



**Sussex Yacht Club**

**Sailing Meeting**

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Committee members present:** Samantha Lippett (SL), David Nunn (DN), Guy Stansell (GS), Ann Macey (AM), Kate Leigh (KL), Peter Jenkins (PJ)

**Apologies:** Steve Vyse, David Skinner, Lauren Willis, Brian Thomas

Item	
1.	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Apologies – SL</b></p> <p>Observed the recent passing of John Underwood, former owner of Clipper; noted that his wake shall be on 25<sup>th</sup> March and requested stories for his Eulogy.</p>
2.	<p><b>Notice of Rallies - AM</b></p> <p>Advised that the sign-up sheet for all interested to sign, is on the noticeboard. Noted that full details of all rallies are in the Sailing Handbook. Highlighted that the Solent Rally needs those interested to sign urgently as it starts on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Noted the requests for reinstating a Flotilla; AM needs idea of those interested and to contact her for details and ideas.</p>
3.	<p><b>Overview of Racing - SL</b></p> <p>Commented that the fixture list is online &amp; has been posted to all members. Provided an overview of this year's racing calendar. Noted new races for 2017: Broomstick &amp; Easter Egg Treasure hunt. Asked all skippers for agreement that race fees for Barts Bash be donated to the Andrew Simpson Foundation; unanimously agreed.</p>
4.	<p><b>Ratings &amp; Handicaps - SL</b></p> <p>Noted that IRC &amp; SCCH shall continue initially in 2017. Provided an overview of NHC &amp; advised that full details on ratings / handicaps will be in next Wavelength. Asked for agreement that data can be collected for a trial of NHC scoring during the Spring Series; unanimously agreed. Requested that Skippers report real time feedback on NHC results to aid evaluation.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SL to email skippers to confirm 25% discount of IRC revalidation fees for Club members and confirmation that those applying for a new certificate can receive 50% discount.</p>

5.	<p><b>Sailing Instructions &amp; Safety Requirements – GS</b></p> <p>Summarised changes of Sailing Instructions to align with new World Sailing Rules 2017-20.  These new racing instructions are included in Sailing Handbook &amp; include links to the World Sailing website for full details.  Highlighted the change in rules for harness lines for Offshore Race Series.  Summarised Safety Requirements also to align to new World Sailing rules; mainly minor changes with main change being to pyrotechnics (effective 01/01/16).</p>
6.	<p><b>Sussex IRC Championships - SL</b></p> <p>Noted that these are on 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017, hosted by BMYC &amp; run by Sussex Combined Clubs of which we are a part.  Includes traditional IRC racing but can also race under NHC or in Cruiser Class.</p>
7.	<p><b>RaceQs App - DN</b></p> <p>Summarised benefits and simplicity of the free App, details included in a handout and will be available on the website.  Recommended that skippers download &amp; complete their details for their own benefit of logging miles &amp; evaluating race positions. Also may be used to assist where Race Officer declarations appear inconsistent.</p>
8.	<p><b>Race Marks on Charts - SL</b></p> <p>Confirmed all race mark positions were checked February 2017. Steve Thomas has drawn a new version of the inshore racing chart &amp; produced a GPX file that can be downloaded into chart-plotters and/or RaceQs App.  Rampion cardinals have been included in many courses to ensure safe passing. SYC Mark 2 has hazards in the water to the northern side; advise not to use for inshore racing at present.  Noted Long Inshore &amp; Offshore charts not included in Sailing Handbook or on website.</p>
9.	<p><b>Race Officer box - SL</b></p> <p>Requested to return box in same condition as provided &amp; use check-list to ensure all items accounted for.  Noted that binoculars disappeared &amp; will be replaced; asked if anyone has a spare pair they could donate.  Agreement that although compass disappeared, it is no longer necessary to replace.</p>
10.	<p><b>Mast Raising – SL</b></p> <p>Postponed to next Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 10:00 due to weather conditions tomorrow.</p>
11.	<p><b>Race Officer List – SL</b></p> <p>Request for each skipper to volunteer for a Race Officer Duty.</p>
12.	<p><b>Pursuit Racing – DN</b></p>

	<p>Will be on notice board from tomorrow.  Reintroduction of Pursuit Supper on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017; plea to support event.</p>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Students – GS</b></p> <p>Students joined racing last year; 42 students all had one sail; 111 places offered &amp; filled in total; summarised other 2016 stats.  Students will return for 2017 starting next weekend including Pursuit Racing &amp; Sunday racing.</p>
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Beach Dreams Race is a fun ‘round the cans’ race on same weekend as the Beach Dreams Festival.</p> <p>Plea for windward &amp; leeward legs alongside reaches to be included in each race during Spring Series to remove bias and test new NHC system.</p> <p>Plea to request cancellation of races in morning of race, not day before due to inaccurate weather forecasts; noted that Race Officer makes decision only if cannot see start line due to fog or cannot set start line due to weather, otherwise race can still be started with a minimum of three skippers. It is the Skippers individual decision to decide whether to sail or not. Pursuit Racing will not happen if forecast is showing force 7 or over the night before.</p> <p>Noted confusion on finish times in Littlehampton, LH has offered to lay a mark to assist with finishing line this year.</p> <p>Confirmation that Sovereign Race is for both directions.</p> <p>Reminder of Sovereign Harbour regatta &amp; classic car rally over August Bank Holiday; details in Sailing Handbook.</p> <p>Club St Valery fixtures will be in next issue of Wavelength, all SYC members welcome.</p> <p>Terry Kinch presented SL with the Commodores Award &amp; GS with the Percy Ludgate Trophy.</p>