

Draft Minutes of

THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE DEBATE SELECTION COMMITTEE

5th Week Michaelmas Term 2018

Sunday 4th November

The Morris Room, 17:00

Present: **The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee** (Lee Chin Wee, *Trinity College*), **Communications Officer** (Andrew Seow, *Lincoln College*), **DSC Treasurer** (Bryan Yan, *Keble College*), **Standing Committee Delegate** (Sara Dube, *St. Hugh's College*), **DSC Secretary** (Rosa Thomas, *St. Anne's College*), **Externals Officer** (Jason Xiao, *Wadham College*), **Director of Training** (Rachel O Nunain, *Trinity College*)

Attending: **The Member of Secretary's Committee** (Olivia Railton, *Wadham College*)

Apologies: **The President** (Stephen Horvath, *New College*), **Internals Officer** (Louis Collier, *St. Hugh's College*), **Access and Equity Officer** (Brian Wong, *Wolfson College*)

Absent:

Late:

DSC opens at 17:05

Business of the CDSC

Oxford IV Update

The DSC Treasurer says that 16-24 more people are needed for crash.

The Externals Officer says that Junhao has been accused of sexual assault in the Asia circuit and that Junhao is now suing the person who has accused him. KCL banned him from their IV and he threatened to sue them too. The Externals Officer says that it would be difficult to ban Junhao from the Oxford IV as there is no concrete evidence against him and suggests not allowing him into socials to limit his exposure to the tournament.

The DSC Treasurer notes that he is worried about how to frame the fact that Junhao will not be attending socials.

The Communications Officer says that as we are unable to verify the truth of the allegations, it may be best for Junhao to be out of a social situation where such allegations could arise again.

The CDSC points out that there is a risk of legal action if we bar Junhao from coming.

The Director of Training asks how hard we have tried to verify the veracity of the allegations.

The DSC Secretary asks if there is a way we could ask a circuit of institution that Junhao is from about the allegations if it's likely that he would sue if we ban him from coming.

The Communications Officer says that Junhao is not on a circuit.

The Externals Officer says that Junhao has moved institutions and that he will message the convenors of KCL and Durham, who tried to ban him, and see whether they have any further information.

The CDSC reiterates that we can strongly discourage Junhao from attending socials.

The Communications Officer says that he will update everyone tomorrow. He says that Imogen Edwards-Lawrence has informed him that Cveta kissed an underage debater and provided them with alcohol.

The DSC Secretary says that these are not grounds to ban her from the IV but that she should not be asked to act as an Equity Officer. She adds that as Cveta was not yet announced as Equity Officer this wouldn't create a public situation.

The Externals Officer asks who the alternate choice is.

The Communications Officer says it is Emily.

The Director of Training points out that Emily would be speaking in the IV.

The Externals Officer says that Emily can both speak and act as Equity Officer.

The Communications Officer says that this would not be possible.

Oxford Women's Update

The Standing Committee Delegate says that she will update the CDSC on crash later.

The Director of Training says it should be made clear that males can take crash and run for the Open.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton says that she will make a post on the Facebook page asking any participants to get in contact with her if they are uncomfortable crashing with a male. She says that all teams but one have pre-regged and that most invoices have come in.

The CDSC asks whether they are going to break even or run a small profit.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton says that they will probably break even and maybe have a small profit. She says they can buy off any left over alcohol from the IV, says that the Oxford Belles will be performing free of charge on Sunday and that they will not be providing breakfast or lunch.

The CDSC asks The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton to send him the exact numbers for finances by the end of the week.

The Director of Training asks how many rooms will be used.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton says 10 rooms will be needed but that some are being used by Bridgewater for interviews.

The Communications Officer asks if there are any non-alcoholic drinks being provided for the IV.

The Externals Officer says that there are.

The Communications Officer suggests keeping one non-alcoholic drink separate from the other drinks to make sure that people don't use it as a mixer. He asks what the IV arrangements are for international and IONA arrivals.

The DSC Treasurer says that he will give people the contact details of their crash provider so they can get in touch with them.

The DSC Secretary says that it is a problem that it is a requirement to help out with crash for the IV but not for women's and asks to put more pressure on getting women to judge. She says that Vikki has agreed to judge and that she will chase Ana to judge as well.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton says that there are 16 responses on the external judge reg form.

The Director of Training asks if The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton has tried asking people in advanced squads to judge and says that some of the new schoolies can chair bin rooms.

The DSC Secretary says that Tara could chair in case we are desperate.

The Communications Officer suggests getting in touch with Dhruva, who will have access to the judge test.

The DSC Secretary asks how we will get people to sign up to help out with Women's the next year.

The CDSC suggests offering extra helper points.

The Director of Training asks if there was any IA budget.

The DSC Secretary says that there is some but not a lot.

The External Officer asks whether it is possible to ask the CAs for the Oxford IV if they can reach out to any female IAs about Women's.

The DSC Secretary says that there should be helper points given out for judging Women's.

The CDSC agrees.

Selection Criteria for Cambridge IV

The CDSC suggests waiving the novice quota for the Cambridge IV and says he is willing to raise the amount of novices going to the Bristol Pro-am and later London tournaments. He suggests considering a prominent freshers team as well.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Ms. Railton points out that teams can become quite good by debating against much better teams.

The External Officer disagrees and says that he views the Cambridge IV as the next best thing to Euros and Worlds. He thinks it should be a competitive selection.

The CDSC says that given we are sending 5 judges to the IV a number of novice debaters could also be sent as judges.

The DSC Treasurer says that he doesn't think sending more novices for the Cambridge IV in judging spots is a substitute for sending more novices to other tournaments.

The DSC Secretary points out that judging is a useful exercise.

The Communications Officer says that if the novice quota is waived this has to be compensated for in a future tournament as per the Standing Orders.

The CDSC suggests designating the London Open as a developmental tournament where more novice teams can be sent.

Training workshops

The CDSC says that he will work with the Director of Training to hold workshops on a topic of choosing in squads where members can ask questions to more experienced debaters.

The Communications Officer asks whether this would be open to anyone.

The CDSC says that it would.

The Communications Officer suggests holding small breakout sessions after the workshops that can be run by the more experienced debaters.

The CDSC suggests a trial run of this idea in MT18 WK8. He also says that he will coordinate holding Novice of the Year in HT19.

The Communications Officer asks when this would happen as Oxford Schools Regional Rounds will be taking place next term.

The CDSC says it will happen in HT19 WK1.

The Communications Officer suggests Sunday of HT19 WK2.

Chin – will work with Rachel to do workshops on a topic of choosing in squads where members can ask questions to experienced debaters etc

The DSC Secretary suggests calling it Fresher of the Year instead of Novice of the Year.

The CDSC agrees.

The Externals Officer gives an update that Junhao was banned from the circuit in China.

The CDSC say that it is good practice to ban Junhao if he's been banned from other circuits and tournaments.

The Communications Officer suggests bringing this up in TSC the next day.

The Externals Officer says that Durham banned Junhao but was not threatened by a lawsuit. .

Helper points

The CDSC suggests increasing the number of points given to squad coaches.

The Director of Training suggests 6 points per term.

The DSC Secretary says that if this is implemented they will also have to change the amount of points given for other activities – for example convening Women's is currently only 4 or 6 points and squads coaching should not surpass this.

The Communications Officer says that 4 points seem like a reasonable amount for coaching squads.

The CDSC says that he wants to avoid helper points inflation.

The DSC Treasurer says that he thinks it's more sensible to make this half a point per session coached.

The Communications Officer says that the total would be 4 points if the coaches go every week but if they miss one they won't get the full 4 points. He says that they should take coaches in good faith that they have committed to coaching.

The DSC Secretary says that people can put more effort into coaching with lesson plans.

The Externals Officer says he can share a curriculum with the rest of DSC.

The CDSC moves to change the amount of helper points for coaching to 4 points per term.
Motion passes nem. com.

The DSC Secretary says that this change can apply for MT18 onwards.

Money

The CDSC brings up the idea of hosting Oxford World Schools in TT19.

The Communications Officer says that it's difficult to get resources in Trinity as this is exam term.

The CDSC says that he needs to take into account the scheduling of Oxford Schools as well.

The Externals Officer suggests doing Oxford World Schools instead of ICYD.

The Communications Officer says that more details on this are needed.

The Externals Officer says that he will draft a proposal after the Oxford IV.

The Communications Officer suggests getting in touch with Trenton as the CA of ICYD this year has mentioned that Oxford may need to hold ICYD Finals Day.

The CDSC says that he will do this and get back to DSC.

Airline choices

The CDSC says that the airlines chosen by DSC for international tournaments should have a 7/7 safety rating.

The DSC Treasurer explains the context of this proposal is the suggestion of taking Ethiopian Air to Cape Town Worlds, which may not be safe.

The Communications Officer suggests talking to STA regarding travel as 2020 Worlds in Thailand will be relatively expensive.

The DSC Secretary points out that people aren't always flying from London and asks if it would be possible to buy flights in advance with insurance and then to change the name for the flights.

The Director of Training points out that people are flying in from different places.

The DSC Secretary says that we could select teams and book flights earlier as a long-term policy.

The CDSC asks the DSC Treasurer to follow up on the STA Travel.

The Member of Secretary's Committee Olivia Railton says that flights are cheapest 70 days before the flight itself.

Business of the Treasurer

The DSC Treasurer says that Ms. Timmons has submitted an expenses form 2.5 weeks late and asks whether this should be penalized per DSC meeting missed.

The Communications Officer says that £15 pounds should be deducted.

The DSC Treasurer says that they will cap any bus expenses at the tube amount if there is a cheaper tube option. He asks if we still refund someone who we know has travelled to KCL but has not provided an itemized receipt.

The Communications Officer says that there will be no refund possible in such a case but suggests messaging the person to ask if they have an itemized receipt.

The DSC Treasurer says that the total expenses to be passed for the week are £102.60.

Andrew – no, message asking if they have the itemized receipt

Business of the External Officer

The External Officer says that applications for the Pan-London Open will be opened next week. He says that the Bristol Pro-am is on the 24th of November and that the Oxford delegation will be 3 teams and 2 judges.

DSC moves in camera for Cambridge IV Selections

The CDSC, The DSC Treasurer, the DSC Secretary, The Externals Officer and the Director of training exit the room at 18:05.

The CDSC, The DSC Treasurer, the DSC Secretary, The Externals Officer and the Director of training enter the room at 18:09.

The Communications Officer repeats the selections of the 3 WUDC teams, The Externals Officer and the CDSC, The Access and Equity Officer and Ms. Ana Verdnik, and Mr. Jure Heredith and the DSC Secretary as the 6 teams for the Cambridge IV. The judges will be Ms. Beatrice Barr, Ms. Emma Rowland, Ms. Geneva Roy, Ms. Marua Mukanova-Finch and Ms. Beth Molyneux. He explains that Mr. Chaitanya Kediya, Mr. Ishaan Kapoor and Luke have not been selected and notes to prioritize them in future selections. He also says that he is not sure if Ms. Molyneux will commit to the Cambridge Women's the next day and suggests putting the 4 women who are definitely going to Women's in teams. He says he is indifferent as to how to allocate the four women in teams.

The Director of Training says that Ms. Barr and Ms. Rowland are both in Lower Intermediate squads. She suggests putting Ms. Mukanova-Finch and Ms. Roy in a team as they are stronger and would probably get the novice break.

The Communications Officer says that the teams for Cambridge Women's will then be Ms. Mukanova-Finch and Ms. Roy, and Ms. Barr and Ms. Rowland, with Ms. Molyneux as a judge. He asks to chase Ms. Molyneux to let her know why we would like her to judge Cambridge Women's and that she would be prioritized for the Bristol Pro-am if she'd like to speak.

The CDSC closes the meeting of DSC at 18:13

Signed,

Sara Dube

Standing Committee

St. Hugh's College