

NECRA AGM 2016

Attendees

Attendees: Mick Lawlor (chair), Ian Lynch (vice chair), Stuart Armstrong (treasurer), Sue Armstrong, Dave Wheldon, Larry Wilkinson, Ken Cameron, Shaun Haughton-Birrell, Ryan McGregor, Rachel Forster, Adam Henderson, Steve Marsden, Shaun O'Malley, Peter Fletcher, Steve Marsden, Peter Marley, Liz McCormick, Ian Holtby, Graeme Boagey, Alan Gidney, Bob Ayerst, Gordon Spencer, Wolfgang Custer, Sarah Legg, David Yates, Peter Watt + guest, Charles Holmstrom.

Apologies.

Dave Broughton, Neil Williamson, Ken Anderson, Allan Henderson, Jimmy Carter.

Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Proposed LW,

Seconded IL,

Accepted Unanimously.

Matters Arising.

KC Finishing Times.

ML – One for the Open Meeting.

Treasurers Report.

Engraving only a bit less than last year even though it was only one year as opposed to five. [Ed Trophies have been polished].

Balance October 2015: £1719.67

Income

Subscriptions:	£360
Bank Interest:	£1.58

Expenditure

2015 AGM Food	£125
Regatta Social	£200
Engraving 2015	£67.5
Engraving 2016	£48

Balance October 2016: £1640.75

Proposed ML. Seconded IL. Carried unanimously

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman began by noting that Larry Wilkinson was celebrating 50 years of NECRA membership.

The clubs were thanked for their support and special thanks were extended to Hartlepool Marina for their excellent support of the events at Hartlepool.

Finally, after three attempts there was a successful race to Blyth and back to Sunderland, and Blyth were thanked for their support of the event. This event helped boost the number of yachts racing offshore, with more this year than every year since 2009 apart from one. Again this emphasised that events are successful if we have good weather and not so successful if we don't.

Finally, the Chairman noted that NECRA is becoming increasingly Hartlepool dominated and proposed that one item for the Open Meeting could be whether there is any way to reverse this.

Elections.

Chair. Mick Lawlor.

Treasurer. Stuart Armstrong.

Vice Chair. Ian Lynch.

Elected unanimously.

There were no nominations for Secretary.

Proposed DW. Seconded CH. Carried Unanimously.

AOB.

None.

Meeting closed at 1959.

Trophies.

Class One. Inshore. Madhatter.

Class One. Offshore. Cocarelle.

Class Two. Inshore. Phoenix 2.

Class Two. Offshore. Phoenix 2.

Class Three. Inshore. Peg.

Class Three. Offshore. Jasmine.

North Sea Race: Icon

Club Trophy. THYC.

Yacht of the Year. Jasmine.

Open Meeting

Finishing Times

KC asked if we had made any progress on getting race officers to finish races rather than have to take our own finishing times.

ML Most people want to sail rather than sit in a tower waiting for finishers.

LW felt it was usual to expect to have to take finish time especially on overnight races.

PM Pointed out that they had some success at Whitby asking non sailing members to stand in with a small stipend.

Inshore Series

The annual discussion on whether Inshore should be a series or a single event was held, although last year the vote was strongly for a single event, this year the vote was very close with no decisive outcome.

The discussion moved on to where and when a single event would be held. During which time it was pointed out by SHB and GS how important social events are as part of the regatta.

Early in the discussion THYC was favoured, but several members supported Sunderland (SM, ML, WK, DW) and there was also some support for WYC (SM). There was some suggestion that we should rotate (SM) the event, or that there might be two regattas as a compromise, or even that there should be a competition to see who does the best event this year for support next year (SHB).

Concerns over mooring at Sunderland were raised (LW), but it was felt that problems from previous years should now have been resolved (DW).

Generally it was felt that the room was open to leaving it to the committee to decide.

Offshore Programme

The discussion started with a question about the Farnes Race.

LW related his disappointment at not being given a start this year in the Farnes race.

Generally the room felt that the programme was good.

There was some discussion about more Friday night races feeding into regattas or other weekend races, however this didn't gain much traction.

AOB

SHB described that there would be a winter series £200 berthing until March for competitors. £38 race registration for non THYC boats.

ML Asked if we wanted to put this series in the NECRA programme.

GS could we offer free racing for NECRA boats. [Ed. The £38 fee is now waived for all boats].

LW asked should we drop the Farnes race? Add another race? E.g. Hartlepool ->Hartlepool via Whitby, or Three Rivers, or Tyne and Back.

CH Stated that these are not as scenic.

SHB asked why not race to Newcastle from somewhere. A consensus seemed to emerge that a 2nd overnight race would be appreciated (GS).

Another suggestion emerged that we could have a race to Newcastle from Hartlepool via Salt Scar bouy with a view to meet up with a race from Whitby to Newcastle. Race to the mouth of the Tyne overnight, then move up-river to Newcastle on the Saturday. SHB felt that the Marina could engage support from Newcastle City Marina.

Sunderland are expecting to race to Newcastle on Saturday 24th June (DW).

We would need to watch out for bridges, but sounds like a possible.