



## **The NECRA AGM meeting 20th October 2022**

**Attendees:** Ian Lynch (Chair), Steve Marsden (Sec), Dave Addison (Tres), David Wheldon (SYC), Larry Wilkinson (Web), John Anderson (WYC), Bill Miller (SYC), John Playle (SYC), Jimmy Carter (SYC), Dawn Wilkinson (THYC), Paul Bryant (THYC), Ian Maychell (THYC), Stephen Passmore (THYC), Shane Moore (THYC), Graham Laws (THYC), Anthony Cooper (THYC).

**Apologies:** Neil Williamson (WYC).

### **Chairmans Report:**

The year has been reasonable successful although the turnout at races has been poor, several events were cancelled due to bad weather and the overall membership is 54, slightly down from last year.

### **Treasurers Report:**

The opening balance was £1880.46 and the closing balance was £2682.46. The increase in funds were largely due to there not being an AGM meal last year.

The only major expenditure were on Flags, Burgees and stickers. The accounts do show expenditure on mooring fees but these are all repaid by participants although there was some still outstanding which would carry over until next year. There had been no other expenses.

### **Election of Officers:**

There had been no new nominations for NECRA officers and there was still vacancies for a Deputy Chairman and a THYC representative.

Ian Lynch (Chairman), Steve Marsden (Secretary) and Dave Addison (Treasurer) agreed to continue in their posts. This was proposed by Larry Wilkinson and seconded by Colin Jackson.

### **Presentation of Trophies:**

Class 1 Inshore – Madhatter, Class 2 Inshore – Boysie, Class 3 Inshore – Tarka

Class 1 Offshore – Madhatter, Class 2 Offshore – Phoenix, Class 3 Offshore – Scorcher.

Best newcomer – Scaramouche.

Yacht of the Year – Madhatter.

### **AGM Open discussion:**

LW – the last races of the season Whitby and Sunderland to Hartlepool seemed not to be as popular. There were clashes with what other clubs had planned. Should we do something different to bring clubs together?

IL – the 2 events were dogged by bad weather and poor return tides for visitors.

JA – we need to look more carefully at the tides to help with return trips.

DW - Tall Ships race takes place on the weekend of 8th July so we could do feeder races to Hartlepool on 7th July although SYC regatta normally that weekend it could be possibly be moved.

JA – would HML be able to provide moorings for visitors?

IL – had already discussed this with Shaun (HML) who assured that he would accommodate visitors.

JC – it would probably mean that boats would need to be rafted.

SM – we should use this event to incorporate a race with social and food.

Dawn – doing the 3rd race on the Sunday of regattas made the return race tedious.

IL – it was designed to encourage more involvement with the clubs.

SM/NW – Neil Williamson had suggested that NECRA could provide food after the overnight and scrap burgees. The WYC could provide a fixed main at £6 per head. A better quality burgee without a date that all boats could fly would be preferable.

IL/JA – how could we get more involved with ScYC. Their regatta normally in August. The problem there and at RNYC was them not using same rating system.

LW – there were 5 members from ScYC this year and positive interest in joining our events.

SM – we should talk to them about using a compatible system so we could extract our results from theirs. We managed with the Vernon Dawson where Portsmouth was used. Times could be taken directly from the finish times and used in our results.

IL – should we rotate AGM to other clubs or meet virtually?

AC – ScYC were keen on inter-club racing and we should talk to Jimmy Cliff and Sam Kennedy.

CJ – why were so few boats racing considering how many members there were? The NECRA was a racing association and boats were joining but not racing.

LW – NECRA's constitution was also to encourage inter club cooperation and socials. When started there were only 5 races in the program. Were we running too many events?

AC – NECRA events were diluting weekend club participation but mid-week racing was more popular.

Dawn – the more popular races were those that had more social involvement with clubs. The overnight and the Tyne. Racing very daunting for the inexperienced. There is no easy transition between cruising and racing, no provision for women.

JA – the RYA had suggested that boat owners were wary of racing with little experience and little opportunity to gain that experience. It takes time to get people confident enough to join in. Cruiser membership allowed for integration of cruisers and racers. All clubs were experiencing downward spiral of fewer boats taking part. Our long term goal should be to get more boats out – not necessarily racing.

Suggests that we should do a presentation (open meeting) at their clubs to discuss how we might join together.

Dawn – could NECRA get a speaker to do a presentation?

DW – the fee for a speaker could be a 3 figure sum.

Shane – it was a struggle to get crew for weekend events.

DA – 8 boats from SYC were joining THYC winter series, an event started by NECRA although we were not involved this year. Should NECRA sponsor one of the Winter Series?

LW – IORC had modified its rating calculations, for example keel designs and transom width. Is there any update to the NERR rating program?

DW – they were looking at possible modifications taking place at this time. The rule was always a compromise. No rule fitted every boat. The aim was to get the best possible fit.

### **Points to consider at next committee:**

- Next years programme – number of races, regattas, tall ships.
- Presentation to other clubs. Scarborough and Blyth.
- Publicity
- Food at events
- Flags, stickers and trophies
- WhatsApp/Facebook crew finder

**Next Committee Meeting: TBA**