

UK International 14 Association
Annual General Meeting
Saturday 23rd October, Itchenor Sailing Club

MINUTES

20 attendees in person – 1 via Zoom

1. Minutes of previous meeting: Aug 2019

2. Hon Sailing Secretary/Chairman's Report

Harvey Hillary thanked the committee for their contribution over a challenging 18 months where Covid limited activity. Special thanks to Robin Pascal for his efforts in delivering a full racing calendar in 2019 and 2020 despite the disruption caused by multiple lock downs and legislation that restricted access to the club.

Perth 2019 provided a successful showcase for the class with a strong UK entry and success in the Team Racing. The delay in the Flensburg Worlds, (rescheduled for 25.07.22 – 5.08.22) proved to be the right choice although it remains uncertain if continued limitations will impact on the Australian contingent

The Tynemouth was also postponed due to Covid and there was no doubt that the number of entries suffered due to the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. TSC managed an excellent event with challenging conditions and well supported socials. The venue possibly deterred some entries with families and this needs to be considered moving forward. With entries below 20 boats, the club made a loss in hosting the event and this triggered a Class Association payment equivalent to three boats plus the costs of the Replica Trophies. This was funded by the increased Association Fees put in place by Andy Fitzgerald

Our class vision document set out an objective to the Nationals attendance back to fifty boats in five years. The last 18 months has seen an ongoing decline in the number of 14's racing in the UK. Hayling Island now has 1 remaining boat, Falmouth – three boats and Lymington – three boats. We must now focus all our efforts on recruiting new sailors and growing the participation in the Open Events and Championships through further development of class

3. Treasurer's Report

Andrew Penman reported a balance of £3300. This included a costs of the Tynemouth Nationals of £950 and £150 for training. We did not attend the Dinghy Show in 2021 so there was a saving of circa £3000 on our planned spend.

4. Training

Kate Nurton reported on a successful Lymington Training Weekend supported by Mark Tait. Three boats attended. The event specially targeted mid-fleet sailors and it was suggested that we continue to place our focus here. A further training event was planned pre-nationals at Tynemouth but this was impacted by Covid. There was also an aim to deliver informal training during open events with sailor lead de-briefs. While this did not happen in 2021, the intention is to do so in 2022.

The proposal is to hold two training events in 2022. Weymouth, Graham and Lymington are possible events.

A successful Armband Cup introduced Six new sailors to the fleet

5. Membership

Richard Dobson reported 57 paid members for 2022 including 'old-boys'.

6. Election of Officers

Harvey Hillary – Chair

Mark Tait – Measurement / Technical

Richard Dobson – Membership / Webmaster

Luke – Media and Promotion

Robin Pascal – Itchenor Class Captain

Harry Kennedy - Social Secretary

Events – Position vacant

Secretary – Position vacant

Training – Position vacant

7. 2022 Racing Program

Robin Pascal proposed a draft ISC Calendar for 2021

Easter Tray 15-17th April

POW Week – Fowey 1-4th June

Weymouth Open – 21-22nd May

Gallon 3rd July

Worlds Flensburg – 25th July – 5th Aug

Walker Team Racing 27-28th Aug

Century Cup 29th Aug

Proposal to use 2nd Windward Mark (Personal Handicap) on Sterika and allow for a mix of mid-day starts and early/late starts

FLEET DISCUSSION

Class Promotion

The members discussed the relative benefit of attending the Dinghy Show and asked if that spend would be better invested in marketing / promotional activity on line or in the production of video content. The suggestion was that the class should identify the target sailor demographic

It was recognised that there are keen sailors who have shown interest in the class but they are not being followed up. There needs to be a better for Crewing or Helming opportunities to be listed online and promoted on social media.

It was discussed that identifying all i14's in the UK should be a priority for the 2022. This would then enable us to 1) create a contact list of all boat owners 2) Increase class association membership 3) provide a mechanism for identifying boats for sale.

The agreement was to use a social media campaign to direct i14 owners to a webform

Working Group – Hugh McLane, Cameron, Luke,

Website

Discussion around the current limitation of the existing site. Richard Dobson highlighted that the current platform will limit future development and a new build would be required. Harvey Hillary reported that the builders of the Musto Skiff Site had quoted for a new site and exporting all links and content. This quote was circa £4,000. Which was considered too expensive.

Andrew Penman proposed that a spend of £1800 should be approved for spend on a new site and that we should identify

Working Group – Richard Dobson, Harvey Hillary, Andrew Penman

Encourage new class association members

It was discussed that membership fees for new members should be waived. This passed by vote. Proposed – Philip MacDonnell – Seconded – Mark Tait

Remove registration fees

Free Coaching

Socials events as way of encouraging participation

It was highlighted by Robin Pascal that we do not promote social events and fail to attract partners to evening event

It was felt the social aspect of the class was key to attracting larger fleets.

Harry Kennedy agreed to join the committee as social secretary

The idea of a London social hosted by the London Corinthian was suggested by Philip McDonnell

Harry, Robin and Luke to work on the promotion of Socials

Class Boat

The members revisited the idea of having a 'class boat' at Itchenor that we could use to attract new sailors to the class. This would also allow us to invite guest sailors to open events or repeat the boat loan programme

The class should look to seek donations to allow us to purchase and maintain a boat.

Harvey Hillary to follow up on identifying a potential donor / sponsor

Robin Pascal to approach ISC for a free stage fees

Peter Bromley offered to help maintain the boat

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 3rd June - Fowey POW