

## ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB

### SAILING COMMITTEE

#### Minutes of a Meeting held at 0930 Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025

##### **Present:**

In the Chair; Nick Bradley, Rear Commodore Sailing  
Mark Lacey  
Katies Davies  
David Fox  
Nick Measor

Jeremy Willcock, Chief Race Officer  
David Porter  
Stephen Carson  
Bob Lombardelli

##### **In attendance:**

Jojo Minchin, Sailing Secretary  
Tom Blackburn, RSYC Head Boatman

#### **51/25 Apologies**

John Poyner, Commodore  
Steve Carson

#### **52/25 Approval Minutes 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**

All approved, signed by NB.

#### **53/25 Matters Arising**

At the last meeting there had been discussion on towing XODs in and out of the harbour. After initial concern at 19 boats needing towing in a short space of time, in the end only six XODs and one YOD were towed, which was manageable. TB confirmed that boatmen are happy to tow, they just need enough notice. JM offered to put out a notice in March 2026 to XOD and YOD owners if they wish to be towed the following month **JM**

#### **54/25 CRO Report**

All topics to be covered in the Agenda.

#### **55/25 Class Captains**

XOD – ML: 11 boats now launched, 2 more soon. 9 boats out yesterday. So far, 4 races lost to no wind, 1 race lost to too much wind, yesterday the wind died during the race. MYRTLE is dominating the season, VEXILL4 also doing well. 28<sup>th</sup> June Gins Farm rally, TB confirmed he will be accompanying SOLENT RIB. ML fed back re the volunteer boatmen coming alongside port-side-to which can lead to sailors then leaning on the throttle. If starboard side to, they need to remove the kill cord (turning the engine off) so they can hold onto the dayboat. TB to do more training in this area. ML: too many races over the early May b/h weekend, ie potentially 6 Windward Leeward races & 2 Coronation Races on Monday. Suggest W/L early b/h weekend, Coronation Cup late b/h weekend. Windward leeward was considered a great success (no wind on Saturday, 3 windy races Sunday).

Wightlink Ferry Captains' Cup this Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 7 Wightlink skippers and 7 XODs. 1600 briefing, 1655 warning signal, 1700 first of two races. Followed by supper, 30 booked in. VC Rudi Fortson has agreed to do Prize Giving. David Timperley who races on SANDPIPER has been asked to make a Trophy for this event and has turned a wooden bowl and made a plinth.

After discussion, it was agreed to ask CH if one of the remaining Magnums from the Contessa Regatta could be given to the winning Wightlink skipper.

**JM**

YOD – NB: unfortunately *DIATOM* has lost her mast. AHH took her to the bridge so he could reach the top of the mast to work on the rig, after he was back on *DIATOM* and being towed off some rigging snagged on the bridge and snapped the mast. Lesson not to use the bridge for this purpose.

Folkboats – DAF: not many boats turning for RSYC racing. 7 Yarmouth Folkboats are entered into Taittinger. Folkboat Week has 7 boats entered so far, DAF concerned the FB Association may not reach the desired 60 boats to celebrate 60 years but they are promoting the event to all.

Dinghies – NB: 7 dinghies out regularly on Wednesdays, a few more signing Condition of Entry.

Class 1&2 Cruiser Racers – BL: Sunday racing going well with 7 boats. WER sees 8 boats.

Cruising – DP: 24 members and 7 boats turned up at the RVYC, the staff overcame a glitch in dates and served an absolutely excellent three course meal. Beautiful weather and all boats had a good journey there and back. DP had passed around a 'hat' for staff tips which was well supported and much appreciated. No cruise in June, next one is 1<sup>st</sup> July to Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club.

Club Boats & Boatmen update – TB: Everything going well with the RSYC boat fleet, although unfortunately summer boatman Andy Stuart has resigned.

*COUNTDOWN* coming soon out for a mid-season scrub.

*MARKSMAN* going well, TB keeping an eye on all that was worked on during the winter refit. *SOLENT RIB* going well.

RSYC member Rod Angel has been an excellent help with the electronics.

DP asked how training for Will on *MARKSMAN*, TB confirmed Will is focusing on learning *COUNTDOWN* at present, TB will introduce *MARKSMAN* in a month or so.

DP asked about backup of *MARKSMAN*, TB has a list of people who can drive a jetboat.

TB has adjusted the position of race marks #17, and #11 which is further away from the Pier. When #17 or HE is used, TB puts *SOLENT RIB* in the vicinity for safety.

## 56/25 Taittinger Regatta

KJD; 149 boats entered so far, we have 9 boats from the Inter-Services Regatta as Taittinger is the Inshore section of their Regatta. They are sending a Four Star General for the weekend, RSYC will be presenting the winners of their Overall, Offshore and Inshore section.

JM & KJD have been promoting that earlybird discount which ends 20<sup>th</sup> May.

RTYC *GEMINI BREEZE* will be black start boat (no *THREE C's* this year), JDW confirmed Graham Benton will skipper her. NB to write a letter of indemnity from RSYC

**NB**

TB relayed *MARKSMAN* is short of crew as Rob Quain has damaged his ankle, details tbc.

**TB**

It was confirmed the BOTS will be ODM for both start lines, BOTS need to be included in the Sailing Instructions, backup operator from Fourth Cape needs to be on standby.

**KJD JM**

Will to be in charge of the white group BOT, Tom to be in charge of the black group BOT.

## 57/25 AOB

Contessa Regatta: went very well with 27 boats signed up; 12 x CO32, 4 x CO28, 7 x CO26, 3 x Solent Quest. 3 good races on Saturday, 1 race on Sunday with 2<sup>nd</sup> abandoned.

The starts and finishes were on the north shore so it was difficult for them to get back to Yarmouth across the tide after race 5. No protests all weekend.

BOTS: they will be used on Wednesday evening racing.

DP: eco moorings, £3K per mooring, a diver is needed for each screw-in mooring. 5T and 10T available. Discussion on how they keep the chain off the seagrass, expensive up front but may be worth it in the long run. To be monitored.

DAF: Gaffers this weekend, it will be a Committee boat for Gaffers and XODs.

DNF FB scoring should be those who turn + 1, DNC should be whole class for the season +1. **JM**

BL: Lifejacket clinic at the Boat Jumbler 19 out of 23 were needing attention.

2<sup>nd</sup> clinic held during Contessa Regatta found 17 checked 15 failed, 1 was junked.

3<sup>rd</sup> clinic to be at Gaffers Festival this Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1500-1700 at Yarmouth Harbour.

There is a new lifejacket storage facility at the Harbour Office, JM to promote on Sailing News. **JM**  
DP there is a new facility for flare disposal opening up in Cowes, license being confirmed.

JDW; reminded the Committee about steps for *COUNTDOWN* which was discussed a year ago.

There are currently two horseshoes and a deployable rescue ladder on *COUNTDOWN* which need to be used, TB to show JDW and KJD asap. **TB to show**

#### **58/25 Date of next meetings 0930:**

- 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- 21<sup>st</sup> July
- No August meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> September
- 6<sup>th</sup> October
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nov
- No December meeting