

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Royal Southampton Yacht Club on Saturday 19th November 2011

The Class Captain welcomed everyone to the meeting and paid tribute to Alistair Evans who had died the previous week, saying that the tragedy was a great loss for his family and friends as well as for the Class, who wished his family well.

The Attendee list recorded 55 members present at the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from:

Paul Fisher, Malcolm Ogilvy, Brian and Dee Orange, James McGill, Adrian Barden, Charles Prickett, Mike Mason, Ken and Jane Latham, Bill Barnes, Robin Balme, John Claxon, Peter Hartles, Tony Probert, Mike and Clare Goddard, Alan Perry, John Wilson, Colin Field, Jeremy Field, Charlie Field, Michael McNish, Vernon Nock, William Westmacott, Nick Dorley-Brown, Rick Walters, David Corsan, Mark and Antje Palmer, James McGill, Peter Lashmar, Jean Paton, Tim Martin, Tom Rogers, Alex Jones, Stephen Whiteman, Richard Batchelor, Mike Till, Fenella and David Lees, Bill Mallam, Penny Plant, Peter Baines.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th November 2010

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th November 2010 were approved by the meeting and were signed by the Class Captain.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2011

The Class Captain asked for comments on the accounts, but there were no questions and the accounts were approved by the meeting.

5. Fees and Subscriptions for 2012

No changes to the Fees and Subscriptions were proposed.

The Entrance Fee for 2012 shall be:

Husband and Wife as joint full boat owning members	£24
Full boat owning member, and additional full members	£16

The Annual subscription for 2012 shall be:

Husband and Wife as joint full boat owning members	£50
Full boat owning member	£50
Each additional full boat owning member	£50
Existing full boat owning member paying after 1st March	£75
Each Associate member	£20

6. Class Captain's Report

The Class Captain referred to his previously circulated report and the great success of Cowes Week, which had provided challenging racing of superb quality. He thanked everyone who had supported the Class for the Centenary, naming Ted Roose who had successfully raised the profile of the Class, Jeremy Willcock for arranging some of the Centenary events, Peter Taylor for the on-water race management, the members of the Class Committee and the Class Secretary. The Class Captain acknowledged with thanks the strong support the Class had received from Stuart Quarrie of Cowes Week Ltd, who had done everything the Class had wanted. He also thanked Simon Hand who had done a very good job as PRO, helped by an excellent team on the water, all of whom were volunteers.

Stuart Quarrie has asked for all boats to complete the online questionnaire on participation in Cowes Week next year, so numbers of entries can be estimated for 2012. The link would be re-sent to all boats again shortly. It was not known if Aberdeen Asset Management would be sponsoring the XODs again next year as they were currently reviewing their sponsorship programme, but the Class Captain was in touch with them.

The Class Captain said that the coffee table book had exceeded expectations and looked great. He extended thanks to Paul Fisher for his photos, to Niki Cath for collating text and pictures to design the final layout, and to David da Cunha for driving production through to completion on time and budget. Copies were on sale at the meeting and available to order.

The Class Captain said he was thrilled that Andrew, Chris and Alan had won the Captain's Cup 2011. Re the French Regatta, the Class Captain confirmed dates to be end August to early September 2012. He had visited recently and confirmed that it would be a high class act for the PROs, with good accommodation. A minimum of 10 boats were needed and an outline plan was reviewed. The set up on arrival would have an engineer available, there would be two races over four days, and some concessionary rates were envisaged. Stuart Jardine confirmed that the facilities were fantastic from his experience, with hard standing, a pontoon right under the yacht club and accommodation within walking distance. A good trailer was recommended, although there was nothing wrong with the roads and he commended the event and venue to everyone. Neil Payne showed some pictures of the club, port and area. The meeting was informed that the hosts need to know sooner rather than later, ie, in mid Jan, the numbers interested. Neil concluded that it would be a very good holiday, saying that they were taking two crews to share racing with good lunches.

Way Ahead Committee (WAC): the Class Captain confirmed that Mark Hall was taking over the Chairmanship and that the Class Committee with Mark would define the WAC terms of reference. It was intended that issues would be sent to the WAC, who would evaluate and present them to the Class Committee.

Official Measurer: John Wilson wished to retire from the post and had nominated David Gredley to take over. David had built his own Folk Boat at the Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy at the same time as John had built his own XOD. The Class Captain welcomed David to the Class and David stood to introduce himself to the meeting, to thanks and a round of applause.

Webmaster: Paul Fisher was retiring and James Lord from Yarmouth had agreed to take over this role for the Class.

TAC: Rick Walters wished to retire from the chairmanship and was handing over to Vice Chairman Tony Monks. The Class Captain thanked Tony for agreeing to be the TAC Chairman and Tony stood and acknowledged a round of applause.

6.a Marketing Committee Report

Ted Roose reviewed the budget and expenditure for the Centenary which amounted to nearly £70k received from sponsorship and donations and over £50k spent on marketing and events, leaving a balance of over £18k. The MarCom's advice to the Class Committee for the future was that this sum should be used for promoting the Class and helping young people to sail X boats. The MarCom also recommended that XOD news be published again in the future, that the annual statistics be maintained, that press releases should continue when appropriate and that there should be more energetic use of the website.

Ted reported that the MarCom had met for the last time and was now disbanded for the next 100 years. They had held 30-40 meetings over the last 5 years in addition to working on tasks in between. He thanked the MarCom members by name – Nick Dorley-Brown, Neil Payne, John Miller, John Knowles and MOS FitzGerald – for all their hard work.

Asking "How have we done this year?", Ted reviewed the annual statistics which showed that 154 boats raced in the Divisions this year, which was the highest number since records began and at least 20 more than the last 2 years. In addition, 7 boats raced in Cowes Week only this year, giving a total of 161 boats racing in 2011, which was 82% of all boats built. This success was acknowledged with a round of applause.

6.b Centenary Committee Report

Jeremy Willcock reported that it had been an incredible year all year, starting with the first party in February. He was delighted that the RYS Breakfast with HRH attending had been a sell out and the Centenary Dinner for 400 had been beyond all expectations. It had been very exciting and the enthusiasm had flowed over all the year, which was a good sign for where the Class was going. Jeremy commented that for him personally, the most exciting event was the Round the Island Race, with the cannon firing for the 6 am start and the fleet sailing off into the morning dawn. With the fleet finishing within 10 minutes of each other, he said the race had been a credit to the Class and to everyone.

The Class Captain reported the news that Richard Field's book of the history of each X boat was well advanced and said that Richard was to be commended for his endeavors with this historical study of every boat.

6.c Technical Advisory Committee Report

The Class Captain thanked Rick Walters as retiring Chairman and Tony Monks as incoming Chairman and gave credit to Chris Stannard for reviewing and re-writing the XOD Rules. Tony Monks confirmed that the Rules re-write was to clarify and improve their order. Chris Stannard presented each of the resolutions and reviewed them in detail against the Class drawings and the existing rules. Comments were invited during the presentation and there was discussion on each resolution, starting with Resolution 4 because it included the overall re-numbering as well as minor changes for clarity.

7. Resolutions

RESOLUTION 4 RULE CLARIFICATIONS Proposed by the Class Committee

During discussions, the meeting decided that three changes were required to Resolution 4.

New rule C.6.2.d: the words "The top of" to be inserted at the beginning, to read: "**The top of** the headsail shall be set inside the forestay, in that the attachment points and halyard sheaves shall be behind and/or below the attachment points for the forestay."

F.6.3.a (ii): the words “The centres of” to be inserted at the beginning, to read: “**The centres of** the chain plates shall be no closer than 254mm [10in] apart and positioned close to the deck edge as shown in the official drawings.

C.8.2.a (new rule number C.6.2.a) on setting the headsail so that the sailcloth in the foot at the tack is at least 102mm (4in) above the level of the deck covering at the stem head: Rory Paton queried that the intention was for when the boat is beating to windward, and following discussion, it was decided to delete this rule change from Resolution 4.

Results of voting: all FOR, subject to the above changes. Resolution 4 was **carried**.

RESOLUTION 1 FIVE YEARLY WEIGHING Proposed by the Class Committee

Mark Hall queried how this would work with the requirement for weighing 6 weeks after a boat goes in the water as this could require all boats to be weighed in the same week. Chris Stannard explained the proposal allowed for weighings to be up to six weeks at the latest and that each Division is encouraged to have their own load cell. Neil Payne clarified that weighing was after major re-structural work or every five years. It was agreed that cross-reference to the 6 week rule should be added.

Results of voting by show of hands: all FOR. Resolution 1 was **carried unanimously**.

RESOLUTION 2 MAST POSITION Proposed by the Class Committee

The Class Rules and the Official Drawings do not say the same and in the Rules, the word centerline means the centerline of the boat, not the centerline of the mast. Tom Tait, as a previous TAC Chairman and signatory on the current Official Drawings, pointed out that the distance from the stem to front of the mast used to be 6 feet originally, but in 1981 it was decided to make it 6ft 2in from stem to centerline of the mast. Chris Stannard showed the relevant parts of the Official Drawings with the TAC note that cutting into deck beams was not recommended. He confirmed that some boats had the main deck beam slightly further too far aft and this relaxation allowed them to get the 6ft 2in measurement. Boats that have had the main beam cut or modified in order to achieve a measurement of less than 6ft 2in, can fit a wooden stop using epoxy or screws to re-instate the beam. It was confirmed that the reason for the proposed resolution was to make the rules agree with the drawings. The resolution was not being proposed because of concern over boat structure for those with cut deck beams. Tony Monks confirmed that it was an attempt to go back to the design intent of the drawings.

Results of voting by show of hands: Majority FOR, Tom Tait AGAINST. Resolution 2 was **carried**.

RESOLUTION 3 MAST ATTACHMENT POINTS Proposed by the Class Committee

The position of the forestay was reviewed on a diagrammatic presentation. Measurement of the position of the spinnaker halyard block was agreed as going to the eye of the block. The meeting decided that in rule F.2.3.h, the words “The eye of” should be inserted at the beginning, to read: “**The eye of** the spinnaker halyard block shall be positioned...”

Results of voting by show of hands: all FOR. Resolution 3 was **carried unanimously**.

8. Honorary Membership

Two nominations for Honorary Membership had been made at the Class Committee meeting in October and the Class Captain asked the meeting to confirm the nominations.

Ted Roose was nominated for Honorary Membership in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Class in chairing the Marketing Committee for four years resulting in highly successfully raising the profile of the Class. The meeting unanimously confirmed the nomination.

Jeremy Willcock was nominated in recognition of his successful arrangement of Centenary events for the Class. The meeting unanimously confirmed the nomination.

9. Class Captain for 2011

William Norris was proposed for Class Captain and elected unanimously as Class Captain for 2011. Ted Roose proposed a vote of thanks to the Class Captain which received a round of applause.

10. Class Representatives for 2012

Legal Adviser	William Westmacott
SCRA Delegate	Neil Clifford
Official Measurer	David Gredley
Historian	Richard Field
Hon Accounts Auditor	John Tattersall
Hon Treasurer	Rory Paton
Webmaster	James Lord

11. Class Committee for 2012

Class Captain	William Norris
Deputy Chairman	Peter Taylor
Chairman TAC	Tony Monks
RMYC	Crispin Tombs, Christina Moncur
Parkstone Division	John Edmonds, Jim Adams
Cowes Division	Sarah Ross
Hamble Division	Diana Wilson, MOS FitzGerald
Itchenor Division	Chris Blevins, Richard Bullock
Lymington Division	Rory Paton, John Miller
Yarmouth Division	Neil Payne, Malcolm Taylor

12. Technical Advisory Committee for 2012

Chairman	Tony Monks
Official Measurer	David Gredley
Class Committee	The Class Captain
Cowes Division	David Heritage
Hamble Division	Jonathan Fairchild
Itchenor Division	Nick Davison
Lymington Division	Stuart Jardine
Parkstone Division	Richard Batchelor
Yarmouth Division	James Meaning

13. Way Ahead Committee for 2012

The Class Captain announced a reforming of this committee and proposed Mark Hall as Chairman, which was seconded by Neil Payne. Each Division will be invited to nominate a member to the committee and the Class Committee would decide on their remit. The remit would be circulated to the Class and points from members were requested to be channeled to the Way Ahead Committee via their Divisional representatives.

14. XODs in France, 31st August – 4th September 2012

The Class Captain pointed out that the dates had changed from those in the agenda. The plan was now to travel out on 29th or 30th August and rig boats on Friday 31st. Racing would be the 4 days from Saturday 1st to Tuesday 4th September 2012. There was discussion on possible deals to be had from Brittany Ferries and accommodation providers if there was a block booking. A project manager may be appointed to coordinate the event. An estimate of numbers interested would be needed early next year.

15. Any Other Business

Tom Tait proposed a vote of thanks to the Class Captain on the conclusion of a highly successful and memorable Centenary year, which was confirmed with a round of applause.

Date of next AGM: Saturday 1st December 2012

There being no further business, the Annual General Meeting closed at 18.43 hrs.

PRESENTATIONS AND PRIZE GIVING

The Annual General Meeting was followed by Presentations to Charity.

The Class Captain presented a cheque for £2,625 to **Sailability**, which was gratefully received by Pat Dodd, Trust Chairman, on behalf of the charity. Pat thanked the Class for the generous donation and read out a letter she had received from one of their sailors which described the benefits they had experienced with Sailability.

The Class Captain presented a cheque for £2,625 to **Toe in the Water**, which was gratefully received by Lloyd Hamilton, Director of Racing, on behalf of the charity. Lloyd thanked the Class for the generous donation and described their work with ex-service personnel adding that, as a small charity, this donation would make a big difference.

The Presentations to Charity were followed by the annual Prize Giving. The Class Captain thanked Mrs Lesley Norris for presenting the trophies.

The Class Captain announced that the Cowes Town Regatta Committee had kindly provided a prize for each boat that had started in their regatta on Thursday 11th August. The prizes, in the form of an engraved Gill knife, were to keep and one person from each boat was invited to collect their Keepers Prize from the Class Secretary.

This concluded the proceedings.