

Sailing Committee Minutes – Thursday 4th March 2021

Present on Zoom: Bob Joce, Paul Adams, Andrew Craig, Liz Pescod, Tony Woods, Andy Draper and Janet Hawkins.

1. Matters arising

1.1 *Minutes of Last Meeting: Equipment Issues*

Due to the pandemic and lockdowns, all these items are still to be completed, listed below for action as soon as possible once restrictions ease:

- a. Duplicate set of standard resources be placed in 2nd committee boat, so all resources needed for club race and open meetings are in both boats (Janet and Paul)
- b. Assigning a member of QM Team to take personal responsibility for checking over the committee boats on regular basis (Janet, Paul, Tony Bishop)
- c. Key group of RO/SC team to form regular working party to review and check resources on the committee boats, to advise on maintenance and resources; ensure that any key points that need addressing are prioritised and actioned (Liz, Janet, Tony Bishop)
- d. Restoration and refurbishment of Foxy Lady; noted that work was in progress and shared with SC members; this would be finished by 29th March.
- e. Electrical problems/issues with horn (ongoing work to resolve problems)
- f. Stern flagpole holder – needs a screw inserted so that the flagpole isn't too far down in the holder to be of use/visible
- g. Halyard system for Merry Fisher to be upgraded – this task to involve standardised flag sizes, to be reviewed/ordered by Janet and new ropes installed with input from RO Team and with QM Team; members of SC agreed that a small group would be involved in refurbishment of the halyard system and would arrange a date to work on this

(These items were outstanding from previous meeting and will be monitored and completed before racing recommences)

2. Post Lockdown Plans for Club Racing

2.1 Noted that RYA guidance for activities permitted on re-opening of the club mean that Club Racing can recommence again and plans were in place for this.

2.2 Agreed: Spring Series would start on Sunday 4th April 2021 and would finish on Sunday 2nd May, with the rest of the Sunday Series' for 2021 to run as originally planned. Wednesday Evening Series would start on Wednesday 7th April and run for the 23 weeks as originally planned.

2.3 Noted that NOR and Sis had been drafted and would be finalised and posted on the club website, along with details of launching slots for online sign-on for both Series.

2.4 Noted that a club update on the reopening of the club would be sent out shortly and indicate that racing would be starting very shortly afterwards.

2.5 Agreed that an email to fleet captains, club racers and posting information on the website would be helpful, along with links in booking emails for launching slots, would be helpful to ensure that club racers were aware of the changes to rules and flags. Janet to organise.

3. Post Lockdown Plans for Open Meetings

3.1 Noted that the restrictions under the Roadmap to easing restrictions meant that many restrictions would still be in place during April 2021, so SC agreed that no open meetings should be scheduled before mid May. Janet would communicate with those organisers who had requested earlier dates and push these dates back later in the year. It was also felt

- strongly that during the first few weeks following reopening, club members should be given priority.
- 3.2 Janet presented a list of open meeting dates that had already been rescheduled, or proposed for later in the year. SC were happy to approve and noted that the large events – London Youth Games and the Regional Junior Championships had confirmed that they intended to go ahead as originally planned.
- 3.3 Tony Bishop asked SC to consider increased event pricing for 2021 open meetings. Noted that the proposals represented significant increases and SC asked Paul and Janet to investigate prices for events elsewhere and the previous work completed to investigate break-even point for events, reporting back to SC.
4. Post Lockdown Plans for Youth Sailing
- 4.1 Noted that the team had identified a small group of key individuals, parents and youth sailors, whom it intended to contact and suggest a Zoom call to discuss setting up a youth committee. Noted that Hannah Golton would be leading this initiative as ‘Youth Coordinator’. Agreed that any ideas from other clubs, either present or past, would be of interest and should be directed to Paul.
- 4.2 Noted that the club again planned to run 3 different youth group sailing sessions, aimed at those with stage 2+, stage 3 and those interested in getting into racing.
- 4.3 Noted that the club was hoping that parents would become more of a cohesive group and that, although youth sailors should be encouraged to be independent and rig for themselves, parental support was always helpful, as was the idea of pre-organised in-loco-parentis arrangements.
- 4.4 Agreed that there was a popular and established development pathway for young sailors and windsurfers in the progression through courses, youth group/T15 into Assistant Instructor and then Instructor qualifications; focus now was needed on progression through similar route and into racing.
- 4.5 Agreed that there had been some great initiatives in the past which could be reintroduced, such as crewing for established members of the club in double-handers and trying out new boats.
5. RRS 2021 – 2024 Template Updates
- 5.1 SC noted with thanks the work of Liz and Janet in creating new templates for club racing which would be used for Spring Series, Wednesday Evening Series and that work was progressing on templates for Open Meetings.
- 5.2 Noted one of the issues raised at Chris Simon’s Rules Update was how to score DNC and that Janet and Liz had modelled this using data from 2019 Wednesday Evening Series. Liz talked SC through the implications of keeping scoring as had been (total number of boats in series +1 place) as against maximum number of boats in any start +1 place. Agreed that no change to be made to scoring DNC, in order to continue to encourage as wide an attendance at Wednesday Evening Racing as possible.
6. Race Officer Communication, Update and Training
- 6.1 Noted that an RO update following Chris Simon’s recent Rules Update had been circulated by Liz and that this information was helpful; to be included in the RO Resources on the website.
- 6.2 Agreed that Liz would set up a virtual (Zoom) refresher/update before the end of March, which would be communicated to all Race Officers.
- 6.3 Janet would update the RO Spreadsheet and validate the RO list; noted that there were a few changes from 2020.

- 6.3 Noted that a number of documents and RO Resources needed to be updated for the Club Race Box and also the Race Officer Information page on the website. This was being done by Janet and would be ready in good time for the resumption of racing.
- 6.4 Noted that all dates for club racing were now live on DutyMan and that this information should be highlighted for ROS in another email which would be sent before the end of March.
- 6.5 Agreed that useful information on flag changes, marks and penalty codes would be shared; not just with ROs but club racers too.

7. Handicap Update

- 7.1 Andrew reported that the latest RYA data with limited racing during 2020 had been assessed and that no changes to QM handicaps were needed.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1 *Boat Park Policy* – Bob agreed to review the current situation regarding boat park policy and whether this was a useful document that could or should be more widely shared. SC to review once Bob had updated.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed that another SC meeting be scheduled for 27th May (date to be confirmed nearer the time) to discuss: RO Situation, Open Meetings, Regional Junior Championships and London Youth Games.