



Start: 19.30

Close: 22.00

Chairman: Ian Lynch

Minutes: Steve Marsden

Attendees:

Ian Lynch, Steve Marsden, Dave Wheldon, Stuart Armstrong, Shaun Houghton Birrell, John Anderson
Apologies from Larry Wilkinson

Approval of last minutes

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2020 Program

Dates from the associated Yacht Clubs were transposed onto last years format. SYC regatta, WYC regatta dates already fixed. IL would approach THYC and DW would confirm RNYC regatta dates. JA – would negotiate with WYC for their Riva Series to combine with NECRA race on 19 Sept.

SHB – the HML pursuit could be moved, dropped or we could find a reason to put it in.

SHB – from the AGM there was a suggestion that there should be a single NECRA regatta that would move yearly between participating clubs. SM & DW considered this not to be a good idea because clubs would need to wait 4 years for their turn but mainly that the idea was to encourage more club participation and by attending their regatta we would get them to join us at our other events.

DW – Cruising part of NECRA producing a lot of interest. Longer distances should be for those who want to cruise.

SA – knows a boat owner who is keen to take on the role of Cruising Secretary and will approach him to develop the role.

IL - How many races should NECRA participate in at club regattas? SM - As far as NECRA was concerned differing number of races at different events was possible by taking overall results as long as the same courses and same start time were used.

DW – SYC was happy to do 3 races and he would approach RNYC to ask if they would also do 3 races.

JA – WYC normally did 3 races. IL – would seek similar agreement from THYC.

IL – races to count would be ½ for Inshore and ½ plus 1 for Offshore.

The provisional program was agreed with the expectation that minor alterations would need to be made as YCs finalised their plans.

Sailing Instructions

SM – asked if his SI's were adequate?

DW – the YC at the end of the race should write the SI but there wasn't anything to stop SM writing the SI and then submitting them to the YC for approval and correction. The provisional SI could be entered on the website under the heading of DRAFT. SM – did take the YC instructions, when available and modify the NECRA version accordingly.

IL – particular notice should be taken of Start Times and Radio channel at individual clubs.

DW – SYC could be changing over to M2 in the New Year.

Mooring Discounts

SHB – HML would still provide discounts for NECRA members at any time and free moorings during NECRA events. He would liaise with Royal Quays and Tyne Quay to secure discounts for the coming year.

JA – would do the same with Scarborough BC to do the same at Scarborough and Whitby.

Prizes and Social provision

IL – it was not sustainable to provide wine for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places on every race. It was agreed that there would be wine prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, in all 3 classes for the overall NECRA winners in each regatta (a total of 9 bottles at each event. 36 bottles in total for all Inshore series).

SM - There should be the same prizes for the 3 long distance and the final race to Hartlepool (12 bottles in total). This is yet to be agreed.

IL – should the provision of burgees continue? There was general agreement that it should a new flag for 2020. SM – burgees would be given to the first placed boats at each regatta or long distance but not multiple to a single boat. The objective was for all boats to get a burgee by the year end.

The provision of 2020 boat stickers needs to be discussed.

IL – there should be NECRA flags which should appear at events to promote NECRA. Perhaps 3 flags at 1.5m, double sided. These could be passed to competitors to display and then returned after. SM agreed to get a price for burgees and flags.

JA – each YC has its own style of catering provision which should be used but what is available should be clear on the program. This may not necessarily be the same at every venue but what is available should be clearly defined before the event. This should also include where there is no provision and if possible give alternatives – places to eat, drink and meet.

DW – we should ask clubs what they are providing and negotiate with the YC. We could make alternative provision if none was available. It was agreed to discuss this further at our next meeting. Agreed action was for reps to ask YC what their intentions would be in relation to social activities for races they were hosting and for that to be brought to next meeting to consider social programme.

SHB – a pontoon party could be arranged where catering wasn't available or at the wrong time of day.

Club Representative Duties

JA – created a document that detailed the desired responsibilities of NECRA, the clubs and the clubs representatives. This document was discussed and with slight modifications, agreed to be adopted as guide for best practice. Agreed action was for reps to share with their clubs with the view of considering any feedback at the next meeting.

Bank Accounts

SA – the bank account needed to be moved from Virgin Money as it was incompatible with our use. It was proposed that we should move to Santander Governors Account with 2 possible signees but only 1 signature needed. This was agreed unanimously with IL elected as the 2nd signatory.

IL – proposal for a person to shadow SA with the intent of taking over the Treasurers role. Agreed

AOB

SHB – asked if there was a target for new members this year and should we have a non-sailing cup/award?

JA – would it be worth doing a survey of members to get their views? To be discussed later.

DW – Dundee had a dick of the day award. Something similar would be good.

Next committee meeting:

The next committee meeting will be 4th February 19.30.

NECRA Job Descriptions

Yacht Club Representatives Tasks and Responsibilities.

1. Representatives should be nominated and authorised by their club to represent them in NECRA business matters.
2. The Club representative shall be responsible for communicating NECRA business matters to and from their club via the NECRA Committee and its officers.
3. In particular;
 - a. To input into the race programme.
 - b. To liaise with the host Yacht Club's race officers in respect of the organisation and management of a scheduled race and to ensure the production of race instructions.
 - c. To liaise with the Yacht Clubs "Social Officers" about the provision and promotion of social activities associated with NECRA events.
 - d. To assist in the dissemination of information to NECRA members through yacht club business such as reporting Necra Business to the appropriate Yacht Club Committee, posting posters and flyers.
 - e. Promoting the benefits of NECRA to Yacht Club Members and the sailing community generally.

EXPECTATIONS OF YACHT CLUBS

4. Yacht Clubs are expected to support the aims and objectives of NECRA in facilitating inter club sailing races and cruising events by;
 - a. Supporting their club representative to carry out NECRA tasks and responsibilities.
 - b. Taking responsibility for managing and organising races for which they are nominated as the host organisation, including the up-to-date and accurate sailing instructions, race officers, and as appropriate a racing committee to consider objections / challenges and the compilation of results.
 - c. The organising of appropriate social activity before and after a race as may be appropriate, including information on such social activities including, venue, start and finish times, food arrangements, price and any other relevant information. To provide that information in good time to the NECRA Secretary to inform the NECRA membership about the package of proposed arrangements around a racing event.
 - d. To take the lead in liaising with local harbour or marinas in regard to the discounted mooring fees available for registered boats participating in NECRA racing or cruising event.
 - e. To encourage the participation of cruising members in parallel to NECRA's racing programme.

NECRA COMMITTEE

5. The NECRA Committee will manage the day to day business of NECRA including,
 - a. The production and publication of the race programme.
 - b. Agreeing any standards and rules to be applied to the NECRA racing and cruising membership, vessels, races and social events.
 - c. The production of flyers and other promotional material regarding NECRA events and business.
 - d. Agreeing membership fees.
 - e. Maintaining the NECRA website.

