

Sailing Committee Minutes – Thursday 13th December 2018

Present: Bob Joce, Andrew Craig, Tony Woods, Liz Pescod, Janet Hawkins.
Apologies for absence received from Josie Adams and Paul Adams.

1. Matters arising

- 1.1. Request for standard course geometry. Noted a message from Paul that staff training was planned to start after the Bloody Mary.
- 1.2. Consideration of proposal for a separate Laser start for Wednesday racing. Feedback from Laser fleet from Tony was that if there were enough Lasers signed-on, more people would be keen to have a separate start. Noted also that the attendance of Lasers on a Wednesday was following a downward trend over the past few years and some debate about whether this would help to increase attendance. Noted that this would increase rather than decrease the complexity of Race Officer role, but there was merit in trialling this. **Agreed:** to use the Club Championships to test this to see what effect it has. This would need NOR and SIs to be adapted as well as Race Officer Team to be aware. **Andrew / Janet**

Noted also that there needed to be action on later start for Wednesday series racing for 2019, so that racing would start 1930 during June and July. NOR / SIs and Race Officer implications, as well as publicising to members/caterers/staffing for race support. **Andrew / Janet / Paul**

There was then discussion about the 3-2-1-0 start sequence introduced for the Winter and Frostbite series and whether it would be better to consider using this for summer racing. Noted the problems of using Black Flag which, if deployed, would only be displayed for one minute and would need to be ready to raise (logistical challenge).

Agreed: the issue of a separate start on Wednesdays to be reviewed for 2020 summer, in the light of trials during 2019 at club championships, which use same courses as Wednesday series races. To discuss again in Autumn 2019 after club championships. **Bob / Janet to add to the agenda.**

- 1.4. Clarification of OOD points awarded for completion of duties to be added to RO page on website, following the agreed allocation: namely 2 Sunday duties in same series, or 2 Wednesday evening series duties to count; any additional duties during that series to count for RO credits, but not OOD points. **(Janet)**
- 1.5. TASA association follow up. Noted that this has been found to be defunct, but that Janet was awaiting contact from Buzz, ISO class associations. Noted also that Andy Rice, Sailjuice, was taking existing events and hoping to try and stitch together a series and that success of this was to be monitored, with a view to suggesting QMSC become involved in the future.
- 1.6. NOR / SI templates updates Noted that Andrew and Janet had met and drawn up a list for all repeating templates, which were being reviewed and updated in January **(Janet / Andrew)** Noted that Sailing Committee wished to pass on to Council the need to update the insurance requirements for club racing and general sailing. Currently NOR and SIs require the competitors to hold £2 million insurance whereas most other clubs and QM open meetings (including the Bloody Mary) require between £3 and £5 million. SC recommend to Council that the insurance requirement is increased to £3 million from April 2019 (most if not all boat insurance policies already provide this). **Agreed:** Update NOR and other statements for Racing Documentation accordingly. **(Bob, Andrew, Janet).**

2. 2019 Open Meetings

Noted that in addition to previously approved Opens for 2019, there is also a potential for a Topper Open in 2019 / 2020 across both LSE and Southern region, which would hopefully attract a large number of competitors. To await further contact from Topper group. (**Janet** to liaise).

Noted: **Bob** would now take the dates for 2019 Open Meetings and seek RO Teams for these events, liaising with **Janet** to ensure they are included in DutyMan. Noted Andrew likely to be unavailable for the London Youth Games; Liz wished to participate in Tasar open.

3. RO supply and demand (covering M.A. item 1.3)

Noted that all 2019 Club racing dates were already live on DutyMan. Noted that a shortage was also likely for 2019, with an average of 5 duties needed to cover all the slots. Where RO Team members had gone above and beyond, it was felt important to acknowledge this – for 2018, Jackie Wand-Tetley, Roger and Liz Pescod had undertaken 10 duties, with several others doing between 6-9. Sailing Committee wished to express their gratitude for these volunteers in particular. **Agreed:** those completing 10 duties would be recognised at the Christmas Lunch on 16th December (**Bob / Janet**)

4. Date for next RO course

Agreed: Saturday 26th January will be the next course. **Agreed:** to contact those members who have expressed interest in becoming part of RO Team (**Janet/Andrew**). Also, to update the website and encourage current RO Teams and Fleet captains to publicise to their fleets or sailing buddies (**Janet**). Youth Group parents to be encouraged to get involved as well (**Janet**).

5. Race Officers Forum evening

It was proposed to run a Race Officers forum in the clubhouse, for all ROs 20th February 2019 to cover the following topics: Standard timings; Course geometry; Wednesday evening series course rotation; Winter 3/2/1/Go and two starts. Format of the evening to include drinks and nibbles to make this a social as well as an information sharing update session. **Janet** to organise; publicise to all current RO Team members and co-ordinate responses. **Andrew** to lead the evening.

6. Possible changes to recording starting times for racing

Noted a request to consider changing the standard countdown sequence for recording race timings had been suggested by Chris Stanton. Andrew and Janet had reviewed this and the different methods employed by existing RO Teams. Noted that the only real issue for the Office in terms of producing results for races was clarity from the RO team as to their method of recording timings for competitors; the adjustments for timings did not pose an undue burden on office time/staff. **Agreed:** RO Teams to continue with their chosen method of recording race timings, **Janet** to amend scoring sheet to allow RO to clearly state the basis for times. **Janet** to continue to check with each team after each race. **Agreed:** to remind RO Teams at RO Forum of the need for clarity of their method when handing over results to office.

7. Race Management kit issues to be resolved

Noted recent issues with committee boats: we need working engines are needed on Merry Fisher and Foxy Lady in good time for the Bloody Mary (helpful to have this every time needed) Noted also that the halyard system now needed to be able to take two class flags or both boats. **Agreed: Janet** to liaise with rest of QM team, but these matters were already in hand.

8. Review of Bloody Mary Volunteers, in on-water roles

Noted some gaps in the on-water roles and discussion ranged over suitable substitutes from those who had volunteered, along with some adjustments to roles. Noted that the issue of Chair of Protest Committee was still outstanding and urgently requiring resolution (regional Umpires conference clashed with the Bloody Mary). **Agreed: Bob** to look at and confirm the final on-water teams with Janet; **Janet** to contact Jacquie Roberts at RYA to seek help finding a Chair of Protest Committee.

Agreed: that on-water teams would be encouraged to help out early in the morning, with areas that still had gaps and that a final push to recruit the remaining roles ashore. Noted that Andrew and David Bithell were working hard to recruit from Saturday Club members and keeping Janet informed of all communications.

9. Rules Advisors Update

Noted that the current team of Rules Advisors was quite small, but that David Casale, Liz and Tony would be interested in training while it would be useful for existing Rules advisors to have a refresher. Noted that Chris Simon had agreed to run a session for QM members interested, or to combine this with others locally. Andrew agreed to liaise with Chris and those interested to sort out dates. Noted that including a Rules debrief in sessions like the Laser BIG Sundays would be a great way of sharing expertise and David had been keen to do this.

10. AOB

Sunday Racing – 2 or 3 starts for series following the Frostbite 2019 series Liz asked SC to consider whether having 2 starts could be considered for all series following the Frostbite 2019 series, due to numbers. Noted that Janet had also received comments from a couple of other sailors normally in 3rd start, which supported Liz' suggestion. The implications of a general recall were considered, along with flags, lap boards, courses etc. Noted that the use of Whiskey flag and the start sequences would need to be incorporated into future NOR and SIs. **Agreed:** there would be 2 starts, as for Winter and Frostbite series, for Spring and Summer 2019, including Youths. **Andrew / Janet** to reflect this in future NOR and SIs; and **Janet** to publicise this to club sailors. **Agreed:** to review this if problems arise in the future.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting to be held at 8pm on 7th March 2019, in the Clubhouse.