

NECRA Committee Meeting - 25 September 2019



Start: 19.30 Chairman: Ian Lynch Close: 22.00 Minutes: Steve Marsden

Attendees:

Ian Lynch, Steve Marsden, Larry Wilkinson, Dave Wheldon, John Anderson, Shaun Houghton Birrell, Stuart Armstrong, Kelvin Mayson.

Minutes of last meetings

The minutes of the meeting of 28/03/19 were approved as an accurate record. The minutes of the open AGM of 25/9/18 were accepted as not complete but as well remembered as possible.

Review of 2019 Season

LW – probably the best season we've had in some time with more boats registered for NECRA and more boats taking part in racing. Everyone agreed that cruiser membership should continue with 7 boats registered and interest in starting a cruising program. There was also cruising members who had started to race.

SM – social gathering at events was crucial to promoting and increasing interest. The social program needs to be more accessible, detailed and more accurate.

JA – discounted moorings a big plus to attracting participation. LW – only 2 trips to Whitby and cost was covered.

JA – there was misinformation on the program of events with regard to SYC opening and the Marina discount. DW – there were issues both at the Club and Marina that were being dealt with and shouldn't be a problem next season.

JA – although Facebook was a good source of information not everyone used it and there should be another more accessible source. LW – going to create a dedicated menu option on the website. SM – going to look at how that should be presented.

LW – impressed that on the overnight race photos had been posted on Facebook at the start of the race and within an hour there was feedback.

Race results

LW, IL - Race were confirmed, discussion and choice of Best Newcomer and Yacht of the Year.

SHB – discussion of trophy and winter series with each race possibly having a presentation in the club house at the end of racing.

IL - THYC had nearly double the entrants over 2018. Marina mooring deals and active participation of the Marina a large factor in promoting this.

Winter Series plans

KM was asked if he could sort out 8 volunteers to do OD duties.

SHB – outlined the plan for winter berthing at £275 and similar discounts for a lift and wash off before the series starts. Suggested that there should be a presentation (plaque or certificate) in the club after each race to promote social meeting of competitors.

KM – suggested a small sticker as a recognition of a win.

LW – should membership be from April to March or from Jan to Dec? The website automatically changes all dates on 1st January so can't carry over membership from one year to next.

IL – last year's joiners for the 2018/19 Winter Series were told they would get full 2019 membership.

DW – suggested that full membership start from 1st January and new joiners for the Winter Series be charged £7.50 for the period up to the end of December when all membership finishes. To finish the Winter Series they would then need to re-join and pay full membership for the 2020 season. This was agreed.

IL – asked KM. Issue with racing marks being washed away during the winter series, could THYC include more courses to increase the options for the Winter Series? KM would discuss it with race committee.

LW – the grid form of courses sheet should be reinstated. SM – still has up to date copy of that and would distribute it.

Accounts

SA – bank account marginally higher (£100) than last year despite more spending on flags, posters and prizes. SM – expenditure still within the income.

IL – asked club reps to confirm there were no outstanding bills for wine/prizes. This was confirmed by all. DW & LW – considered that £1700 wasn't a big enough credit. Should be £2000 - £3000. IL – what did we need that credit for? It was decided we should have a minimum credit of £2000 to cover 2 years of low membership.

SM – The income should be dedicated to promoting and improving the events for the members. As long as we keep our spending within our income so the account slowly grows.

SM – membership should be increased to £20 for 2020, it is still good value and at the AGM it should be justified in that we want to improve the social features of our events. There was agreement to this.

JA – the prize giving and social experience should be consistent at every event.

SM – a spending plan should be prepared for the 2020 season. It was agreed to look at it at the next meeting.

Sailing Instructions

LW – sailing instructions were all available in good time except for RNYC regatta. There were some slight inaccuracies but these were corrected.

SM – there was an issue with some clubs using M1 rather than M2 which was a problem when sailing between clubs. Sailing Instructions need to emphasis which clubs and Marinas use which VHF channel.

2020 Race Program

LW & IL – leave next year's program the same as 2019. It worked well and should be put forward at the AGM unless there are other suggestions from members.

SM – suggested that NECRA boats should do all of the Saturday races at each regatta. This was rejected. General agreement that 2 races were enough.

KM – we should make a special effort for the NSR as 2020 was a 30^{th} anniversary year. To be discussed at the next meeting.

SA – proposed that we should take on a Cruising secretary to organise a cruising program. He had a person in mind and would approach him to see if he was interested.

Bank Account

IL – there was a need to change the bank we use because the current one didn't do online banking. There was also only facility for one signatory. This was approved.

Other Business

IL – were current officers willing to continue in their role? Chairman and Secretary agreed to continue.

SA – would continue but would step back if possible

IL – the posts should be opened for the membership to nominate new officers. SM – would contact all members to ask for nominations for the posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Publicity Officer and Treasurer.

SM – was there a need for a Social secretary? The club reps. did that function.

IL & JA – there was a need to define the roles of the club reps.

JA – should we do some of our meetings at Scarborough and Blyth to attempt to involve them more.

LW – all clubs got details and invitations to our meetings and events. There were certain individual interests but no club involvement. SM had contact with the racing secretary at both Scarborough and Blyth and would continue to keep talking to them.

Next meeting:

Would be the AGM on the 24th October