

Brightlingsea One Design Owners' Association

Annual General Meeting

10am Saturday 28 November 2015

Colne Yacht Club, Brightlingsea, Essex

In Attendance:

Bob Richardson – outgoing Chairman (C28)
Alan Hicks – outgoing Vice Chairman/incoming Chairman (C54)
Jeremy Newman – outgoing Secretary (C32)
Dick Stephens – Treasurer
Phil Rust – incoming Vice Chairman (C16)
Fiona Brown – incoming Secretary (C51)
David Chivers – Chief Measurer
Malcolm Goodwin (C4, C1)
Nick and Pam Readings (C5, 17, 24, 40, 43)
Tom Sergeant & Ian Werngren (C6)
Danny Fox (C8)
Dan Willett & Colin Willett (C9)
Rob Maloney (23) + BOD builder
John Saker (C25)
Simon Hipkin (C26) + BOD builder

David and Celia Charlton (C30)
Richard Austin (C44)
Mark White (C53)
Geoff Gritton (C56)
Mark Wilby & Phil Holding (C75)
Barry Newman
Dave Draper
Bob Hedger

Apologies for Absence:

Eddie & Ann Howson
Graham Bridle (C31)
Mike Hare
Brian Walker (C25)
James Anderson (C55)

Rob White – BOD builder
Mike Hempsted (C18)
Debbie Wilby
Sue & Adrian Bouckley (C50)

Jeremy Newman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for taking the time to attend the AGM.

Minutes Of The Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 January 2015 were proposed as an accurate record by Fiona Brown, seconded by Bob Richardson and approved unanimously.

Matters Arising From Minutes

There were no matters arising not already covered under the Agenda.

Chairman's Report

In his report Bob Richardson highlighted the ongoing development of the fleet with the refitted C75 The Mike and C44 Janice and new build C50 Eider all joining the fleet in 2015. He also looked forward to welcoming Geoff Gritton's brand new C56 Never Say Never in 2016 and commented on the high level of activity going on in the fleet in preparation for the 2016 season including a major refit for C30 Blue Peter.

With 23 boats racing in what was without doubt the most hotly contested Pyefleet Week ever and with boats heading off on tour to spread the BOD word, including Mike Hempsted going to La Semain Du Golfe Du Morbihan classic boat festival in Brittany and Alan Hicks and Fi Brown once again representing the fleet at the Bosham Classic Dinghy Regatta, the Association continues to thrive.

Bob was also very encouraged to see so many younger sailors joining the fleet and thanked Mark Wilby for spearheading an excellent social programme. He also thanked all the families of the BOD sailors for their incredible support too.

With the possibility of a 30 strong fleet now within sight he also commented on the increasing number of bumps and wryly commented that perhaps a rules seminar would not go amiss. He closed by noting what a great boat the BOD is and paying tribute to the tireless efforts of the forefathers of the fleet like Malcolm Goodwin, Alan Hicks and Tom Sargent who kept the fleet going through the wilderness years and have worked tirelessly to revive the fleet to it's current fantastic strength. He also thanked Nick and Pam Readings and their family and Marilyn Hempsted and Graham Chasney who generously run all the BOD racing at CYC.

Treasurer's Report

Dick Stephens presented the Treasurer's written report and ran through the figures. It was advised that no changes to the membership fees or royalty fees were proposed for 2016. The Treasurer's report was proposed by Phil Rust, seconded by Geoff Gritton and unanimously accepted.

Election Of Officers & Technical Committee

The following nominations for class officers were proposed to the meeting by Bob Richardson and seconded by Colin Willett and unanimously approved by the meeting:

Chairman – Alan Hicks
Vice Chairman – Phil Rust
Treasurer – Dick Stephens

General Sec – Fiona Brown
Sailing Programme Sec – Jeremy Newman
Social Sec – Mark Wilby

The following nominations for the BODOA Technical Committee were proposed by Alan Hicks, seconded by Dick Stephens and unanimously elected by the meeting:

Phil Rust – Chairman

Malcolm Goodwin

Alan Hicks
Mark White

Brian Walker
John Saker

In addition, the following were approved as Co-Opted members of the Technical Committee:

Rob White – White Formula
Simon Hipkin – Simon Hipkin Boat Builder

David Chivers – BOD Chief Measurer

Sailing Programme (Courses/Starts/Start Times)

Jeremy Newman presented the draft 2016 sailing programme. He noted the presentation to the class of two new trophies, one from Brightlingsea and District Rotary Club and the other from Mark White in memory of his father Reg White. Both trophies will be used for BSC events.

Malcolm Goodwin commented that he felt the fleet was becoming too focused on Pyefleet Week. He would like to encourage more 3 race mini series sailing. Nick Readings confirmed that he and the CYC team are very happy to run more 3 race mini series and he will liaise with Jeremy about which events could be scheduled as 3 race mini series. David Chivers and Fiona Brown will liaise with CYC regarding the necessary amendments to formalise the 3 race mini series instructions within their BOD NOR and Sailing Instructions.

It was agreed that there would be no changes to the BSC or CYC start times for 2016.

Jeremy noted that we may need to find volunteers from the fleet to assist Nick in the rescue boats and with OOD duties. Dan Willett volunteered to assist Nick on 5 June.

Phil Rust questioned whether there were now too many events in the programme and it was agreed to keep this under review.

Dan Willett suggested an Open Meeting and Jeremy noted that attempts had been made to schedule an open meeting with BSC for 2016 but a suitable date could not be found. It was agreed that as the BOD is the club's largest active fleet further efforts should be made to facilitate an open meeting in 2017.

Class Rules

The following addition to the class rules was approved

C.7.2 FITTINGS

(a) USE

(5) A prodder not longer than 200mm may be fitted at the stem head to catch the spinnaker sheet.

The transfer of VHF's from Optional to Mandatory equipment was also approved. The revised Mandatory equipment list now reads:

C.5.2 NOT FOR USE

1. (a) MANDATORY
 1. (1) Oars or paddles capable of propelling the boat.
 2. (2) Rowlocks if oars are carried.
 3. (3) VHF Radio/s

In addition, a proposal to remove the limitations on the position of the mainsheet traveler stops was discussed. It was agreed that there was a slight advantage to being able to fully centre the main in light airs, but equally there were disadvantages and safety concerns in allowing adjustment of the stop positions between races. An initial informal vote on the change produced 6 votes for and 6 votes against so the matter was referred to the Technical Committee for review for the 2016 AGM.

BOD Moulds & Patterns

Fiona reported that investigations into class and mould insurance had produced quotes that were considerably higher than expected. Phil Rust and Nick Readings agreed to pursue the matter and seek alternative, more affordable options. The moulds remained stored on Nick Readings premises where they are insured under his insurance.

Social Programme

It was agreed that following the cancellation of the BOD Halloween Party at CYC due to poor ticket sales the 2016 social programme would be kept the just four key events as follows:

30 April – BOD Annual Dinner at BSC

16 July – BOD Summer Party (night before Three Creeks Crawl) hosted by Mark & Marianne White

1 August – BOD Night At Pyefleet Week

16 October – Final Fling Lunch

Mark Wilby was thanked for all his hard work in coordinating the social events and Mark and Marianne White were thanked for volunteering to host the 2016 BOD Summer Party.

Website

It was agreed that the website continues to provide the services we need and no significant changes are required for 2016.

Crew List

Fiona confirmed that there is an actively maintained crew list on the website and if anyone is looking for crew or would like to crew they should contact her with their details.

Any Other Business

CYC Race Management

Alan Hicks reported to the AGM that he, Bob Richardson and Fiona Brown had met with Graham Chasney and Robin Cole of the Colne Yacht Club to clarify their arrangements in regard to BOD race management. The opportunity had been taken to run through all key aspects of which the majority were already correctly administered/managed. Areas where updating and improvement were needed were identified as Risk Assessments, Signing Off/On and Retirement procedures, specific BOD rescue instructions for rescue boat crews, formal race result record keeping, race management training, rules observance.

To address the areas where improvements were needed CYC has agreed to update its Risk Assessments relating to BOD activities, update its Major Incident Plan, update their SIs to require boats to sign on and off with the committee boat stating the number of crew and to advise the committee boat of retirements (either in person or by VHF).

Alan advised the meeting that this new rule will see the CYC require boats to carry a VHF. Those needing to purchase a VHF should advise Fiona Brown who will then negotiate a bulk purchase deal. Nick Readings advised that they always have spare VHFs available for loan if you arrive at your boat and realise you have forgotten your VHF.

It was also agreed that the Class would produce a list of boats with regular crew names and emergency contact numbers which would be held in both the CYC and BSC offices so that contact details and an indication of who might be racing in each boat would be available in event of a serious emergency. Fiona Brown will contact the members to request their likely crew names and contact details and this information will be updated regularly (at least annually).

CYC currently provides one combined Rescue/Committee boat and one rescue boat for BOD races and these are run voluntarily by Nick Readings and his family, Marilyn Hempstead and Graham Chasney. It was recognized that whilst this group will continue to provide cover, there may be occasions when additional volunteers from the BOD fleet would be needed to help man the boats.

It was agreed that everyone would welcome a Racing Rules Seminar. CYC have indicated they may run a seminar and information will be shared with the fleet when available.

Buoyancy Bags

Alan Hicks presented a discussion paper regarding the safety issues surrounding the use of inflatable buoyancy bags in BODs. The paper recommended that inflatable bags should not be used as there is a risk of their failure through age or puncture on sharp fittings and they should be replaced with foam block buoyancy of the type used by Malcolm Goodwin (Malcolm has generously provided a set of templates for cutting the foam which are held by Alan). The meeting unanimously agreed that this was an important issue and that for the

2016 owners with buoyancy bags would be advised to voluntarily switch to solid foam. The matter was referred to the Technical Committee to draft a rule change proposal for the 2016 AGM to formalise this as a rule requirement.

BOD Representative On BSC Sailing Committee

Alan proposed that Fiona Brown be asked to represent the class at the BSC Sailing Committee meetings and this was unanimously agreed.

Compulsory Reefing

Tom Sargent proposed that a rule be introduced to require boats to reef over a certain wind strength. Barry Newman suggested that it might be better to require boats not to fly their spinnakers over a certain wind strength. The various safety and practical issues surrounding such rules were discussed and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Technical Committee for review.

Courtesy To Other Fleets

Dick Stephens asked the fleet to give greater consideration to other fleets, and in particular to the cadets, when we are racing. With such a large fleet and such close and intense racing it is easy to overlook the presence of others on the race course and there have been a few incidents recently where BODs have not respected the rights of others racing. It was agreed that the fleet should set a good example and everyone would endeavor to remain alert for other fleets.

Courses

Alan Hicks reported that he, Malcolm Goodwin, Jeremy Newman and Piers Lambert have been working to revise the BSC courses for both regular racing and Pyefleet Week.

This also brought up a discussion about confusion regarding which course card should be used for BSC racing. It was confirmed that for BOD fleet racing the BOD courses should be used, but when the BODs are racing in handicap and pursuit events (Thursday nights, Round The Islands, etc) then the course will be set from the main BSC card.

Memberships

Everyone was reminded to pay their membership fees to Dick Stephens asap.

Meeting Closed

There being no other business Alan Hicks closed the meeting at 12.55 by thanking everyone for their ongoing support of the Brightlingsea One Design Class.