



Twenty Second Annual Report of the BCU Board 2001

This report is presented for the information of all members of the incorporated British Canoe Union and refers to proceedings and activities from 1 November 2000 until 31 October 2001.

Introduction

There are five BCU Management Committees. The Executive Committee has overall responsibility for implementing the policies and strategies of the Union and has particular responsibility for the management of finances. The Sports Management Committee oversees the activities of the competition disciplines and, in particular, co-ordinates grant aid for the international programmes. The Access Management Team looks after the provision of both "soft" and "hard" access, dealing with developing access agreements, environmental issues and expanding the infrastructure of built facilities. The UK Coaching Committee deals with all matters associated with the co-ordination of coaching across the UK. The National Development Team co-ordinates the work of the nine English Regions providing a local interface with BCU members and clubs and oversees the non-competitive forms of canoeing. Overall objectives and policies of the BCU are established by the Board, which consists of directly elected independent members and the Chairs of all accountable committees.

Members of the Board 2001

Officers of the Union

President Albert Woods

President of Honour John Dudderidge OBE

Vice President Geoff Sanders MBE

Vice President Ralph Tyas

Vice President David Wain OBE

Chief Executive Paul Owen

Honorary Treasurer

Chairs of Management Committees

Board Alan Laws

National Development Team Andy Cook

Executive Alan Laws

Sports Management Sue Janes

Access Management Team Colin Kempson

Coaching Graham Lyons

National Association Representatives

Scottish Canoe Association Brian Chapman, Duncan Winning, David Rossetter

Welsh Canoeing Association Mark Charlton, Phil Blain

Canoe Assn. of Northern Ireland Mary Doyle



Elected Members of Board

Roger Fox, Alan Laws, Graham Wardle, Ian Janes

Co-opted Members of Board

William Rees
Stephen Stringwell

Nominees of Specialist Committees Accountable to NDT

Sea Touring David Evans
Lifeguards Steve Hobbs
Whitewater Rafting Geraint Rowlands
National Disability Committee Viv Kendrick

Nominees of Regional Committees Accountable to NDT

East Brian Stanbridge
North Vic Brown
S West John Westlake
E Mids Bernard O'Connor
N West Andy Noblett
W Mids John Heath
London & SE Chris Childs
Southern Kevin Dennis
Yorkshire Ian Needham

Nominees of Specialist Committees Accountable to SMC

Canoe Polo Gerry McCusker
Freestyle Mike Birkbeck
Surf Andrew Hawker
Marathon Andy Rawson
Sailing Peter Wells
Wild Water Peter Schofield
Slalom Sue Janes
Racing Roland Lawler

Nominees of Specialist Committees Accountable to Coaching

Coaching Graham Lyons

All members of the Board are Directors of the Company

Our supporters

The achievements in the following report would have been quite impossible without all the unpaid volunteers working to ensure that the sport and recreation of canoeing is a sport that everyone and anyone can enjoy. The thanks of the BCU are extended to all of you for your hard and unstinting efforts. Equally the BCU records its thanks to the many outside bodies who have contributed to provide financial and advisory



support. Worthy of special mention are UK Sport and Sport England, the British Olympic Association, Sports Coach UK, The Central Council for Physical Recreation, The Environment Agency, British Waterways and Nottinghamshire County Council.

Long term development

This year has been the final year of our four year Development Plan 1997-2001. Set out below are the main achievements in the plans five key objectives.

More people

- Individual membership in England is 19568 and in the UK is now 23880.
- 189 Clubs with junior section/junior clubs
- Nine Paddlesport Development Officers supporting clubs and youth development in the regions
- 6,900 children involved in the Paddlepower scheme
- 400 young people involved in a youth programme of events at Paddlefest 2001
- 89 young people involved in the new Cadet Leader Award
- 24 accredited Top Clubs
- 24 new “stepping stone” events introduced for young people.
- Successful youth programme of events ran alongside Marathon Racing World Championships at Stockton
- Partnership with BMIF and ACT to promote Paddlesport at the White Water rapids stand of Southampton Boat Show

More access

- Early in the crisis caused by **Foot and Mouth** disease the BCU advised that no paddling take place in rural locations and asked for all competitions to be cancelled. Effectively almost all canoeing was shut down with dire consequences for all. After the initial shock, the BCU acted as an information bridge between various government departments and canoeists and pushed hard to get canals and rivers re-opened for paddling when appropriate to do so.
- Countryside and Rights of Way Bill 2000 (CRoW 2000) now law regrettably does not include passage on water. It does include land access to the waters edge. These are shortly to be mapped by Local Access Forums (LAF's). Canoeists are striving for representation on each LAF.
- An interim presentation of the research undertaken on behalf of the Department of Food, Transport and the Regions (DETR) was made on November 30th 2001. This new research broadly confirmed all existing BCU figures and added a great deal of new information that strengthens our case for more equitable access along rivers. The full report is to go to ministers early in 2002.
- During 2001 the BCU's, Access Management Committee has been active in planning a major lobby of Ministers, MP's, and other parties in support of our equitable access to rivers campaign. We had a speaker at CIWEM, plus



numerous meetings and contacts with EA, BW, and the Broads Authority, Countryside Agency, English Nature amongst others.

- The River Information Service of Regional and Local Access Volunteers has continued to expand and to work well despite a full workload.
- The BCU continues to work with Sport England to try and protect our major sites through a “Strategic Area for Sport” (SASP) listing. This pilot project is ongoing.
- Following last years Environment Agency (EA) research that concluded that Canoeing does not affect fish stocks. The EA are now conducting research into whether canoeing affects the value of fisheries. The BCU continues to make representations.
- The BCU has also made representation to the EA Thames about improvement and safety issues at several Thames weirs. The EA are acting on some points and considering the others. As well as to whether the BCU licence can be extended to include the Thames.
- The BCU has been active in advising, helping and preparing many new sites both for Pay and Play and for touring. The gestation period is long, 5 years is not unusual for many of these. Padiham (NW), Prudhoe, Tees North Bank (N), Washburn (Y), Holme Pierrepont (EM), Lea Valley and New Mills (E), Symonds Yat, National Surf Centre (Bude), Exeter (SW), Boulsters, Hambleden (S), Matlock (EM), are just a few.
- At Holme Pierrepont. Planning for the National Canoeing Development Centre building, upgrades of White Water and flat water courses, polo pools and athletes facilities are all moving ahead to a phase 2 lottery bid, with occupation planned for late 2003.
- Weirs at Hexham and Wylam (N), Saltford and Bath (SW), Sunbury (L+SE), Abingdon (S), have all been looked at and the BCU will continue to promote and design combined canoe shoots and passage for migratory fish.
- We are also being consulted on the construction of two new canals, the Ribble Link (NW) and Milton Keynes-Great Ouse (S+E).
- The BCU were engaged by National Boat Shows to draw up a technical design for a pumped rapids display feature at the Southampton Boat Show. It was a great success.

More coaching

- Additional CDO appointment in South
- New Canoe & Kayak Handbook commissioned
- Coach update and development programme established
- Paddlesport Review programme started
- ‘Picture and Position’ of paddlesport research commissioned and actioned
- Contracted Provider programme review and Contract Providers update
- Regional forums ran providing a foundation to regional programming for coach and paddler support



- Level 5 Conference run
- Student Safety Symposium run
- Geoff Good Coaching Symposium Level 3 and 4 held
- BCU Approved White Water Safety Course review
- Canoe coaching courses now available through the Coaching for Teachers Programme from Sports Coach UK and Sport England.

More medals

- 47 Medals in Major International Competition during 2001.
- BCU World Class Start programme prepared for launch on 1 November 2001.
- Slalom World Championships cancelled due to terrorist attacks in USA.
- Jenny Spencer became Junior Women's European Marathon Champion in Hungary in July.
- Jenny Spencer won the Bronze Medal at the Junior Sprint Racing World Championships in Brazil.
- Anna Hemmings became the World Marathon Champion in the Women's K1 event.
- Anna Hemmings and Helen Gilby became the World Marathon Champions in the Women's K2 event.
- Marathon World Championship Event successfully held at Stockton on Tees.
- Successful Junior Wild Water Racing Pre-world Championships held in Bala, N. Wales.
- Jonathan Schofield won the Gold Medal at the Junior Wild Water Racing Pre-World Championships in July.
- Women's Senior Team won the Gold Medal at the Canoe Polo European Championships

British Canoe Union – Medal Winners 2001

In 2001 Great Britain's paddlers gained 47 medals in major international competitions. 14 Gold 16 Silver 17 Bronze

Sprint

Mechelen –Belgium 5/6 May 2001 – International

Gold Medal	Becci Hunter	JK1 Women 500m
Silver Medal	Ed McKeever/Andrew Kelly	JK2 Men 500m
Bronze Medal	Andrew Kelly	JK1 Men 1000m
Bronze Medal	Jenny Spencer	K1 Women 1000m
Bronze Medal	Jenny Spencer	K1 Women 500m

Mantes-La-Jolie – France 15/17 June 2001 – World Cup 3

Gold Medal	Hardy/ Dallaway/Train/Train	K4 Women 500m
Silver Medal	Tim Brabants	K1 Men 1000m
Silver Medal	Abigail Cattle/Andrea Dallaway	K2 Women 1000m



Silver Medal	Sabberton/Darby-Dowman/ Brabants/Wynne	K4 Men 1000m
Silver Medal	Rachel & Becky Train	K2 Women 500m
Silver Medal	Anna Hemmings	K2 Women 200m
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Silver Medal	Sabberton/Darby-Dowman/ Brabants/Wynne	K4 Men 200m
Bronze Medal	Tricia Davey	K1 Women 1000m
Bronze Medal	Peter Almasi/Richard DarbyDowman	K2 Men 1000m

Zagreb – Croatia 13/15 July 2001 – World Cup 5

Bronze Medal	Steve & Andrew Train	C2 1000m
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Milan-Italy 16/17 July 2001 – Paddleability European Championships

Silver Medal	Steve Whipp/James Oldham	K2 200m
Silver Medal	Steve Whipp/James Oldham	K2 500m
Silver Medal	Steve Whipp/James Oldham	K2 1000m

Curitiba – Brazil 8/9 September 2001 – Junior World Championships

Bronze Medal	Jenny Spencer	JK1 1000m
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Slalom

Elle, Les Roches du Diable – France 17/18 February 2001 Class C International

Gold Medal	Tim Morrison	K1 Men
Gold Medal	Heather Corrie	K1 Women
Silver Medal	Campbell Walsh	K1 Men

Bourg St Maurice – France 18/19 August 2001 – Pre-World Championships

Gold Medal	Heather Corrie	K1 Women
Gold Medal	Stuart Bowman/Nick Smith	C2
Gold Medal	Paul Ratcliffe, Campbell Walsh, Tim Morrison	Team Event
Bronze Medal	Heather Corrie, Kim Walsh, Helen Cardy	Team Event

Wausau – USA 9/10 September 2001 – World Cup Final

Bronze Medal	Stuart McIntosh	C1
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Oetz – Austria Class C International 24/26 August 2001

Silver Medal	Simon Jackson	K1 Men
Bronze Medal	Richard Hounslow	K1 Men

Metz – France Class C International 1/2 September 2001

Gold Medal	Neil Buckley	K1 Men
Bronze Medal	James Hounslow	K1 Men



Ocoee – USA 22/23 September 2001 – World Championships
Cancelled

Marathon

Zamora – Spain 9/10 June 2001 – World Cup 1

Bronze Medal	Conor Holmes	K1 Men
Bronze Medal	Helen Gilby	K1 Women
Bronze Medal	Kelly McGee/Nicola Taylor	K2 Women

Gyor – Hungary 14/15 July 2001 – European Championships

Gold Medal	Jenny Spencer	JK1 Women
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Stockton on Tees – Great Britain 1/2 September 2001- World Championships

Gold Medal	Anna Hemmings	K1 Women
Gold Medal	Anna Hemmings/Helen Gilby	K2 Women

Canoe Polo

Bydgoszcz – Poland 1-5 August 2001 – European Championships

Gold Medal	Great Britain	Women's Senior Team
Silver Medal	Great Britain	Men's Senior Team
Bronze Medal	Great Britain	Women's U21 Team

Wild Water Racing

Bala – Wales 21/22 July 2001 – Junior Pre-World Championships

Gold Medal	Jonathan Schofield	JK1 Men
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Canoe Sailing

Loctudy – Brittany 18-24 August 2001 – Europa Cup 2001

Gold Medal	Mark Goodchild	IC
Silver Medal	John Ellis	IC
Bronze Medal	Simon Allen	IC

Freestyle

Sort – Spain 25 June-1 August 2001 – World Championships

Silver Medal	Debbie Pinneger	K1 Women
Bronze Medal	James Weir	OC1

BCU OFFICE STAFF

The BCU Board wishes to express its sincere thanks to the staff for their support and loyalty throughout what has been an exceedingly busy year.