

## 29er Committee Meeting Minutes

17th November 2018 at Grafham

**Those present:** Sue Ormerod, Ian Jameson, Dan Fox, Peter Gordon, Luke Gribbin, Charlotte Ormerod, Emma James, Pierce Harris. Finn Armstrong, Chris Evans, Mark James, David Ibbotson, Nia McCallum, Sally Bristow

**Apologises:** Bear Sturrock, Petrina Blomeley, Michael Black, Lisa Black, Freya Black,

1. The Committee Meeting minutes from Lymington were formally signed off.

2. The following new representatives were voted onto the UK 29er Committee:

Mark James – Sailing Secretary (proposed Sue Ormerod, seconded Peter Gordon).

Chris Evans – Training Secretary (proposed Sue Ormerod, seconded Peter Gordon).

Mark is an ex-Topper parent and has a son who sailed in the 29er Class several years ago, Chris is an ex-Oppie parents and he was Training Officer for the Optimist Class.

Both new committee members bring valuable expertise and have strong links to two junior classes; the UK 29er Committee thanked them for taking on these key roles which have remained unfilled for a number of months.

3. UK 29er Class Sailing Events 2019/20

Mark James presented the objectives for 2019/20 sailing events and a draft proposal.

The objectives are:

- Maximise the number of boats attending
- Increase the opportunity to experience 'open' sea venues.
- Be geographically inclusive and, in particular, recognise the travel challenges for Northern sailors
- 4/6 GPs reachable by all sailors
- Select venues that are going to give the best chance of good sailing in the widest range of conditions
- Build the programme around 'core venues'
- Selector event early in September

Other factors considered:

- May Bank Holiday – defer venue until after 2019 event in Largs (Northern sea venue, options include Largs, Sunderland or Pwllheli.)
- Christmas Dinner at Rutland 2019
- Keep Northern Championships at Yorkshire Dales (2018 water situation was a one off due to moor fires).

- Bear Sturrock, David Ibbotson and Abbie Hewitt were all consulted prior to the meeting and had approved the proposal that gives access to 4/5 GPs for Northern sailors.
- Boat hosting by Southern sailors for Northern sailors has been considered.
- The feasibility of having consecutive GPs at WPNSA and training and allowing boats to be stored at WPNSA has also been considered.

The Committee debated the proposal and the following was agreed:

- GP 4 – Stokes Bay beach is too rocky and therefore an alternative venue is required (Castle Cove or WPNSA).
- GP5 – to be moved from May BH to end June to avoid clashes with the major A Level, GCSE and Scottish exam period. A regional racing programme (sprints) to be established during May (venues tbc.)
- There was a general consensus that there should be more GPs at WPNSA to help prepare GBR sailors for the 2020 World Championships.

There was a brief discussion about helping Northern sailors with travel grants and it was felt that this would be complex to administer and that the current system that supports coaches for UK 29er sailors at International events was a better way to support the membership.

Current Proposed Programme:

GP1 WPNSA 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> September 2019

GP2 Torquay 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> September 2019

NE Championships (tbc) October 2019

Ovington Championships WPNSA 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> November 2019

GP3 Rutland and Inland Championships 30<sup>th</sup> November / 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

Winter Championships Grafham (date tbc February 2020)

GP4 Sea Venue (tbc March 2020)

RYA Youth Championships Pwllheli April 2020

North and South Sprint Events (dates tbc May 2020)

GP5 Northern event (Largs, Pwllheli or Sunderland) (date tbc June 2020)

GP6 HISC July 2020 (date tbc July 2020)

European Championship Medemblik July 2020

UK National Championships, WPNSA 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

29er World Championships, WPNSA 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August 2020

4. UK 29er National Championships 2019 – planning in well underway but roles and responsibilities need to be confirmed.

**Action:** David Ibbotson to update at next Committee Meeting

5. AOB -There was a discussion regarding what constitutes coaching at an event and the need for greater clarity. UK 29er Class Association Rule 22.3 clearly states the policy regarding coach boats at GPs however the NOR for the 29er UK National Championships is slightly different (it has been for several years.) The question was also raised whether having a coach or adult in a boat constitutes coaching and how this impacts the awarding of prizes and fairness aspect of youth racing.

**Action:** Mark James to follow up with RYA

Sue Ormerod 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018