

MINUTES OF A VICE COMMODORE'S COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ROYAL SOLENT YACHT CLUB, ON THURSDAY 31ST JULY 2025 AT 1100 HOURS

Present:

In the Chair: Rudi Fortson, Vice Commodore
Susie Breare, Rear Commodore House
Peter Crowhurst
David Porter
Lesley Tregear
Sarah Turvill

Apologies: None

In Attendance

Claire Hallett, Secretary

63/25 Apologies As above

64/25 Approval of the Minutes of 27th June 2025: The minutes were approved as a true record.

65/25 Matters Arising

Membership Categories Review. Peter is working on his review of the division of the membership categories and will report back in due course.

Youth Subs 10% Discount. The Sailing Secretary has made posters for Dinghy Week & Laser Training. The Membership Secretary has advertised it on our social media pages (Facebook, Instagram and X) and Lesley Tregear is helping at Registration of Dinghy Week on Monday 4th August in order to get involved with Dinghy Week from the start. Lesley says she will work out the best way to promote the 10% off membership if sailors join during Dinghy Week.

Visitor/Guest Bye-laws & Rules. The Vice Commodore has drawn up an easy-to-reference list of those persons permitted to visit the Club up to six times a calendar year and proposes that this could be displayed on the Club's notice board and website:

Persons permitted to visit the Royal Solent Yacht Club (up to SIX times in a calendar year)

- i) Members of any RYA affiliated Club skippering yachts (and their crew).
- ii) Persons owning / skippering yachts (and their crew) competing in Club races and rallies.
- iii) Visiting yachtsmen and yachswomen (including foreign yachtspersons).
- iv) Members of other (reciprocal) Clubs.
- v) A guest accompanying a Club Member.
- vi) Guests, as regular crew when racing with Members at open sailing events.*

* Guests who are regular crew, when racing with Members at open sailing events may, at the discretion of the Rear Commodore Sailing, exceed the six-day limit [rule 25.2].

It is also proposed to define which sailing events are open and which are closed and to add this to the Sailing Instructions. Discussion is needed with the Sailing Committee as to how RCS exercises their discretion regarding the six times rule for those who regular crew but are not members, as per Rule 25.2:

"No person mentioned in Rule 25.1 shall use the facilities of the Club for more than six days in any period during a calendar year, except for guests who are regular crew when racing with Members at open sailing events who may, at the discretion of the Rear Commodore Sailing, exceed the six-day limit."

A delicate balance needs to be struck between encouraging and regulating. The Sailing Committee discussed the matter on non-member crew in its July meeting:

"Discussion on how to identify crews who race regularly on Wednesdays and are non-members. Many return to RSYC more than six times (at the discretion of the RCS) and are generally encouraged but can be difficult if people abuse the system. If a crew attends a lot, Class Captains requested to speak with their boats to see whether their crew wishes to join the RSYC."

The VCC still feels that it would be helpful to have the names of non-member crew for reference and to help gauge what percentage of sailors taking part in Wednesday evening racing are actually members as the provision of racing costs the Club in fuel, boat maintenance and staffing. Peter stressed that the onus is on the racing member to get their crew who race regularly to join the Club. It was suggested by David that there could be a reduced fee for those who are only joining to race as crew.

The VC advised that a number of new bye-laws would be formulated to address the issue.

66/25 Membership Matters:

Applications: There were two applications for four prospective members earlier in July which the VCC has already approved via email and recommended to the GC via email:

Applicant	Proposer	Seconders	Comments/Interests
1. Mr Graeme Shove, DOB 1940 2. Mrs Marguerite Shove, DOB 1947	Rudi Fortson	David Valley Porter	Both are Members of the RLymYC and Salcombe YC. They are purchasing a house in Yarmouth, hence the application for membership here. Mr & Mrs Shove have sailed Luggers in the past but their main interest in the Club would be Onshore Activities.
3. Mr Gordon Munro-Ashman, DOB 1943 4. Mrs Sarah Munro-Ashman, DOB 1955	Rudi Fortson	Susie Breare	Mr & Mrs M-A are seeking re-instatement as Members of the RSYC. Today they own a motorboat which is berthed on the River Yar. They would be interested in cruising, motorboat training and onshore activities at the Club.

Post meeting: The applications were subsequently approved by the GC via email by close of play 31st July to enable memberships to commence from 1st August.

67/25 Marketing Matters

Open Day. Lesley reported that responses from the volunteers are already in. Lesley has secured sponsorship from Yarmouth Harbour for the purchase of two Open Day banners at £180 ex vat, one to be displayed on the roundabout adjacent to the bridge and the other at the view point car park. The date will be updated twice a year at a total cost of £100 ex vat and the harbour has agreed to cover the ongoing cost of this. The Membership Secretary arranged to meet with the Yarmouth Sailing Club, which has very kindly offered to lend the Club their posts and display boards and provided a map showing where they install them. They advised no permission is required provided the roadside signs don't block drivers' visibility. The Membership Secretary is going to Lymington next week and will put up posters in the following locations: all three marinas (Yacht Haven, plus Berthon & Lymington Harbour Commission), Lymington Yacht Charters, Ocean Rigging and Nick Cox Chandlers. Lesley was thanked by the VC for securing sponsorship for the banners. The dress code for the event is smart casual, with the Commodore and VC optionally wearing a jacket and tie, with helpers encouraged to wear clothing featuring the Club's insignia.

68/25 Governance Matters

Boat Shed Bye-laws. The bye-laws appertaining to the boat sheds will be updated with the GC approved amendments once the boat sheds refurbishment is complete.

Registration Fee Review. The appropriate increase of the registration fee will be gauged after 20th August once the inflation rates have been set for the RPI (Retail Price Index).

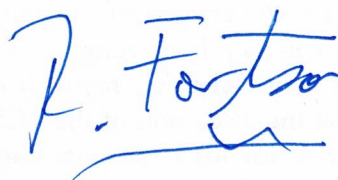
Membership Application Posting. Rule 20.9 states the following in relation to the posting of membership applications: "The particulars from the Proposal Form together with the names of the Proposer and Seconders shall be posted in the Clubhouse for not less than fourteen days prior to election." **The VC proposes that the notice period should be reduced from fourteen to seven days to facilitate applications being processed more quickly. All present agreed with the proposal which will therefore be put to the GC at the next meeting.**

VC

69/25 AOB No other business was recorded.

70/25 Points for Next Meeting

- Visitor/Guest Bye-laws & Rules
- Registration Fee
- Equality Act



71/25 Date of next meeting: 11am on Friday 19th September 2025