

MINUTES OF ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB SAILING COMMITTEE MEETING
0930 Monday 30th September 2024

Present:

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

Martyn Collinson, Commodore
Nick Measor
Bob Lombardelli

In attendance:

Jojo Minchin, Sailing Secretary

57/24 Apologies.

Mark Lacey, Katies Davies, Alan Hans Hamilton, Tom Blackburn RSYC boatman.

58/24 Approval Minutes 2nd September 2024

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

59/24 Matters Arising

Sea grass survey – see separate report from Mark Lacey.

Eco moorings - DP offered to go out on his RIB with echo sounder and see if they are still in place. DP
Eco moorings could be useful if we ever need to move away from ground chain.

Need to establish life span, JM to contact Studland Bay.

DAF has picked up a key for Yarmouth Harbour Slipway.

JM
DAF

60/24 CRO report

Feedback from WER scoring ~ points versus positions.

SI's 2025 ~ to be crosschecked carefully as 2024 had a few errors.

Harry's Rock – TB has a LAT & LONG which will be included on the 2025 chart.

TB to replace with a marker on the rock as soon as practical.

John Doerr has agreed to visit on the following dates to give talks on the updated RRS 2025-2028:

31st January, 28th February, 4th April 2025.

Race Officer training dates tbc but timing to be discussed so not to overrun with Happy Hour. JDW

Transit Point on RSYC roof used to be a diamond that made a transit for racers, needs to be re-instated.

Ideally to be done when roofers are in.

Need to photograph from afloat

Grants electrical supply

Lack of permanent electrical connectivity. JDW has spoken to Anne Vernon in the past about connecting Grants to mains supply. Need qualified electrician to dig in armoured cable 18" /45cm down. NB to speak to Anne Vernon.

Frames at Grants

Race frames need replacing, JDW to give NB a Grants Report including costs.

MC reminded the Budget for 2025 starts this week, so budgetary requests need to be in ASAP

DP standing down TB feels the hours DP puts in needs replacing with a permanent employee, after discussion it was agreed this was not possible due to budgetary constraints.

Rob Q and Ted Blackburn are good *Solent RIB* drivers, there is an urgent need to train up additional drivers. The Class Captains to ask their members to drive the RIBs, they can be awarded average points if they do.

Class Captains

61/24 Class Captains

XOD – ML: summary below of this year's XOD sailing and a brief update into the recent sea grass survey.

This year saw 14 XODs compete in 70 races with 10 different winners. In addition to the racing at Yarmouth the RSYC was represented at Cowes Week, Cowes Classic Week, Keel Boat Week at Itchenor and Lymington Week. Additionally, a team of ten XOD sailors successfully visited the Royal Anglesey Yacht Club to team race against the RAYC. There was also a Passage Race to and from Gins Farm on the Beaulieu River with the

Cowes XOD division joining us.

The sailing this year was largely dominated by X156 *Gleam* winning The George Cup and seven other trophies but her usual domination has been slightly tempered by X115 *Mix* winning seven trophies including all three Wednesday Evening Series, and two of the three Sunday Series.

The George Plate which runs alongside the George Cup over 12 races using an RYA handicapping system provided some very close results with the top four boats separated by just one point with X45 *Jewel* winning on count back.

Sea grass.

ML spoke to Tom Symes and received several documents from him including reports from 2014 ~ 2018.

TS confirmed the RSYC put in three eco moorings, single pegs, several years ago but nothing more was done. David Fox approached Yarmouth Harbour commissioners for a copy of the recent survey and an 87page report called "Solent & IOW Intertidal Seagrass Survey 2023".

Summary below however, it is unclear if this summary is of the 2023 report or the 2024 report.

Yarmouth, Isle of Wight ~ Seagrass extent, composition and condition

Yarmouth is located within the Solent Maritime SAC. Low spring tides were too high for surveyors to observe the previously mapped areas on foot due to reduced visibility and deep water. This included the seagrass bed at Yarmouth; while it was possible to reach the inland extent of the bed at Yarmouth, due to deep low water and poor visibility, it was not possible to accurately note the characteristics of the bed or the outer extent. From what could be observed, there were no signs of non-native species and pathogens or algal growth, however it was not possible to fully survey the bed to confirm this. Comparison with previous years No comparison was possible as seagrass beds were not surveyed in full in 2023.

Recommendations for further survey

The beds are too deep for intertidal methods to be employed. Therefore, it is recommended that this area is re-surveyed in the future using an alternative survey method such as by drone, boat, scuba diving and/or waterproof handheld camera to assess the extent and condition of seagrass at this location.

ML keen to obtain the latest report and is willing to contact the RYA for their advice if the SC agrees. **ML**

YOD – AHH: all YODs came out of the water before the bridge was closed. Congratulations to Y4 *Anthea* (Guy Churchill and David Kell) for winning the 3rd WER series in their first year of ownership.

Annual Dinner and Prize Giving is Saturday 16th November 2024.

Supper Club last Friday with 16 attendees and two further dates booked in October and December.

Folkboats – DAF: 2024 season round up – very successful Folkboat Week with Harry Hall winning the week in *Svane*. Generally turnout for points racing was weak although Turkey Cup was successful with 8 participating boats and won by Harry Hall on *Svane*.

Annual Dinner and Prize Giving is 2nd November 2024.

Dinghies – Miles Norris, NB & Bruce Mayo did most races, Newman boys sailed a lot, a few others sailed sporadically. KJD confirmed their Boathouse can be used May bank holiday half-term to encourage junior racing at start of season. **JM**

Class 1&2 Cruiser Racers – BL: Overall during the year at the WER series there were 8-10 boats, on Sundays 4-6 boats. Winners are as follows: Sunday S3 *Margarita*, WER S3 *Strongbow*, Passage Race *Strongbow*, Sunset Series *Cloudy Bay*, Contessa mini series – *Cloudy Bay*. Jamie Allen who produced two beautiful new trophies for the Contessa mini series, one for WER and one for Sunday series.

The AGM will be in February. When renewing the subs, there were 13 paid up members.

Cruising DP: latest out to lunch at Royal London YC in September was choppy getting there and unpleasant at the mooring. Turnout was good, 26 members enjoyed a good lunch in a quiet room. Looking ahead; 22nd October to Master Builder in Admiral's section.

Date TBC returning to Royal Victoria YC last visit of the year.

End of Cruising Lunch is 31st October and start of Cruising Lunch at RSYC will be in February with an illustrated talk by JM on "Two years in Zanzibar".

NB recommend RAF YC where he's just returned from Contessa Nationals where they hosted 87 and was very impressed.

Ashlett Creek, opposite Hamble River has been recommended as a potential new venue.

Club Boats

Countdown: Jim Pritchard, IW Surveyor, specialises in old boats is lined up to survey *Countdown* on 7th October, he wants to see her in the water and straight after she comes out. Refit depends on survey results. Last week TB took 6 laser hulls to Seaview where they'll be refurbished and used.

62/24 Youth Sailors - IW Youth Championships

5th Oct (6th Oct back up date). The IW Traveller series of four weekends at Gurnard SC, Royal Victoria YC, Yarmouth event is YSC and RSYC, and Brading Haven YC. Teras will be on the River Yar and FEVAs and ILCAs off RSYC. Entries coming in nicely.

63/24 Turkey Cup 29th September

Very windy, won by *Svane*. Claire Locke won the Turkey on *The Otter*, *Mistral* won Turkey Plate.

64/24 Winter Series

Starts this Sunday 6th October for Class 1&2 and Folkboats.

65/24 AOB

DAF suggested not charging for Centenary Chase 2025, rather charge for Champagne Race and give each class a bottle of champagne.

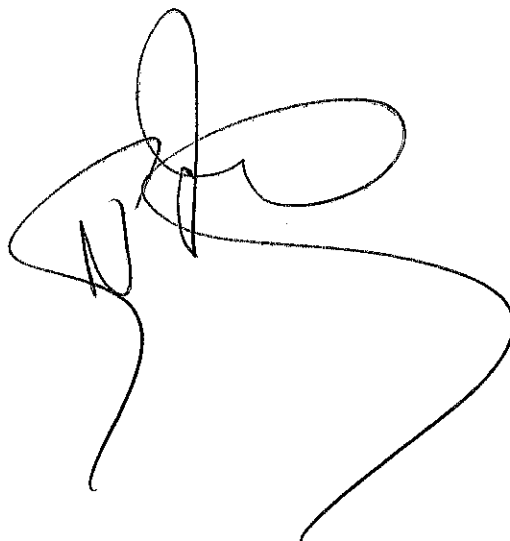
Suggested using ~~Solent Sailing Club Manager~~ "Dutyman" for RO duties as they send out a reminder JM

DP asked if SC checks financing of the Club boats over the year? NB says Flag Officers look at boat finances within budget – also NB, CH, RP & TB meet monthly to discuss finances & budgeting.

JM Needles Relief Anniversary event on 10th December marking 30 years since the lighthouse has been automated (last lighthouse keepers left the Needles Lighthouse on 8th December 1994). Details being worked on and will be shared, probably of most interest to the Cruising Group. JM DP

66/24 Date of next meetings in 2024, 0930 Mondays:

- 28th October
- 25th November



28/10/24.