



Sussex Yacht Club

Sailing Section Annual General Meeting

17th October 2015

Committee members present: Tim Cork - Sailing Captain (TC), Sam Lippett – Race Secretary (SL) [minutes], Adam Thompson – Race Secretary (AT), Lauren Willis – Trophy Secretary (LW)

Apologies: Brian Thomas, Barbara Runnalls, Dave Golding

| Item | |
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| 1. | <p>Committee structure Board to discuss at next meeting (19/10/15) process as to how section leads elected. Action: Steve Vyse (SV) to feedback to membership</p> |
| 2. | <p>Review of rallies TC gave an overview of the 2015 rallies which generally proved to be well attended and were enjoyed by all that participated Rallies included to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solent • Eastbourne • Brighton • St Valery • Fécamp • Littlehampton <p>Feedback from members:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SV - Positive feedback about revitalisation of Pactolus (organised by David Skinner) and engagement with SRF and boats travelling to SYC to participate in the race. • St Valery – positive feedback from Laurence Woodhams (LaW); suggestion from yacht club that a youth exchange scheme be explored • SL has been approached by the Commodore of Deauville Yacht Club who is keen to make allegiances and participate in joint rallies and cross-channel races. Action: Sailing section committee to explore possibilities for 2017 season [note: could invite to participate in 125 regatta] • LaW – disappointing engagement from Arun Yacht Club at Littlehampton rally. Only 28 SYC members sat down to dinner this year. Merits of utilising golf club for social event discussed. Action: TC to meet with AYC to discuss future / re-establishing relations • SV – no SYC boats enter AYC regattas; possibly due to handicap conversion to local system for guest yachts. AT believes this has now changed. LaW suggested that AYC regatta be included on our calendar. Action: Sailing section committee to check dates for possible inclusion • Rally secretary – no interest from club members; Hazel kindly to continue undertaking this role remotely for time being. Any members interested in taking on this role to discuss with a sailing section committee member. |

3.

Review of racing

AT gave an overview of this year's racing so far. He welcomed new boats to the fleet – Little Blue, Guillemot & Clipper alongside 'old hands' who are still turning out in force.

Spring series – total of 17 boats participated in this 7 race series with only one race cancelled due to bad weather.

Spring Pursuit series – ably run by David Skinner with good participation (8 boats sailed 4 races)

Long inshore series – extended to 10 race series with 19 boats competing in 8 out of 9 races so far (one race cancelled due to poor weather).

Offshore series – 7 races of which 2 were cancelled. Royal Escape return race cancelled due to tides and lack of interest (two boats only). 23 boats competed across the series.

Summer regatta – disappointing participation from SYC but otherwise successful regatta with SYC winning the majority of the prizes.

Wednesday evening series – truncated due to non-compliant tides. 3 out of 5 races sailed with five boats competing.

Summer pursuit series – another great turn out with 14 boats competing in 5 races.

Club races – 5 entries to shorthanded race, only 3 in the lady helm and 6 in the crews race.

Autumn series – students available as crew; please support (also be mindful that do not have muck kit)

SL reported that all boats that have raced this year have applied for a SCCH handicap. If any skipper feels that they have grounds to contest assigned handicap then the reasons should be put in writing for review by the SCCH committee. This should be submitted via the race committee (verbal requests will not be accepted).

There are no plans to change the handicap system used in 2016 (SCCH & IRC); members present were asked if there were any other system they would like considered – nil raised. LaW requested that the results of the 2014 sailing section survey in which handicap / rating system preference was assessed be distributed
Action: SL to circulate with minutes.

SV – SCCH has benefits in that it is a free, independent system for guests

Accuracy of measurements submitted for handicap & lack of independent verification discussed. No plans to monitor this for SCCH. Merits of an endorsed IRC certificate highlighted. SV highlighted potential for confusion between local clubs as to the rules of this system i.e. keeping of cushions on board, number of spinnakers carried, placement of equipment etc. **Action:** guidance to be produced using IRC template. LaW queried whether this would then be scrutinised; committee response – rely on Corinthian spirit & a self-governing system although sailing section committee

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| | <p>members can inspect if concerns raised.</p> <p>Safety – skippers have a duty of care and must comply with relevant ISAF standards; the sailing section committee reserve the right to check compliance.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>2016 Calendar</p> <p>Summary of changes by committee since distribution for comment:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long inshore 7 now 'Round Rampion race' • Pactolus & St Valery dates swapped pending discussion with French clubs. The Seaway trophy will still be scheduled for the Sunday despite the Monday being a normal working day. Traditionally this was an overnight race but French boats will not race overnight hence moved to daytime to increase participation. <p>Frostbite series – new for 2016 as a trial to allow those wishing to race earlier in the year the opportunity to do so.</p> <p>Members present clearly wished that all series have seven races with two discards. Currently the spring series only has six races with one discard. Alternative options discussed with those present preferring to reduce the frostbite series to three races (13 votes) compared with switching summer series 1 to spring series 7 (0 votes, 5 abstentions). Action: Sailing section committee to review proposed calendar to ensure all series comprised of seven races.</p> <p>Neil Prescott queried the inclusion of the summer regatta given poor participation this year by SYC members. TC replied that it was not included in the initial draft but feedback was received to reinstate.</p> <p>Inclusion of Round the Island race being include in offshore series discussed given different start times and effect of tides and the time and cost factors. Of those present 14 against including in the offshore series (0 votes in favour, 4 abstentions). It was agreed that participation in this event should be promoted and suggestions such as a separate trophy for best performing boat be considered. The club will continue to finance team entries in 2016. As moorings can be booked in advance in 2016, a block booking for SYC yachts will be investigated.</p> <p>Bart's Bash – date for 2016 unknown. Concerns raised that should not be part of our Autumn series given influence of other non-SYC yachts. Previously unable to run as separate SYC event as minimum 45 boats required; confirmed within meeting that this is no longer the case. All those present agreed that if this event goes ahead in 2016 then SYC will support as closed race such that results can be included in Autumn series. TC confirmed that charitable donation is voluntary.</p> <p>Sussex Regatta – New date of mid-June for 2016. Brighton to host and will include IRC regional championships. Handicap system to be decided (SYC advocating SCCH). SYC to host in 2017 which coincides with 125 anniversary and plans for a 125 regatta.</p> <p>Prize-giving – November 14th; 20 different winner and only 120 spaces for dinner – book tickets early (prize-winners will be invited to purchase tickets early).</p> |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>AOB</p> |

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| | <p>Dave Ramus – Thanked the committee members for their hard work this year. Highlighted publication of article on student liaison project in Yachting Monthly. Graham Howling – queried time limit for inshore series. Committee response – there isn't one TC – asked those present if they would be interested in a weighing and measuring session at SYC. To get quotes and ensure fees transparent.</p> |
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