

BISHOPS STORTFORD CANOE CLUB
AGM for period ending 31 December 2025
Minutes of Meeting held on 1st March 2026
at BSCC Clubhouse

Chairman – Kevin Short
Treasurer – Richard Winstanley
Secretary – Angela Aldam

The meeting commenced at 10:05am.

Voting Members aged 16+ (20 voters holding 29 votes):¹ Mark Adams, Angela Aldam, Karen Bradley, Sue Commercial, Hannah Crofts, Malcolm Duckworth, Simon Forey, Robert Gough, Andrew Gurney, David Gurney, Mick Hussey, Edward Kirtland, Petr Luksan (+1), Christine Meula, Scott Norford, Kevin Short (+2), Joao Spinola (+1), Daniel Thompson (+3), Ben Tubby, Rich Winstanley (+2)

Non-member parents representing u16s (0)

Others registered as proxies for absent members (0)

As the total number of voting club members is currently 81, the 20 voters present represented 24% and the meeting was therefore quorate.

Apologies for absence were received from Kerstin Queeney, Jacque Cayford and David Cayford.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report (attached) had been circulated for members to read in advance. Some graphs showing membership statistics, and other measures of performance (competition entries, promotions and standard of active racers) were also included.

Kevin Short briefly addressed the meeting to thank the committee members and coaches for their hard work over the past year, and in particular Sue, Kerstin and the social committee for organising the many events, and all the volunteer club members who have been involved in organising the events. He thanked coaches. He wished Petr well in his new role as Chair and urged everyone to give Petr their support.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts to 31 December 2025 had been prepared by Club Treasurer Rich Winstanley and approved by the Trustees. They were circulated to the membership by email prior to the AGM. The figures incorporate the additional three and half month from 16 September 2024 when the club became a CIO, at which point the club also changed its accounting year to the calendar year.

¹ The votes of members aged u16 automatically transfer to the adult under whom they are registered on the membership database, whether or not that adult is a member. Additional votes held are shown in brackets. Where the same person holds multiple votes, as a parent or proxy, they are only counted once towards the meeting being quorate (20% of voting members).

The Treasurer briefly recapped that the membership structure of the club had been adjusted to separate “Premium Membership” from “General Membership”. Together with the fact that the club is now a registered charity, this move has enabled the club to reclaim Gift Aid on the income from General Membership. Because of this additional income, it has been possible to hold the cost of the General Membership at the previous level. The introduction of the MemberMojo membership database has made it easier to collect and keep track of electronic payments from members. The club remains in a good financial position.

Election of Trustees

Legal responsibility for the club falls on the Trustees. The day-to-day running of the club is undertaken by a management committee which includes many key roles without which the club could not function (many of them required by PUK). Most of these roles are filled by the Trustees themselves, supplemented by others that the Trustees have coopted.

The Trustees for the year ending December 2025 have been:

1. Kevin Andrew Short – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
2. Angela Hazel Aldam – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
3. Joseph Michael Fitzpatrick – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
4. Lee David Gaulton – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
5. Andrew Hugh Gurney – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
6. Michael James Hussey – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
7. Kerstin Queeney – founding Trustee 16/9/2024
8. Richard Winstanley – appointed by the Trustees 19/11/2024

As a Trustee appointed by the Trustees, Rich Winstanley’s appointment ceases at this AGM and he must stand for election by the membership.

Of the other seven current Trustees, the number nearest to one third (i.e. two) must now step down at the AGM

- Joe Fitzpatrick resigned on 20 Sep 2025
- Mick Hussey is now retiring from Trusteeship with effect from this meeting.
- Kevin Short is now retiring from Trusteeship with effect from this meeting.

The remainder of the Trustees will remain in place.

Petr Luksan has agreed to take on the role of Chair from Kevin Short, and as such he needs to become a Trustee immediately. There are therefore two Trustees seeking election from the membership. Brief biographies of Petr and Rich had been circulated in advance. Voting was conducted by a show of hands. Both were unanimously elected by all voters present. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

Management Committee Roles

Mick Hussey announced in late 2024 that he was seeking to retire as Welfare Officer. Joao Spinola has agreed to join the MC and take over this post. Angela Aldam will serve as Deputy Welfare, replacing Kayleigh Gaulton. Rob Gough has joined the MC and takes on responsibility for Premises matters. Other Management Committee posts will remain as they were.

The Management Committee is now (Trustees marked *)

Chair:	Petr Luksan*
Treasurer:	Richard Winstanley*
Secretary (& Dep Welfare):	Angela Aldam*
Safety:	Andrew Gurney*
Volunteer Coordinator:	Kerstin Queeney*
Welfare Officer:	Joao Spinola
Quartermaster:	David Gurney
Premises:	Rob Gough
Chair of Social Subcttee:	Sue Commercial
&	Lee Gaulton*

Social & Fundraising Committee

Sue Commercial, chair of the Social Committee, expressed her belief in the value of staging occasional off-water social events for club members in addition to events on-water and running the catering at competitions which are key to generating funds for the club. She appealed for more paddlers and the parents of juniors to consider coming onto the Social Committee.

Incoming Chair

The incoming Chair, Petr Luksan, briefly addressed the meeting. He expressed his appreciation for the work of the committee to date, and his intention to ensure that the club continues to improve and grow. His motto for the club is: "Fun, Fitness, Friendship and Fast Finishers."

The meeting closed at 10:25

To be signed at AGM 2027:

Chair: _____ Date: _____

Secretary: _____ Date: _____

Chairman's Review

2025 has been a challenging year, the club is part way through some significant change, not only to the club structure, but also the infrastructure, roles, policies and procedures!

Despite this, the annual data demonstrate some real positives, membership has declined, but competition entries are strongly up in 2025, also the number of active racers at the end of 2025 is also up – with a good range of racers in all the Divisions. There have been a significant number of paddler promotions in 2025 (net17). The total number of active sprint racers attending Nottingham grew to 16 in 2025 which is also very positive.

The Social Committee especially Sue and Kirsten have been very active this year and I give thanks to them and all the volunteers who have given the fantastic support to the club at our Hasler race, Winter series race, and Sprint Regatta. This is a key part in making these days the success they are. The club has enjoyed our Annual Award Ceremony, Summer BBQ, White Water Rafting, Bowling & meal out, and a Christmas mulled wine event. The time and effort to deliver these activities is significant and any additional help will always be welcomed. It is great to see the club enjoying the events. Also, the tremendous new race and training clothing offer, now available, has been delivered by Sue and my thanks goes to her and everyone involved in making this happen.

Marathon Racing Performance

The Club successfully competed in all the Eastern Region Hasler races winning at Leighton Buzzard, and coming second at Chelmsford, Bedford, and at our own race. These fantastic performances meant we qualified for the National Hasler final in 2nd place in the Eastern region.

A team of 17, including 5 Geoff Sanders paddlers competing in their first finals, travelled to Worcester and performed admirably. The club was ranked 17th in the country which is a great performance, which all competitors can be proud of.

David Gurney won the Div3 K1 race (the outstanding performance), Eddie came 24th in the Div4 K1 race, Jasper and Joao came 6th in the Div4 K2 race, Kerstin came 16th in the Div5 K2 race, Rob came 7th in the Div6 k1 race, Zoe & Christine came 14th in the Div6 K2 race, Jack came 32nd in the Div7 K1 race, Oliver and James came 21st In Div7 K2 race, and Robin came 12 in Div9 K1 race.

Very well done to Benjamin (10th), Summer (11th), Sophie (6th), and Romeo (7th) for all competing in the Geoff Saunder's races – it demonstrates real courage and resilience to enter this national race on a large river.

Eastern Region Hasler 2025 Summary - results

www.StortfordCanoe.org.uk

League Position	Club	13/10/2024 Chelmer	30/03/2025 Cambridge	27/04/2025 Bedford	18/05/2025 Norwich	15/06/2025 Leighton B.	29/06/2024 B. Stortford	TOTAL
1	Chelmsford	600 10	590 9	572 7	587 9	583 8	592 9	52
2	Bishops Stortford	582 9	586 7	589 9	580 7	598 10	592 9	51
3	Norwich	569 6	588 8	589 9	599 10	575 7	595 10	50
4	Leighton Buzzard	579 8	581 6	600 10	584 8	597 9	591 7	48
5	Cambridge	578 7	596 10	475 6	545 6	237 6	229 5	40
6	Barking & Dagenham	100 5	92 4		47 4		239 6	19
7	Viking		133 5	137 5		46 5		15
8	Broadland Paddlesport				90 5			5
=9	Lee Valley Paddlesport						46 4	4
=9	LYR Boat Club	87 4						4

Winter Series 2024/25 Summary

Position	Club	03-Nov-24 Bishops Stortford	17-Nov-24 Maidstone	01-Dec-24 Cambridge	15-Dec-24 Barking	12-Jan-25 Chelmsford	26-Jan-25 Leighton Buzzard	TOTAL
1	Chelmsford CC	398 10	407 10	377 10	262 10	406 10	292 10	60
2	Cambridge CC	105 8	87 9	201 9	76 8	102 9	87 7	50
3	Bishops Stortford CC	126 9	79 7	107 8	91 9	63 8	130 8	49
4	Leighton Buzzard CC	62 6	79 7	88 7	75 7	58 7	200 9	43
5	Barking & Dag'm CC	65 7	86 8	36 4	47 5	12 3	34 5	32
6	Maidstone CC	12 1	49 4	50 6	53 6	47 6	50 6	29
7	Tonbridge CC	23 4	56 5	27 3	26 4	40 5	24 4	25
8	Ealing CC	25 5		18 1	17 3	18 4	19 2	15
9	Royal CC	9 1	9 3	16 1	9 1	10 2	19 2	10
10	Paddlesport Racers	20 3		41 5				8
=11	Norwich CC	10 1		14 1	10 2	9 1	10 1	6
=11	Hemel Hempstead CC	10 1		22 2			21 3	6
13	Richmond CC			9 1		9 1	10 1	3
14	Lee Valley Paddlesport	15 2						2
=15	Bisham Paddlesport						4 1	1
=15	Fladbury CC			10 1				1

The club also competed in the FRA Winter series coming 3rd just 1 point behind Cambridge CC. The series welcomed Barking back to the race calendar. Well-done to all paddlers who competed during the cold winter months – the series is great for improving endurance and getting race experience.

Sprint Racing Performance

Sprint racing at the four Nottingham regattas was led By Rich Winstanley – The club had some outstanding results across the year.

In April, Jamie, and Jasper competed in Boys D events , Rich and Joao competed in Mens C events. Rupert competed in the Mini sprint races, Oliver came 3rd in the Paddleability K1 500m F1. Jasper got into a number of finals winning promotion to Boys C (2nd K4 200mF, 3rd K4 500mF, 3rd K2 500m F).

In June, the British Masters drew a larger team – Kerstin, Ben, Rich and Claudia all entered various events, with great success gold, silver and bronze medals were won by each in a number of events (age related categories). For the Juniors Oleh started in Boys D and proved why he was immediately promoted to Boys C – 2nd in the 2500m sprint and 2nd in Boys D 200m K1 F, with Eddie they won Boys C 200m K2 F, with Jasper and his Partner coming 2nd. Libby also joined in getting into the Girls D K1 200m F, and coming 6th in the Girls D K1 2500m Sprint. Libby combined with the Boys to enter a fully BSF K4 Boys A-C 500m F – the team coming 6th. Finally, Eddie won the Boys C 200m K1 F gaining promotion to Boys B category.

In July – The Juniors raced in age related categories – Eddie competing in U18s, Oleh, Jamie & Libby in U16's and Jasper in U14's Each got into various finals and competed with other partners in K2 and K4 races. Jasper and Oleh were promoted to Boys B category and Libby promoted into Girls C category. Rich competed in the men's 5000m sprint and got into the Mens K2 500m F. Rupert joined in on Sunday and competed just in the K2 and K4 events – winning the Mini sprint A/B k4 500m and 200m and 3rd in the K2 200m – all with LBZ partners.

Finally in August the club attended the Inter club Macgregor Regatta. BSF came 16th out of 34 clubs competing. This is a great performance. The team consisted of Rob Gough, Joao Spinola, Ben Tubby, Rich Winstanley, Jamie Bond, Oliver Klumper, Zoe Norford, Summer Norford, Libby Gaulton, Oleh Kuzmenko, Ed Kirtland, Jasper Kirtland, and Rupert Kirtland . All gave tremendous effort and the results followed (too many to list here!).

Rupert was awarded the gold medal for the best performing Mini sprint A boy (across the four Regattas) and Summer was awarded the bronze medal for the third best performing girl. Very well done to both. Summer was promoted to Mini sprint A.

All Change

My time as Chairman has come to an end, after four years it is appropriate to hand over the chairmanship of the club to Petr. I thank all the committee members for their help and support, and all members, friends and family who have helped at the races, social events and the various tidy up events. We could not run such events without you. Thank you to everyone who has played a part in running the club and those who are taking on new roles!

Lee has handed over the Treasurers duties to Richard

Mick will shortly hand over Welfare duties to Joao

Joe has reduced his workload at the Club and retains Coaching responsibilities

Jamie Bond is acting as the Marathon Team leader

I am helping Andrew with Safety Officer responsibilities.

David Gurney is the Quartermaster.

Rob is improving the Building and Grounds maintenance – supported by Joe.

The club only exists with the effort and support from all members – I thank everyone who has invested their time to help.

Coaches and Recruitment

The club remains focused on growth, I am very pleased Kayleigh and Euan have completed their coaching qualifications. It is an up-hill struggle to ensure Coaches and Members with positions of responsibility maintain their competence and meet the new Standards for deployment. We all must do more in this area.

I would like to thank all the Coaches : Simon, Jacqui & Dave, Joe, Kayleigh, Euan, and Eilidh for their commitment to support the running of the Club sessions. It is great to see Sundays when all the club boats are in use with beginners learning, and more competent paddlers improving their technique and performance. A number of recruitment sessions this year have helped add new members and I hope this will continue.

We have taken the opportunities offered by the change to a CIO delivered last year, to reorganise the boat store and storage policy, to create some space to enable more growth. This has unfortunately had repercussions, and we have been without the Gym over the winter. I am sorry about this. Work has started on recovering our external boat storage and I hope this will improve the situation.

Finally, I would personally like to thank Joe and Angela for their help and loyalty to me, and their efforts to guide and steer me through my period as Chairman!

I am sure the club will continue to prosper as these changes progress.

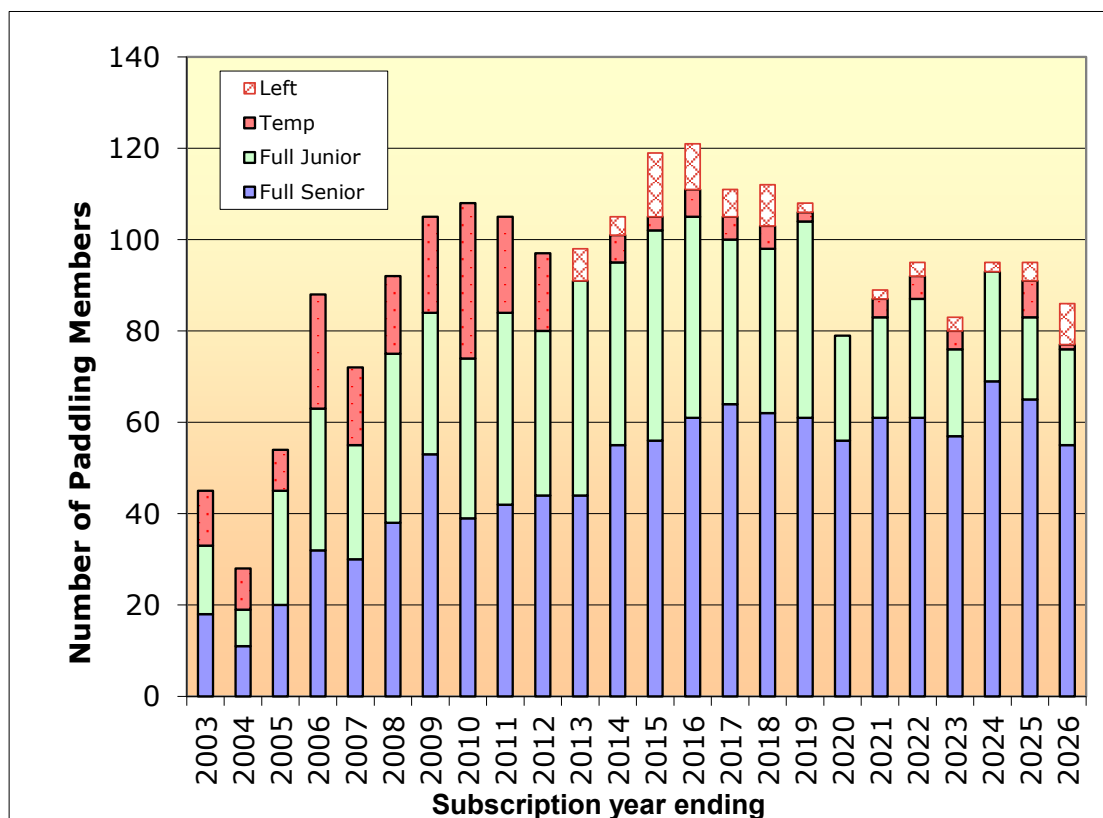
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BSCC - Number of Members

y/e June	Full Senior	Full Junior	Temp	TOTAL PADDLERS	Left	Non-Padd	TOTAL
2003	18	15	12	45			45
2004	11	8	9	28			28
2005	20	25	9	54			54
2006	32	31	25	88			88
2007	30	25	17	72			72
2008	38	37	17	92			92
2009	53	31	21	105			105
2010	39	35	34	108		5	113
2011	42	42	21	105		7	112
2012	44	36	17	97		6	103
2013	44	47	0	91	7	17	115
2014	55	40	6	101	4	14	119
2015	56	46	3	105	14	3	122
2016	61	44	6	111	10	0	121
2017	64	36	5	105	6	1	112
2018	62	36	5	103	9	5	117
2019	61	43	2	106	2	4	112
2020	56	23	0	79	0	3	82
2021	61	22	4	87	2	4	93
2022	61	26	5	92	3	8	103
2023	57	19	4	80	3	7	90
2024	69	24	0	93	2	7	102
2025	65	18	8	91	4	6	101
2026	55	21	1	77	9	8	94

at 31 Dec 2025

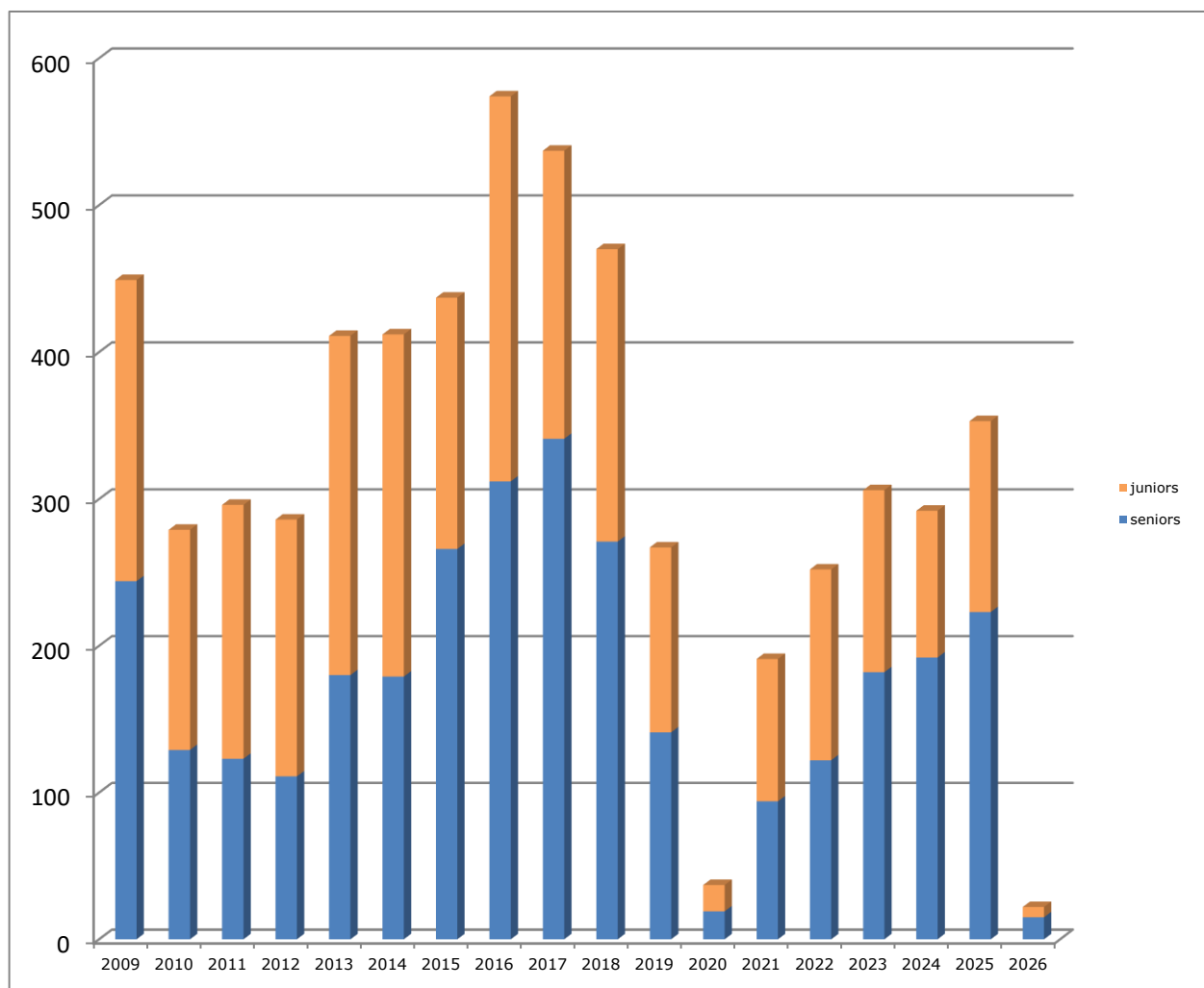
Non-paddling members are volunteers, distance members and those who only attend swimming sessions (up to 2014)



Numbers of competition entries

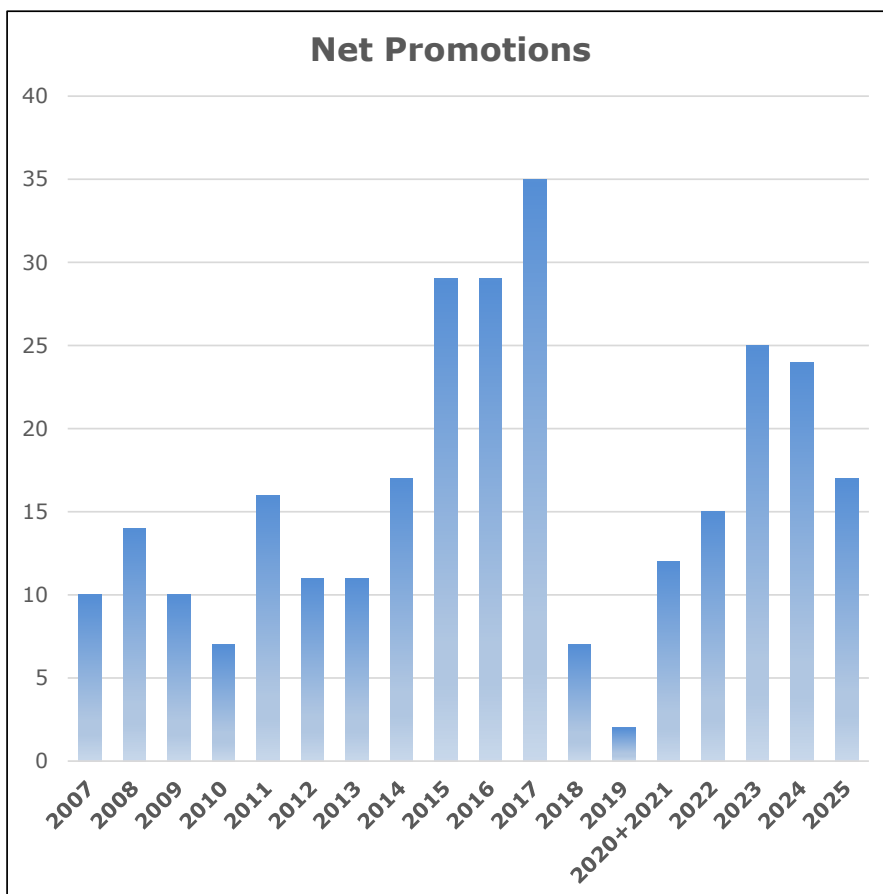
Calendar Year	seniors	juniors	total
2009	244	205	449
2010	129	150	279
2011	123	173	296
2012	111	175	286
2013	180	231	411
2014	179	233	412
2015	266	171	437
2016	312	262	574
2017	341	196	537
2018	271	199	464
2019	141	126	348
2020	19	18	37
2021	94	97	191
2022	122	130	252
2023	182	124	306
2024	192	100	292
2025	223	130	353
2026	15	7	22

Jan only



BSCC Divisional Promotions

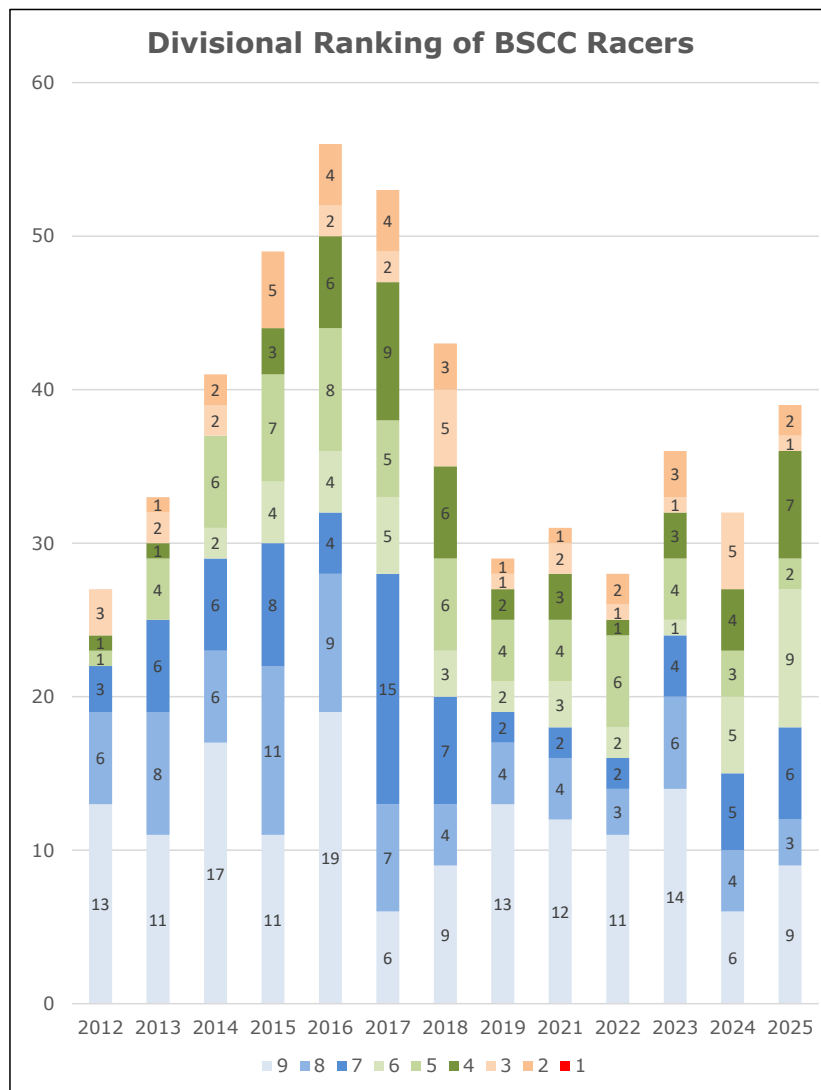
Calendar Year	Net Promotions
2007	10
2008	14
2009	10
2010	7
2011	16
2012	11
2013	11
2014	17
2015	29
2016	29
2017	35
2018	7
2019	2
2020+2021	12
2022	15
2023	25
2024	24
2025	17



Divisions of Active BSCC Racers at End of Calendar Year

End of year status of Members who have competed for BS in Class A races during the calendar year
From Nov 2023, this includes the Winter Series.

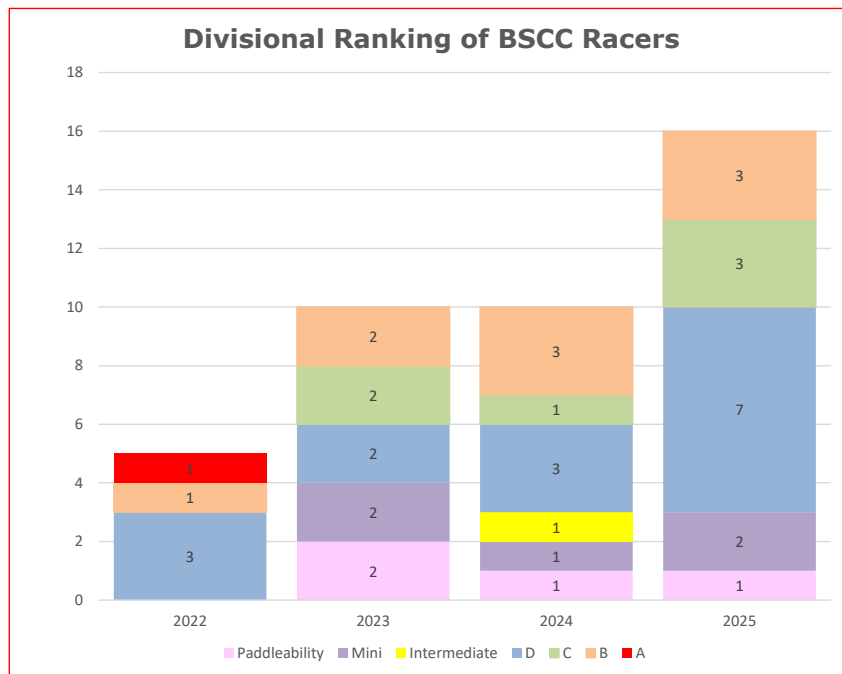
Div	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1													
2		1	2	5	4	4	3	1	1	2	3		2
3	3	2	2		2	2	5	1	2	1	1	5	1
4	1	1		3	6	9	6	2	3	1	3	4	7
5	1	4	6	7	8	5	6	4	4	6	4	3	2
6			2	4	4	5	3	2	3	2	1	5	9
7	3	6	6	8	4	15	7	2	2	2	4	5	6
8	6	8	6	11	9	7	4	4	4	3	6	4	3
9	13	11	17	11	19	6	9	13	12	11	14	6	9
	27	33	41	49	56	53	43	29	31	28	36	32	39



Sprint Rankings of Active BSCC Sprint Racers at End of Calendar Year

End of year status of Members who have competed for BSCC in National Sprints during the calendar year

Div	2022	2023	2024	2025
A	1			
B	1	2	3	3
C		2	1	3
D	3	2	3	7
Intermediate			1	
Mini		2	1	2
Paddleability		2	1	1
	5	10	10	16



BISHOPS STORTFORD CANOE CLUB

Year ended 31 December 2025

Treasurers Report

Due to increasing costs of running the club, as noted by the previous Treasurer in his report for the year ended 30 June 2024, the club needed to find a way to increase the takings from membership fees. In addition to this, the committee noted that the boat store was full, in part due to the large number of private boats, many of which are never used and do not serve to further the purpose of the club.

As a result, the committee decided to introduce a charge for premium membership over and above the usual membership subscriptions. This has been set at £20 per year and allows members private access to the club and its facilities, as well as storage of one private boat in the boat store. Premium membership is always at the discretion of the committee. There is also a charge for storage of additional boats.

By introducing premium membership, and by claiming gift aid on the general membership subscriptions and donations where possible, the club has been able to keep the general membership fees the same as they have been for over a decade.

The new membership system (MemberMojo) has allowed members to pay for their membership, and other payments, online. This has simplified the process of collecting monies and has made it harder to miss payments due for things like race entries. It has also made it far more convenient for members to make payments to the club.

The club has also signed up for Benevity, which has brought in additional income for the club.

Included in this report are the Club Accounts for the year to 31st December 2025. They consist of 3 elements, a Club Account, General Account, and a Balance Sheet. As the club became a CIO on 16th September 2024, the accounts for the period from that date to 31st December 2024 are also included in this report. Given that the 2024 numbers cover a period of less than four months, care should be taken not to draw comparisons between the two periods shown. Future reports will compare the last 2 full years of accounts.

Club account

This account shows the income from fees and the cost to run the club. The aim is for the fees to cover the running costs, including any unforeseen expenditure. This account shows a surplus of £522.78 this year.

General Account

This account details the fund-raising activities that are used to produce the funds, with any club account surplus to improve the facilities. This has a surplus of £3946.93.

Balance sheet

This shows the position of the club on the 31st December 2025.

BISHOPS STORTFORD CANOE CLUB

Year ended 31 December 2025

The club remains in a healthy position, financially, with reserves of £365,133.43.

The major items of expenditure were for additional 1 mini K1 and a new ergo. Major items of expenditure projected in the next 12 months are related to replacing the outside boat store that was damaged by a storm last winter.

Rich Winstanley

Treasurer

February 2025

BISHOPS STORTFORD CANOE CLUB

Year ended 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
		(Jan-Dec)		(16 Sep - 31 Dec)
Club Account				
Membership Fees		10,276.00		1,352.00
Club Fees		-		-
Courses		840.00		100.00
Racing		1,108.80		206.00
Refreshments		-		-
		12,224.80		1,658.00
Affiliations	583.20		-	
C&RT License	-		2,429.42	
Coaches Training	362.00		660.99	
Electricity	3,642.56		3,317.61	
Misc	60.00		-	
Insurance	2,685.93		-	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	3.70		-	
Racing	-			
Rates	858.28		465.59	
Refreshments	44.18		23.80	
Repairs & Renewals	1,120.12		1,006.33	
Water	2,342.05	11,702.02	678.93	8,582.67
	Surplus	522.78	Deficit	6,924.67
General Account				
Race Food		3.36	346.00	
BBQ		1,136.77		346.83
Annual Dinner		166.16		-
Xmas Draw		77.00		30.42
Bowling		48.91		-
Mulled Wine		5.02		36.00
Clothing		270.70		15.00
Grants/Donations		2,024.50		-
Interest/Charges		74.51	3.38	
		3,806.93		428.25
Grants/Donations	-	-	-	349.38
	Surplus	3,806.93	Surplus	78.87

BISHOPS STORTFORD CANOE CLUB

Year ended 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
		(Jan-Dec)		(16 Sep - 31 Dec)
Balance Sheet				
Fixed Assets:				
Property		290,019.43		290,019.43
Equipment		41,487.99		45,786.99
Perpetual Trophies		507.93		507.93
		332,015.35		336,314.35
Current Assets:				
Bank	32,487.82		27,061.68	
Cash	290.26		1,965.61	
Clothing Stock	340.00		147.07	
Racing Entry Prepaid	-		-	
Race Prizes Stock	-		-	
	33,118.08		29,174.36	
Current Liabilities:				
Membership in Adv	-		-	
	-		-	
Net Current Assets		33,118.08		29,174.36
		365,133.43		365,488.71
Represented by Reserves:-				
Balance b/f		365,488.71		372,334.51
Club Account Surplus		522.78		-
General Account Surplus		3,806.93		78.87
		369,818.42		372,413.38
Club Account Deficit		-		6,924.67
Deprection of Assets		4,684.99		-
		365,133.43		365,488.71