

Chair: Paul Watson (PW)

Secretary: Emily Watson

Apologies: Clare Sargent, Mark Newton

Present: Mark Cooper, Paul Watson, Richard Le Mare, Dave Acres, Harry Kennedy, Peter Mackin (PM), Alastair Wood, Cheryl Wood, Paul Barker, Rob Ford, Steve Sallis, Ben Heppenstall, Harry McVicar, Richard Hargreaves, Ben Green, Pete Ellis, Mark Henman, Dave Coulson, Chris Arnell, Steve Cockerill, Alistair McLaughlin, Steve Bolland.

1. Matters arising from 2018 Minutes:
  - a. Members Survey:
    - i. The survey was completed by 29/40 class association members
    - ii. After giving the class association members time to complete the survey, it was then opened more widely on Facebook
    - iii. Results to be distributed within the next few months (PW)
  - b. Northern training action still outstanding – Paul Watson to action possibly alongside Pennine event
  - c. Class boat documents and advertising:
    - i. Plan to make more use of it in 2020
    - ii. Paul Watson to check insurance
    - iii. Cheryl Wood has offered to pick it up and store it at Pennine SC
    - iv. Suggestion to create and advert to offer free use of the association boat for 2020 with the agreement that the individual will attend all Championship events
    - v. Take to RYA Youth events as a taster
    - vi. Spend time at different member home clubs to promote and provide an option to have a go
2. Election of Class Reps:
  - a. Paul Watson to stay on as chair
3. Specific RS300 roles:
  - a. Rich Le Mare to stay as technical rep, including liaising with Boat Yard at Beer (BYAB) and RS
  - b. Dave Acres to stay as training rep
4. Fleet communication:
  - a. Some members weren't signed up to fast news, but this has been resolved
  - b. Suggestion of a WhatsApp group for specific events, rather than a whole fleet one
  - c. Fast news – not that well received within the group and the majority preference was to use Facebook. Saying that, not all members are on or use Facebook
  - d. Members expressed interest in a more personal style newsletter, PW to look into viability
5. Class promotion and how to grow the class:
  - a. Class members to make others aware if they are travelling to events to encourage participation and more activity
  - b. Class members to take responsibility for promoting the class within their own club and organising informal training and supporting those less experienced
  - c. Discussion suggested more coaching was wanted within the fleet and guidance from those at the "pointy end of the fleet". Suggestion to debrief on the middle evening after racing events. Other suggestions are:
    - i. GPS tracking, filming the start, filming mark roundings, using a RIB for filming and photos, buddy systems at event and a longer series.
  - d. Organise events at clubs with RS300s that don't travel, to encourage them into the fleet and attend other events
6. Review of 2019 season so far:
  - a. Attendance at events so far:

- i. South Cerney – 11
    - ii. Rutland Sprints – 5
    - iii. Notts County – 9
    - iv. Summer Regatta Lymington – 5
    - v. Filey Regatta – 3
    - vi. Weymouth Regatta Castle Cove – 2
  - b. Following feedback, the preference is for local club events at RS300 sailors home clubs as opposed to larger multi-fleet events
7. Preview of 2020 calendar:
- a. 17-20 September - Nationals at Abersoch SCYC
  - b. Paul Watson to follow up on Springs options for March
  - c. Sprints to stay in the calendar
  - d. Pennine in May – use Saturday evening to debrief races and share knowledge
  - e. Summers – looking for an alternative to the larger RS multi-fleet event. Possibly Stokes Bay
  - f. Inlands at Hykeham SC
  - g. Rich Le Mare offered Castle Cove for an event
8. Builder:
- a. Concerns raised by Steve Cockerill about the lack of stock at BYAB and the delivery time when ordering items. Delays caused when ordering stock leading to not being ready to sail.
  - b. Ben Heppenstall has offered to speak to BYAB about their website
9. AOB:
- a. RYA Dinghy Show (29 February – 1 March) stand:
    - i. Peter Mackin to speak to BYAB about joint funding (they had previously offered to pay half the stand fee) and option of space on their stand
    - ii. Peter Mackin has offered his boat for the Dinghy Show and Steve Cockerill has offered to get it there
    - iii. Members offered to help tend the stand: Cheryl Wood, Ben Heppenstall, Harry McVicar, Rich Le Mare, Ben Green, Peter Mackin, Rich Hargreaves, Alastair Wood.
  - b. Windspeed across the race course:
    - i. Class chairman to encourage the Race Officer (RO) that the sailors focus is on quality of racing, rather than the number or length of races
    - ii. Provide guidance to RO that 4 knots across the whole course is required and for the RO to check every time the lead boat comes around the last mark. If the wind dies within the first lap, cancel the race. If a whole lap can be managed, shorten the course. Make more effort to use local sailors' knowledge of the conditions, for example, if they know the wind will fill in later in the day, postpone racing instead of sending everyone out.
  - c. Change to SIs:
    - i. Making it so that you can be more than one race ahead during an event, keeping in mind if there are any sailors coming just for the weekend portion of a Nationals.
  - d. Peter Ellis gave thanks to the committee team for their help and work over the past year.