

# MINUTES OF THE 57<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held in Salcombe Yacht Club on Tuesday August 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 6.30 p.m.

**Committee members present :-** Chairman:- Michael Knowles (Y15), Stephen Galvin (Y99), Andy Savell (Y187), David Stone (Y184), Will Henderson (Y168), Andrew Squire (Y166)(technical advisor)  
Allyson Lofts (Hon Secretary)

**1 Apologies for absence** were received from :- John Donovan (Hon Measurer), Barney & Juanita Greenhill, James Greenhill (Y138), Steve Walter (Y69)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed the new members to the Association.

**2 The Minutes of the 2023 AGM** were adopted. Proposer David Fitzsimmons, seconded by Martin Beck (Y181)

**3 The Accounts 2023/2024** were adopted. Proposer Jonathan Britton (Y173) seconded by Stephen Burton (Y161)

## **4 Chairman's Address**

The Chairman sent deepest condolences from the members of the Association to Di Hughes whose husband Pete (Y19) recently died in an accident. He will be deeply missed in the bar and on the water. Sympathy was also extended to John and Sue Smithers, long standing friends and sailing partner.

Michael thanked the Harbour Office, SYC for running the club and racing, Scud (Y84) and Wendy Stewart for running Town Regatta and Richard Whitworth and the many others who made the training weekend so successful.

He thanked David Stone (Prompt Business Strategies) and Tristan Stone for part sponsoring the e-stela tracking system this year and said that there would be a survey on the system later in the year.

In June 11 Yawls had joined in the Falmouth Classic weekend which was fun despite the weather and consideration will be given to repeating this – perhaps for a longer trip to allow time for exploration of the harbour.

He thanked Penny Reed and Allyson for organising the social events over the year – a trip to Calancombe, the Christmas walk, London supper at the Corinthian Sailing Club, and a hog roast for over 100 people at Ager Point.

He thanked the Committee for their work over the year including weighing and measuring Yawls and drafting changes to the rules.

Finally he recognised the support that Tristan Stone provides to the Yawl fleet and his establishment this year of the floating pontoons which has created a significant increase in participation in the various sailing events.

**5** Allyson Lofts was invited to accept **Honorary Life Membership of the Association** which she gratefully accepted.

## **6 Election of Committee members**

Stephen Galvin retires from the Committee having served his term of office.

Darius Panahy (Y152) was invited to join the Committee. Proposer Michael Knowles, seconded by Will Henderson

Andrew Squire was re-elected to serve as Honorary Technical Advisor.

Allyson Lofts was re-elected as Hon. Secretary

John Donovan was re-elected as Hon Measurer.

All proposed by Michael Knowles and seconded by Stephen Galvin

All votes unanimous.

## 7 Rule Changes

Will Henderson explained in detail why the following Class Rule changes were proposed by the committee.

1. Delete "*Electronic aids,*" from Class Rule 16.1 and change the "d" of "*double*" in that Class Rule to "D"

2. Add the following exception to Class Rule 16.2 (prohibition on electronic aids):

*"Mobile telephones and other electronic devices may be carried on board, but while racing (and except as permitted by other exception(s) to Class Rule 16.2) shall not be used by the helm or crew of the boat for the purpose of receiving any information or for doing any other thing which was or could reasonably be considered to be of tactical, strategic or other help to the boat."*

3. Add the following exception to Class Rule 16.2 (prohibition on electronic aids):

*"Electronic timing devices (e.g. digital watches) which may include count-down and timer functions may be used while racing but no display or use may be made by a helm or crew of any function of the device which provides any other information, in particular no display or use may be made of any information which may be received by contained within or computed by the device as to or in relation to wind speed, wind direction, boat position, boat heading, boat speed or VMG."*

4. Add the following exception to Class Rule 16.2 (prohibition on electronic aids)

*"Devices that provide information as to or assist in maintaining the health status of a competitor may be used."*

5. Conditionally on one or more of proposals 2, 3 and 4 being passed, re-format Class Rule 16.2 so that it reads:

*"16.2 Electronic aids are prohibited except that:*

*16.2A A Yawl may use an electronic digital compass with chronograph (timer and/or clock). The compass must be entirely self-contained with either an internal battery and/or solar power. The compass shall have no external connections. This includes power supply and data inputs, such as wind information, boat speed or navigational features. It shall not have the ability to compute correlations between time, compass and VMG."*

*[16.2B etc. such one or more of proposals 2, 3 and 4 as are passed]"*

All the above proposed changes were accepted unanimously

Proposal 6

Add a Class Rule 17 as follows:

*"17. Manual and battery powered bilge pumps are permitted provided that, in the case of battery powered pumps, they may only be turned on or off active pumping by a manually operated switch. The use of an automatic water detection system or timer in the pump system while racing is not permitted."*

This proposal had been challenged by Toby Strauss (Y 116) prior to the AGM and a discussion ensued about pumps and switches, automatic and electronic. Proposal 6 was not passed and the Committee was asked to review the proposal in light of the discussion and re-address the matter – possibly at an EGM.

7. Add a Class Rule 5.4.3 as follows:

*"5.4.3 At all times when racing the mizzen sail shall be set un-reefed on the mizzen mast."*

This addition was accepted unanimously

### **A.O.B.**

David Greening (Y177) asked whether it was possible to make greater use of emails for AGM notices etc.

It was questioned why the AGM was held on the same evening as the dinner. Martin Beck said he introduced the joint event to get better attendance at the AGM.

There was a discussion on fleeting in Regatta. David Greening suggested short course racing for the green and gold fleet but Chris Long (Y71) speaking as a gold fleet competitor said that it takes so long to prepare for a race that he wanted a full length race.

Jonathan Britton said that the most important consideration is getting as many Yawls as possible out on the water.

Darius Panahy cautioned, if the Committee is being asked to consider fleeting - why? Different reasons lead to a different solution.

Michael Knowles said the Committee would discuss this with the aim of getting as many boats as possible participating.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm