

Twenty Fifth Annual Report of the BCU Board 2004

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 2003 until 31 October 2004.

BCU Annual Review 2003/2004

The BCU had five key focuses for 2004: Participation, and hopefully success at the Olympic Games, increasing membership, expanding the Young People's Programme, developing the Access Campaign and the production of the National Canoeing Development Plan (includes progressing the Long Term Paddler Development Programme)

- At the Olympic Games we achieved three medals and we were successful in placing seven of our eight boats in the finals; by any measure this was an outstanding success. Congratulations to the whole team and in particular our medallists: Campbell Walsh, Helen Reeves and Ian Wynne.
- Our membership continues to grow and we have been able to appoint our new Operations and Membership Services Director – Robert Deacon. Clubs have been supported through the Community Club Development Programme, (CCDP) with 5 clubs having received support and 7 clubs under negotiation. In addition, 11 clubs have achieved Top Club and Club Mark and 7 Community Sports Coaches were appointed to support club development.
- Over 400 participants took part in Youthfest, which comprised of six disciplines and was supported by our Olympic athletes. The Pyranha Lightning Cup and the Perception Wavehopper series saw an increase in participation of over 10%. Other paddlesport events across regions and counties included the Youth Sport Games and YST seminars. The School Club Links programme, linked to the Community Sports Coach Scheme, was launched together with coaching's new Young People's module. In addition, funding using the Community Club Development Programme provided equipment for 50 BCU partners.
- We have made major strides in highlighting the inadequate level of access to rivers and our campaigning has brought high level attention from the government, greater local awareness and at the close of the year, a real feeling that progress may be being made.
- The National Canoeing Development Plan has been completed and it has been well received by the Sports Councils. The plan reflects a high degree of consultation demonstrating the potential that our sport has to offer, identifying an exciting future. We expect to hear about funding decisions from the Sports Councils in the very near future.

Our competition results are detailed more fully below, but in addition to our Olympic Medals, special mention should be made to the Canoe Polo results which saw our Women's team become the World Champions and our Men's team take the Bronze Medal. In Canoe Marathon, Paul Wycherley became the K1 Junior World Champion.

Our President, Albert Woods was re-elected Vice Chair of the British Olympic Association.

Sadly, we must also report of the deaths during the year of key canoeing personalities: President of Honour and forefather of modern day canoeing John Dudderidge, and Vice President Ralph Tyas.

British Canoe Union – Medal Winners 2004

In 2004 Great Britain's paddlers gained 38 medals in major International competitions. 6 Gold, 11 Silver, and 21 Bronze.

3 Olympic Medal Winners – Athens 2004

Silver Medal	Campbell Walsh	Men's K1 Slalom
Bronze Medal	Helen Reeves	Women's K1 Slalom
Bronze Medal	Ian Wynne	Men's K1 500m

1 Junior World Champion – Paul Wycherley, Marathon

Overall World Cup Champion – Campbell Walsh, Slalom

Team World Champions – Great Britain Women's Team, Canoe Polo

Canoe Slalom

Slalom World Cup 1 – Athens

Silver Medal	Campbell Walsh	Men's K1
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Slalom World Cup 2 – La Seu D'Urgell

Gold Medal	Helen Reeves	Women's K1
Silver Medal	Campbell Walsh	Men's K1

Slalom Senior European Championships – Skopje, Macedonia

Silver Medal	C Walsh, Brown, Swetnam	Men's K1 Team
Bronze Medal	K Walsh, Blakeman, Corrie	Women's K1 Team

Slalom Junior World Championships – Lofer, Austria

Bronze Medal	Bright, Caesar, Neave	Women's K1 Team Jnr
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Slalom World Cup 5 – Augsburg, Germany

Bronze Medal	Campbell Walsh	Men's K1
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Slalom World Cup Final – Bourg St Maurice, France

Silver Medal	Stuart McIntosh	Men's C1
Overall World Cup Champion	Campbell Walsh	Men's K1

Slalom Junior Class C International – Dolny Kubin, Czech Republic

Gold Medal	Janine Dickie	Jnr Women's K1 – U14
Bronze Medal	Emily Clapham	Jnr Women's K1 – U16

Slalom Danube Cup – Bratislava

Bronze Medal	Michelle Patrick	Women's K1
Bronze Medal	Richard Hounslow	Men's K1

Slalom U23 European Championships – Krakov, Poland

Bronze Medal Michelle Patrick/Fiona Pennie/Claire Harrower WK1 Team

Sprint Racing

Senior European Championships – Poznan, Poland

Silver Medal Tim Brabants Men's K1 1000m

Silver Medal Ian Wynne Men's K1 500m

Bronze Medal Ian Wynne/Paul Darby-Dowman Men's K2 1000m

International Regatta - Piestany - Slovakia

Bronze Medal Shuna Braithwaite/Tara Nutt Women's K2 1000m Jnr

Bochum Junior International – Germany

Bronze Medal Shuna Braithwaite & Tara Nutt Women's K2 1000

International Regatta – Duisburg, Germany

Bronze Medal P Darby-Dowman/Ian Wynne Men's K2 1000m

Junior European Championships- Poznan Poland

Silver Medal Shuna Braithwaite & Tara Nutt Women's K2 1000

U23 European Championships- Poznan Poland

Bronze Medal Abigail Cattle Women's K1 1000

Marathon

World Championships – Bergen, Norway

Gold Medal Paul Wycherley Men's K1 Junior

Canoe Polo

World Championships – Miyoshi, Japan

Gold Medal Great Britain Women's Team

Bronze Medal Great Britain Men's Team

Wild Water Racing

World Cup – Bovec – Slovenia

Bronze Medal Jonathan Schofield K1 Men's Sprint

Freestyle

Pre World Championships – Penrith, Australia

Silver Medal James Reeves Squirt

Silver Medal Eleanor Rutter Squirt

Bronze Medal James Bebbington Junior Mens K1

Bronze Medal Eleanor Rutter Ladies

Bronze Medal Jenny Chrimes Junior Ladies

European Championships – Sort, Spain

Gold Ben White Squirt

Gold Jenny Chrimes Junior Ladies

Silver James Wier Open Canoe 1

Bronze Alan Ward Junior Mens

Bronze James Reeves Squirt

Long term development

Looking forward to the current year, we plan to place far greater emphasis on the development of membership services. This will be supported by a new membership database and a new website. (combining the current BCU Membership and coaching sites with the World Class Performance site). A new Communications and PR resource will be appointed to help raise our profile and draw attention to both competition results and our Access Campaign.

VISION

Our long term goal is to become the best possible National Governing Body of sport, successful at home and abroad, supporting the vibrant, dynamic and diverse sport of canoeing. As a creative, innovative, knowledge based organisation with a clear set of core values, the BCU will work with its partners to provide excellent service to a growing membership, offering sustainable access for all into paddlesport at every level. The BCU also recognises its responsibility to improve the environment in which we paddle and to work to have a positive impact on society as a whole.

The BCU vision is to:

“Enable our members, partner organisations and the wider paddling community the best available opportunity to achieve their potential in all aspects of paddlesport.”

MISSION

Over the period of the next plan in working towards our long term goals we believe that our mission is quite simply **“helping and inspiring people to go canoeing.”**

To achieve the objectives of the plan, all sections of the organisation will work to focus on three strategic objectives:

➤ Paddler focus

Working in partnership to help people paddle and enjoy the sport and recreation of canoeing with the BCU.

➤ International success

Working to support the long-term paddler development opportunities required for people to achieve high-level performance in paddlesport.

➤ Raising the profile of paddlesport

Working to inform and publicise to all people, the full range of canoeing activity.

BCU Structure

The BCU is managed through its board of directors who are representative of canoeing across the UK . The board of directors are ultimately responsible to the membership.

The Directors delegate certain functions to Management Committees:

The Sports Management Committee oversees the activities of the competition disciplines and, in particular, co-ordinates grant aid for the international programmes.

The Coaching Management Committee deals with all matters associated with the co-ordination of coaching across the UK.

The World Class Management Group manages and administers all aspects of the World Class Programme.

The English Council oversees the operation of the BCU's activities within its English Division (Canoe England).

Officers of the Union

President	Albert Woods
Vice President	David Gent
Vice President	David Wain OBE
Chairman	Brian Chapman
Chief Executive	Paul Owen
Treasurer	David Belbin

Chairs of Management Committees

Board	Brian Chapman
English Council	David Gent
World Class Management	Albert Woods
Sports Management	Albert Woods
Coaching	Graham Lyon

Directors

English Council David Belbin, Tim Joiner, Graham Lyon,
Mike Twiggs, Albert Woods

Canoe Assn of Northern Ireland Mike Harron

Scottish Canoe Association Brian Chapman, David Rossetter

Welsh Canoeing Association Phil Blain, Alan Baker

All members of the Board are Directors of the Company

Nominees of Specialist and Regional Committees accountable to English Council

Access	Tim Joiner
Sports Management	Albert Woods
English Coaching	Graham Lyon
English Development Team	Mike Twiggs
	Anne Collins
	Vic Brown
Elected Members	Andy Cook
	Michael Twitchen

Nominees of Specialist Committees Accountable to SMC

Canoe Polo	Curly Barker
Freestyle	Mike Birkbeck
Marathon	Brian Gandy
Racing	Roland Lawler
Sailing	Philip Robin
Slalom	Ian Campbell
Surf	Andrew Hawker
Wild Water	Peter Schofield

The English Development Team oversees the non-competitive forms of canoeing and co-ordinates the work of the ten English Regions providing a local interface with BCU members and clubs.

Members of the English Development Team accountable to the English Council

Disabilities	Viv Kendrick
Lifeguards	Jason Saddler
Sea Touring	David Evans
Whitewater Rafting	Claire Lovell
Cumbria	Roger Ward
East Midlands	Ann Collins
Eastern	Mo Moule
London & South East	David Waine
North East	Vic Brown
North West	Karen Davies
Southern	Kevin Dennis
South West	Geoff Goulden
West Midlands	Peter Jones
Yorkshire	Richard Constable

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.

Our supporters

The achievements in this report would have been quite impossible without all the unpaid volunteers working to ensure that all can enjoy the sport and recreation of canoeing. 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.