



PaddleUK Marathon Racing Committee

2026 Annual Consultative Meeting

This meeting will be held online on Monday 15th June 2026, commencing at 8:00pm for no longer than 1 hour.

Meeting details

Zoom Link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3763035895229?p=D6HU4rXvwPGs2Nc277>

Meeting ID: 376 303 589 522 9

Passcode: Eo3VK3UG

We use a one club, one vote system.

Clubs must nominate their chosen voter online with this form by 10pm Sunday 14th June 2026.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScGM-cfDifcSWNidZECU9oZA8uBUlgRjvBR-Bk_-1fhXRyAFw/viewform?usp=header

Voting delegates will receive a link to vote, at the start of the meeting. Every club should endeavor to send one nominated representative to the meeting, **but the meeting is open to all PUK members and supporters.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2025 Annual Consultative Meeting (Appendix A)
3. Report from the Chairman, Stan Missen (Appendix B)
4. **Guest Presentation**, Billy Butler
5. Election of Committee Posts (Appendix C)

We have 6 retiring members who have served their 2-year term on the committee (Stan Missen, Mick Nadal, Bryn Price, Roland Lawler, Lee Barnett, Sally Hartland). (Stan Missen, Bryn Price, Roland Lawler, Lee Barnett, Sally Hartland) are happy to stand again for re-election however Mick Nadal is not able to do so.

We have two unfilled seats and would warmly invite anyone interested in the work of the marathon racing committee to get in touch at marathon.secretary@vol.paddleuk.org.uk, particularly if you have an interest in helping with: Coaching, Senior Athlete Development & Safeguarding.

The committee are able co-opt a members to the committee at any time for a specific project(s)/purpose(s) in addition to formal elected members. We are always looking to strengthen our Selection Committee in addition.

a. Chair - Stan Missen retiring by annual rotation.

b. Committee - Four nominations for six committee places:

Bryn Price (MAI), Roland Lawler (ELM), Lee Barnett (RDG), Sally Hartland (BAN) Any others wishing to join the committee should submit their names asap.

6. Finance - report from the Treasurer, Joe Fitzpatrick (Appendix D)
7. Short Course Nationals in 2027
8. Flat water archive and results - <https://canoeingresults.com>
9. Wild Card Entry to Hasler Finals
10. Issues raised by clubs or individuals for the MRC to consider at future meetings

Appendix A

PaddleUK Marathon Racing Committee

2025 Annual Consultative Meeting Minutes

Present at the meeting. *Names were taken by registering in the online chat function prior to the start of the meeting. As a result, names of those joining later may not have been collected:*

Committee

Stan Missen (SM) (Chair)	Holly Mobbs (HM)
Evan Shephard (ES)	Joe Fitzpatrick (JF)
Sally Hartland (SH)	Roland Lawler (RL)
Roland Lawler (RL)	Brian Chapman (BC)
Anoushka Freeman (AF)	Graham Warland (GW)
Mick Nadal (MN)	Bryn Price (BP)
Lee Barnett (LB)	

Club representatives

Graham Simpkin (Glanford and Scunthorpe)	Siobhan Urquhart (Shropshire Paddlesport)
Andrew Leggatt (Shropshire Paddlesport)	Graham Warland (Banbury & District CC)
Caroline Dallimore (Cardiff Bay Kayakers)	Julian Medina (Kingston Kayak Club)
Millie Armitage (Chelmsford Canoe Club)	Evan Shephard (Reading Canoe Club)
Margaret Chapman (Kirkcaldy Canoe Club)	Ed Cooper (Newbury Canoe Club)
Vicky Simmons (Bradford on Avon Canoe Club)	Simon Eskriett (Gailey Canoe Club)
Doug Pemble (Addlestone Canoe Club)	Pete Wilkes (Fowey River Canoe Club)
Jo Bates (Falcon Canoe Club)	Keith Holt (Royal Canoe Club)
Andy Birkett (Richmond Canoe Club)	Lynne Fender (Nottingham Kayak Club)
Bill Sharpe (Truro Canoe Club)	Catherine Shirley (Ealing Canoe Club)
Vicky Metcalfe (Pangbourne Paddlesport)	Joe Fitzpatrick (Bishop Stortford's CC)
Lee Barnett (Worcester Canoe Club)	Matthew Villaruel (Ealing Canoe Club)
Bill Lawrenson (Burton Phoenix Canoe Club)	Paul Lane (Maidstone Canoe Club)
Julia Solihull (Solihull Canoe Club)	Peter Gorman (Wey Kayak Club)
Graham Mobbs (Lord Wandsworth College)	Norman Mason (Nottingham Kayak Club)
Andy Coomes (Poole Harbour Canoe Club)	David Moore (Tamar Valley Nomads)

The Chair reminded attendees of the reason to have an ACM. It is an opportunity for individuals and clubs to express any concerns or discuss ideas that can help improve our sport. However, feedback is able to be made at any time throughout the year – either via the Secretary or through the Chair of the MRC.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Emma Riley (Fowey).

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Consultative Meeting

The minutes of the 2024 Annual Conservative Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Guest Presentation, Ekaitz Saies

Unfortunately, Ekaitz was unable to attend. It is hoped that the ACM will host other guest speakers in future.

4. Report from the Chairman, Stan Missen

The Chairman directed attendees to review his report circulated in the papers prior to the meeting:

I last reported at the ACM in July 2024.

The 2024, moving into 2025, season has not been without its issues. As always! Happily, however, most have been well within the capabilities of your committee, and those who so helpfully agree to be co-opted in the work that we do. All involved, whether elected or co-opted, spend a considerable amount of their voluntary time helping keep things on an even path and we should all thank them for their individual input.

Perhaps the most challenging problem for event organisers has been the changing weather patterns which have left us with either too little or too much water in our rivers and canals! We, as a committee, rely heavily upon clubs and race organisers, as well as our regional marathon advisors who have close involvement with their waterways, to assess risks and make safety a prime concern.

It is vital that we continue to be risk aware but also promote the skills and experience that in itself provides a higher degree of security, by allowing paddlers to gain experience on flooded and challenging rivers, rather than cancel too early and destroy any chance of gaining this valuable and lifesaving experience.

Financially, with continued tight fiscal management by our Treasurer, our finances, whilst still under some pressure, have managed to maintain inflows at near previous levels. This is despite our central grant from PUK being a little less than we had hoped for, based upon our budget for the season. Very helpfully, acknowledgement followed that we should support our Para athletes which then saw some additional resources made available.

As always, our international representation has been wide and stronger with some excellent performances and long-awaited medals, at the highest level of international competition. We should all extend our congratulations to the achievements attained by those individuals. The new look website has been long awaited and all the hard work put in has certainly brought it up to date for news and rules.

For the first time we were able to send a small representative team to the FISU World University Championships hosted by Montemor-o-Velho.

In conjunction with the DW Organisation we were pleased to be able to help host the National Schools Championships at Hawley Lake in November.

We must thank those involved with the organisation of and coaching at the JDS training and skills days, held over the winter period.

A timely cancellation of the Hasler finals at Richmond, whilst disappointing, meant that costs and paddlers travel plans were able to be satisfactorily dealt with in good time but it was a huge disappointment for all those individuals and clubs that had spent so much time during the season to qualify. Weather conditions were again to blame.

January saw the new MRC selection policy launched with various updates to address previous concerns. Clarity being the key. We must thank the selection committee for all their hard work in this respect and throughout the year, studying performances and the data that allows us to select teams and deliver that much needed international experience. This helps enhance our competitive stance on the world stage, as well as give clear expectation to our up and coming athletes as to what is necessary for them to achieve to excel at international level.

We are delighted to be able to send a small contingent to the World Games to be held in China on 10-11th August. Good luck to them.

We have been encouraging paddlers to test their skills and gain experience, that they may not find on normal Hasler courses, by attending some of the non-Hasler events in our calendar.....over 30 at the last count to consider! For a full list see the News item January 2025 on the MRC website.

The National Short Course Nationals proved a huge success in May 2025. The MRC team, assisted by many others, put on a terrific day's racing with some thrills and spills at the portage, resulting in some specular close up portage photographs! This event, master minded by our dear friend James Smythe has been going from strength to strength over the last four years and entries were higher again this year, no doubt partly attributed to the early bird discount offered!

Major events for the summer '25 are the Long Course Nationals on the 26th -27th July hosted by Norwich CC and the Hasler finals on 5th October hosted by Worcester CC.

With a packed calendar, there are numerous events both domestically and internationally to gain experience and enjoy. Good luck in your competition.

4. Election of Committee Posts

The MRC elects places on a rolling basis, for a period of two years with the election of the Chair taking place annually. We had 6 retiring members who had served their 2-year term (Stan Missen, Evan Shephard, Joe Fitzpatrick, Graham Warland, Holly Mobbs, Anoushka Freeman). 5 (Stan Missen, Evan Shephard, Joe Fitzpatrick, Graham Warland, Holly Mobbs) stood for re-election and 1 did not (Anoushka Freeman).

Since none of the roles were contested, there was no need for a vote but the Chair and Committee positions were proposed and seconded as below:

a. Chair - Stan Missen (BOA). Proposer: Graham Warland, Seconder: Bill Sharpe.

b. Committee - Evan Shephard (RDG), Joe Fitzpatrick (BPS), Graham Warland (BAN), Holly Mobbs (WEY). Proposer: Joe Fitzpatrick, Seconder: Bryn Price.

The MRC can co-opt members at any time to serve on the committee or for the purposes of undertaking specific work or projects. Anyone interested in joining the MRC is welcome to contact the secretary at any stage to discuss options and needs that they may be able to help fulfil.

5. Finance - report from the Treasurer, Joe Fitzpatrick

The Treasurer gave an overview of his report circulated in the papers prior to the meeting, with particular mention/clarification to the reasoning behind the MRC wanting to own a minibus (in that it provides that we always have availability of a minibus for our own needs and it can be partly funded as it is also a source of revenue to the MRC when rented to other disciplines):

Last year we made a loss of £10,583.01 this was due to several factors including some key races getting cancelled due to weather conditions, writing off old medals and kit, and putting funds aside for a new minibus.

Racing numbers and numbers through entering through our online entry system bringing in levy revenue have been maintained this year and the first half of this year the only race cancelled so far has been the Ross Warland. It is positive to have paddlers racing across the country.

Paddle UK has supported us again with funding upwards of £40,000. This is much needed and appreciated. Paddle UK have also supported Marathon Races like the Devizes to Westminster (DW). The MRC has also been able to support the DW and Thames200 by offering our minibus as a support vehicle along the course as required. Further to this PaddleUK are now hosting the MRC website which helps further reduce our overheads in 2025.

The costs of international trips has become an increasing challenge to the MRC, with many events being hosted outside of Europe. Traveling to China bears extra costs and pressure on the international logistics team, who have dealt with the challenges well.

Last year we increased the Athlete Contribution to £500 per paddler to allow a First Past the Post Policy. This year it has been increased to £600 to increase the team size to 24 Paddlers for the European Championship. As a committee we do our best to keep costs for paddlers as low as possible.

Last year we put aside £5000 for a minibus and we will be looking at purchasing a new minibus this year. The committee feels it still needs to own a minibus to make sure one is always available for the trips and to help support our ultra marathon races.

Following the overview above, Andy Birkett (Richmond) requested an income statement and/or balance sheet to be shared via email and the Treasurer agreed that this could be provided.

6. Any other business/issues raised for the MRC to consider at future meetings

1. Information on the changes that have been made to Racman were explained, to include:
 1. *Addition of age category for GS* - The rationale is to enable GS paddlers to see how they compare relative to their own age group. The function was set live but then discovered not to be backwards compatible with Excel 2013. It is hoped it will be live again by the end of summer.
 2. *SUP category* - The rationale is to enable paddlers to race in SUP as well as kayak/canoe and have different rankings for each. It also enables race organisers to mark a race as suitable/unsuitable for SUPs (e.g. a race with low bridges may not be suitable).
 3. *GUI 'club' to represent 'Guide Paddler'* - The rationale is to enable Guide paddlers to race in any division, irrespective of the division they might normally race in, so that paddlers aren't forced to race in a higher division because of the division of their partner. To use this function, select 'Guide' as the club.
2. The use of the Racman system to host a short course event was discussed, particularly in relation to the experiences of Burton Phoenix Canoe Club. It was noted that this system will be improved to become more user friendly.
3. It was noted that a Banbury Canoe Club member has kindly agreed to create a paper to document race organising roles (thanks go to them & Graham Warland).
4. It was requested that the rule of only the top 7 races counting to the Hasler Final be reviewed, due to concerns that it does affect attendance at races in clubs at the edge of a region (e.g. Gloucester in the South-West). The original rationale for setting this rule (regarding the carbon footprint of attending far away races) was clarified and it was explained that race entries have been monitored and will shortly be reviewed by the committee, as we come to the end of the two-year trial period.
5. A concern relating to Rule 30e (below) was expressed:

"Points will be awarded to each paddler in both singles and doubles - 50 for 1st, 49 for 2nd, 48 for 3rd and so on down to 2 points to all paddlers who finish within 110% of the time of the fastest boat not promoted in a singles race and within 110% of the winners' time in a doubles race. One point only will be awarded for paddlers who finish outside the 110% limit irrespective of their position."

The concern is that when a particularly fast pairing wins a race, many other competitors score only one point. The proposal was that the rule be amended to read:

*"Points will be awarded to each paddler in both singles and doubles - 50 for 1st, 49 for 2nd, 48 for 3rd and so on down to 2 points to all paddlers who finish within **110% of the time of the fastest boat not promoted** in a singles race and within **115% ~~110%~~** of the winners' time in a doubles race. One point only will be awarded for paddlers who finish outside the **110% or 115% ~~110%~~** limit irrespective of their position.*

In a K2, each paddler will receive the points allocation, so 1st boat 100 points, 2nd boat 98 points, 3rd boat 96 points and so on.

This is to apply to all races except divisions 9 singles and 9 doubles which will receive 50 for 1st, 49 for 2nd, 48 for 3rd and so on down to 2 points for all paddlers who finish.”

It was agreed that the committee would consider this, while highlighting that rule changes are made with caution as they often come with complications in other areas that create a greater inequality for more clubs, classes, regions, individuals.

6. The issue of qualification for small clubs at the Hasler Final was raised. Suggestions to overcome this included: a) whether two clubs could join together in their qualification attempt, b) whether a non-qualifying club each year could be invited on rotation, c) whether every club could be invited but those who have not qualified could only send a restricted team size. This has previously been discussed and no solution has been found but it will be discussed again by the committee.

7. It was noted that a spate of club members have been struggling to enter through the entry system as a result of clubs not updating their record on the PaddleUK Club Portals. Clubs are therefore reminded that they must update their club records as if a paddler is not listed on the club portal they will not be able to enter through the marathon system.

8. It was noted that a few rogue entries have slipped through the entry system in recent races (e.g. a Div 3 paddler being entered in Div 1 and then showing up as DNS). It is highly possible that these are as a result of people intentionally being disruptive, which is particularly noticeable in races where payment is not taken on the entry system. Clubs/race organisers who observe such issues are kindly asked to let Evan Shepherd know so that it can be monitored.

9. Clubs were reminded that James Hives is on hand to help with the implementation of the Standards for Deployment. Contact - james.hives@paddleuk.org.uk.

11. Thanks were extended to Evan Shepherd for all his work on the entries system, noting that he is extremely responsive to questions and fixes issues incredibly rapidly.

12. Thanks were extended to Holly Mobbs for all her hard work in reporting on the European Championships on the MRC website and social media.

13. Attendees were reminded that any queries should be addressed to marathon.secretary@vol.paddleuk.org.uk, who will be glad to address them.

14. Finally the Chair thanked one again, the outgoing Secretary for all her input and hard work over the last few years.

There being no other matters to discuss, everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting formally closed at 8:35pm.

PaddleUK Marathon Racing Committee

Appendix B - Chairmans Report May 2026

My last report was in May 2025. Since then, we have witnessed some fantastic performances at all levels and we have all had the opportunity to enter what seems like, endless events; weekly at Club and Hasler races, Nationally and Internationally. We need to be truly thankful that we have clubs and volunteers willing to give their own time to provide us with so many competitive opportunities.

Sadly, this year, as last, we are seeing some of our long-standing Marathon Racing Committee members retiring and not wishing to stand again; a number after years of dedicated service. We must all thank those that have and continue to give their time and looking at the future, most importantly, we must all encourage and find the next generation to take their place. Without these volunteers our sport cannot thrive and prosper. Sadly, it is very hard to find replacements with the experience and dedication needed. Please think who you know and who might be willing to stand or be co-opted to help with committee work, helping form the direction of Marathon competition over the next 10 years.

The European Championships in Portugal in June 25 witnessed some impressive UK performances across all sections, Senior & U23, Junior, Para and Masters with many medals but also some heart break. Of particular note was James Russell's superb performance, making British history becoming European Champion in men's K1. Also, Will Short showed his huge future potential, his performance keeping supporters on the edge of their seats! Just two of many notable results.

We were pleased to be supported well financially, by Paddle UK grant funding which together with our own funds has enabled us to send teams to many events internationally. The German Nationals as a development trip. Impressive performances were seen in Spain, with our British K4 squads performing well. In July, Norwich CC hosted the National Championships with some closely fought competition. We were invited to send two paddlers to the World Games. Large numbers of British paddlers, of all abilities, competed at the annual Sella Descent, in Spain during August. September saw the World Championships in Hungary where we were able to send a full team whilst helping support a large unfunded Masters team. As we moved into the 25/26 season a large entry turned out for the Hasler finals, hosted by Worcester CC. Despite some testing weather, with high winds and a swollen river, the challenging conditions saw some competitive and hard racing which really challenged paddlers at all levels. Another opportunity for our young development paddlers was sending a team to the French Nationals in October. Jointly with the SRC we have supported JDS development days.

The early part of 2026 saw a huge entry at Waterside A of 500 but disappointingly less numbers entering the following races despite reasonable weather. We sent a team to the Waterlands, a fantastic event to gain that vital big start line experience and challenging water & portage conditions. Again, we managed to provide a small but useful financial contribution to help support the DW committee with their event. We encourage clubs to look at opportunities to enter junior teams in 2027 to balance the current dominance of the school's entry that the DW now sees. We have continued to help and support Schools racing with the National Schools championships held at Hawley Lake.

The Short Course Nationals 26 was held at Manvers Lake for the first time, a new venue to compete at but entries expected from Northern areas did not materialise and we were slightly down on previous years. The event went well with competitive racing and some impressive portaging! Our aim to is rotate the location of this event into different regions giving as many as possible opportunities to take part.

Your committee have continued to listen to any feedback received, making changes to our racing rules and dealing with incidents and protests where they have not been able to be dealt with by the club

organising officials. Examples of unfairness in our rules have been addressed, and small changes have been made where beneficial. We have revisions relating to portage 'paddle past' rules, to help those that need this to enable them to continue to compete. We continue to monitor and listen to club and paddler views and encourage you to contact us, throughout the season about any matters relating to our discipline, not only through this annual consultative meeting.



PaddleUK MRC Annual Consultative Meeting 2026 Appendix C - Candidates for Election

The following have volunteered to stand for election to the MRC at the ACM.

We have 6 retiring members who have served their 2 year term (Stan Missen, Mick Nadal, Bryn Price, Roland Lawler, Sally Hartland, Lee Barnett).

5 (Stan Missen, Bryn Price, Roland Lawler, Sally Hartland, Lee Barnett) are standing for re-election and 1 is not (Mick Nadal).

We have two unfilled seat and would warmly invite anyone interested to get in touch at marathon.secretary@vol.paddleuk.org.uk, particularly if you have an interest in helping with: Coaching, Senior Athlete Development & Safeguarding. The committee can co-opt a member to the committee at any time for a specific project(s)/purpose(s).

CHAIR - One Candidate.

Stan Missen, Bradford on Avon CC

Proposer: Mick Nadal. Seconder: Graham Warland

I believe that our sport needs openness and clarity, and I have tried to bring that during my past few years as Chairman of the MRC. Having been involved in Marathon for many years and being from one of the smaller regional clubs myself, I have also tried to ensure that everyone's concerns and opinions are brought to, and are shown equal importance, in the work of the MRC. I am willing to stand for another term if required. I would encourage others involved with our sport to consider joining the MRC and contribute to the running of marathon racing.

MEMBERS – Four candidates for six positions:

1. Bryn Price (MAI)
2. Roland Lawler (ELM)
3. Sally Hartland (BAN)
4. Lee Bennett (WOR)

Bryn Price, Maidstone Canoe Club

Proposer: Robert Molnar. Seconder: Rachel Dennis.

Race team lead at Maidstone CC. Coordinator of the Masters Marathon Team for the Worlds and European championships. Runs a charity that focuses on using sport to help identified youngsters develop life skills.

Has been on the committee for 5 years and is the lead for Masters Team and environmental issues and understudy for the Rules and regulations.

Roland Lawler, Elmbridge

Proposer: Scott Hynds. Seconder: Ivan Lawler.

I started canoeing in 1959 at Richmond Canoe Club, at time when there were no racing coaches in British clubs at all. From this I developed an interest in coaching and so attended a series of top level European sprint events, observed technique, and had discussions with coaches from the leading countries. I took this knowledge and applied it to my club paddlers, and became involved with the formation of British teams through the paddlers I coached.

My first Olympic Games was Munich 1972 as a coach/manager, and my last was Atlanta 1996 as a coach. Over this period I worked with most of Olympic teams. As well as my Olympic involvement, I have coached racing canoeing at all levels, working with numerous National Sprint and Marathon Teams and in canoe clubs for over 60 years. I am chief coach at Elmbridge Canoe Club which I co-founded in 1982 as a club with a total focus on kayak racing. After 30 years in existence the club can now boast 43 World Championship Medals with 19 athletes (men, women, boys and girls), and three athletes having been awarded an MBE. My achievements as a coach have been officially recognised by both British Canoeing and Sports Coach UK.

Sally Hartland, Banbury

Proposer: Evan Shepherd. Seconder: Holly Mobbs.

Whilst paddling has only been in my life for five years, it definitely seems to have taken over. Learning to paddle only because my then 10 year old son had completed the beginner course at Banbury Canoe Club, I was not going to race, purely support my youngest. After being with the club for just a year, I was not only racing but also took over as Marathon Team Leader and joined the committee. We are both now regularly racing and have encouraged my daughter on to the water too. I am also running regular strength and conditioning sessions for our juniors using my personal training background.

I love encouraging everyone to get involved with our sport, whether it is our young GS paddlers, those coming into the sport later in life like myself along with parents and grandparents who enjoy our sport from the bank and are invaluable in supporting paddlers.

Attention to detail and good communication skills have seen me take over the communications for our club and see me organising projects and events for the club. I am a team player with a "get it done" attitude.

Since joining the Marathon Racing Committee I have taken over the role of secretary along with looking after the medals and trophies for National events.

Lee Bennett, Worcester

Proposer: Evan Shepherd. Seconder: Kevin Smith.

I have been involved in water-based activities for most of my life, and very much enjoy kayaking, sailing and surfing.

Over the past ten years, I have been hugely involved with my two boys' progression in canoeing, starting with lightning racing through to marathon and sprint. I very much enjoy the social aspect and helping other people and children get the most out of their canoeing experience.

As an active MRC Committee member for the past two years, I feel that I have brought a lot of practical help and enthusiasm to this role. I am very much a doer!

As a qualified RYA Day Skipper and holding an international boat license, I am also able to help with driving and supporting coaching launches for training and events.

Over the past 3 year I have help with arranging February half term training camps at Reading, Dorney and Portugal with Imogen for 31 athletes.

I am very keen to be involved with the Marathon Racing Committee again to bring my passion, enthusiasm and practical and organisational skills.

Paddle UK Marathon Racing Committee

Appendix D - 2026 ACM Treasurer's Report

Our financial year runs to 31st October so the last set of fully audited accounts are up to 31st Oct 2025. We carried forward reserves of £45,928, with a total committee value of £50,929.

Overview

Question	Answer	What it means
Did we make or lose money?	We made £7084	After losing money last year, we're back in a more comfortable position this year.
How much money does the committee have?	£50,929 total	This is everything the committee owns minus what we owe.
How much cash do we have in the bank?	£45,928	This is money we can actually spend right now.
Did we buy anything big?	Yes - purchased a "new" minibus from a second hand purchase from PaddleUK.	We invested £13,660 in this "new" minibus to future proof ongoing international trip transports. This is a second-hand Mercedes from the PaddleUK current fleet.
Do we owe anyone money?	Yes - £7,133	This is an outstanding invoice that has yet to be sent but still recorded on our records to keep track of it.

Committee Assets

Item	Value	Explanation
"New" second-hand minibus	£10,245	Brought for £13660, now worth less due to wear (depreciation)
Trophies etc.	£1,600	Committee trophies and relevant equipment in relation to our major events
Barclay's Bank Account	£45,653	The MRC main bank account
PaddleUK Account	£275	Secondary account
VAT owned to us	£289	Money HMRC owes us back
TOTAL WE OWN	£58,062	

Comparison to last year

	2024 (Last financial year)	2025 (this financial year)
Profit or Loss	- £10,583	+ £7,084
Committee Total Worth	£43,845	£50,929
Cash in bank	£46,377	£45,928

Summary and Overall Report

The committee is in good financial health overall. Finances are being carefully managed and monitored, while investments are able to happen (e.g. “new” minibus purchase).

The MRC income is made up of Paddle UK grants and race levies from marathon races. Levies can prove unpredictable due to race cancellations and numbers attending events. For example, in 2024, the Hasler Finals were cancelled which contributed to a potential loss. Competitors numbers are, however, holding steady and slowly returning to pre-COVID levels. Our annual profit or loss is also very dependent upon international costs and where the European and World Championships are actually held in any one year. For example, in 2026, our finances will be tighter due to the World Championships taking place in Argentina.

The MRC cash in bank at circa £50k is around 50% of the annual committee expenditure supporting domestic and international racing, development opportunities (JDS) and our major events. Paddle UK prefers the committee cash reserves to be less than £50k, ensuring we do not have excessive cash but use our income and grants to further our discipline activity and support paddlers and clubs at all levels.

It is important to note that we cannot assume that PaddleUK grants to Marathon will continue to increase in the future and could, in real terms, reduce. Marathon needs to continue to work towards self-sufficiency to stabilise its long-term future in this country.



PaddleUK MRC Annual Consultative Meeting 2026

Appendix E - Items raised for the MRC to consider

The following items have been raised by members of marathon racing clubs for the committee to discuss. Views on these from the marathon racing community are very welcome. If you do not wish to put your views forward at the ACM, please send them to the secretary at marathon.secretary@vol.paddleuk.org.uk

1. Questions from clubs or individuals?

If you have any other issues you would like the MRC to discuss during the 2026/27 year, please contact the secretary at marathon.secretary@vol.paddleuk.org.uk