
Meeting

Date/Time: December 21, 2020 (7:00-9:00 MST)

Location: Virtual- Zoom

Doc. No.: 1

Organizer: Caylie Miles

Purpose: First PJ Executive Meeting for 2021 Season

Invitees

Caylie Miles

Jillian Yaworski

Brett Miles

Karen Walker

Amanda Gibson

Diver Relph

Ehren Wilson

David Bullas

Don Crowe

Krista Hughes

James Papineau

Selena Vermey

Blaine Walker

PJ Members in good standing

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

- Moving the registration to Paddling Clubs and away from the AWA
 - o Ehren discussed with developer in later October - was supposed to provide a working demo and has not done so yet.
 - o Update requested
- Moving the club emails onto Gmail
 - o Looking to move from panderit account that Ehren build
 - o Want to add Paddle Junkies to Google Apps account and have email hosted there
 - o No cost
 - o Should reduce the amount of spam received
 - o For info, finance, membership, and events distribution lists
 - o **Motion:** Ehren moves to empower EHren to migrate email to Google, seconded by Dave, all in favour.

FINANCES

- Finance review
 - o Nothing has changed since AGM, other than AGM expenditures.
 - o \$9620.00 in accounts at this time
- We need 2 people to audit and sign off on 2020 finances
 - o Jillian and Selena volunteered
 - o Brett will send email with information

2020 EVENTS

- Paddling Film Festival
 - o There are virtual options for this year
 - No out of pocket cost immediately
 - Would generate link for videos for PJs, can send out to those who are interested and would pay based on how many people watched it, PJs would get a cut from everyone who clicked and paid based on our link
 - Adventure, culture, adrenaline sections of videos
 - o 2021 videos available in February, could still follow similar timeline (late March)
 - o Will plan online watch party
 - o To select date during next meeting
- Other events on hold until COVID restrictions change
 - o No discussion at this time, will revisit in new year with updated restrictions
 - o No pool sessions planned

SAFETY

- Don's Proposal for purchasing a club Garmin InReach
 - o See proposal below
 - o Discussion around accessibility, utility based on the runs that we lead.

- Decision not to proceed with purchase of InReach for club
- First Aid course on hold
 - Diver completed 40 hour Wilderness FA course earlier in fall
 - Don's planned session was not able to go forward, although all participants did complete online training. Still require a single day in-class session
 - May be in February
 - Currently 5 participants - any new people interested will need to complete online session - Don will forward Brett's name on to Shelly

TRIP LEADING/AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

- Trip Leader
 - Trip leader inventory
 - How many leaders are active?
 - How many leaders require certification?
 - How many leaders require recertification?
 - How many leaders require FA recertification?
 - Hardware - break down paddle (Scott), first aid kit (Don and Shane)
 - Club assets should be managed by the Trip Leader Director
 - Ehren will touch base with Don to arrange to get break down and first aid kits
 - Trip Compensation
 - Don proposing a different pay structure for out of town events due to challenges (access on Ghost Runs, arriving early at Lower Kan)
 - Out of town runs: \$40
 - In-town runs: \$20
 - Ehren will send out a note to the trip leaders to get their feedback
- Ambassador Program
 - Do we want to incentivize this program?
 - Don feels that if a person gives up a whole day of their weekend to attend, should offer an honorarium for them doing so
 - Suggestions to include a gift card at the end of the season, provide incentive to those ambassadors who are certified versus those who are not (who are getting other value out of the session)

Purchase Proposal to the Paddle Junkies Whitewater Club

December 2021

Justification

Many of the rivers that our club members paddle lack cell phone coverage. Examples of this are the Kananaskis River, certain sections of the Bow River (Ghost run), Elbow and the Highwood. While a cell phone is currently part of our club safety gear, the only usage for it in areas that lack cell coverage is to access the Red Cross First Aid manual. Emergency communications would most likely require someone leaving the scene of the accident to attempt to locate a cell signal.

The addition of a satellite communication device would greatly increase our emergency response capabilities and dramatically shorten the response time for EMS personnel. Given that most commercial guides carry this technology it could be argued that due diligence for our club Trip Leaders include:

- First aid certification
- Swift Water Rescue
- L2 or L3 Certification
- Emergency response capability

Recently Garmin has introduced an InReach “Mini” which has full texting capability via satellite and is extremely small (approximately the size of two TicTac boxes). It can be used stand alone or paired with a smart phone for enhanced keyboard functionality. This unit provides true two way communication with emergency responders as opposed to a Spot emergency beacon which just sends an “SOS” and location.

Proposal

This proposal is for the club to purchase one (or more) of these units for use on official club river runs and/or available for trip leaders to sign out.

This purchase would become part of the club’s assets and would have to be managed. One possibility could be that the Director of Trip Leaders be responsible for maintaining a log of the unit’s usage, battery condition and location. Concerns over the unit disappearing could be managed several different ways such as sign out deposits etc. Should multiple units be desired this person could act as the focal point and provide overall control of the units.

Cost

One time hardware cost for the unit is \$450, however, they have recently been on sale for as low as \$330.

Operation of the unit requires a subscription service with Garmin which would create an ongoing liability for the club. Several different services are available at varying cost, but for our anticipated usage of one device, it would be approximately:

- Annual fee of \$29.95
- No cost to suspend service at any time (minimum 30 day sign up)
- A monthly fee of \$19.95 provides unlimited pre-set texts and 10 non pre-set texts. There are additional costs for weather services and additional texts.
- Therefore, assuming six months of paddling and six months of suspended service the annual cost to the club would approximately \$150 / yr (plus taxes).
- Many enhanced options exist at additional cost. These can be added at any time.

Operation

Trip leaders who wished to use this device would need to install Garmin's software on their computer and/or install a phone App. Trip leaders would then sign into a common email account to load messages or use the features of the device. The use of a smart phone app as the device interface allows for quicker typing and the ability to customize messages depending on the circumstances. Should an actual emergency occur texting information to first responders would be expedited. Note that while water resistant, this device would need to be stored in a dry bag while on the river as it is not waterproof.

Recommendation

This device would significantly enhance the emergency response of our club trips, therefore, it's recommended that:

- The club do a trial purchase of one unit for a year based on a cost of approximately \$625 (one year subscription plus one time purchase). Billing would be controlled and managed by the club Treasurer.
- A process for managing the use of the device be developed for approval by the club executive
- At year end a decision be made to cancel or expand the program

This expenditure is well within the club's financial capability and would complement the current investment we have made in our Trip Leaders training and emergency response capability.

Garmin Advertising



Using Iridium's® satellite constellation, you can send and receive text messages and emails anywhere on the planet, staying connected even where there's no cell phone coverage. Internal GPS handles basic navigation and sends location data with each message, letting your followers track your adventures. A dedicated SOS button lets you call for help, no matter where you are. Use the included Earthmate® app to pair the Mini with your smartphone for easy access to your phone's contacts. With a dustproof, water-resistant housing and up to a full year of battery life, the inReach Mini is ready to tackle any adventure you can imagine.

- Housing is water-resistant and dustproof with an easy-to-read display.
- Uses Iridium's constellation of 66 satellites for coverage of the Earth's entire surface. Messages are buffered for up to a day.
- Iridium's worldwide coverage lets you send texts and emails from anywhere in the world. Your plan determines how many you can send and how detailed they are.
- Stores customized and quick-response text messages for anticipated situations.
- World coverage SOS feature gives you a confirmation message from the GEOS rescue centre if you use it to send an SOS. 2-way texting allows you to stay in contact with rescue personnel.
- SOS messages are received by GEOS, a worldwide emergency response coordination center with 24/7/365 staffing.
- SOS button has a hard plastic cover, greatly reducing chances of an accidental activation.
- Messages have your GPS location embedded for faster finding in emergencies.
- Internal GPS enables basic on-screen grid navigation.
- High-sensitivity GPS chip provides position accuracy to within 5m.
- Optional weather forecasting service sends detailed weather data for your location, a specific waypoint or a GPS coordinate directly to your inReach, paired smartphone or tablet.
- Connects via Bluetooth to smartphones/tablets running the included Earthmate® app, available on iOS (requires iOS 9.2 or later) and Android (requires 4.1 or later). Allows you to download

maps and nautical charts, enabling detailed mapping and easier messaging – directly through your contacts.

- Downloaded maps are stored in your phone and are available even if there is no cell phone signal.
- Rechargeable internal battery pack delivers up to 90 hours of battery life with 10-minute tracking, or 24 days with 30-minute tracking (battery life varies depending on settings).