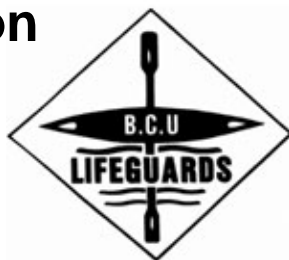


British Canoe Union Lifeguards



Please reply to:
BCU Lifeguards Admin
Rayville
Sanctuary Road
Holsworthy
Devon
EX22 6DQ

13 May 2010

To: All BCU Lifeguards, BCU Lifeguard Units & Affiliated Clubs, Committee Members, Aquatic First Aid Coaches and other interested parties,

RE: Consultation on the proposed changes to the structure of the BCU Lifeguards National Committee

In our efforts to create a more efficient structure for managing the ever growing needs of canoe lifeguarding, there may be a need to evolve the committee structure. The structure you see below is a starting point, a proposal, for discussion by all interested parties.

We need your comments on what you think would be an efficient and effective structure for decision making, managing and developing your lifeguarding needs. Is there something missing? How many would actually be sitting round a table at meetings? Where do club reps fit in? There are several unanswered questions that we would like your input on.

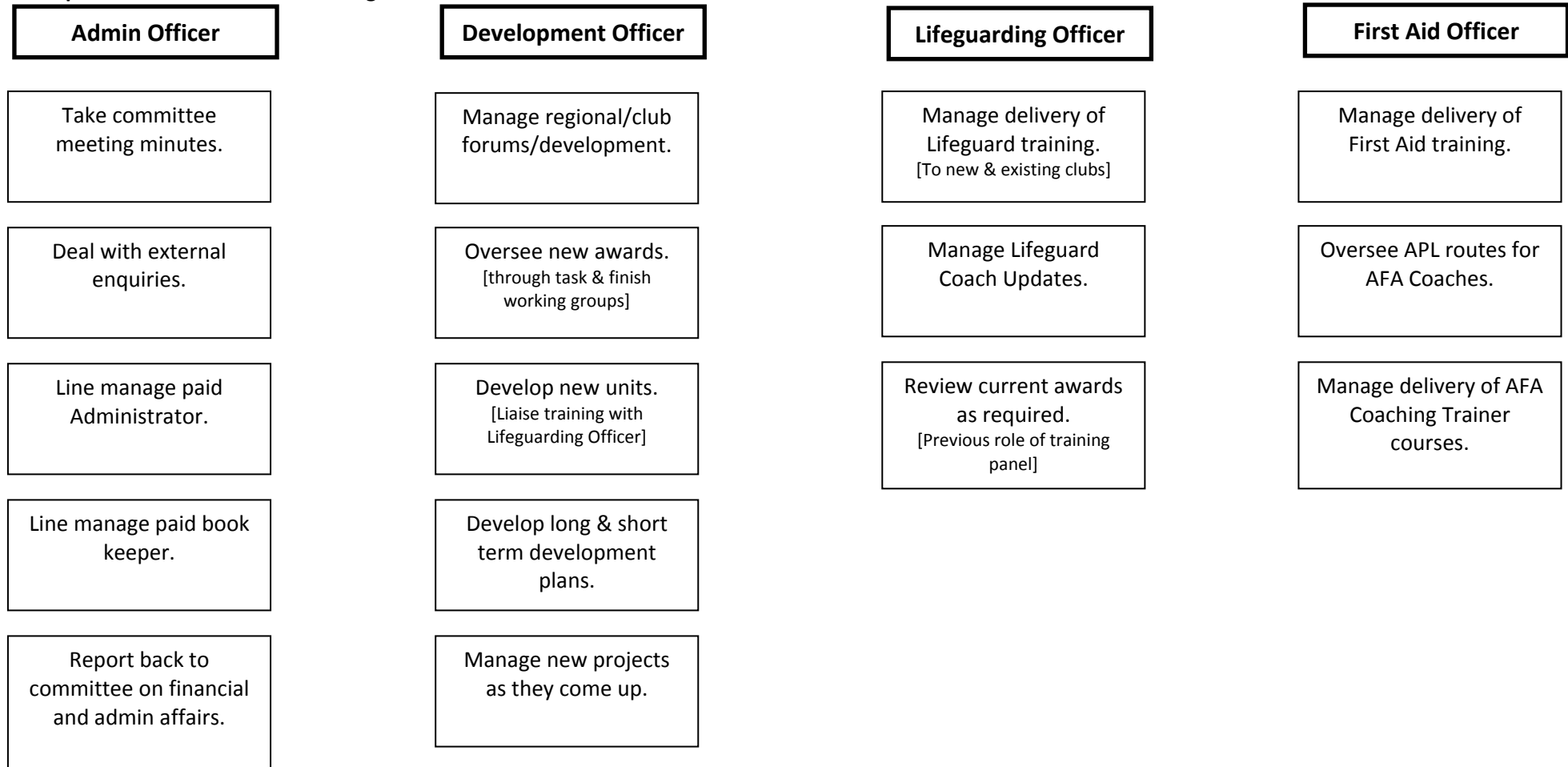
However, the thing I really want to ask is 'would you please get involved?' There's only a handful of us and to make any committee structure really work we need committed volunteers. If you feel you want to be a part of the structure behind the BCU Lifeguards then please get in touch.

Warm Regards

Andy Walters
Chairman
BCU Lifeguards

Chair

Proposed committee structure diagram



The Chair will manage the 4 committee officers, with all officers reporting directly to the chair.

The Chair will also have overall responsibility for safeguarding responsibilities.

The Chair will have responsibility for ensuring liaison with other disciplines and Canoe England/English Council.

It is envisaged that all of the officers will have other individuals below them carrying out specific tasks, and then reporting back to their respective officer, who will in turn report back to the committee. Task & finish groups for specific projects will also be set up and managed by a lead officer.

Other individuals can be co-opted onto the committee without voting rights to carry out specific tasks (eg publicity) and report directly to the chair.

Purpose of Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to give all interested parties (Committee members, BCU Lifeguards, Lifeguard units/clubs, affiliated clubs, AFA coaches, regional reps, home nations and the BCU board) the opportunity to comment on the proposed structural changes to the BCU Lifeguards National Committee.

We welcome comments and suggestions from all stakeholders regarding the proposed changes to the structure of the committee and would be happy to answer any questions that stakeholders may have.

Reason for change

The committee feel very strongly about the need for structural change within the BCU Lifeguards committee. It is fundamental in allowing the future of the BCU Lifeguards to be secured, and to enable the national committee to continue to deliver governance and development in an effective way. The 'idea' behind the new structure is to get the committee to work smarter, using volunteers' time in the best possible way, removing the need for them to be directly involved in the day-to-day administration of the committee. The use of 'task & finish' groups for new awards and projects is also a way the committee feel that its members' time can be used more effectively, utilising specialist skills without necessarily requiring long term commitment, or a committee role. This is in line with the changes that are currently happening nationally in relation to committee structures, both within disciplines and on a national level. Thirdly, it's felt that a streamlined committee with more 'task & finish' working groups would enable the committee to react faster, whilst allowing more communication and interaction with its clubs and members.

The next stage

The consultation period is open until Friday 2nd July 2010. We welcome feedback and comments from all stakeholders.

All feedback will then be reviewed further by the next National Committee meeting on the 18th July 2010. Based on feedback from the consultation, the National Committee will then put forward a firm proposal to be voted on at the ACM on the 11th September 2010.