RS Class Association Management Meeting Minutes 10 March 2025

Online: Microsoft Teams Chair of Meeting: Pete Vincent Secretary: Clare Sargent

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1	Apologies: David Smart (UK RS100) and Huw Powell (RS100 stand in) Present online: Lynn Billowes (RS Sailing Marketing UK), Sally Campbell (Sec), Ollie Grove (Treasurer), Matt Conner (UK RS700), Bethan Matthew (UK RS200), Jamie Mawson (UK RS600), Tom Moore (UK RS300), Paul North (UK RS Vareo), Clare Sargent (Sec), Pete Vincent (Chair), Steve Wilson (RS Sailing). Welcome: Pete Vincent (PV) welcomed everyone.	
2	Minutes of last meeting: No matters arising. Minutes approved.	
3	<u>Treasurer</u> :	
	3.1 Ollie Grove was welcomed as the new voluntary treasurer. Ollie is an accountant and treasurer for Beaver SC, so well qualified for the role.	
	3.2 In 2024, we aimed to make a loss of £10.6k and reduce the reserve by this amount. We actually lost £10.9k so just £300 difference vs budget, on a turnover of £170k. This leaves us with a £46k reserve, which is still healthy, but we feel we wouldn't want to continue to reduce it significantly year on year.	
	3.3 2024 accounts vs budget:	
	 Membership revenues as expected £34.5k Events: Nationals £1.2k up vs budget, International events, £1.6k up due to favourable exchange rate Admin £5k above budget, due to inflationary rises 	
	3.4 2025 budget:	
	 Based on a planned reserve reduction/loss of £5k Primarily to come from a reduction in fees – fewer secretariat hours per week, so some prioritizing and efficiency gains will be needed Sell RS400 demo boat – not being used enough to justify funding it 15 coaching grants of £150 (equivalent to 2024) 1 for each of RS100/300/500/600/Vareo 4 for RS200 2 for each of RS400/700/800 	
	 Keep the event levies the same, £5/sailor for Nationals, £1/sailor/day for RSCA weekend events 	
	Membership revenue has not increased in line with costs, there has been no increase for 6 years since 2019.	
	SC proposed vote of those present to:	
	 Put a vote to the full membership to change the constitution to allow the Management Committee to approve an annual membership increase of max 3% above inflation. 	
	 Put a vote to the full membership to approve a 10% increase in fees for 2026, which would raise an additional £3.5k without costing an individual more than 58p/month (full membership with any crew). 	

	Discussions took place re: the sensible approach to reserve funds, whether the	
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	maximum annual level of increase allowed to be approved by the Management	
	Committee should be expressed as a percentage or wording to reflect 'in line	
	with cost increases' such as an example shared by Paul North.	
	In summary those present felt that as fees have remained static for 6 years, we	
	require a 15% increase for 2026 and that to refer to RPI +3% was appropriate.	
	SC will draft a vote and change to constitution and action.	SC
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4	Membership: Numbers on track.	
5	Sponsorship: Thanks to all our valued sponsors.	
	5.1 Rooster: Rooster National Tour sponsored. Rooster as RS Class Association	SC and CS, All
	clothing sponsor.	,
	5.2 Noble Marine sponsoring all Nationals. Members get discount off their	
	insurance.	
	5.3 Harken once again sponsoring the Sprints.	
	5.4 New RS400 nationals headline sponsor to be announced soon.	
	5.5 New RS800 1999 trophy sponsoring being organised (to replace Spinlock).	
	5.6 RS200 nationals looking for daily sponsors.	
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	5.7 All RS200 and RS400 regionals sponsors continuing: Sailing Chandlery,	
	TridentUK, Stewart Brewing, West Country Boat Repairs. Thanks to all.	
	Aftenote: Action point for all to seek and develop sponsor contacts. Looking for	
	sponsorship from £50 upwards. Reminder to everyone to promote sponsors in	All
	all event reports and prizegiving photos, and to tag on social media.	
6	Merchandise: Rooster continue as our clothing sponsor with fleet logo branded	
	clothing available on Rooster website.	CS
7	Race documentation:	
	Big thanks to Robin Gray for years of working on our race documentation. Arky	All
	will take on this role for 2026 onwards. CS asked for sailors to feedback any	
	suggestions. These get taken up to World Sailing level so really can make a	
	difference. Afternote: Recommendation to continue best practice of PRO and	
	fleet rep consultation before event, daily meetings during event, then wash-up	
	after event in order to provide best race management for all.	
8	Calendar:	
	8.1 2025: It was decided to cancel End of Seasons event at Rutland SC. Poor	
	attendance and repeat of Sprints venue. Lessons learned to bring close of	
	online entry earlier so outside weather forecast window eg 11 days ahead. Still	
	maintain on the day entry on paper. Request to look to alternative venue of	
	Northampton SC or Draycote WSC.	CS
	8.2 2026: RS600s to repeat Riva Cup in 2026 so politely decline invitation to RS	
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	Games at Travemeunder Woche. Lynn Billows noted. Lynn to send latest TW	Lynn Billowes
	dates.	
9	Coaching:	56
4.0	Coaching grant scheme running again. 15 grants to be allocated.	SC
10	Technical/Spares:	
	10.1 Steve Wilson will catch up RS400 tech rep.	Steve Wilson
	10.2 Steve Wilson will chase Hyde about problems with RS Vareo sail.	
	10.3 Steve Wilson will chase progress on RS700 sail battens, kicker chock and	
	spar availability.	
	10.4 Steve Wilson to chase RS600 spar availability.	
	10.5 Steve Wilson and RS300 Tom Moore to set up separate discussion.	Tom Moore
	Afternote: Tom Moore to provide 2024 RS300 AGM minutes to CS.	
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11	Secretariat/Class/RS Sailing Relationship: not covered	
12	AOB: 12.1 RS will provide RS200 nationals event support through staff member Adam Catlow and work van. Possible for other fleets for sailor to take spares package. Speak to RS Andy Kilburn. CS to coord RS700 RS800.	cs
	12.2 Concern that RS300 does not look available for new build on RS website. Request re-write for RS100, RS300 and RS600. Lynn Billowes to review. Pete Vincent to chase up on Ginger Boats with Lynn Billowes and Steve Wilson. RS now has own manufacturing facility in Cowes so future boat building will be in house.	Lynn Billowes Pete Vincent Steve Wilson
	12.3 RS300 sails considered too expensive. Tom Moore to discuss with Steve Wilson. Morgan Sails is making RS Vareo training sails at ¾ price. Recommendation to examine sail buying timing to make most of Winter sail deal, Southampton Boat Show or Dinghy W Show deals. Further discounts available is buying sails in bulk eg group of 5 friends work together. Common theme across all fleets is need to balance longevity, quality and price. Thanks to RS200 Chair Bethan Matthew for her hard work in examining sail prices. Thanks to Steve Wilson for his support to her research. Sail price discussion to keep going. Sail discount package information to be shared at nationals' AGMs. RSCA to push so all can benefit from lower sail prices. 12.4 Dinghy W Show feedback positive. Saturday very busy. Busiest Sunday in recent memory. RS keen to keep RSCA fleets as exciting as possible to sell more boats. Big thank you to all show volunteers and boat donors.	Tom Moore Steve Wilson Lynn Billowes and Steve Wilson
	12.5 PV thanked all the fleet chairs for their hard work across the year and their time in attending the meeting.	
13	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> : Tbc online. Conference call details to be sent with calling notice, in agenda and in email text too.	All