

Minutes of 64th Annual General Meeting

11 August 2014

East Down Yacht Club, UK

1 President's Welcome

Duncan Greenhalgh welcomed those members present.

He noted the difficult conditions on the water earlier in the day caused by the severe winds and thanked East Down Yacht Club for their efficient handling of both the situation on the water and the arrival of emergency services and media on the shore.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Chris Beddow, Andy Chapman, Steve Ellison, Adrian Dence, Liz Hall, John Salomonson and Oliver Shaw.

3 Minutes of 63rd Annual General Meeting

No Matters Arising were raised.

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting
Proposed: David Rowlands Seconded: Dave Young
Vote: Carried by a show of hands

4 Secretary's Report

Mark Collingwood presented his report (Summary attached)

Matters Arising:

Curley Morris pointed out that sails produced under the In House Certification (IHC) scheme may not measure as it does not have any requirement for specific class training. Jimmy McKee suggested that IHC sail makers should be trained by the Association. The President asked the Technical and Rules Committee to review.

Ian Sinclair expressed his disappointment that insufficient effort had been made to use the Association Boat and that it had recently been sold. Ian Dobson suggested that good deals from manufactures were available that could enable us to buy another.

Tim Harper said he thought it was a shame that Howard Davies week may not happen. The president agreed and that if lack of numbers made it unviable the Association would seek other formats to train-up our youth fleet.

5 Report and Accounts

Paul Bowmer presented the Association's Accounts for the period ending 30th September 2013.

The accounts can be found in the member's section of the website.

Motion: To accept the Accounts for the Year Ended 30th September 2013
Proposed: Graham Knox Seconded: Steve Haywood
Vote: Carried by a show of hands

The Treasurer did not propose any increase in subscriptions for 2015

Motion: Not to raise the subscriptions for 2015
Proposed: Paul Bowmer Seconded: Steve Haywood
Vote: Carried by a show of hands

6 Election of the Accountants

Motion: To re-elect Sergeants as the Association's Accountants
Proposed: Paul Bowmer Seconded: Graham Knox
Vote: Carried by a show of hands

7 Election of the Officers and Directly Elected Members of the Committee

The president noted that after many years of loyal service to the Class Liz Hall had decided to retire and proposed a vote of thanks. This was seconded by Ian Dobson.

Gill Beddow said this was being considered by the Championship Committee.

11 Closing of the Meeting

The President formally closed the meeting thanking the many members attending.

Mark Collingwood
August 2014

Summary of the Secretary's Report

**64th AGM of the G.P. Fourteen Class International Association
Monday 11th August 2014 East Down Yacht Club
Secretary's Report**

Secretarial

Class Administrator

Sue Sinclair retired at Christmas after many years with the Association. I would like to formally record our thanks to Sue for her enthusiastic work and support and wish her an Ian a long and happy retirement. Julie Courtney was the successful applicant for the role and was appointed in time for a handover period during November and December. We have agreed to contract with Type-it, Julie's office services company. Amongst other benefits, this enables the association to offer 5 day-a-week telephone service to members, whilst making savings on office and overhead costs.

Trustees

Graham Baker has retired from his position as Trustee and I would like to record our thanks to Graham for his dedicated work in a variety of roles during a long association with the Class. Graham Knox has kindly agreed to be appointed in his place.

Association Boat

Due to poor utilisation of the association boat, the committee decided earlier this year to sell it. It was advertised at current market prices and a competitive offer accepted.

Child Protection Officer

Ann Penny, Vice President, has agreed to act as Child Protection Office and has published a policy for use at Championship events.

Boat Archive

Hugh and Owen Brazier have completed the scanning of the boat archive to preserve our historic records of each boat ever built.

ISAF

After the mandate from last year's AGM David Rowlands has led our application for full ISAF membership, which is a requirement of us continuing to holding World Championships. This has been approved in principle and we are now waiting to receive the draft membership agreement.

Class Insurance Scheme

Graham Knox continues to be the main contact and negotiator for the Class Insurance Scheme that both provides a useful source of income and valuable event sponsorship. We need to continue to encourage as many members as possible to insure their boats in the scheme.

Membership

Membership now stands at 1019 which is 40 more than this time last year. Whereas we do not expect our membership ever to grow significantly, it is good to see that the inexorable membership decline in recent years appears at least to be slowing.

Committee Minutes

Committee minutes are now being posted on the member's area of the website.

Treasury

Balancing of Income and Expenditure

A key task for 2013/14 has been to bring our expenditure into balance with our income. The Treasurer has led this task and will be reporting on this himself.

Jack Holt Royalty

We are now in commercial discussions with Holt Marine about the requirement to continue payment of Royalty originally due to Jack Holt.

Championship Committee

Championships

Gill Beddow, the Championship Secretary, continues to work tirelessly with her committee to provide a full championship programme with sponsorship.

Apart from more visible 2014 World Championships here at East Down and UK Grand Prix series with the popular 'End of Seasons' black tie supper and Prize Giving, Gill has also been booking top venues for future year's including Barbados Yacht Club of 2016 World Championships.

Cruising, Classic and Vintage

It is easy for those of us who only attend Championships to forget that there are other ways to enjoy a GP14! This year we have started to make a concerted effort to better support cruising, classic and vintage events and had our first Classic and Vintage fleet at the Inlands in May. Turnout was poor because we are not disheartened.

Technical and Rules

David Rowlands, Chairman and the Technical and Rules Committee and Jon Close, Chief Measurer, have had another busy year on our behalf.

Boat Builders

So far this year we have 17 completed or pending new boat registrations. As expected in a Worlds year, this is up on last year.

A Boat Builder Policy has been introduced to ensure the Association has a consistent protocol from one committee to the next when approached by a commercial boat builder.

In House Certification

Goacher, H&D and North Sails have joined Pinnell and Bax as sail makers recognised by the Association for in house certification (IHC).

Class Promotions

Liz Hall

After many years' tireless service to the Association, most recently as Editor of Mainsail and Vice President, Liz Hall has decided to retire from the Committee. I would like to thank her for her dedicated support of the Association and help she has given to me in my new role.

Website

Thanks to the hard work of Mike Senior and Andy Bury, we now have our new website. Hugh Brazier has now taken on the job to keep it up-to-date. Please keep sending the articles and news items we need to keep it fresh.

e-Newsletter

Senoaid Young has also introduced a regular e-newsletter which is being sent out by Julie Courtney from the GP14 office.

Dinghy Show

Ann Penny led the team who worked at the Dinghy show this year. We still believe that exhibiting at this event is beneficial to the class both in terms of meeting members but in maintaining the status of the class in the eyes of sponsors and other stakeholders.

Mainsail

Liz Hall handed over Editorship to Mainsail to Ann Penny. We have reduced its size to benefit from the cheaper Small Letter rate. Unfortunately there was a printing problem with the new format that was massively disappointing for Ann and Julie Courtney who had worked so hard on it. We do not expect this problem to be repeated.

We were saddened to hear that Tamasin Cole, who did the layout of Mainsail for many years, died early this year.

International

In addition to our UK and Irish fleets, we continue to maintain contact with fleets in Australia, Sri Lanka, South Africa and North America. It is essential that we maintain these contacts and encourage the fleets to flourish if we are to maintain our entitlement to hold World Championships.

Training

Howard Davis Youth Training Week

We had difficulty in filling the spaces last year there is not enough interest this year to run the week in the same format. We are looking at other ways of supporting youth training and agreed to fund a youth training event in Ireland earlier this year. We are also looking at pursuing some schemes being promoted by the RYA.

Mark Collingwood
Secretary
August 2014

Motions to Change the

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE G.P. FOURTEEN CLASS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

These proposed changes to the Constitution are proposed by the Committee of the Association after discussion and agreement at the meeting held on 26 April 2014.

Proposal 1 - Change of Short Title

This proposal is to update the short title of the Association to bring it in line with the short title that is currently in common use.

Motion 1

Item 1 of the Constitution shall be changed from:

1. *Name - The name of the Association shall be 'The Yachting World General Purpose 14ft. Sailing Dinghy Class International Association and the short title which may be used on all occasions shall be The G.P. Fourteen Class International Association.*

to:

1. *Name - The name of the Association shall be 'The Yachting World General Purpose 14ft. Sailing Dinghy Class International Association' and the short title which may be used on all occasions shall be 'The GP14 Class International Association'.*

This proposal will change the name of the Constitution to 'THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GP14 CLASS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION'

Proposal 2 - Change of Area Boundaries

It is no longer possible to sustain the number of areas defined in the Constitution. The proposal is to reduce the number of areas to 5, in line with the current program of regional championships.

Proposal reduces the size of the Committee by three, such that it will consist of:

- (i) The Officers
- (ii) Up to 5 Directly Elected Members
- (iii) The Five Area Representatives
- (iv) The Chief Measurer
- (v) Two Past Presidents
- (vi) The Secretary for the time being of any authorised branch of the Association
- (vii) A directly elected member to represent non-racing interests

Motion 2

Item 4 of the Constitution shall be changed from:

4. **Administration**—*For administrative purposes Great Britain shall be divided into eight areas by a series of straight lines drawn from Maldon to Ross-on-Wye, from Woodstock to Totton, from the Dovey Estuary to Shrewsbury, along the line of the Welsh Border, from Ellesmere to Buxton (through Nantwich), from Buxton to Skegness, from Buxton along the line of the Pennines to the Scottish Border, and along the Scottish Border. These areas shall be named:*

<i>Scottish</i>	<i>South Wales</i>
<i>North West of England</i>	<i>Midland and East Coast of England</i>
<i>North East of England</i>	<i>South West of England</i>

North Wales

London and South East of England

A program of championships shall be organised each year on a regional basis, the number and format of such events to be decided by the Committee.

to:

*4. **Administration** — For administrative purposes Great Britain shall be divided into five Championship Areas by a series of lines drawn from; Maldon Essex to Ross on Wye, along the line of the Welsh Border, from Ellesmere (through Nantwich and Buxton) to Skegness, and along the Scottish Border. These areas shall be named:*

- **Scottish Area** (North of the Scottish border)*
- **Northern Area** (South of the Scottish border to a line from Ellesmere to Skegness)*
- **Midland Area** (East of the Welsh border and between North and South Areas)*
- **Welsh Area** (West of the Welsh border)*
- **Southern Area** (South of a line between Malden Essex to Ross on Wye)*

A program of championships shall be organised each year on a regional basis, the number and format of such events to be decided by the Committee.

Each Area Representative shall arrange an annual Members meeting to decide future Area activity and select a continuing Area Representative.

Item 5 (a) (iii) of the Constitution shall change from:

(iii) The Eight Area Representatives

to:

(iii) The Five Area Representatives

Mark Collingwood
Secretary

July 2014