**Cumbria Polo Development Plan 2022/23 – Chris Archer, Tim Mather & Team**

After the success of the Polo Coach Course run at Killington Lake, we’d like to propose running a Cumbria Polo Development Morning at Killington twice a month over Winter till May 2023 and every Thursday evening until September 2023.

The session is aimed at any Cumbria / Lancaster clubs member who would like to improve their personal and team based polo skills.  By running a joint polo session I would hope we can share the coaching knowledge around the club, create a melting pot of ideas for how to further improve polo.

There would be no cost for players to attend but we would ask them to bring their own kit either personal or borrowed from their respected club.  I think we should provide balls which can be purchased from (<https://www.decathlon.co.uk/search?Ntt=polo%20balls>) 8 Size 5, 4 Size 4 and 4 Size 3.

The morning will involve some water time and use of a whiteboard to discuss tactics.

Penrith Canoe Club has offered to leave the pitch at Killington Lake until the May bank holiday when they will start their summer season at Ullswater Yacht Club.

Going forward after this I propose we purchase a pitch which is owed by Cumbria Canoeists, I have had one quote in so far of £3280 inc VAT from Paddle Sport Designs.  This could be funded by a Sport England grant.  Speaking with the National League chair he has said they would be interested in using the venue for the National summer league and could possibly contribute to the cost.

In terms of funding this new exciting venue, I was thinking if we host 2 cumbria tournaments per year there that could generate about £500, plus run a wider weekend tournament that could bring in a similar fee.  Any money left after the KSA fee could go into a Cumbria Polo kitty to be used to maintain and grow the faculty along with funding future courses.

If other clubs want to run their own summer or winter sessions at the venue we could charge them £75 per month for the use? And for any of the GB development players or players wanting extra fitness training time we charge £3 per person for a session.

Further down the line we should look at putting a pontoon around the pitch so it can be kept up over summer, allowing better water access for coaches and referees.  In addition this will also help with keeping wind of the pitch.  On the course we had gusts up to 40mpg and the pitch was fairly well sheltered in the main direction of wind.

Other income could also come from annual coaching update courses, ref courses etc.

I have put together a range of dates for the development mornings, yes some will class with either GB Development or tournaments in the evening but hopefully it will only affect a few players.

**Winter Dates 9:30am to 11:30am**:

* 5th November 2022 19th November 2022 11th December 2022 7th January 2023
* 22nd January 2023 4th February 2023 25th February 2023 4th March 2023
* 18th March 2023 1st April 2023 15th April 2023
* Summer Dates 630pm till 8:30pm - Every Thursday???
* To support the development mornings I propose these dates for a Cumbria 2022/23 league which will give players a chance to put their new skills to the test.

**Cumbria Tournament Dates**:

* 3rd December at Kendal Leisure Centre - TBC
* 28th January at Penrith Leisure Centre - TBC
* 29th April at Killington - TBC
* 15th July at Duddon - TBC
* 9th September at Killington - TBC
* 11th November at Kendal - TBC

A North West Comp day Killington over Summer.

Once we have it up and running, we could look at entering a Cumbria Polo team into various leagues and tournaments which could give a better spread of teams to enter into divisions so we have a team structure to support player abilities.

We could also invite other coaches or players to attend to share their knowledge with the players and clubs.

To further support the development mornings, it would be great if we can flesh out the polo section on the Cumbria Canoeists website with:

* Useful links
  + Current rules
  + Kit providers
  + Online ref courses
  + Polo Coach development
* Video resources on paddling and drills
* List of polo events, with entry deadlines
  + National league Regional league Summer tournaments
  + Youth league GB development Cumbria league
* Training guides and resources
* List of clubs offering polo and their times, prices etc
* To support all of this, it would be good to start a WhatsApp group where a representative from each club can discuss events, training and further polo development.  This would form a polo development team.

Finally we should look at running the Polo Coaching Course again for those who missed the last one along with the DSP module.