

MINUTES OF ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB SAILING COMMITTEE MEETING
0930 Monday 22nd November 2024

Present:

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

Jeremy Willcock, Chief Race Officer
Nick Measor
Alan Hans Hamilton
Bob Lombardelli

In attendance:

Jojo Minchin, Sailing Secretary
Tom Blackburn RSYC boatman.

73/24 Apologies.

David Porter

74/24 Approval Minutes 28th October 2024

Dutyman: after discussion, it was agreed to continue with the current system but the Sailing Office will be more diligent about letting Race Officers know when they are on duty. **JM/JDW**
Volunteer Boatmen: TB confirmed he has now done two PB2 courses with two volunteer boatmen.
Transit point: it appears the cheapest option for putting a transit point onto the Clubhouse will be to paint a white diamond on the tiles with a second diamond fitted elsewhere. **NB to check with JP & CH**
Wightlink ferry captains XOD racing: it was confirmed no complimentary suppers will be offered.
Fandango: it has been requested the Fandango moves to Thursday to allow a regular WER to happen. There are concerns whether the social side will continue to be supported as it is a big earner for the Club, KJD felt moving to Thursday should not impact this as many enjoy the Fandango and Derek Sandy. The other issue discussed is staffing afloat, TB confirmed if Grants can be used on Wednesday for the regular WER and if *Marksman* is not required, then he can take the evening off, and work late on Thursday. There was support from all classes to move to move the Fandango as a trial for one year. **NB**
Sailing Supper: it was discussed how to support Wednesday sailing suppers more, ML suggested a simpler menu such as Cottage Pie, Fish Pie, Lasagne, KJD reminded the Committee this has been trialled many times before and people have requested what is now served; Fish & Chips or Salad or Pasta. It was agreed that Class Captains would promote sailing suppers on a weekly basis to help with attendance. Announcing results during supper also helps with the general positive atmosphere.

75/24 CRO Report

Grants boards; for a new wooden display board to be fitted on the sea wall at Grants, it will have to be 5.5m long and therefore moved to the western side of Grants; TB to speak with Anne Vernon. **TB**
To make the course boards, TB suggested cutting the current boards in half. The cost of the wood for the display board, and paint is approx. £380. To keep costs down, TB suggested his volunteer boatmen help with this task. TB agreed to show potential board size at the next Sailing Committee meeting in January. **TB**

76/24 Class Captains

XOD – ML: XOD AGM and prize giving dinner went well at the weekend with 50 guests. ML is in discussion with the Lymington XODs to sail together more in 2025; RLYM open to join in the Royal Artillery YC weekend in September and any Sunday racing here. RLYM week is now in RSYC sailing calendar for RSYC members to join in there. XODs are reintroducing the XOD Youth Race (the helm to be U25). The Trophy is in the RSYC upstairs bar and hasn't been used for ten years so it will be good to race for it again, and will be the same day as the YOD Junior Helm.

YOD – AHH: Annual dinner and prize giving was a great success with 65 guests and £500 being raised for charity during the evening.

Two cheques were presented: £67,834.66 to Motor Neuron Disease Association and £54,321.27 to Cure Parkinsons.

Members of the family of Sir Arthur Cope (RSYC Commodore 1926~1934) were present at the dinner and his Great Great Granddaughter presented the prizes.

Friday 13th December is the final YOD monthly supper.

Rob Bird has been asked to work on *Magnolia* which, if launched and sailed, will bring it to 8 YODs racing next summer.

Discussion on the future of *Francesca* is underway in the hope she will also sail next year.

Folkboats – DAF: looking ahead, Lymington's Thursday evening races begin on 24th April. From 30th April, there will be a series of six white sails races out of RLYM which RSYC can join. The RSYC Sailing Calendar now reflects dates that RLYM Folkboats have agreed to sail here.

Dinghies – NB: currently no Sunday racing is planned but can be reinstated any time, especially during the summer holidays.

Class 1&2 Cruiser Racers – BL: Winter Series 1 had 11 boats racing, Series 2 has 9. Weather has been disappointing although not cold until recently. Many people are appreciating the season extending beyond the end of the summer.

Class 1&2 offering £100 towards the painting of the transit point diamond.

BL TB

JM confirmed the price of sponsoring buoys will remain the same for 2025, so BL confirmed the Contessa 26 Association have agreed to sponsor #5 race buoy.

JM

2025 will be the 55th anniversary of the first Contessa 32 being launched.

2026 will be the 60th anniversary of the first Contessa 26 being launched, BL confirmed there is a big effort to ensure plenty of CO26 will participate in both the 2025 & 2026 RSYC Contessa Regattas; confirming also that they intend to expand and make it appealing as a rally for the non racers.

NB mentioned there is a new Contessa 26 in Yarmouth Harbour with an owner who is keen to race.

Cruising MC: reported on a very good visit to Royal Victoria Yacht Club on 19th November, most members went by car as the weather was not good. The service was slow but the food was good.

Club Boats

Solent RIB is in good condition having had a clean and a 100hr service. She was transported satisfactorily on her newly refurbished RSYC road trailer. Her bilge pump replaced, depth sounders were fixed, and Whtie Marine fixed the steering system.

River Yar Boatyard have kindly offered a dry 'versadock' for storage during the winter (free of charge). *Marksman* is being worked on. The boatman is refurbishing the reverse RAMS to stop water ingress, replacing seals, renewing paint work, adding new wear patches to prevent chafe.

The Engine had a compression test which came back within tolerance. She also had a borescope test which showed damage in the cylinders. Richard Pierrepont is helping with advice, and has written to the engineers requesting they redo the borescope test to ensure the readings were correct.

The 1,000hour service is underway, the injectors were sent off and results are due back soon.

A new engine for Marksman is £50K, a rebuild of the engine is £20K.

There are some items that are not being used that could be sold.

Countdown: boatmen are currently stripping the antifoul off the hull and keel (keel is waterlogged) and she will lie to the elements between now and February to dry out. She will be repainted in February.

Removing the paintwork has revealed some new holes and dents in the hull.

TB has the white paint for the topsides, and River Yar will do the blue paintwork on the hull.

77/24 Fishing off the Pier

One of the Class 1&2 cruiser racers received aggressive verbal abuse at the Sunday racing series; RSYC boatmen usually warn fishermen about the racing but didn't on this occasion.

Will Marsh, the Assistant boatman reported the incident to Yarmouth Harbour which was caught on the CCTV footage, although there is no audio, is obvious what is going on. NB attended YHAC meeting the following week where the situation was discussed and clarity obtained. Yarmouth Harbour are very supportive of RSYC, we do have permission to sail close to the Pier and there are signs up at the end of the Pier alerting fishermen to this fact. AHH fed back that he had gone to the end of the Pier and found three signs warning fishermen to bring their rods in when boats pass. TB suggested putting up a sign at the end of the pier that is opened before each race, and closed after the race is concluded.

TB

78/24 AOB

Discussion on the Sailing Calendar 2025 whether the start of WER is 23rd or 30th April.

NB suggested a vote by the Class Representatives on the matter:

XOD, Folkboat and Class 1&2 voted for 23rd April, YOD and Dinghies voted for 30th April.

It was therefore concluded that WER will begin on Wednesday 23rd April 2025.

AHH reported that with the Grants flag staff down for refit, the VHF aerial is not working which made communication Sunday morning difficult, the mast should be back up soon.

JM reported that Trinity House are not allowing any landing or anything at the Needles Lighthouse for the marking of the 30th anniversary of the automation of the Lighthouse, therefore the 10th December event will be solely ashore. There is the opportunity to watch film footage of the automation, hear stories from those involved, and have book for RSYC lunch. Booking is now open.

79/24 Date of next meeting

- 1700 27th January 2025