

RS300 Class Association	2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	Issue: 1
		Issue date: 1/11/2022

**Held:
Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy
1800hrs 24th July 2022**

Attendees	
Peter Mackin (Chair)	P Mackin
Ben Heppenstall	B Heppenstall
Paul Watson	P Watson
Harry McVicar	H McVicar
Alastair Wood	A Wood
Tom Moore	T Moore
Richard Le Mare	R Le Mare
Steve Bolland	S Bolland
Sam Davy	S Davy
Charlie South	C South
Dave Acres	D Acres
Rob Ford	R Ford

1. Welcome
 - **P Mackin** opened the meeting and thanked the members for their attendance.

2. Apologies
 - Cheryl Wood

3. Matters Arising from 2021 AGM minutes
 - Attendees agreed that the minutes of the previous AGM had been reviewed and were signed off.

4. Election of Committee
 - **P Mackin** agreed to continue as chair to agreement of those in attendance. **B Heppenstall**, **R Le Mare** and **D Acres** agreed to stay on the committee in their existing roles. **T Moore** agreed to take on a role as 'Bosun' of the association's demo boat. **S Davy** also agreed to support the committee. Attendees approved all new committee members.

5. Report from the Chair
 - **P Mackin** - 2022 had proven challenging for the class with lower attendance than anticipated across the open events so far. Attendees agreed that the rising costs of going to events had not helped but entry numbers had still been disappointing. Concerns over the cost of entering the 2022 nationals had been noted and saved for discussion later in the meeting.
 - The RS300 moulds were in possession of **Ginger Boats Racing Limited (GBRL)**. However, **GBRL** did not have adequate information and tooling to complete a build. The cost associated with restarting building were expected to be in the region £2000-£2500. **GBRL** had confirmed they were happy to build new RS300s as one-offs or in batches, with the caveat that smaller production runs will necessitate higher costs to buyers.
 - Progress with **RS** had been slow since the departure of Junior. Inaccurate information was still displayed on the **RS** website and the availability of boat specific spares had been poor.

RS300 Class Association	2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	Issue: 1
		Issue date: 1/11/2022

6. Report from the Builders Rep

- **R Le Mare** – Kevin Driver had retained a stockpile of boat specific spares e.g. boom rollers. Parts such as these could be readily 3D printed as an alternative, ‘self-supply’ part.
- A carbon boom had been made available for the nationals and was held in stock. A mast was also available at **RS. Super Spars (SS)** had committed to ensure one mast was in stock and tubes to make a second were available. Tubes were expected to be in hand at **SS** by August.
- There was concern about ongoing mast supply from **SS** and attendees considered alternative supply routes.
 - i. Tubes were shipped by **SS** from New Zealand as **SS** chosen supplier and mandrel were located there. **R Le Mare** confirmed the RS300 Class Association was free to look into alternative suppliers.
 - ii. Attendees agreed that an assessment of the masts already in circulation was required in order to derive an accurate spec for suppliers to work from.
 - iii. **ACTION 2022_1 – R Le Mare to conduct variance check on masts at the 2022 Nationals. Results to be consolidated for onward supplier to potential manufacturers.**
 - iv. **Selden Mast (SM)**, who already supply carbon booms to the fleet, may be a suitable alternative. **R Le Mare** indicated that **SM** could likely produce a mast to a similar specification but ensuring that the technical numbers match the consolidated mast sampling data.
 - v. **ACTION 2022_2 – R Le Mare to compile specification for a Selden RS300 mast.**
- **RS** engagement will be required in order to facilitate a change in suppliers.
- Attendees were disappointed by the lack of information handover and progress made towards the build and spare supply arrangements that **RS** had agreed to provide and asked how the class association could move forward.
 - i. **ACTION 2022_3 – P Mackin to get build data from RS so that a copy of it is held by the RS300 Class Association.**
- **P Mackin** suggested that continued liaison with **RS** may eventually succeed but any significant change in the relationship between the RS300 Class Association and **RS** would be more appropriately managed via an EGM.
- Attendees unanimously supported an EGM with representation from **RS’** leadership in order to understand **RS’** intentions and discuss options to manage the future of the RS300.
 - i. **ACTION 2022_4 – P Mackin to engage with RS on matter of new build and spare supply and arrange an EGM at an agreeable time such that the RS300 Class Association members can be consulted on progress made by all parties and any next steps they see necessary.**

7. 2023 Events

- All agreed that the best events were those held relatively informally and promoting a social atmosphere. There was no need for high expense events as the members felt that the value in attending events was focussed on fun sailing and an active social scene. Clubs able to offer this friendly reception at low cost should be prioritised.
- The following clubs / events were proposed for future events:
 - i. Snettisham Beach SC
 - ii. Felpham SC

RS300 Class Association	2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	Issue: 1
		Issue date: 1/11/2022

iii. South Shields SC

iv. Paignton Open for Single Handers (POSH)

- Attendees were happy for future events to be held in conjunction with the host club's own club racing. This provided an excellent opportunity for the class to showcase itself to potential future members and offer members of the host club a chance to try the boat.
- Attendees agreed that a more varied calendar would be appreciated and that future event calendars should consider different racing formats. Previous 'Slalom Championships' were fondly remembered and would be welcomed on future circuit series.

i. **ACTION 2022_5 – S Bolland to share relevant information to hold a Slalom type event with P Mackin.**

- RS300 National Championships 2023 would be held by Dovey YC on 7-10 September 2023.
- Several attendees were concerned about the high cost of entering the 2022 nationals at the RS Games. Support for future attendance of the RS games in the same format was very low. Attendees cited a lack of sailing outside of the harbour, high event cost, awkward event dates, small and congested sailing areas and restrictive sailing times as reasons for this. The attendees would be happy to attend a future RS Games event at another venue or at WPNSA for a 2-day event that was not a national championship.
- **S Bolland** suggested that Nationals did not need to be 4 days long and shorter 3-day events could be considered. Opinion on this suggestion was mixed though all agreed it would help to reduce the overall costs of entering events in the season. **P Mackin** agreed to consider this format for future events. Filey SC was promoted as a good candidate for a national championship.
- **S Davy** suggested that fewer events would also help to reduce entry costs through the year. It was not felt by attendees that this step was required. A focus on cheaper events with a more informal atmosphere was preferred.
- All agreed that a focus for future event calendars should be on attracting lees active boats onto the circuit and showcasing the fun nature of the fleet on and off the water.

8. Sponsorship

- **P Mackin** stated that he was not able to provide an update but would clarify this.
- **P Mackin** said he will continue to look for sponsors for the association boat.

9. Demo Boat and Class Promotion

- The demo boat had been well received at most clubs it had visited. Members were concerned about the state of parts for the boat, particularly its cover and sails. The boat was being transported on **P Watson's** double trailer. Lack of its own trailer was acknowledged as a concern.
- **D Acres** suggested he may be able to supply an old black sail for the boat.
- **P Mackin** asked for a volunteer to act as a 'Bosun' for the boat to manage its whereabouts. **T Moore** said he was happy to fulfil this role and there were no objections.
- **P Mackin** suggested that the Demo Boat would benefit from some signage on its sail and that this could also be extended to other members boats.
 - i. **ACTION 2022_6 – P Mackin to procure promotional signage to be displayed on the Demo Boat and any others willing to do so.**
- Dinghy show 2023:
 - i. **P Mackin** said he would support class attendance at the dinghy show as this was an important opportunity for the class to remain visible. Attendees

RS300 Class Association	2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	Issue: 1
		Issue date: 1/11/2022

supported this however it was not clear how the class would be able to finance a stand.

- ii. **ACTION 2022_7 – P Mackin to find and implement means of ensuring an RS300 is on display at the 2023 Dinghy Show.**

10. Coaching

- Coaching led by **D Acres** the day prior to the nationals had been well received by the small group that took part. Coaching of a similar format would be useful at future events but needed to be organised further in advance.
- Attendees agreed that there was not necessarily a need to hire a professional coach as sailors within the fleet could act more successfully as coaches.
- **B Heppenstall** suggested a coaching event at Whitefriars SC would be successful due to the relatively convenient location of the club.

11. AOB

- **A Wood** asked what progress had been made with the T-Foil trial since the last AGM. **P Mackin** stated that build of trial T-Foils to the agreed box-rule design of **R Le Mare** had been halted by builder availability and rapidly increasing material costs which had pushed the manufacturing costs way above what members were willing to pay for a trial piece of equipment. Committee members had agreed that it was not financially viable to continue with the trial and that it could be resumed at a time when the T-Foil became more affordable to produce.
 - i. The original T-Foil was still in circulation and its use welcomed. **S Davy** will take the foil to his home club for trial use. The foil will be passed around the circuit in 2023. **P Mackin** reminded attendees that whilst no one in attendance objected to use of the T-Foil on the water at a class sanctioned event, the boat in question would not measure as an RS300 and would not be eligible for a result.
- **Cheryl Wood** had provided an item for AOB in advance of the meeting:

“I would like to remove the RS300 rule on sail changing. To enable people that are light weight or have medical issues that need a smaller rig in heavy wind. The chance to swap more than once a year in order to compete. To back this it up it doesn’t have any PY difference. It allows the person to compete and attend more events. That keeping fleet event numbers up.”

[For the benefit of the minutes, the existing rule states: “3.3 A helmsman may change their registered rig set only once in a calendar year.”]

- i. Attendees agreed with the premise of allowing sailors more opportunity to sail the boat comfortably in a wider range of conditions. However, there was concern that this rule prevented exploitation of the small sail by heavier sailors for a speed advantage in strong winds. Attendees also recognised that the costs and availability of the ‘A’ Rig were such that manipulation of the rule in this way was unlikely.
- ii. The following alternatives to the existing rule were discussed:

RS300 Class Association	2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	Issue: 1
		Issue date: 1/11/2022

1. Remove rule 3.3 entirely as proposed by Cheryl (i.e. sailors can change rigs as often as they wish).
 2. Change rule 3.3 such that rigs by may be changed once per race series.
 3. Change rule 3.3 such that a rig can be changed any number of times in a year, but never mid-event.
- iii. After discussion, attendees voted 11 in favour, 1 against, that change to rule 3.3 such that a rig can be changed any number of times in a year, but never mid-event should be proposed as a change to the relevant approving parties.
- iv. As defined under the RS Class Association rules, Amendments must be agreed by the Copyright Holder, Licensed Builder, and the class members. This proposal, as identified by consensus in the meeting will be progressed through the relevant approval process by the Class Secretary.
- v. **ACTION 2022_8 – Clare Sargent to progress the proposed amendment to Rule 3.3.**

Table 1: Actions arising from this meeting

Action	Owner	Due
ACTION 2022_1 – R Le Mare to conduct variance check on masts at the 2022 Nationals. Results to be consolidated for onward supplier to potential manufacturers.	R Le Mare	Immediate. Post meeting note – variance check completed. CLOSED.
ACTION 2022_2 – R Le Mare to compile specification for a Selden RS300 mast.	R Le Mare	Dec 2022
ACTION 2022_3 – P Mackin to get build data from RS so that a copy of it is held by the RS300 Class Association.	P Mackin	Dec 2022
ACTION 2022_4 – P Mackin to engage with RS on matter of new build and spare supply and arrange an EGM at an agreeable time such that the RS300 Class Association members can be consulted on progress made by all parties and any next steps they see necessary.	P Mackin	Jan 2023
ACTION 2022_5 – S Bolland to share relevant information to hold a Slalom type event with P Mackin.	S Bolland	Dec 2022
ACTION 2022_6 – P Mackin to procure promotional signage to be displayed on the Demo Boat and any others willing to do so.	P Mackin	Dec 2022
ACTION 2022_7 – P Mackin to find and implement means of ensuring an RS300 is on display at the 2023 Dinghy Show.	P Mackin	ASAP
ACTION 2022_8 – Clare Sargent to progress the proposed amendment to Rule 3.3.	C Sargent	Dec 2022