

29er Committee Meeting 2nd Dec 2017 at Rutland

Those present: Sue Ormerod, Tim James, Ian Jameson, Peter Gordon, Michael Black, Dan Armstrong, James Hollis, Anna Rowe, Paul Miller, Jo Harris, Nia Armstrong, David Ibbotson, Freya Black, Lisa Black, Petrina Blomeley.

Apologises: Bella Fellows, Anna Sturrock, Bear Sturrock, James Hammett, James Hall

1. Sign-Off Datchet Committee Meeting Minutes (SEO)

Minutes were agreed and signed off as a true representation of the Datchet meeting.

2. New Committee Members (SEO)

The committee welcomed:

- a) Paul Miller as the new Training Officer
- b) Nia Armstrong as the new Marketing Officer

3. UK 29er Class Strategy for 2017/18 including KPI update (SEO)

Sue went through a short presentation showing specific KPI's of the membership and success of the class membership through 2017. Strategy remains constant. Entries to the class are down 9% and approximately a 9% reduction in the entry to the first GP of the series. These are deemed to be normal fluctuations and not alarming but the entry to the class does need constant monitoring. We are targeting a membership level of around 288 for 2018 and there was a discussion regarding incoming Stake Holders (new entries) and how best to attract them to such an exciting class. Getting the balance of Transition, Invitational and Open training is key. Further decisions will be discussed and made regarding this in Feb 2018.

4. Paul Miller gave a Training Update

a) Paul reported that there had not been any requests for Transition Squad to date, this was deemed a source of concern. All were unsure why such poor take-up except publicity and transition communications may have been too late. It was agreed that The Transition Squad should be a clear identifiable squad and that invitations need to be sent to the older sailors in the Feva's, Toppers, Laser 4.7 and Optimist fleets **before they leave** their current fleets in May 2018.

b) The 29er committee recognised the need to update the COACH qualification register. The coach fees should be an agreed set of rates dependant on experience and this should be made public and transparent. The details could be maintained on a 'Google Doc' on the website.

- c) The Invitational training qualification criteria have been published and agreed.
- d) Dates for the Girl's Only Training have also been set.

5. Racing Update

a) Tim led a discussion on the events calendar for 2018. A comprehensive calendar including other events, euros, Euro Cup etc should be updated. Looking at the scheduled events discussions returned to whether enough effort is made to support the Scottish contingent of the fleet. Are there enough events in the north of England? Should the large proportion of the fleet travel north to support the few sailors in the north of the country/Scotland? With the GP in Pwllheli and the RYA Youth Championships at Largs it was felt that all necessary concessions were being done in 2018. It was agreed that the 29er GP Strategy was previously visited and agreed by the committee at the HISC Committee Meeting in 2017 and would not change for the 2018 calendar but could again be reviewed for 2019.

SEO, TJ, DI, BS and JH to discuss the options for the inclusion of a Northern GP in the 2018/19 Series and feedback a proposal at the next meeting.

b) A Summer Open Championship (25th-29th Aug) was put forward to fill the gap after the Nationals and to provide 3 days of transitioning training to support new sailors into the UK 29er Class. In 2018 this event will not be included in the rolling rankings but could be in the future if successful.

c) Due to the sailor requests for more 'sea venues' Warsash was considered with reservations around launching and tide flow being a concern stated.

d) Should the 29er fleet still attend the Ovingtons Islands at Grafham or should this event be substituted for a sea venue? It was noted that the date for the Ovington Inlands in 2018 clashes with the RYA Yorkshire Dales 29er event (this event is pivotal to building successful Northern Events.) The UK 29er Class agreed to support the Yorkshire Dales event and to investigate an alternative date for the Grafham event (potentially shared with the 420s.)

e) All new dates for the 2018 GP series (and periphery events) will be sent out again and published on the website along with all the squad training dates.

f) Sprint Racing has started at some clubs but a single calendar advertising the club events should be published on the web site. The class is not running the sprint racing except for the Sprint Finals. Local clubs should run Sprints, only 4 boats needed, 15 min races, target 7 in the event

f) Safety Update - None

6. Rule Changes (SEO)

The major significant class rule change is the inclusion that both crew and helm must carry a Solas whistle. Debate was had that this has come down from the International 29er Class with no consultation or prior notification. In the future UK 29er Class would ask for notification for all rule changes via email or social media (currently there isn't a system that allows the UK 29er Class to identify any new rule changes without actively checking the International Class Rules on a regular basis.)

It is important that independent voices should be able to maintain differing views to ensure global rules reflect all perspectives and that need for change is well thought through before implementation. The following process was agreed:

Constitution and Class Rule Changes

1. **Minimum of 7 days notice** (longer for more complex changes.)
2. **Email ALL UK 29er Class members**
3. **Inform PRO** at any events affected by the change.
4. Amend **MEIs** and **Constitution**
5. **Process:** Chairman, Safety Officer, Measurement Officer and Sailing Secretary to sign off minor changes.

Major changes to be discussed by the Committee.

6. **Agree a process with the International Class regarding Rule Changes** (under discussion with DCJ.)

7. 29er International Class

a) UK 29er association is building a bid for the 29er Worlds (16th-21st August 2020) to be held at WPNSA. A war chest in funds will be needed.

b) Sail Boats are still taking boats to Helsinki for the Euros. Lisa will ask that all people wanting transportation have an individual contract drawn up with Sail Boat Deliveries. Lisa to further facilitate by discussing contract wording and contract need directly with Sailboats. To date 21 boats have signed up and paid initial deposits. Second instalments of deposits have been rejected. Likely total cost will be around £830 for transportation.

8. Marketing Update (JH)

An analysis of marketing touch points has been completed – eg. Boats/Web Site/sailor clothing/event paperwork.

This is an area we can exploit much further for fund raising. Harken are out of contract at the end of this season (July 2018). Primary and Secondary sponsors for events can be identified. Allen have agreed to be secondary sponsors at Nationals.

Sunkissed Spray Tan are keen to sponsor the class. Committee have agreed that there must be no distinction for sponsorship for girls and boys from this company. After much debate a £1500 sponsorship grant was accepted from Sunkissed but after the meeting it has been decided to not progress with this sponsorship offer.

It was also agreed to set up an Instagram page and to completely update the website (budget £3k) Action: SEO, NA, CG.

9. Safeguarding and New Data Protection Legislation – GDPR (SEO)

A full scoping document has been written that focuses on three key areas

- a) Collecting and Keeping documents
- b) Using data and updating records
- c) Storing data

This will continue to be an area of focus for the class as we bring all data handling into compliance. Much thanks to Clive Grummett for his tireless work here (it was agreed that Clive Grummett should bill the UK 29er Class for any extra hours spent on GDPR.)

10. Finance Update

Budget sound with money for transition training

Dan Fox 2/12/2017