

# 29er Class Association Committee Meeting

## Minutes

25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @ 7.30 via Google Meet

Apologies: Clive Grummett, Ali Wood

### **In attendance:**

#### **Officers of the Association:**

Doug Walker, Anne Sydenham, Will Gatehouse, Roger Morris, Lee Sydenham, Dougal Scott, Steve Sinfield, Roger Morris, Ruth Attridge, Samantha White

#### **Other attendees:**

Hannah Bristow, Gavin Homer, Chris Turner, Jo Powell

Meeting was quorate.

**Approval and Actions:** The committee approved the minutes from January 2025 and discussed actions from the last minutes

### **ONGOING ACTIONS:**

- Questionnaire: AT has done some work on this and see below in AOB.
- Joint Feva event; after a lot of discussion, it has been decided that the GP at WPNSA cannot be a joint event; this is on safety grounds and that it gets dark so early that we cannot do anything in terms of try outs
- Alumni: the committee agreed in principle that there should be some incentive to keep 29er sailors in the class and racing and it was recognised that the cost was likely to be low but the benefit greater both from a domestic and international perspective. It had been noted before that the European sailors tend to stay in the 29er longer and as a result tend to be those that are front of fleet. MH is to write up the proposal and communications will be sent out in the summer.

**Treasurer's Report:** insurance coming up for renewal; discussions to ensure correct assets are insured.

**Sailing Secretary update:** Will Gatehouse will be stepping down and so the committee will need another sailing secretary. Bring forward the start time at GPs on a Saturday was discussed – for winter events to maximise time on water and help with getting 4 races.

Diary proposed for next year is in draft

Discussion about 28er/49er event on same weekend at WPNSA; discussions on safety and that it was not desirable for the two classes to share the same course.

**Class Coach Update:** discussed summer dates for open training and event support for Worlds and Nationals. The Race coach course went ahead with 6 from the class – plan to run another. Chris Atherton evolution fund – applying for funding. The skills camp preparations are underway in terms of sourcing coaches (in discussion with RYA) and finding a suitable date,

The Committee also needs a transition sailing – parents have approached the class about tryouts. It is a possibility that one will be organised at HISC.

The training calendar was discussed and the desirability to have class training before a GP rather than after. AT confirmed that this had been the case in previous years but that there were difficulties with dates, this past season. In previous years the YS had tied in with Class training and it was hoped that this could happen again.

YS/selection weekends discussed and agreed that it would be more helpful to coordinate to try and ensure that as many people were captured into a squad or training as possible.

**AOB:** There was general discussion about the RYA regional/talent academies. The committee agreed that the 29ers who are not association members need to be targeted. We need to understand better which clubs they are at and what need is out there. The committee also discussed how best to communicate with potential members, but it was also acknowledged that we need to also focus efforts on newer members too and ensure that all felt welcome and included.

#### ACTIONS:

- Mailshot via RYA all clubs with a piece on the class association
- Email to all members about how we communicate – Telegram – DONE
- It was agreed that Socials are important as they bring people together and that this should be a factor when booking host venues. Looking forward to the next couple of GPs this is covered.

Parkstone GP has been cancelled – it clashes with the Sail GP weekend and so the club wanted to free up members to go. WG to investigate moving it to another weekend.

RYA are considering PROAM racing at the Eric Twinline – will review when that becomes an event.

Nationals sub-committee: MH, WG, LS, DS, AS, DW, HB; actions agreed for the subcommittee.

Safeguarding incident – Nationals – was discussed. A letter is to be written to the parents, but other actions were agreed:

- SW to do a list of policies for the next meeting – these are to be divvied up between the committee to review and to consider whether they can be better housed on the website.
- SW will do a checklist for internal use for any incident and a flow chart.

Sponsorship discussed – DONE (WEBSITE TO DO – ACTION)

**Committee Vacancies and Next Meeting:** The meeting identified several committee vacancies, including Vice Chair and Welfare Officer, and scheduled the next meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> April. Ruth Attridge is unable to continue the role as her child has now left the class.

The chair thanked everyone for their attendance