

29er

Committee Conference Call – July 2013

Present: Ben Cooper, Phil Kilburn, Tom Harris, John Mather, David Baddley, Phil Tilley, Charlie Stowe, Martin Orton, Martha Berry, Tom Harris, Angie Alloway (part)

Apologies – Chris Turner, Tim Blackstone, Jo Hawkins

Agenda

1. **Finance** In Jo's absence Ben reported as follows:

The RYA agreement has been agreed and the key points are:

- The open training subsidy is £5,250.00;
- Administrator grant remains unchanged;
- Class judge subsidy has decreased by £100.00;

They will also continue to offer 3 coaches to support to NYS and TT squads for World Championships, plus a plan to support the Garda October Eurocup event in a similar way.

The winners of the class travel grants for the 2013 World Championships have been identified and invitations / offers will be sent soon.

- **Action** – Ben C to complete invites

2. **Training**

In Tim's absence, Ben presented proposals from Tim B (Training Officer) to increase the per weekend cost of open training from £80.00 to £100.00, along with a late entry fee of £20.00 should be introduced to encourage early registration / payment to aid with planning coach numbers etc.

- All agreed the late fee was a good idea, and should be implement; late payments to be incurred for registrations / payment within three weeks of the training event.
- There was some uncertainty about an increase of open training fees, with the general consensus being that (although losing money on open training alone) the class should continue to support and subsidise where possible, as this is the entry point for continued success and growth in the class.
- **Action** – Ben C to revert to Tim B for a breakdown on cost to determine if it may be necessary to increase even if by £10.00.

3. Events

Notice of Race amendment

A potential for mis-interpretation of the 'Eligibility' clause in our Notice's of Race has been identified, whereby a UK based sailor could join ONLY the International Class Association, but still be eligible to compete in Grand Prix and National Events;

- This is not the intention, and the spirit of the clause as written is that GBR based sailors MUST be members of the UK 29er Class Association to compete in Grand Prix and National events organised by the UK 29er Class Association.
- All agreed that the wording could be changed (with wording proposed by Ben C) so as to be totally clear and unambiguous.
- **Action** – *Phil K to ensure revised wording is incorporated into the 2014 NOR's for all events.*

MESI's amendment

There has been an ongoing email discussion with regard to the coaches who go onto the water during events.

- Ben C / Phil K / Charlie S proposed that we change the MESI's to make it clear which types of coaches (i.e.: those appointed by National Bodies only, and NOT privately hired coaches) are allowed in the race area during racing. The proposed wording would not prevent parents, who are qualified coaches, from being in the race area during racing.
- The committee believe it could be seen as an unfair disadvantage for individual boats / families to have their own coaches present in the race area.
- Phil Kilburn has drawn up final proposed wording for the change, circulated to the committee and it will be agreed/ discussed via mail by all.
- All agreed that this was a sensible solution to this problem.
- **Action** – *Phil K to circulate final proposed wording for agreement;*
- **Action** – *Ben C to incorporate agreed final wording into the MESI's in the National Championships event booklet. .*

ET RIB for Denmark

Ben C advised everyone that there are now complications regarding taking the class ET RIB to the World Championships in Denmark. Phil Berry is now investigating hiring a rib at the event Denmark.

- Ten crew have signed up for support and paid to cover this cost.
- **Action** – *Ben C – I suggest that the new committee look at the value of providing RIB's in this way at large Championships when the sailors requesting support are likely to be spread across different race areas.*

4. Nationals Championships 2013 – Hayling Island

Ben C reported progress on organisation / planning as follows:

- The event booklet is almost complete ready for printing; it will be printed again by Edyvean Printers in Cornwall, courtesy of Hawkins Motors; considerable thanks to Jo Hawkins for organising this again.
- Ben has confirmed arrangements for a local sail repair service during the week, with an offer of overnight repairs if required.
- Hayling Island SC have acknowledged that we are supplying a number of our own RIBs to supplement the safety fleet and that they will be crewed by competent parent drivers, who have an understanding of how to deal with 29er's in difficulty.

Timetable / event organisation – key points

- Registration will begin on Saturday afternoon.
 - Measurement will begin on Saturday morning.
 - The dinghy park will be organised in boat Tally Number order, in much the same way as last year; this is being organised by Hayling Island SC.
 - Social Events included in the entry fee for sailors are Commodores Reception (open to parents too), and the Black Tie dinner.
 - Also planned are a barbecue on Tuesday evening (all to sign up at registration), and on the same evening,
 - Zhik Stadium Racing event (knockout competition for up to 24 entries – crews of 3 or 4); Open to all, including parents, this will take the format of a knockout event, six boats racing at a time in the HISC RS Visions. Eligibility is that all entrants MUST buy a BBQ ticket.
 - The Class Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday night;
 - Wednesday and Thursday evenings are free;
 - Ben C has a further / final planning meeting with HISC on 20th July to onfirm final arrangements.
- **Action** – Ben C to circulate notes from HISC meeting in due course as necessary to all who need to know.

Buddy System

Ben C indicated that the plan was to run a buddy system again at this years event; after some discussion it was proposed to change the system for this year to add some incentives to make it work; It was agreed that buddies would be pre-allocated, and the shuffled at the end of the first day of racing. These new pairings would then remains for the week, with the most improved pairing being awarded a prize at the final prize giving.

- **Action** – Ben C to incorporate into the Event Booklet before printing.

5. Sailor/Junior Class Liaison

There was a general discussion about promoting the class at non 29er Events. The Topper Inlands had been very successful as a “try a boat” event, and we had presented ourselves very well at the Parkstone Yacht Club Youth Boat selection event.

After some discussion is was agreed that we should seek to do more ‘try a boat events at non 29er events including the Topper Nationals, and the Zone Championships.

- **Action** – Angie A / Charlie S to investigate / progress, especially for the Topper Nationals.

6. Class Management

Annual General Meeting

Ben outlined the agenda for the Annual General Meeting, which is fairly standard, with a new section for a Technical Update as proposed at last years AGM.

- Ben specifically drew attention to the proposed increase in membership fees, which he felt was appropriate, given that we have not had an increase for three years; the proposals are:
 - Individual - £32.50 to £35.00
 - Family - £45.00 to £50.00
 - Student - £22.50 to £25.00
 - Temporary - remain at £10.00
 - Short Membership £17.50 (assuming this is approved as a constitution change at the AGM)
- All agreed, with these proposals;

7. PR/Marketing/Sponsorship (Ben/Phil T)

There was a general discussion about the need for an event Photographer, and someone to manage the website photos etc.

- **Action** – Phil T to investigate and seek potential nominations.

8. Rib Safety (Charlie S)

Nothing specific to report; If ET is not now going to Denmark then alternative arrangements will need to be found to get the RIB to Hayling Island for the National Championships.

- **Action** – Charlie S to identify suitable people to take the RIB to Hayling Island.

9. AOB

International Class Association Committee

Ben mentioned that there are a few positions on the International Class Association becoming vacant, including Charles Glover (President), and others.

Ben has said he may be willing to stand for a position. All agreed that it would be important for the largest country class association to be represented, and is would be ideal to have someone with his experience.

- **Action** – Ben C to consider.