

## 29er Committee Report 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Those present: Andre Ozanne, Paul Hammett, Sue Ormerod, Barry Jobson, Tim James, Gary Walton, Ian Jameson, Peter Gordon, Suzie Hammett, Freya Black, Orla Mitchell, James Eales, Jesse Main, Nick Robins, Richard Walton, Fiona Jardine, Michael Black, Ian Handley, Dan Fox, Robbie Wilson, Chris Hewitt, Barry Jobson, Fiona Jardine. Apologises: Steve Norbury

1. There was a brief discussion about looking for volunteers to fill roles on the committee for 2017/18 and to replace the sailor reps (ideally 2/3 boys and 2/3 girls who are representative of the existing sailor cohort.) Details of positions to be outlined on the 29er website.

2. 29er Nationals 2017, Weymouth.

- Following the recent change to the timings of the Europeans (a key selector for the Youth Squad) it was felt that the committee should revisit the timings of the 29er Class Nationals at Weymouth to give the sailors more recovery time between the events and to enable optimum performance at both.
- Tim James summarised the results of the recent sailor / parent survey.
- 65 responses, 75% from parents and 60% going to Quiberon. 40% want no changes and 40% would prefer to finish on Thursday evening after the party.
- An extensive discussion took place evaluating the pros and cons of amending the NOR. It was agreed 13 for (none against) that the event should change format to the following (subject to agreement with Steve Main – Measurement Officer): 5-day event - Sunday (4 races), Monday (4 races), Tuesday (3 races), Wednesday (4 races) and Thursday (3 races plus a later start.) Measurement will take place on Saturday only and a special arrangement may be made for those boats who are unable to this (approximately 6.) The numbers of races of each of the days is currently being reviewed.
- Action: Tim James and Steve Main.

3. GP Calendar 2017/18.

- A.V. outlined that the committee and sailors agreed to a strategy (following extensive discussion) last year of 8 GPs (5 core at Weymouth, HISC, Rutland, Draycote and Grafham and 3 rotating events at locations like Largs, Pwllheli, Torquay, Marconi, Poole.) The GP Series includes the Inlands, Winter Championships etc.
- 2017/18: GP1 Weymouth, GP2 Datchet, GP3 Grafham, GP4 Rutland, GP5 Draycote, GP 6 Marconi, GP7 tbc and GP8 Largs.
- The RYA have yet to confirm the location of the 2018 Youth Nationals (Largs?)
- The 29er Nationals will be at HISC.
- The committee also agreed to support a trial of a split GP in 2017 to try to reduce travelling (Largs / Torbay 2017.) The trial has resulted in extensive feedback and a meeting will take place with the RYA, 29er Committee (PH, TJ, AV, SEO, BJ) and a number of parents and sailors to discuss concerns and outline the principles behind

the trial at 6pm 8<sup>th</sup> April. The committee welcomes feedback and tries to communicate trials as explicitly as possible (the Minutes following every meeting are available on the website.)

- It was agreed that the committee should review the roadmap for GPs for the next two years at the HISC GP (including Championship Events), regional series, sprint racing and Youth / 29er Nationals. School holidays and critical exam periods will be taken into consideration. However, there was broad support for incremental change and more encouragement of regional racing.
- Action: Committee, AV, TJ.

#### 4. The Sprint Series and Finals 2016/17.

- It was recognised that the sprint series has been an exciting innovation that has helped transitioning sailors, developed regional sailing events and introduced a new racing format.
- The Finals ran at a small loss and both parental and sailor feedback has been very positive.
- A discussion took place about how to improve the format for 2017/18. Agreement that the Finals would take place in a similar format to 2016. (However, it was felt that qualifying needs to be streamlined, the cut- off date needs to be earlier. Suggestion that Open Training / Sprint Racing could be combined to create a 2-day event. Barry Jobson to present a new proposal at the HISC GP. Barry offered to run the Sprint Finals in 2017. Action: BJ.
- PH and AV were thanked for their commitment in creating this new format.

5. £600 windfall to the 29er Class will be used to replace the missing radio and for a Mixed Pairs Prize at the Nationals.

6. Event support at Worlds and Europeans: £3,000 to be split 50/50%, a coach will be provided at the Europeans for non-Youth Squad members.

7. Try a boat Day: several sailors have agreed to support the try a boat day at the Topper Inlands (also Fava Nationals tbc.). IJ/AO and Tom Dixon looking at this

8. Marketing: S. H. has new kit available for the sailors (white polo shirt, jackets and T-shirts) for use at the Europeans and Worlds. The kit is available for viewing and selection during this week. Action: S.H. to communicate on the 29er web site.

Sue Ormerod 09/04/2017