

**MINUTES OF ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB SAILING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**0930 Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Present:**

In the Chair; Nick Bradley, Rear Commodore Sailing  
Mark Lacey  
Katie Davies  
David Fox  
John Poyner

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

**In attendance:**

Jojo Minchin, Sailing Secretary  
Tom Blackburn, RSYC boatman.

**23/25 Apologies**

Martyn Collinson

**24/25 Approval Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025;**

Approved and signed by NB

**26/25 Matters Arising**

To be picked up during the meeting

**27/25 CRO Report**

Race Management Committee met on Friday, all topics are on the Agenda.

**28/25 Class Captains**

XOD – ML: boat refits are progressing, ML is encouraging XODs to be at the first WER.

RLYM sailor Jonathan Clarke is launching a brand new XOD 195 *Turtle* for racing in Lymington, he is donating 3 cases of gin for 1<sup>st</sup> prize, 2 cases of gin for 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, 1 case of gin for 3<sup>rd</sup> prize, all XODs participating will receive 3 bottles of gin! As so many XODs from Yarmouth are keen to enter, it has been requested that the Maurice Garlick race is moved to the Sunday.

YOD – NB welcomed Steve Carson as new YOD class captain.

SC will meet with Graham Fell soon to get an update on YOD news.

JP reported the GC meets Friday where an Agreement between RSYC and YOD will be signed regarding the future of the RSYC sheds which are being refurbished; RSYC are paying for refurbishment and will own the sheds, YODs will be stored there (XODs were invited but none were interested). YOD Class will repay the cost to the RSYC over the years via boat storage, other income will be possible via summer events and car storage.

Folkboats – DAF Folkboat dinner and prize giving evening was a success and the food was good.

Bossa Nova is in the water, will race on 29<sup>th</sup> March, other boats are working towards launching by Easter. There is a rule crisis in the Folkboat Class at international level regarding not being allowed to have an electronic windlass at the top of the mast. DAF has a meeting tomorrow and will feedback. RSYC will need a very clear steer from class rules for events such as Taittinger and Folkboat Week.

Dinghies – NB nothing to report

Class 1&2 Cruiser Racers – BL: a good start to the season with nine boats in the first three races with good winds and competitive racing.

Cruising DP: 53 people turned up for Jojo's illustrated talk "Two Years in Zanzibar" which was followed by a themed lunch using Zanzibar spices.

Next Out to Lunch is at Gins Farm on 15th April. DP keen to support RSYC/Gins Farm after last year's flooding they are down to one chef and a limited menu.

JP stood in for CH at South Coast Secretary's Meeting at HMS Hornet, he met with RSouthernYC/Gins Farm Secretary who relayed that they are selling their committee boats.

DP reported that cruising boats are reducing as *Brainwave* and *Seas the Day* are now for sale, he would very much like to leave the Solent on a cruise but not many cruisers are keen.

DP considering Hasler, Bembridge, The Folly, Rising Sun in Warsash and Royal Victoria. The Gun at Keyhaven is possible via ferry but organising a fleet of RSYC boats is tricky as the river is very tidal.

### Club Boats

TB: *Solent RIB*: doing well, in the water and has attended all races so far, no issues.

*Marksman*: 90% ready, RYB finishing work list after much investment so should perform well this year.

*Countdown*: work underway, new re-spray, new stickers, stripped 30 years of antifoul and about to re-prime and antifoul. Working on topside next. Mechanically everything is working well.

Dinghy marks are being refurbished, lost # 17 last year.

Versadock off RSYC jetty going in soon.

### **29/25 John Doerr Protest Protocol Session – 4<sup>th</sup> April**

JDW and JD to construct a case that will be discussed and 'on show' on the evening.

JDW

JDW and JM to communicate with members to publicise the evening.

JDW JM

NB asked class captains to promote once the wording has been confirmed

Class Captains

### **30/25 Balcony Start**

Class 1&2 appear happy with the balcony start but would like to see the diamonds larger. Care must be taken on an ebb at certain states of the tide. One diamond hangs from the castellations, the other hangs off the balcony. DP said it was good viewing from the balcony and suggested speaking with Susie Breare about sorting coffee for spectators which could lead to drinks and lunch.

David Porter offered to help with creating the two diamonds.

JDW TB

### **31/25 Spring Series**

Three races so far, first two races were excellent, third was insufficient wind for all to finish but as times were recorded through the gate, everyone got a result.

### **32/25 Wednesday Evening Racing**

Starts 23<sup>rd</sup> April; XODs and YODs have requested all boats are handicaps are reset for Class 3

JM

### **33/25 Contessa Regatta**

Ten boats are entered so far, two are for the Treasure Hunt only.

JM to add which class they are on the website.

JM

NB asked BL to contact the new Contessa 26 owner who is now based in Yarmouth.

NB

JM to send posters to Lymington, Yarmouth Harbour, Cowes Yacht Haven.

JM

Jamie Allen is publicising through the CO28 facebook page.

### **34/25 Taittinger Regatta**

KJD; entry to open 15<sup>th</sup> April.

NoR is being worked on.

List of helpers afloat is looking positive.

Royal Thames are loaning their committee boat along with a skipper to replace Three C's.

John Doerr is our Protest Chairman. Simon van der Byl is returning along with the other same race officers as before.

Malcolm Thorpe has suggested a new Feeder Race Bembridge ~Yarmouth on Friday, he is working on NoR with John Doerr. A link is required to sign up that goes to Bembridge Harbour's website, they will collate names and any fees. Race Officers to finish the feeder race from Grants.  
JDW and Giovanni/British Classic YC will do a Feeder Race Yarmouth ~Cowes on Sunday.

### 35/25 Wightlink Ferry Captains Cup 22<sup>nd</sup> May

ML: aiming for eight XODs to participate, Wightlink have been contacted and are keen to publicise the event as a good PR exercise between Wightlink and RSYC. Eight suppers for the Wightlink Captains have been approved. Discussion on a prize ~ongoing.

### 36/25 AOB

Mark Set Bot Charles Derbyshire gave a demonstration of this new concept of electronic/anchorless racing marks. The base is a catamaran with four circles linked above it and an electric engine. Plenty of information sharing and Hall Hunter have offered to sponsor two marks for the season. It was agreed these would be terrific for windward leewards, Wednesday evening racing outer distance mark and Folkboat Week. The marks are controlled by an app, they need to be towed out to the vicinity of the race course and can then find their correct position within about 90s using GPS. If using them, there will be a big learning curve to become accustomed to this new concept. **JDW NB TB in discussion**

DAF: requested Sailing Office looks at the time limits in the Sailing Instructions, especially Sunset **JM**

TB: requested XOD and YOD give notice for when they need the boatmen to assist with towing in and out of the harbour.

TB requested that support boats be used for emergencies not for regular towing boat into the harbour. After discussion on whether Class 1&2 need a support boat, it was suggested Solent RIB remains on the versadock until it is needed, she is then available to speak with the fishermen off the pier and any injuries and MOB.

### 36/25 Date of next meetings 0930:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> April
- 27<sup>th</sup> May
- 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



22/4/25