

QMSC Sailing Committee Meeting Minutes – Thursday 20th February 2025

Present (via Teams): Liz Pescod (Chair), Andrew Cole, Andy Draper, Bernard Price, Julie Harrison, Hilary Bristow, Matt Conner, Steve Bell and Tony Woods

Apologies: Ross Malloy

1. Welcome and apologies - Liz Pescod opened the meeting and extended apologies from Ross who was unable to attend the meeting.
2. It was agreed that actions from SC Meeting on Thursday 24th October 2024 would be covered under the relevant agenda items in this meeting.
3. Racing – general:
 - a. Course setting update – mapping and use of Buoyzone; mark-laying and use of templates; pin end marks and streaming. **(Action: LP to follow up with RM)**
 - b. To encourage youth participation/slow handicap boats on Sunday (& Wednesday) racing – agreed to put in an additional windward mark creating a shorter windward leg for slower boats. **(Action: SB to action for Summer Series. (Note: Will need to publicise this in advance to the Slow Handicap Fleet)).**
 - c. Pontoon cleaning plus slippery banks **(Action: RM to schedule jet washing).**
 - d. March handicap updates? Awaiting RYA new data before issuing the amended handicap data. **(Action: AC/Adam Wickenden/TW/SB).**
 - e. Dinghy racing survey. Response from dinghy racers but reminder required to those who don't race. **(Action: HB & Tony Bishop send mailchimp reminder out to be more inclusive of non-racers).**
 - f. Minimum wind limit for club racing? No one favoured a minimum wind speed for racing. Leave to RO and fleets on the day. A lot of people travel some distance to get to the club and are keen to sail if possible.
 - g. Club & open meeting wind limits for safety. **(Action: LP to follow up with RM).**
 - h. Sunday board racing (separate start) Chris Perry & Alison Stevens looking at this suggestion – maybe a separate start for boards with Sunday club racing on an occasional basis. Need to clarify whether standard Sunday course works for boards. Shortened course for juniors? JH mentioned she wasn't sure the windsurfers would be aware of the rules and would require direction. SB – would add 5 minutes to start timings (although we used to have three separate start for the dinghies). **(Action: Await further discussion with Chris Perry & Alison Stevens).**
 - i. Winter membership and twinning with sea-based clubs (Who?). Many suggestions for clubs (Whitstable; Solent based clubs – Hill Head, Lee-on-Solent; Eastbourne; Pevensey Bay; Chichester Harbour clubs; Littlehampton; river clubs - Desborough, Teddington, Aquarius, Hampton, Tamesis etc.). MC – HISC have a winter membership without boat fees or maybe look at encouraging through class association which may assist with better class racing **(Action: LP to discuss direction with Council what to offer as winter membership and strategy for winter 2025/26).**
 - j. Ideas for post-racing events for summer Wednesday evenings. Various suggestions include rules presentation (AC) or rules scenario (LP) which could be mulled over/discussed during the meal. **(Action: LP to review further with HB).**
4. Fleets:
 - a. Select one or more “focus” fleets? Events, coaching sessions etc. Current fleets – ILCA, RS200 & RS400. Both RS200 and RS400 less engaged at present, RS400 fleet series being held this year but no separate RS200 series. MC suggested Waspz. Pick one fleet to develop it with coaching from an influential fleet sailor (eg Mickey Beckett for ILCA). LP/TW suggested to get an influential fleet sailor to come in to do coaching/encouraging support in exchange for free membership? Youth members –

who are they inspired by? **(Action: Talk to sailors at RS Spring Champs 15/16 March...)**.

5. Rules Advisors and Protests:
 - a. Rules Advisors update meeting on Saturday 22nd March (2-4pm). LP rules advisors and anyone else who would be interested to attend should be encouraged.
 - b. Rules Advisors to sign up to be available for open event.
6. Youth Groups Update. **(Action: LP to follow up with RM)**.
7. Club Racing Calendar 2025, including fleet series dates. All dates are agreed by Sailing Committee. **(Action: HB & TB advertise/promote all special calendar race dates to the members via newsletter and poster. HB & RM date for Junior Championship 2025)**.
8. Open Meeting Calendar for 2025:
 - a. RS Spring Championship Update – Capped numbers at 60 **(Action: HB & RM to keep reviewing as we move towards the date)**.
 - b. RO requirements – HB still some duties to fill for the Open Events **(Action: HB to ensure all duties have suitable RO/AROs for events)**.
9. ROs and AROs:
 - a. Race Officer sign-up, training and development. **(Action: HB & SB next training course in a few months)**.
 - b. Developing AROs/ROs – HB encouraging the new AROs with specific dates to ensure they have support of an experienced RO. BP reminded HB that Rookie Racing would be a great introduction for new AROs. **(Action: HB to continue to link new AROs with suitable RO/duties)**.
 - c. RO Update – RRS changes **(Action: SB to send information to ROs)**.
10. Race Extension to Wind / Wing Foiling Racing. **(Action: LP to follow up with RM)**.
11. Any Other Business. Other activities on the reservoir – idea for fishing has now dropped off the committee meeting agenda but may continue to look at using the reservoir for rowing by river rowing club. Skiffs were mentioned but the reservoir wouldn't be long enough but maybe gigs.
12. Date for next meeting: TBC/July? by Doodle Poll at 8pm by Teams.