

RS300 Class Association

Annual General Meeting 2023

Minutes

Held 02/11/2023 – 1930hrs on Zoom

Attendees: Sam Davy, Peter Mackin, Cheryl Wood, Ben Heppenstall, Tom Moore, Paul Watson, Richard Le Mare, Tim Le Couilliard, Matt Sargent

1. Welcome
 - a. Peter Mackin opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
2. Apologies
 - a. Clare Sargent
3. Matters arising from 2022 minutes
 - a. None
4. Election of committee
 - a. All committee members confirmed to retain positions for 2024.
 - b. Hard work of committee members recognised and acknowledged that 2024 will be Pete M's 3rd year as chair. It was agreed that Pete M will stand down as chair at the 2024 AGM.
5. Report from Chair
 - a. 2023 had been a very positive year for the class. There had been significant growth in both open meeting and national championship attendance. Engagement with new and prospective RS300 owners had also increased on social media platforms and at events.
 - b. The influx of new sailors was encouraging, especially with interest shown in the 16-30 age bracket.
 - c. Development days had been successful in encouraging new sailors to attend an event or try the boat.
6. Report from builders' rep
 - a. The RS300 moulds were in the possession of Ginger Boats, who were gearing up to build new hulls. The committee were in communication with Ginger Boats to sort the remaining issues.
 - b. Feedback from the members during the year on potential areas of improvement for the boat and its equipment was appreciated. The feedback had been taken on board and was being progressed.
 - i. One potential development area was the mast – for which supply chain issues were well known. All agreed that a UK produced mast is preferable and this should be explored. Tom M was willing to trial a prototype mast.
 - ii. The possibility to rig the mainsheet to the transom, like an RS200, was also of interest to members who wished to explore practical benefits. Attendees agreed that performance benefits of this alteration would be very minor, limited only to improved light wind tacking performance. It was deemed that this option was worth exploring. Pete M agreed to draw up a design for how this should be fitted and which any boats trialling the set up should be using. It should be noted that any holes drilled into a boom for this (or any other purpose) would invalidate the manufacturer's warranty.
 - c. There was growing interest in new build hulls. Pete M reinforced the need to be vocal about this interest and to register it with Ginger Boats. Ginger Boats were willing to offer hull only packages. Tom M will coordinate new builds with Ginger Boats and ensure any opportunities to recirculate parts from expired hulls were taken up.
7. 2023 events and 2024 events

- a. Feedback from 2023 calendar was positive. The development days had been well received but it was agreed that there were too many. For 2024, only 2 should be run – one in the South, one further North.
 - i. The Friday prior to the inlands at Carsington was suggested. And King George also proposed for the second.
 - b. Overview of 2024 and 2025
 - i. PM gave an overview of the 2024 calendar which was still draft. PM will conduct a FB poll on preference of 1 or 2 day events or training/racing 2 day events.
8. Sponsorship
- a. TBD
9. Demo boat and class promotion
- a. Attendees thanked Paul Watson for the generous loan of a double stacker trailer for the demo boat and acknowledged the need to return it at the end of 2023. Demo boat Bosun Tom Moore will coordinate boat movements for 2024.
 - b. All agreed that an RS300 must be present at the dinghy show, preferably a new boat. However, there is concern over the willingness of RS to accept a boat that doesn't fit in with the brand colours. Pete M to liaise with Clare on this.
 - c. The demo boat should be actively promoted to youth sailors to bolster the increased interest from that demographic.
10. Coaching
- a. Attendees suggested that shore drills would be useful as part of the coaching. Pete M to draft shore drill exercises.
 - b. The video coaching at development days had been very successful and this will continue in 2024.
 - c. There was a desire to have an evening lecture at the nationals from an outside speaker. Pete M to explore possibilities for this.
11. AOB
- a. None – Pete M closed the meeting.