

RS200 AGM Minutes

Date: 7pm, 7th August 2025

Venue: Abersoch

Class secretary : Lizzie Cattermole

RS
200

Apologies

- MJ Gifford
 - Peter Collings
-

Attendees

28

Matters Arising from 2024 Minutes

- Cost of sails discussed.
-

Committee Election

- Need a Northern Representative. If no volunteer, role will go to secretaries.
 - Will Taylor stepping down
 - Steve Wilson left RS so we now work with Michiel Geerling (commercial director of RS)
-

Chair's Review

- Event costs: Still reasonable compared to other classes (e.g., only ~£5 more per person per event than Fireflies and Merlin's).
- Event locations: Desire for more input from members.
- Coaching grants: Three used this year, more available with current funding.
- Membership: 291 members, healthy and stable.
- WhatsApp group: Working well, keep using.
- Endeavour Trophy: the class did not have any warning/input
- Calendar: RS Games dates announced; Nationals 2026 in Torquay.

- Media: Lack of media rep meant less promotion/coverage this year than as hoped. New secretary (Lizzie) doing a great job having picked this up.
 - Venues: Warsash praised as affordable and popular, members keen to return.
-

Tech Rep Report (Brendan)

- Secured discounts: 15% off sails for Nationals and September.
 - Sails remain expensive compared to other classes, limited options to reduce further.
 - Class will continue to explore options with RS and Pete Vincent as RS Chair to reduce costs.
-

Regional Reports

- South (Charlie): Strong turnout, e.g., Itchenor (20+ boats). Affordable entry (£20/day, £40/weekend). Warsash very successful.
 - East (Cam): Waldringfield good. Limited crossover between East and South – sailors rarely attend both regions 'events/training.
 - North (Ben): Quiet year, numbers down vs last year. Possibly due to reduced his presence/advertising as Ben no longer based in North.
 - Southwest (Lorna & Henry): Strong attendance at main events; June weaker (~15 boats average). Issues with late entries – suggested early entry discounts and more social media promotion. Swanage successful; keen to return. Suggested joint RS200/RS400 events during off-peak periods to boost numbers.
 - Scotland (Ellen): Numbers down, possibly as sailors moved away. Suggested crossover with Northern Tour to increase turnout.
-

Events & Proposals

- 2026: Spring champs in South and Summer champs in North.
- Bank Holiday Events: Proposed running summer/spring champs over bank holidays.
 - Members felt people are more willing to travel further on bank holidays.
 - Chair keen to trial a Summer Champs in the North.

- All-Girls Training/Champs: Positive feedback from the previous time it was done. The idea floated of a dedicated Women's Championship (maybe Sunday of an all-girls weekend).
-

Members 'Feedback & Discussion

- Age Categories: Support to continue Masters & Grandmasters, with suggestion to add "Senior." (I.e. 40 and over). Members want results to clearly state who falls into which category, especially during the week. Strong agreement. Price categories to be circulated in advance of nationals registration to make registration quicker.
- Nationals Format:
 - Long Distance Race: Proposed by Henry, possibly on practice day, with a prize awarded. Members widely supportive. Chair keen not to change current nationals format so this would be an additional and optional race rather than a substitute.
 - Event Dates: Suggestion to align Nationals with local holiday rental patterns (e.g., Sat–Sat vs Sun–Sun) to make accommodation easier.