

**MINUTES OF ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB SAILING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**0930 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

**Present:**

In the Chair; Nick Bradley, Rear Commodore Sailing  
Jeremy Willcock, Chief Race Officer  
Nick Measor  
Katie Davies  
David Porter

Martyn Collinson, Commodore  
Alan Hans Hamilton  
David Fox  
Bob Lombardelli  
Mark Lacey

**In attendance:**

Jojo Minchin, Sailing Secretary

**42/24 Apologies.**

Tom Blackburn, Graham Fell

**43/24 Approval Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

The Minutes were approved as a true record and signed by NB.

**44/24 Matters Arising.**

None

**45/24 CRO Report**

Grants diamond is now sorted.

TB to have key for Yarmouth Harbour slipway, DAF offered to get hold of a key.

DAF

After incidents earlier in the summer, RSYC has been requested to display "NO MOORING BY ORDER OF THE HARBOUR MASTER". Notice important as danger to people on the beach with RIBs and personal watercraft mooring and/or coming up the beach

JM TB

**46/24 Class Captains**

XOD

Mark Lacey: Season gone well with 14 boats out racing this year, most in one race was 11 boats.

ARROW trialled a new design of spinnaker but feedback was that it was not much different.

Race Officers' thank you party is at 1830 14<sup>th</sup> September at Carolyn & Tony Sceales house in South Street, JM to invite Race Officers and remind class captains to invite their classes.

JM

Classes to provide alcohol & attendees to bring a plate.

Trying to organise Captains Cup with 6-8 Wightlink Captains initially interested. Positive XOD responses and offers of boats. 1630 race start, around the buoys, finish with RSYC supper.

JM

ML requested supper is complimentary to those XOD skippers who loan their boats. NB / Flag officers

YOD

AHH: Needles Race this year was good. Towers Party raised £77k for Cure Parkinsons and Motor Neuron Disease of which £25k was a single donation to CP. Everyone very pleased with the result.

Over 20 YOD members regularly attend monthly suppers which are much appreciated.

MC said Neil Moody is potentially interested in purchasing half of YOD *FRANCESCA*, so need to find another member to share.

**Folkboats & Folkboat Week ~ Save the date Folkboat Week 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025**

DAF; Folkboat Week went very well. People enjoyed the week, great feedback. Couple of accidents which impacted the fleet. Bar takings were good. Washup meeting in early October. Harry Hall on *SVANE* was the clear winner with Hamish Chapman (ex-barman of RSYC) doing well as crew.

In July, the Nordic Folkboat Gold Cup was won by Ed Donald on *ISOBELLA*, the RSYC now keeps the Cup for a year. The successful presentation of the Gold Cup to RSYC was held at the start of Folkboat Week, the replica is now in the bar cabinet. Ed Donald came across to see a few people, including Harry Hall. He was very pleased with the presentation. Next year is the 60<sup>th</sup> Folkboat Week at RSYC, and Lymington Yacht Haven's 30<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship so big celebrations are being planned.

### Dinghies

NB; Summer has been good, a few extra sailors now sailing on Wednesday evenings with 6-7 boats out on some nights. NB has tried to get Sunday morning racing but it hasn't quite worked as it needs a core of two or more sailors come. WER Prize Giving is on 25<sup>th</sup> September and they need to decide on how to award the Herbert Davies decanter which was last awarded two years ago. NB

### Dinghy Week

JM: only 12 sailors this year as Dinghy Week clashed with YSC stage 4 training week. Last year when it followed on from stage 4 there were 40+ sailors as both the stage 4 sailors and dinghy instructors could participate. YSC Pete Giles has worked tirelessly to ensure stage 4 in 2025 is the week before RSYC Dinghy Week which should boost numbers. RSYC can also be flexible in future potentially swapping Dinghy Week with Sunset Series to enable stage 4 to be held before Dinghy Week.

KD: Suggested an 'Introduction to the Solent' in June half term, the Hall's Boathouse can be used for 'coached racing'. No need for it to be an RYA accredited course, just an introduction to the Solent sailing. May need to obtain older coaches as it is prior to exam season so most teenage coaches aren't available. JM

NB: Harwoods were extremely generous with their prizes at Dinghy Week and the final prize of a paddleboard, along with the Bernard Turner Endeavour Award went to RSYC members Eleanor and Amelia Roberts.

### Laser training

NB was concerned about numbers in advance but both groups (transitional and intermediate) had seven sailors. Claudia and Henry Olmi were the instructors and worked together well. The conditions were light but they managed to do lots of coaching and were very encouraging. JM has invited both instructors back next year.

### Class 1&2

Sunday Series – Wednesday evening racing has 8-10 boats out – Series 2 was won by Margarita. 14th September Passage Race which will be towards Christchurch Bay. JM to promote. JM

### Cruising Group

DP: Master Builders Restaurant at Buckler's Hard on 23<sup>rd</sup> July was successful, good menu but not great service, very slow. However, it was a good run up and back, and everyone enjoyed the trip.

Best trip this year was BBQ at Newtown with over 16 members, including some new members. A lovely sheltered spot by trees, courtesy of Camilla and Jonathan Read.

Next trip to Royal London Yacht Club in Cowes, 19<sup>th</sup> September.

DP aiming to find a few more venues before the end of the season.

JM is planning an illustrated talk at the Start of Season Cruising Lunch Feb 2025 "Two Years in Zanzibar".

### Club Boats

*Full report from TB given to NB.*

Hans Bourman, the Summer Boatman has his last day on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

Will March, Second Boatman, is learning to drive COUNTDOWN and get his VHF license.

Harry's Rock buoy was used as a mooring during Folkboat Week which led to it breaking free. TB to dive on the rock and see if the mooring eye is still intact, if so, will replace. If not, may need an alternative solution but something must be in place ASAP with several weekend Regattas coming up. TB

SOLENT RIB – suffered some damage but will be repaired in-house.

COUNTDOWN & MARKSMAN both coming out w/c 7<sup>th</sup> October for winter refits.

### COUNTDOWN

NB reported that there was a discussion ongoing regarding the future of COUNTDOWN. There is an opportunity of some funding, which has raised the question of whether we should either refurbish (incl new engine) COUNTDOWN this winter or look to replace her. The matter has been raised at GC. The Club has started to set aside a committee boat reserve fund. The question prompts quite polarised views amongst key stakeholders. At this stage it has been proposed and agreed by GC that the Club will instruct a Marine Surveyor to carry out a survey at the end of the season when COUNTDOWN is taken out of the water, so that we can ascertain what work needs doing to keep her in service for the next 10+ years.

**47/24 Plan B discuss alternate provide to BW Moorings laying & picking up RSYC moorings.**

TB is concerned that Ian Woodford has not been well and whether RSYC should consider alternatives should BW Mooring stop laying trets and race marks. Longer term we may need to consider succession planning. ML suggested hiring a barge from Cowes Harbour Commissions as a Plan B, Plan A remains Ian Woodford at present, JM to establish Ian W's current health by visiting Shalfleet Quay. **JM**

**48/24 Seagrass survey.**

Martin Wannell concerned at implications from this survey 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July which was done in 5m of depth and so may affect our trets and race marks. Discussion on ECO moorings as in Studland Bay.

Tom Symes and Anne Kyle worked on this so ML to access their report and feedback. **ML**  
DP & CRO reminded the committee that eco moorings were laid by Guy Ashton many years ago, check Minutes to see when etc.

DAF: Will ask Yarmouth Harbour.

**CRO**  
**DAF**

**49/24 Laser training feedback** – already covered in meeting

**50/24 Dinghy Week 2024 Feedback & 2025 planning** - already covered in meeting

**51/24 Sunset Series:**

JM: 31 boats took part, no racing on the last day as 22+ knots. KJD reported that after the second race it was quite dark when returning to moorings. YOD's keen on two races. ML suggested 2 shorter races to include Windward Leeward type racing. Alternatively bring an earlier start time of 1730.

**52/24 Folkboat Week Feedback** – already covered in meeting

**53/24 Wednesday Evening Racing Prize Giving**

JM: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September is WER Prize Giving, sponsors Duncan & Aly Willard are coming, Aly will give the prizes.

**54/24 Youth Sailors – IW Youth Dinghy Championships 5<sup>th</sup> October**

JM: New to this year is the class of Fevas (2-up), should get 8-10 Lasers, Katie & Mark on COUNTDOWN. The successful format will follow as per 2023 with all sailors and families going to YSC after racing for food and prize giving. This event is over four weekends and gives IW sailors a taste of visiting other clubs without having to leave the Island. All participants must be IW residents & under 21.

**55/24 AOB**

After a recent XOD request for redress, which was withdrawn by James Meaning, an informal discussion followed on shortening courses, and finish line bias which varies according to tide direction and strength. It agreed that the simplest way forward would be notification by the Race Officers where possible at the previous mark.

It was also suggested that the position of #9 could be moved so it is less biased as an ODM. After discussion, it was agreed that #19 needs to be used as ODM for dinghies.

NB: Racing Rules of Sailing are changing in 2025, a pdf is available, JM to share with Committee **JM**

ML: XODs requested more races going west for 2025.

JM confirmed that Royal Artillery YC Regatta is weekend 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> September; no need to enter, just turn up. JM to put the information on Sunday WhatsApp group **JM**

Ancient Mariner's Race – Class 1&2 is on the Sunday of RAYC Regatta, JM to share info **JM**

**56/24 Dates of next meetings 0930 Mondays**

30<sup>th</sup> September, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024

30/9/24