

UK 29er Class AGM 2017 Minutes

August 2017 at WPNSA

Those present: Paul Hammett, Tim James, Peter Gordon, Chris Hewitt, Michael Black, Lisa Black, Andre Vennis-Ozanne, Sue Ormerod, Ian Jameson, Jo Harris, Billy Vennis-Ozanne, Nick Robins, Orla Mitchell, Freya Black, Bobby Hewitt.

Apologies: Ian Handley, Guy Gribbin

1. Sign off Committee Meeting minutes from Torbay – **Approved.**

2. The Class Chairman gave a summary of key achievements for 2016/17

- Class membership is currently 202 members (progressive to end of July 2017) versus 316 members (prog. end of July 2016.) Attendance at GPs has plateaued with 5 GP > 50 boats.
- 74 boats are registered for the Zhik UK Nationals Championship.
- The new Race Management Guidelines that were written by Paul Hammett and Charlie Stowe in 2015 have had a significant impact and have improved the standard of race management.
- Grants from the John Merrick's Trust have been used to support regional training.
- Notable achievements by sailors included: Crispin Beaumont and Tommy Darling winning the Youth World Championships in New Zealand, Hannah Bristow and Emily Covell came 5th at the same event; 11 GBR boats attended the 29er World Championships in California (GBR teams came 14th and 15th and there were 7 GBR boats in the Gold Fleet.)
- 40 GBR boats will be attending the Europeans in Quiberon.

The Chairman also thanked the committee and the sailor representatives for all of their work.

2. Andre Vennis-Ozanne (Sailing Secretary) gave a summary of the GP Series 2016/17.

- 2015/16 323 entries and 136 partnerships vs. 2016/17 352 entries and 146 partnerships.
- The prizes have been extended to include the Mixed Teams 1-3.
- The Sprint Series and Finals were a new initiative developed by Paul Hammett and have been a huge success. It offered a different format of 5-6 races, each 15 minutes in length with a very quick turnaround and a Jury on the water. The event will have a perpetual trophy.
- The Nick Simes Perpetual Trophy has also been introduced in recognition of all of the work that Nick did for the 29er Class. It will be awarded to the highest placed sailor in the Eurocup series.

3. Training Report (Guy Gribbin)

- Steve Irish is taking over as the 29er Class Head Coach

- Sailors need to apply for an Invitational Squad place so that the 29er Class does not waste time offering places to sailors who do not wish to attend the squad. The selection criteria have also been changed; 50% from Rolling Ranking and 50% from WPNSA GP selector.

4. Financial Statement – Peter Gordon stated that the 29er Class had roughly broken even during the year and requested that the Year end be changed to August 31st (the rationale was that this would allow the year to match the school year and new sailing year.)

This was proposed by Nick Robins and seconded by James Hammett.

5. Constitution – Michael Black explained that the Constitution explains how the UK 29er Class manages and runs itself.

The following were proposed:

- To remove automatic membership to the International Class
- To change the number of sailor reps from 4 to 8
- To change from an annual fixed fee renewal date to an annual renewal date that is linked to the date that a membership was taken out.
- To change Individual Membership fees from £37 to £40, Family £52 to £56 and Student £25 to £27

These were proposed by Michael Black and seconded by Billy Vennis-Ozanne.

6. Committee changes

The following changes were proposed:

Jo Harris - Marketing Officer

Dan Fox – Rolling Rankings Officer

Petrina Blomeley - Welsh Representative

These were proposed by Paul Hammett and seconded by Nick Robins and Orla Mitchell