

GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Saturday, 6th October, 2018

PRESENT: Ann Penny, Steve Parry, Curly Morris, Vanessa Devereux, Graham Knox, David Rowlands, David Cooke, Adam Chaplin, Oliver Shaw

APOLOGIES: Helen Allen, Mark Collingwood, Paul Bowmer, Jon Close, Paul O'Neill, Chris Hearn, Charles Saunders, Leanne Pilkington, Dave Young

Minutes Secretary: Julie Courtney

1	President's Welcome Ann Penny welcomed all attendees to the meeting and gave a special welcome to Vanessa Devereux and Oliver Shaw.	ACTION
2	To receive any apologies for absence from the meeting. As recorded above. The large size of the apology list was noted, see item 20.	
3	Minutes of Last Meeting (14th April 2018) a) The minutes were accepted. Proposed David Rowlands, seconded David Cooke. Approved unanimously. b) Item 4a will be redacted before the minutes are published on the web site. c) There were no matters arising that were not already listed in the agenda but Graham Knox did note that our proposed fixture at Bristol Corinthian YC for the Inlands in 2019 would not be our first, an open meeting having been sailed there the some 40 years ago.	SP
4	F&G Committee Minutes and matters arising a) The F&G Committee meetings held April to July '18 were accepted. Proposed David Rowlands, seconded Adam Chaplin. Approved unanimously. b) Matters arising: meeting of 14 th May, item 6.2, David Rowlands asked whether the apparent loss of our annual return to World Sailing had been sorted out to their satisfaction. Curly and Julie confirmed that it had.	
5.	Committee Nominations and co-options General Committee The following co-options were proposed: - Vanessa Devereux as Competitions Secretary - Oliver Shaw as Cruising Representative Proposed by David Rowlands, seconded by Graham Knox. Accepted unanimously. F&G Committee – Ann Penny, Steve Parry, Paul Bowmer, Mark Collingwood, Curly Morris. Technical and Rules Committee – David Rowlands, Jon Close and the Chief Measurer of the Irish Association. A replacement is needed for Gareth Morris, who stood down at the AGM. A number of names were offered for consideration. Olive Parker is training to become an International Measurer and it was felt that her input could therefore be particularly useful. David Rowlands will look for a new member of the committee and take on board the above suggestions. Championship Committee – Vanessa Devereux and Richard Ham are the sole members of the new committee at this time. Vanessa has contacted a number of possible names but as yet has not received any responses. Ann Penny suggested that the Area Representatives should also become more closely involved in this committee in their role as overseers of Area Championships. In addition, the committee needs someone to lead on the following: - The setting up of sponsorship deals.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publicity. - Artwork. <p>Dave Young's name was suggested re sponsorship and Leanne Pilkington re artwork. Michelle Evans may be willing to continue to handle publicity. Vanessa will speak to these people and to the Area Reps.</p> <p>All the committee nominations were accepted. Proposed by David Rowlands, seconded by Graham Knox. Approved unanimously.</p>	
6.	Finance	
	<p>a) Treasurer's report Paul Bowmer had circulated a written report and expenditure/income spread sheet prior to our meeting and indicated that our financial position remains sound. The World Championships had been completed within budget. Copies of Paul's report are file with these minutes.</p> <p>b) Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The spending of the modest sum on a Presidents Reception at the World Championship was noted. The event was considered to be very worthwhile as a means of thanking the host club and our main sponsor as well as providing the opportunity for networking with the overseas competitors. These events are normally held at World Championships and it was agreed that the practice should continue. o The relatively high cost of providing trackers at Mount's Bay was reviewed. The feed-back from competitors and their followers was generally very good but we do not feel that tracking should be included in future events without the approval of General Committee. Curly Morris suggested that we look into the possibility of purchasing our own trackers and hiring them out to other classes (the following may be problematic: obsolescence, damage, integration with event IT). Championship Committee will look into this. <p>c) The report was accepted, proposed by Curly Morris, seconded by Graham Knox. Approved unanimously.</p>	<p>DC/VD</p> <p>VD</p>
7.	Website and Social Media.	
	<p>Being unable to attend the meeting, Chris Hearn did not submit a report but Ann Penny asked that our thanks be recorded for his careful oversight of our web site.</p>	
8.	International Report	
	<p>a) Sri Lanka contacts: Curly and Ann were able to have useful discussions with Duncan Frazer at Mount's Bay but subsequent e-mails to Joseph Kenny have yet to be answered.</p> <p>b) Curly met with Bruce Idleman in Mount's Bay and discussed various options for refreshing the fleets in North America and Canada. Curly and Bruce are exploring the cost and feasibility of exporting some sound-second hand timber boats from the UK and Ireland to the USA.</p> <p>c) The new branch in Barbados appears to be failing in spite of Curly's efforts to encourage new interest. Again, it is the supply of sound boats at an affordable price that is the problem.</p> <p>d) Curly will not be attending the forthcoming World Sailing Congress, as the great distance involved makes the cost prohibitive. He is hoping to attend in 2020. Curly reassured us that the new World Sailing 'Sail GP' web site is nothing to do with our class (it is an ocean yacht site).</p>	

	<p>e) Concern about the high cost of providing international juries at dinghy world championships has been expressed to World Sailing by several classes. We ask Curly to take this up on our behalf and suggest that the size of the jury be reduced to 3 from 5. In the meantime, Julie will extract the jury costs from the Mount's Bay expenditure account and send them to David Cooke and Vanessa for information.</p>	<p>CM</p> <p>JC</p>
9.	Promotions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UK Class Calendar 2019 – Almost complete but sponsors are urgently needed. Ann Penny will lead the search. - Dinghy Show 2019 (2/3 March) – The usual 2-boat stand is booked and Steve Parker and Nigel Potter/Alistair Duffin will be providing the boats. Exe Sails will again support a 'genoa raffle'. Dressing the stand: David Cooke will supply the artwork for a Skerries 2019 A5 flier that can be printed off in quantity for handing out and using as a panel frieze. Vanessa will send Steve some suitable photos for publicising the youth appeal of the boat and with her committee she will also provide a poster or pull-up banner for Abersoch 2019. Ann will sort out a poster for Sri Lanka 2022. - 2020 Celebrations: the book of the decade. Graham Knox and Ann Penny are still looking for an editor. Oliver Shaw suggested that Great Northern Books or Loadstar Books might publish for us. Oliver is willing to write a cruising section and to produce a 'short history from the minute book' should it be felt suitable. - Mainsail – Andy Johnson has taken over as secretary of the Irish Association but appears not to be in membership. David Cooke will arrange for his contact details to be sent to Julie Courtney. Steve Heywood of Mount's Bay SC, Australia, had been asked to write an article (Mount's Bay to Mount's Bay) but there has sadly been no response. Ann Penny thanks Julie for her hard work in editing the magazine. 	<p>JS/LP</p> <p>DC</p> <p>VD</p> <p>AP</p> <p>AP/GK/OS</p> <p>DC</p>
10.	Training	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Howard Davies Week 2019 has been booked at Plas Menai for 28th July to 2nd August 2019. Expressions of interest have already been invited and full details will be posted on the web site shortly. b) Ann Penny suggested that we should seek to offer a training event of 2 or more days for the 'pre-bronze fleet sailor'. The matter will be considered by the F&G Committee. 	<p>MC</p>
11.	Championship Committee	
	<p>Vanessa Devereux had circulated a written report prior to our meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The main topics are summarised:</p> <p>Super 7 Series will comprise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inlands at Bristol Corinthian YC 18/19 May - The 5 Area Championships, including a Welsh (shared) event at Llandudno - The National Championships <p>Craftinsure will be the main sponsor for the series. 4 events must be sailed to qualify.</p> <p>Youth/Masters are currently scheduled at Bassenthwaite SC for 21/22 September but this date falls very close to the 24hr race. Vanessa is hoping to be able to rearrange things with BSC but if necessary she may have to try another venue. (Oliver Shaw suggested Ulleswater SC).</p>	

	<p>End of Season 2019: no venue booked yet but Welsh Harp is being considered and other suggestions are invited.</p> <p>Nationals at Abersoch 2nd to 9th August 2019: costings and anticipated entry numbers were discussed. Vanessa suggested that it might be safer at this stage to work on a slightly higher entry fee and achieve a break even at 44 boats. Vanessa is now approaching potential sponsors and in particular, seeking a 'main sponsor'.</p>	
12.	Worlds 2020 progress report	
	<p>David Cooke reported that the organising committee at Skerries is in place and the Race Officer has been appointed. Jury preparations are in hand and it is hoped that the costs involved will be kept to the minimum. Representation has been made to the Local Council for help and sponsorship, David is optimistic that they will support the event. Ferry deals are also being investigated.</p> <p>Entry fees will have to be paid through the UK Association shop in Euros and this will need to set up through SagePay. Paul Bowmer and Julie Courtney will investigate further.</p> <p>Entries will be limited to 120 boats.</p> <p>The NOR will be published in time for circulation at the UK Nationals at Abersoch and 'free entry raffle' will be run at the same event (Vanessa will co-ordinate).</p> <p>Graham Knox has a trophy that he would like to offer for presentation at the event, he will discuss with David Cooke.</p> <p>David Cooke will locate a copy of the 1997 Skerries video and seek to get a digital version made that can be put on the web site and played at the Dinghy Show.</p>	<p>PB/JC</p> <p>VD</p> <p>GK</p> <p>DC</p>
13.	World 2022: The Sri Lanka option, progress report and anticipated costs	
	<p>Ann Penny produced a power point presentation and talked us through this in detail. A small number of minor modifications were suggested. The presentation will now be placed on the web site and the whole of the Association membership will be made aware of it via email (e-news) and/or social media as well as Mainsail. Julie Courtney will create a Facebook event and Google forms to assess the level of interest.</p> <p>We noted the hosts' wish to see an entry in the region of 90 boats but we feel it is important that they understand that the GP14 is a family oriented class that always generates many more than just 2 people per boat at events of this type. Ann and Curly will emphasis this point to Joseph Kenny.</p>	<p>AP/JC</p> <p>AP/CM</p>
14.	Technical and Rules Committee	
	<p>David Rowlands told us that there had not been a need for a formal committee meeting since April and thus there were no minutes for us to consider. David had circulated a written report prior to our meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The main topics are summarised:</p> <p>World Sailing's approval to our rule change re nationality letters on sails is still awaited. (This is nothing more than a formality).</p>	

	The remaining balance of any Travellers' Series levy money held centrally will be sent to the respective representatives.	JC
17.	Maximising the youth-appeal of the GP14 class	
	<p>Ann Penny had hoped that Justin Smith would lead a discussion on this topic but in his absence the following ideas were floated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Doing more to celebrate the success of mid-fleet youth teams at our championships, perhaps by spreading the prizes more widely. - Presenting an 'under 16' trophy at the Youth Championships. - Allowing youth helm and senior crew combinations at the Youth Championships, (this is already the practice in Ireland). - Sponsoring a youth team for the 12 Hour Race. - Presenting an award for the first parent + daughter/son boat at the National and/ or World Championships. <p>Those of us attending the forthcoming RYA regional conferences will trawl for more ideas. Curly wondered whether the RYA is too focused on its Pathway Scheme but Vanessa told us that there are good relations between the leading 'pathway sailors' and the leading GP14 youth sailors and she will seek to maintain and develop this interaction.</p> <p>Adam Chaplin told us that 2-day championships during term time do cause difficulties for teenaged sailors re homework.</p>	
18	Succession Planning	
	<p>Ann Penny will be retiring at the next AGM and the following people have indicated that they wish to stand down also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Collingwood as Training overseer. • Chris Hearn as web master. • Steve Parry as Secretary • Possibly Paul O'Neill as Scottish Rep. • Oliver Shaw as temporary Cruising Rep. <p>We also continue to need a Welsh representative.</p> <p>Curly Morris is willing to stand for election as President but he asks that strong candidates be found to take on Steve's and Mark's roles in order to maintain a close oversight in the UK. Steve offered to extend his tenure if necessary by 6 months to help the hand-over providing he can be relieved of responsibility for the Dinghy Show 2020. Ann Penny offered to take that on.</p> <p>A possible name was suggested for the role of secretary and another was suggested for that of training overseer.</p> <p>F&G Committee will pursue matters further but General Committee members are also asked to offer suggestions for names to Ann and Curly.</p>	ALL
19.	Business card proposals for 2019	
	<p>Steve Parry circulated a number of options and the preferred example was selected. Steve will now send this to Julie in editable form for production. Curly asked that the weight of card used be slightly heavier than that of the existing items. Julie will prepare bespoke samples for each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President and Vice Presidents - Secretary - Competition Secretary 	SP

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cruising Representative - Area representatives <p>The samples will be sent to each person for approval prior to going into production.</p>	JC
20.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a) The large size of the apology list for this meeting was noted and it was agreed that when setting the date for the October 2019 meeting the sailing event calendar should be considered in greater detail and if appropriate, the meeting be slipped into November when sailing activities would be much reduced.</p> <p>b) The prolonged and challenging health difficulties of one of our trustees has demonstrated the weakness in the way in which our constitution dictates the making of these appointments (article 10 refers). F&G committee will bring forward a proposal to our next meeting for amending the constitution, that can then be taken to the AGM.</p>	<p>SP</p> <p>SP</p>
21.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>12th January 2019 – venue to be confirmed.</p>	
22.	<p>Close of the meeting: 16.37</p>	