

**GP Fourteen Class International Association**

**Redacted Minutes of the General Committee meeting held on  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015  
at The Mount, Orrell Road, Orrell, WN5 8HQ**

PRESENT: Duncan Greenhalgh (DG) President  
 Paul Bowmer (PB) Treasurer  
 Mark Collingwood (MC) Secretary  
 Steve Parry (SP) Vice President  
 Ann Penny (AP) Vice President  
 Gill Beddow (GB) Championship Chair  
 David Rowlands (DR) Past President and Technical & Rules Chair  
 Graham Knox (GK) Past President and Insurance Representative  
 Gareth Morris (GM) Cruising and Vintage  
 Martin Stanley (MS) North West Area Representative  
 Julie Courtney (JC2) Minute Secretary

APOLOGIES: Hugh Brazier, Jon Close, Ed Washington, Phil Hodgkins

<b>1</b>	<b>Chairman's Welcome</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	
	<b>a) Matters Arising from these Minutes, not Considered as Part of this Agenda</b> No matters raised.	
	<b>b) To Confirm the Minutes can be Published without Redaction</b> Discussions with Craftinsure about sponsorship of the e-newsletter to be redacted.	
	<b>c) To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 31 January 2015</b> Proposed: GB, Seconded: AP. All in favour.	
<b>3</b>	<b>F&amp;G Minutes</b>	
	<b>a) Matters Arising from these Minutes, not Considered as Part of this Agenda</b> DR asked about debts over 30 days and PB said that JC2 was now bringing all debts over 30 days to his attention, so appropriate action could be taken. PB commented that the manufacturers had been written to about maximum equipment prices and he had received no response.	
	<b>b) To accept the Minutes of the F&amp;G Meetings</b> 13/01/15 - Proposed: DR Seconded: GK. All in favour. 11/02/15 - Proposed: GK Seconded: GM. All in favour. 10/03/15 - Proposed: GB Seconded: DR. All in favour.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Updates to The Constitution</b>	<b>MC</b>
	MC said he had published in Mainsail the two motions to change the constitution as discussed at previous meetings and now sought formal confirmation that he could present these to the AGM on behalf of the committee. Proposed: DR Seconded: SP. All in favour.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Finance</b>	<b>PB/MC</b>
	<b>a) Mid-year Review</b> PB reported that finances were generally in-line with expectations except that membership subscriptions were lower than forecast and there has been little progress in recovery of credit charge charges for website transactions. <b>b) Credit Card (CC) Charges</b> PB reported it was necessary to look into hosting the website so the Sagepay software can be updated to enable us to switch on recovery of CC charges. DG proposed that F&G should approve any necessary funds for this. PB and MC to talk to Mike Senior.	

	<p><b>c) Membership</b> JC 2 to send membership list to Area Reps who will contact Fleet Captains to chase non paying lapsed members</p> <p><b>d) Euro Payments by Irish Members</b> PB to look into the issue of Irish members paying fees in Euro.</p> <p><b>e) Travellers Levy</b> SP and MS to bring-up levy issue for travellers up at the Area Reps meeting and agree a consistent process across all regions.</p> <p><b>f) Irish Entries for Barbados</b> GK said he was visiting Ireland and will make contact with James Ogg and or Nigel Sloan to get a list of Barbados Irish entries.</p>	<p><b>JC2</b></p> <p><b>PB</b></p> <p><b>SP/MS</b></p> <p><b>GK</b></p>
	<p><b>g) To accept the Treasurer's Report</b> Proposed: AP, Seconded: SP. All in favour.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>International</b></p> <p><b>a) To receive International Report</b> No report received</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Representatives Reports</b></p> <p><b>a) To receive Vintage, Cruising &amp; Welsh Area report</b> GM reported a few vintage boats have changed hands and 6 boats have said they are going to the Cruising week. GM also reported that he had visited clubs in North Wales looking for a Welsh Area Rep, but found little GP activity apart from Llandudno.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Championship Report</b></p> <p><b>a) Barbados Update</b> 1. Generally everything is on track and there are no major concerns. 2. GB confirmed that the Virgin deal only works from Gatwick as the Manchester return flights fly on less desirable dates. 3. GB reported that she has obtained a 15% discount from Coconut Court. 4. GB confirmed that ISAF rules will be met, with enough countries entering the event for us to retain the right to hold World Championships. (Australia, Barbados, Canada, Ireland, South Africa, Sri Lanka and UK) 5. GB reported a new branch is to be formed in Barbados this year.</p> <p><b>b) Jack Austin Fund</b> GB said she had been asked if the age limit on the Jack Austin fund could not be changed to include those who are still in full time education. The committee felt that the rules had been published and could not now be changed for Barbados. A discussion followed about use of other funds, but no other funds were considered suitable for this purpose.</p> <p><b>c) Professional Videoing at Brixham</b> GB reported that video drones cost £1800 for 5 mins of edited footage and that the return from sponsorship could be very good with lots of hits. It was agreed that we need sponsorship to offset the costs and the committee empowered F&amp;G to make a decision about this based on sponsorship. GB to pursue and bring to F&amp;G if sponsorship is found</p>	<p><b>GB/DG</b></p> <p><b>GB</b></p>
	<p><b>d) 2016 Grand Prix</b> Because boats will not have returned from Barbados GB reported the first event cannot earlier than May. Inlands to be 21/22 May at Bala and combined with Welsh Areas; End of Season 15/16 Oct at Windermere; Masters in 16/17 July at Welsh Harp. SP to encourage Area Reps to confirm other Area dates and venues as early as possible</p>	<p><b>SP</b></p>
	<p><b>e) Weymouth Nationals</b> GB wanted confirmation that the Committee would support another 3 day Nationals at Weymouth as the venue was popular but too expensive for a 5 day</p>	

	<p>event. The committee confirmed their support but agreed that it was a long way for people from the north to travel for 3 days and that offering some training beforehand might be a popular option.</p>	<b>GB</b>
	<p><b>f) To receive Championship Committee Report</b> Proposed: DR, Seconded: AP. All in favour. DG thanked GB for her hard work.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Technical &amp; Rules Committee Report</b></p>	
	<p><b>a) Championship Rule Update</b> DR to tidy-up Championship Rules and present updated version to October Meeting.</p>	<b>DR</b>
	<p><b>b) Age Rules</b> DR reported that the age rules for National and World Championships trophies are not consistent and suggested these all be changed to the end of December in the year of the event, to align to current rules for Youths and Masters. All in favour. To be implemented at Brixham and Barbados.</p>	<b>DR/GB</b>
	<p><b>c) Inversion Issue</b> DR said there had been comments and suggestions about this from several members of the fleet, but it had not yet been not discussed at a T&amp;R meeting. DR said the most feasible option was to allow some form of mast-top buoyancy and he would make sure this was investigated.</p>	<b>DR</b>
	<p><b>d) To receive Technical &amp; Rules Report</b> Proposed: DR, Seconded: GK. All in favour.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Promotions Report</b></p>	
	<p><b>a) Alexandra Palace Dinghy Show</b> AP reported the show had been a success, on budget and wanted to thank all those involved.</p>	
	<p><b>b) Mainsail</b> AP thanked those who had submitted articles for the recent edition and especially thanked JC2 for her hard work. AP said the next edition would be at the end October.</p>	
	<p><b>c) Car Stickers</b> JC2 to get prices and F&amp;G to approve before purchase</p>	<b>JC2</b>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Website &amp; Communications Report</b></p>	
	<p><b>a) To receive Website &amp; Communications Report</b> No report received</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Training</b></p>	
	<p><b>a) Youth Training at West Kirby</b> MC reported that this had had to be cancelled as there had only been one entry.</p>	
	<p><b>b) Friday Training before Youths at Windermere</b> MC reported that he would see if there was interest in training on the Friday before the Youths.</p>	<b>MC</b>
	<p><b>c) Sea Training at Llandudno</b> MC said he would see if Llandudno would host a Training event open to all sailors.</p>	<b>MC</b>
	<p><b>d) Ladies Training</b> AP to confirm interest and suggest most popular location.</p>	<b>AP</b>
	<p><b>e) 2016 Training</b> MC said that in addition to youth and ladies training he would like to offer one training event in each area, most likely on a Saturday preceding a Sunday Traveller. JC said Bolton would be keen to host the Northern event.</p>	<b>MC</b>
	<p><b>f) Barbados Training</b> GB said that we should consider sending out a coach to help the local sailors with the 18 boats that are being sent out. The Committee suggested a budget of £500 that ideally should be matched by some local funding. GB to follow-up and report to F&amp;G for approval.</p>	<b>GB</b>

<b>13</b>	<b>Class Development</b>	
	The 9 priorities agreed at the last meeting were discussed:	
	<b>a) Improve membership data base to better enable targeted marketing to Association members especially in relation to members sailing preferences</b> AP reported that the questionnaire had been sent out and the number of responses was good and that she was still producing a digest of results that would be sent to all the committee.	<b>AP</b>
	<b>b) Develop a programme to identify and motivate club fleet captains</b> AP said that she and SP were developing a plan to motivate the fleet captains. AP to review Fleet Captains Manual against recent similar RYA manual that Adam McGovern can supply.	<b>AP/SP</b> <b>AP</b>
	<b>c) Implement a jury system at championship events and discuss other methods to improve poor rule observance</b> In progress for Brixham.	
	<b>d) Consider a separate website ( not a page of existing web site) to cater for needs of non- racing membership</b> MC reported that F&G felt there that currently is insufficient content to justify a separate website and key task should be the generation of content about planned events. SP to discuss some with EW and HB. GM to talk to Oliver Shaw about integrating Yahoo message board with the website.	<b>SP</b> <b>GM</b>
	<b>e) Improve communications to members ( Social media / web updates )</b> It was agreed that a website and Social Media subcommittee be formed. PB offered to lead.	<b>PB</b>
	<b>f) Improve methodology to improve fleet allocation at major events</b> GB commented this continued to be problematic but she would raise it again with the new Championship Committee after the summer.	<b>GB</b>
	<b>g) Develop commercial relationships with suppliers to provide discounts to members and incentivise their "jockeys" to compete at our events</b> SP agreed to follow-up member discounts. [Further details are redacted from this version of the minutes]	<b>SP</b>
	<b>h) Determine budget to support above programme and extent to which funded from reserves</b> No action. Awaiting proposals. PB to action as appropriate	<b>PB</b>
	<b>i) Review membership categories</b> It was agreed that this should be a low priority until more progress had been made with the above.	
<b>14</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	<b>a) Boon Boats</b> DR reported that Boon Boats had given up making GP14 and the moulds had passed via Ovington to SP Boats and that he was going to see Steve Parker. MC reported that he had written to Steve Boon and terminated his licence agreement with the Association.	<b>DR</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2015. Venue TBA	<b>MC</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>The Chairman Closed the Meeting</b>	