

Enterprise Association National Committee Meeting

19/01/2019, Midland SC

Meeting opened at 11:05

Supporting documents:

- Appendix A: Agenda
- Appendix B: Matters Arising Notes
- Appendix C: Power point presentation from Richard Pryke identifying Constitutional proposal
- Appendix D: Power point presentation from Steve Sargent relating to Membership, Championships and Website
- Appendix E: Word Document from Charles Morrish Regarding Training

Present:

Richard Pryke, Tim Sadler, Ann Jackson, Callum Dingle, Steve Sargent, Charles Morrish, Julie Moore, Paul Young, Carol Ford, Phil Ford, Doug McQuilken and Pam Hunter.

1. Welcome & introduction

Richard Pryke opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and Midland SC for hosting the meeting.

2. Apologies:

Richard passed on apologies from:

Johnny Allen, Alice Allen, Jonathan Woodward, Steve Orme, Nigel James, Richard Leach, Darren Roach, Barry Moss, Ioan Lavery, Lloyd Walker, Steve Blackburn

3. Confirmation of previous meeting notes

Richard asked those present if they were happy the meeting notes from 2018 were a true and accurate representation of the meeting; all parties that had been present agreed that this was the case. Richard Prop Seconded Ann & Carol. All voted to accept the minutes as true and accurate.

4. Matters arising

Doug's expenses from last year have now been cleared.

It was asked if areas collect fees for traveller's series and events. It appears some do and so do not as sometimes prizes are available locally and/or directly from sponsors.

Jeremy Stephens offered to become a sail measurer last year and it was noted that other people (Brian Bowdler Loe) had offered to become sail measurers. **Mark Matthews to look at providing training.**

Tim asked how we had progressed with sail lofts self-certifying sails. Discussions concluded that the established larger lofts would probably be able to qualify for this but some smaller lofts may still have a need for Association measurers to check the sails. **Tim to ask World Sailing how we get sails certified at source for bigger lofts and then a qualifying list will be published.**

5. AGM feedback

5.1 Election of Officers

Richard asked this point be held for the discussions regarding constitutional changes.

5.2 Election of area representatives

Richard pointed out that recent communications showed that the Area Reps list about to be published was incorrect:

- Lloyd Walker is Eastern area rep not Nigel James.
- Barry Moss is not the Midland rep as he was not at the area meeting. **Paul Young will contact Barry Moss to determine if he will do it.** If Barry isn't keen, we need a named rep. (**Richard** will verify if Steve Orme is rep as his name is also listed and it is not clear if he has purely resigned as Treasurer or as area rep as well.)

All other reps correct and elected.

Richard will update loan ASAP in readiness for Blue Pages publication.

5.3 Area AGM feedback

Richard reviewed Area AGM feedback with the meeting:

South West area:

The South West area suggested Looe be considered as a worlds. The meeting discussed the implications with regard to funding an International Jury and having sufficient international entries. Phil Ford suggested that the most achievable option would be to hold an Internationals and not a Worlds. We would need to determine requirements for a Worlds & an Internationals and consider if either would be suitable. **Steve to investigate.**

SW area also requested to have the use of a professional coach at one of their events. It was agreed to discuss this further when Charles provided an update on training.

Northern:

Richard confirmed that the Northern area is now an amalgamation of the previous North East & North West regions.

The Northern area meeting proposed a membership category for crews to include voting rights. The meeting discussed this and it was confirmed that associate members do not have voting rights.

The meeting agreed that as the full membership fee is very reasonable at £25 it would not make sense to add another membership level. Crews wishing to have a full vote should be advised to become full members.

It was suggested that it would improve entries if the Youths event was run alongside the Masters or combined with one of the larger events.

The meeting agreed that gaining suitable attendance has proved difficult. With the Masters clashing with the Youth 12 Hour race it was apparent that the Nationals might be the best option for the Youth National Champions to be determined.

Steve & Callum to consult with the growing fleet of Youths at Looe

Callum Dingle reported to the meeting that Noble are sponsoring with an intention for focus to be on youths and training.

Julie confirmed that we have now received some £1200 from Noble.

6 & 7 Election of Officers and updates to Rules of the Enterprise Association ("EA rules"):

Richard suggested he combined items 6 & 7 as they need to be considered together before the Election of Officers. The meeting agreed this.

Richard updated attendees on our historic non compliance with the most recent EA rules and the clear need to update the rules to reflect how the association should function going forward.

Key drivers for this are the need to recognise the diminishing attendance and power of Area AGM's and the need to have a constitution we can evidence compliance against, when scrutinised by World Sailing.

This is increasingly urgent as technical changes required to recognise the MK3 boat will mean World Sailing will need to be comfortable that the Association is operating in accordance with its constitution.

Changes to constitution:

Richard presented an outline of the current constitution, identified defunct elements and proposed modifications going forward (see Appendix D).

The meeting recognised the proposal addressed the inadequacies of the current constitution and issues / concerns were discussed:

The proposals will negate Area AGMs but the area and fleet reps need to communicate with the area they represent.

Doug enquired how do we make sure the person who organises the events doesn't just stop doing it and how do we ensure that the Areas still get input at the Nationals.

Phil noted that we do not preclude meetings taking place.

Scotland have a positive social meeting at a traditional location that maintains Ent momentum.

We do not want to discourage this and want to follow recommendations that all areas have a meeting to plan and commit to actions, fixtures etc.

We need something to drive the setting of fixtures so that calendars can be established, therefore a deadline date for Areas needs to be set for publication of their proposed Circuits. (NOTE TO STEVE: I'm not sure about this bit, i thought the point was that we want someone to firstly publish "the larger" national events so that the local events can be managed around these ???)

Phil pointed out the need to use technology to enable individuals to contribute to the AGM even if they are not at the meeting.

Committee voted unanimously for Richard and Tim to progress the proposed changes to create a new Constitution.

Item 6 Election of National Committee Officers

With the proposed constitutional format agreed, the meeting moved on to elect officers in accordance with the proposed posts:

Hon Secretary: Tim Sadler (RP Proposed, Doug Seconded) meeting agreed.

Assistant Sec: Ann Jackson (CM Proposed, PY Seconded) meeting agreed.

Hon Fixtures Sec: Paul Young (Prop RP, sec CM) meeting agreed.

Champ Coordinator: Steve Sargent (Prop RP, sec CM) meeting agreed.

Champ Admin needs to be allocated for each event - each club needs to provide results including categories. (Can we ask a local Ent Member or rep to identify somebody to run the admin ?)

Sponsorship: Callum (PY Proposed, CM Seconded) meeting agreed.

Diary Editor: Ioan (PY Proposed, CM Seconded) meeting agreed.

Training: Charles (PY Proposed, CM Seconded) meeting agreed.

Web Master: Steve Sargent (PY Proposed, CM Seconded) meeting agreed.

Item 8 MK3

TS briefed that the MK3 was originally designed and signed off by EA but this was not signed off formally by World Sailing. World Sailing issued a letter in 2018 authorising the MK 3 to race in 2018, and have committed to issue a letter stating the same for 2019.

Phil Morison will generate plans and add required dimensions to define the key internal measurements.

Doug enquired if we realise we could 3D scan the inside of the boat to create a CAD model. Tim agreed to advise Phil of this in case he was not aware.

Tim will be working to clarify the dimensions which we use (we expect to use the same section positions as the exterior plus some other key points/dimensions).

Doug enquired how the new plug was made as climatic variables can impact the dimensions. This was noted but it was recognised that measurement tolerances should accommodate this but the key measurements to be defined must be compliant when plugs and/or first offs are measured.

RP reported that the Indian company cannot continue until the mould is measured and approved by World Sailing.

Doug is concerned that we are aware that we should have a CAD model to ensure future moulds are consistent. This is better taken off a plug that does not have thwarts etc. in place.

Phil Ford suggested the meeting recognises this but we should focus on compliance before we then decide how to retain info allowing us to reproduce.

Phil Morrison and TS to continue with proposed mechanism of measurement to meet India's timeline but it needs Hendrick of World Sailing to be suitably available.

Tim will find out how the boats produced by the Indian company will be verified as compliant, but he suspects they need to measure at least the first boat and be visited by a local Enterprise Association representative.

Tim will also be proposing modifications to class rules to cover MK3 design i.e.

- Fairlead that controls sheeting angle must be within a given distance of deck level
- Mechanism to prevent centreboard coming up to cover boats where brake cannot be made to work

There were in depth discussions about how a centreboard control could be used to actually pull the centreboard down, but it was agreed that the rule should be worded so that the control can only be used to prevent the centreboard rising.

- World Sailing has suggested we remove 108 minimum radius distance from centreboard plans for the position of the bolt hole, because this is inconsistent with 101 minimum measurement from the leading edge to the bolt hole.
- It has become apparent that some members have increased the length of their centreboard handle, which is not compliant with current class rules. World Sailing view this as a clear attempt to gain an advantage and so would like us to ensure handle length complies with the currently specified measurement.
- The rules currently say that the centreboard can be packed to reduce side play, but this must be over the whole of the centreboard that does not protrude below the keel. This rule will change so that any packing will be allowed as long as it doesn't allow the centreboard to "gybe".

9. Membership strategy/website

Steve Sargent delivered a presentation containing options and proposals for increasing membership and managing the website (See Appendix E).

The meeting discussed the options proposed.

The committee is concerned that we ensure members get something tangible for their subscriptions.

Julie shared a recent letter from a longstanding member who continues to support the Association despite not receiving anything.

Tim asked the meeting to agree what we wanted to achieve and the consensus was that the objective was to promote Enterprise sailing in order to:

1. Increase people sailing enterprises.
2. Increase Association membership.
3. Increase attendance at opens and championships.

Richard pointed out that a key focus for members benefit would be the Diary but we needed to push contributions.

Doug suggested each area contribute an article for the Diary.

The Association is currently in a good financial position but this is partly due to not providing a diary we should be aware of this but only consider fees at point we need to raise them.

Callum reported that we have received a positive response from sponsors and have had commitments from Allen, North's, Selden, Sailing Chandlery, Kingfisher and Noble.

P&B and Gul would not be committing until April when budgets were set.

In order to increase distribution of funds and sponsorship out to the areas and grass roots sailing, it was suggested we have a fund for areas/clubs to apply for, specifically to promote Enterprise sailing eg via events such as training days or any creative ideas that the committee agree promotes Enterprise sailing.

Steve to provide loan with a paragraph to add to the Blue Pages to communicate the opportunity to all members:

"In partnership with our sponsors the EA has prizes, funding and training available to promote Enterprise sailing. Contact your area Rep or complete the support form in the "Areas Info" section of the Enterprise website to enquire"

Additional options to follow up:

Could we raffle sails or something that promotes boats. (NOTE TO STEVE I don't know what "promotes boats" means)

Consider providing a double stacker for loan to association members to buddy up with other club members to take them along and introduce to open meetings.

Approach national organisations to get significant sponsorship.

Can we increase value and return from sponsors?

- Look at what we get from sponsors and ensure we get maximum value for exposure we give
- Widen range of people who get prizes e.g. perhaps send a pot of prizes to Area reps for them to imaginatively award.

10 Dinghy Show

Mark reported that preparation for the Dinghy Show was on schedule.

We have been allocated Stand C7.

Ann to contact individuals who supported rota last time via Facebook, email and telephone.

On Friday before show we can make entry from 9am.

Need to order carpet for the stand which we expect to be on the stand by the time we gain access.

All slots for presentations are full except 4pm on final day but we do not think this is worth our investment.

A presentation slot would be worth a longer term investment for next year where we can prepare well and get a better slot.

Stand elements need to be pulled together as these are spread around members.

We need to find somewhere to store the boards.

Ann thinks they can be stored with her.

Could we get loan to plan the stand (Steve to enquire).

Could we splice footage for a video (Steve to enquire).

11 Championship planning:

Planning and budgeting for Mounts Bay Nationals is going well. Other key events for 2019 are now in place.

It is a concern that we do not have Nationals venues lined up beyond 2020 and we should act quickly to populate Carol's template for a 5 year Nationals plan.

Steve has approached the Scorpions to enquire if they would like to share venues in 2021. **RP to contact Chris Yates early this week before they meet on Tuesday.**

Steve asked for suggestions for future venues:

Torquay, Tenby, Exe.

It was suggested we could also look at sharing with other fleets such as OK's.

The format of Nationals was discussed as we may need to consider 3 or 4 day events. Richard pointed out that we have to recognise that most accommodation in peak season runs week to week so it might not be viable to reduce the number of days whilst maintaining the peak season timing..

Steve pointed out that the budgeting for events was tight and we may need to review entry fees in the future. We received a good response to the trackers in 2018 from competitors and members that could not attend therefore we should consider this part of our marketing budget. The meeting agreed this to be the right thing to do.

It was also proposed we should find a photographer to provide quality media for reports and future promotions. The media would be crucial to ensure sponsors gained suitable exposure.

Doug suggested we contact photography colleges' students. We have contacted Paul Gibbins who has said he would need funding for a train ticket and accommodation for a night. This should be considered as an option.

Training

Charles presented a document outlining \training options and opportunities see Appendix F

Contact with Reps, Fleets and Trainers are Charles' focus this year.

List of suitable trainers and contacts required, please forward to Charles.

Training on Saturday before champs has been proposed, we need to find out how much we would need to pay for rescue support.

Richard reported that Solos sell £25 "Tuning and Setup" CDs that we could emulate.

AOB

Richard reported Glyn is keen to provide a boat to go to events including the Dinghy Show, it was agreed that at the Dinghy Show this year we prefer to go with placing a basic affordable boat on our stand in order to promote grass roots sailing.

This offer prompted further ideas that we should consider soon:

Do we need to look at a hiring/leasing solution for the new way of life? This might tie in well with Phil's thoughts on funding/sponsorship available from national power companies etc.

Could we establish "Try a boat" day or "Air Band B for Boats" in partnership with owners and Noble insurance ? This would promote grass roots sailing and might support more entries at events.

Meeting closed at 15.26