

## EGM – 2020 (25/08/2020)

Present: Rory Rose, Sarah Day, Nick Adams, Rebecca Miller, Vlad Catanea, Jeremy Welch

Purpose of EGM: To discuss/create a fully-fledged risk assessment, updated to deal with the new issues caused for caving by COVID-19. More generally, to discuss an approach to the maintenance of OUCC throughout COVID-19.

- Contact with other clubs
  - CUCC
    - Formal swap weekend 27/11 – 29/11  
Cambridge would come to Oxford for a weekend to do a formal and vice versa  
Does not seem likely in the current circumstances
    - Varsity weekend 04/11-22/11 SWCC  
Trying to improve connection with Cambridge
  - Outdoor pursuits Clubs at oxford (Climbing, Diving, Kayak, Walking)  
Talks with diving, climbing and kayaking clubs- ideas that came from these talks
    - 'groups' of 6 on trips that stay together and do not mix with other groups
    - Run minibuses at half capacity so it is similar to public transport  
Emailed sports fed- currently they cannot say anything about whether this will be allowed
    - Do a combined freshers event in 1<sup>st</sup> week with talks from all of the clubs with 15min presentations. Probably online.
- Updating our Risk assessment
  - When writing the risk assessment, we must be clear that our plans are conditional to certain guidelines
  - Until Covid is over, we may just be maintaining numbers until situation allows us to invite novices to cave. Hopefully, this is not the case, but we may be waiting until novices are allowed and have to use socials to keep up hype around caving for novices/ freshers until this point.
  - First few trips (maybe even until next term) are likely to be day trips
  - Transport

Currently there are no minibuses available

- Minibus test has changed

Currently no transport scheme running- up to us to suggest something sensible and alter this depending on different responses from sports fed

Chase up sports fed to see if they are still going to require tests for driving the minibuses or whether people will be allowed to drive these with no test since driving tests are proving difficult to arrange

Options for transport:

- Cars- use the government guidance on how many people are allowed in cars if no further guidance is given by sports fed
  - 9 seaters and have groups of 4-5 people within those cars
  - Create a risk assessment for the use of minibuses and see if sports fed will allow minibuses with reduced number of passengers (similar to public transport)
  - Public transport- this seems the least practical of all the options since the caving huts usually do not have easy access via public transport and this does not seem very viable for gaining new members.
- Accommodation
    - Huts or tents?

Current situation- camping only in most accommodation places for caving

SWCC has just opened its huts so that 8 people can stay inside- currently members only with perhaps one guest member.

Becca and Nick are both members which means we could get two other people into SWCC. We believe camping at SWCC is still for members only

**POINT OF ACTION:** Maybe should check if we can gain memberships for places like SWCC for some people to increase our ability to cave at SWCC and other caving huts that have reduced their accessibility to members only.

Camping seems to be the only realistic option if sports fed allows caving to happen next term.

This means we may have to attempt day trips instead of caving- shower rooms have been closed in many of the caving huts at the moment and camping. These factors may put novices off for a first trip.

Lots of caving huts have reduced fees due to limited facilities (e.g. shower rooms, drying rooms) which may mean we can invest money into things like tents for the club to increase our ability to cave with more people

- Do we have enough club tents?

We may have to invest in club tents to make caving more viable- it will have to be one 'household' (e.g. our suggested groups of 6 for caving) per tent. We believe we currently have around 3 tents.

- Numbers on trips
  - Other clubs doing 6 people in a group
- Quarantining kit
  - How long (other clubs doing 1 week)?

Should clarify that we must wear gloves to use tackle and ropes and ladders etc.

As well as this, we should also note what kit has been used and put this kit aside for a set amount of time until its next use.

Most information is suggesting that 2 days is a moderately pessimistic view on how long kit should be quarantined- it is suggested in the meeting that we quarantine kit for a week. Rory has spoken to other clubs (kayaking, climbing etc.) and they have agreed that this sounds like a reasonable amount of time to quarantine kit.

Climbing walls are currently suggesting that you sanitise regularly but are not enforcing it.

Rory has emailed sports fed about putting washing machines into Iffley- they have said that if they see interest in this from other clubs that they will consider it.

**POINT OF ACTION:** email other clubs who may benefit from this such as rugby, football to show interest in washing machines in Iffley as well.

Lending kit to people for term etc., especially if they are active members to reduce the amount of kit sharing etc.

Vlad (Gear officer) could possibly make a list of who has borrowed kit from the club and then use this to chase people up at the end of the term to return the items

We could ask the peoples college to contact them about this to encourage them to return it since we will have their college in the list.

- Training
  - What can we do?
- Climbing recommends climbing the Hors Path

Wolvercote bridge can practice SRT off this bridge

- how close can you get to someone when you are training them. This could go in the risk assessment e.g. we do not plan to have contact with people when training but in some circumstances, this may be safer than not getting involved in a situation.

- risk assessment point- socially distancing within the caves may be very difficult, it may be safer to not socially distance, especially with novices who may feel unsafe with social distancing etc.

We need to push sports fed to say- is this acceptable or is it not and then either adjust our plans or think of what we are going to do in response to this.

Lean on BCA advice heavily within the risk assessment as this will work in our favour- we can point to how the rest of the caving association is handling caving

Current situation- Face masks going through show caves but once they got into the active caving area, face masks and social distancing was not overly practiced.

- Food

If we are doing day trips people can bring their own lunches

- Socials

- Meeting in the park or online

Most clubs are pushing to do socials in person since zoom is impersonal and people are beginning to tire of zoom socials.

Indoor socials are less likely to be inclusive since they may repel people who are worried about inside events

Social ideas:

-Slack lining

-Iffley climbing wall

-Brookes climbing wall- just under 2 hours sessions, hard to book a session.

-As the weather gets worse towards winter and the days become shorter, it may be more feasible to have in person socials in outdoor spaces during the day around lunchtime and then save online socials such as talks for evenings.

-Online talks in evenings. Could put our talks forward to be with the exploration club since there are some good ones that would crossover into exploration.

-Wild swimming.

Freshers fair is happening online- posters that can put up as images on a fake stall and chat boxes which we can talk to people on. 8am-8pm to accommodate to people in different time zones.

Plan to get risk assessment done in the next couple of days:

-Jeremy to look it over before it is sent off

-Using the table format in the current risk assessment