RE Botanical with KN Environmental (assuming the latter is happy to do so).

The Alternative Music Chair agreed to allow the RE Chair to suggest to NAC merging REA Rock and Metal into REA Alternative Music.

It was discussed which society it would be best to merge REE Wilderness Medicine into, given that multiple clubs run outdoor first aid courses. The Equipment Officer pointed out that Wilderness Medicine is in debt, so the money is not an issue. The Outdoor Club Chair asked if Wilderness Medicine has any other resources or knowledge which could be of use to another club. The RE Chair advised that the society has not had a committee in several years, and to his knowledge has no equipment. At the request of the Committee, the RE Chair will email members of REE Wilderness Medicine notifying them that the society will become inactive if no viable plan for the society is presented.

**Action: RE Chair to email REE Wilderness Medicine members**

The Magic Society Chair and the RE Chair will coordinate to organise an EGM to elect a full committee of the society. The Magic Society Chair also agreed to the proposal to merge RCC Juggling into the Magic Society, which the RE Chair will propose at NAC.

**Action: RE Chair to email Magic Society Chair about EGM**

Two students, Stephanie Yeung and Yasmine Chan, expressed an interest in restarting the Mahjong Society. The RE Chair said he would be happy to help in getting the society going again and electing a

committee but expressed concerns about low membership numbers. It was pointed out that prospective members do not want to buy membership to a society with no committee for *this* academic year to resurrect it for *next* academic year. It was discussed that membership could be reduced to zero this academic year to allow access to elections, or that membership purchased this year could carry over to the next. RE Chair will also speak to Stephanie and Yasmine about whether they would want to join the committee this academic year rather than next year.

**Action: RE Chair to speak to DPCS about how to “break the circle” of students not buying membership for a society which has no committee in one year, which then leads to no committee for the next year either.**

**Action: RE Chair to email Stephanie and Yasmine about next steps.**

No objections were made to the proposal for the RE Chair to reach out to the two REG Table Football members to discuss the future of the Club – it is currently dormant. If no viable future for the Club is found, the RE Chair will recommend to NAC that the Club is made inactive.

**Action: RE Chair to email REG Table Football members**

## **Item 6: Inactive Clubs**

The RE Chair advised the Committee that there are many inactive (closed) clubs which have similar purposes to currently active ones. A list has been compiled and Clubs should consider if any of these old clubs have a similar purpose to theirs. If they wish to absorb them, they should email the RE Chair.

**Action: Club chairs to review the list of inactive clubs and identify any which they might wish to absorb**

The Equipment Officer pointed out that Clubs may be keener to merge with an inactive Club if they have an idea of how much (if any) money that Club has in its account. The RE Chair agreed.

**Action: RE Chair to compile list of inactive clubs alongside their account balance (if any)**

The RE Treasurer said that the role of REE RCC Exploration in the past was to arrange talks from across the Exploration clubs and to generally contribute to the activities of the Exploration Mini MG as a whole. The RE Chair suggested this could be done by the RE Sector, through the Vice Chair Exploration and meetings of the Exploration Mini MG. It was raised by the RE Treasurer that there could be a statutory role for RCC Exploration in the College’s Exploration Board grants. There were no objections to the plan of merging RCC Exploration into the RE Sector (if it is possible), and ringfencing the funds such that they can only be spent on Exploration MMG activities.

**Action: RE Chair to check if RCC Exploration has a requirement to exist, if not to propose merger with Recreation Sector at NAC**

The Vice Chair Vehicle brought up RCC Racing Green as a possible candidate for merging into REV Vehicle Design. However, it was suggested by the Chair of the VVMC (Team Bo’) that Imperial still has a Racing Green team, run as a part of CGCU Racing. The RE Chair agreed that this may be a more appropriate club for RCC Racing Green to merge into, if it is run as an ICU CSP rather than through College.

**Action: RE Chair to bring up RCC Racing Green at NAC**

The Sci-Fi Chair raised a question about how existing clubs are consulted when new ones are formed. The RE Chair advised that NAC should consider this in the application stage, but because NAC does not have a representative from all MGs, sometimes things slip through the net. Ultimately if a new society cannot get enough members because they overlap too much with an existing one, they will not graduate from the incubator. If the existing society is the one that is suffering, then NAC would consider amalgamating the two when the new society graduates from the incubator.

## **Item 7: Budgeting**

The RE Chair answered a few questions before running a demonstration of how to create an activity budget and set membership target and cost.

Budgeting should be done assuming COVID-19 is over.

Aims and objectives will be taken from club constitutions, rather than being filled out on eActivities.

### **Action: Club chairs to check that the club's constitution has up to date aims and objectives**

The RE Chair then ran a demonstration of the Annual Budgeting PowerApp, including how to access it, set up your membership quota and price, and some activity budgets.

The budgeting app must be accessed from the club email account. The RE Chair explained the importance of checking this now so that there is plenty of time to resolve technical issues. Password resets needs to go through DPFS which can slow things down.

### **Action: Club chairs to check they have access to the club email account and the annual budgeting app**

Committees should use the **20/21** year in the dropdown menu. The year indicates the year in which the budget is being written, rather than year it is for.

Activated/Deactivated status indicates whether you wish for that activity budget to be considered as a part of the overall budget. Any activity budgets with deactivated status will not count towards total income or expenditure, nor will they be eligible for grant.

The RE Chair reminded all present that will inevitably be things which will need clarifying or changing, so please start your budgets as soon as you can so that we have time to go through them and help you write the best one that you can!

## **Item 8: Club Finance**

The RE Chair is in the process of notifying clubs which have frozen accounts of how to defrost them. In short, clubs should check that they have completed affiliations, instructors and risk assessment on eActivities, and that all committee members have completed training quizzes and have bought membership. Affiliations and instructors can be submitted blank if these don't apply to you.

Clubs were reminded that ADF is taking applications, and there are multiple criteria which an application can fall under. The RE Treasurer reminded clubs that if you are applying for reinstatement of any grant which has been withdrawn as a part of the COVID readjustment to include this in your ADF application.

Grant readjustments have not yet been applied on eActivities. The Gliding Captain asked when this would be done, as they have some upcoming large expenditure. The RE Chair didn't know.

## **Action: RE Chair to chase up COVID grant readjustments**

### **Item 9: AoB**

The only topic brought up during AoB was CSP elections. One question was regarding the timetable. The RE Chair confirmed that this will be the same as the Leadership elections. The timetable for leadership elections is at <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/your-union/leadership-elections-2021>.

The Surf society raised an issue that they have significantly reduced membership numbers compared to previous years, and thus their electorate and potential nominee pool is much smaller than it would be usually. Members of the Club from previous years have not bought membership this year due to COVID, and instead the membership is essentially first years and the club's committee.

The same issues encountered by Surf society are happening with many societies e.g. Caving, Gliding, Underwater, and Sci-Fi.

The Committee agreed that it is not fair to expect students to buy membership to a CSP simply to access elections. The fee should be about access to a club's activities, which has simply not been able to happen in a large number of cases. It is also essential that all clubs can elect committees for next year with members who are suitable for the role.

It was agreed that there are two possible solutions to the problem:

1. Societies have the option to reduce their membership cost to zero, including refunding any who have purchased membership so far this academic year.
2. Membership purchased this academic year is carried over into the next academic year.

Other options of allowing non-members to vote or allowing students to sign up for a voting only membership were considered but agreed to not be fair on existing members who have paid membership fees.

The Committee asked the RE Chair to take this issue up at CSPB, including sharing the two solutions discussed.

The meeting was closed at 7:35pm and the RE Chair thanked everyone for their attendance. The next meeting will be in March and the date will be announced in due course.

*If you have any feedback or suggestions as to the format of Recreation Sector General Meetings, please send it to [re.chair@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:re.chair@imperial.ac.uk).*