



## **The NECRA AGM and Open meeting 17th October 2024**

Attendees: Ian Lynch (Chairman), Dave Addison (Tres), Steve Marsden (Sec), John Anderson (WYC), Dave Wheldon (SYC), Ian Maychell (Web), Colin Jackson (THYC), Anth Cooper (THYC), Phil Ross (THYC), Jimmy Carter (SYC), Bill Miller (SYC), Ken Anderson (THYC), Allan Henderson (Hartlepool Marina), John Hunter (THYC), Mark Frazer (THYC), Richard Marshall (WYC).

Apologies: Larry Wilkinson (Web), Graeme Boagey (THYC), Nath Drake (WYC).

### **Chairmans Report**

This is our first year of only Offshore events with races to and from the venues. No Inshore. NECRA has always been about passage races between clubs. We still encourage our members to join with the clubs at their Regattas but it doesn't figure in our race results anymore.

We are trying to take advantage of club events and get 2 distance races in a weekend by including the return trip as a race as well as taking part in the hospitality offered by the host club. In most cases the format worked well with memorable visits to Scarborough, Whitby, the Tyne and Blyth.

2024 membership - 7 RNYC, 11 ScYC, 10 SYC, 16 THYC, 12 WYC – 56 total

2023 membership – 0 RNYC, 8 ScYC, 14 SYC, 25 THYC, 9 WYC – 56 total.

Of the 9 Offshore events we had boats on every event a total of 69 boats overall and of the 7 return events 3 had no entrants, the other 4 had a total of 25 boats taking part.

The 4 major events are Scarborough to Whitby, Sunderland to Whitby, Sunderland to Hartlepool and Hartlepool to Tyne were all well attended

The weather obviously played a significant part in the programme with dense fog on the way to Blyth, glorious sun and wind on the Vernon Dawson and the return races from Whitby, with strong northerly winds back from the Tyne.

We need to work on coordinating our races with club events, bringing THYC and SYC more into our hospitality plans, bringing the furthest clubs into our programme more but our main goal is to encourage more boats to take part.

Overall it has been a moderately successful year with some excellent racing and visits to more clubs. We hope you enjoyed the programme and have some useful suggestions to make during the open meeting later.

### **Treasurers Report**

Dave Addison presented a brief statement of the accounts.

The membership income of £1020.00 was almost matched by expenditure over the season. There is still remaining stock of NECRA hats, shirts and mugs which will be carried over to next season.

The opening balance was £2489.10 and the closing balance was £2213.57. The discrepancy was largely due to some outstanding payments. Some members may be joining in the mistaken belief that they need to be members to compete in the THYC winter series. Membership could fall.

### Appointments of Officers

In the absence of nominations, the current Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary agree to continue in post. There is a vacancy for a Vice Chairman and representatives from Scarborough and Blyth.

The following were confirmed:

- Chairman - Ian Lynch THYC
- Secretary Steve Marsden THYC
- Treasurer David Addison SYC

The AGM closed at 20:00

### Presentation

#### Trophy NECRA Prize giving 2024

Inshore Class 3 – Ayesha Salver –	TARKA - L WILKINSON
Inshore Class 2 – The Northern Daily Mail Cup -	PHOENIX 2 - C JACKSON
Inshore Class 1 – Whitby Rose Bowl –	CORDON ROUGE – J HUNTER
Offshore Class 3 – Niema Salver –	DRUMBEAT – R MARSHALL
Offshore Class 2 – NECRA CANNON –	PHOENIX 2 - C JACKSON
Offshore Class 1 - Aluminium Sail –	CORDON ROUGE – J HUNTER
Best Newcomer – RNLI Shield –	BISCUIT – J PARKS
Yacht of the Year – Compass Shield -	CORDON ROUGE – J HUNTER
Club Trophy - RNLI Sextant –	TEES & HARTLEPOOL YC

### Glasses Won

Offshore S2B	Class 1 – Auf Wiedersehen Pet	✓
	Class 2 – Phoenix 2	✓
Return B2S	Class 1 – Biscuit	✓
	Class 2 – Phoenix	✓
	Class 3 – High Spirits	○
Offshore Sc2W	Class 1 – Icon	✓
	Class 2 - Phoenix 2	✓
	Class 3 – Nancy Spain	✓
Return W2H	Class 2 Phoenix 2	○
	Class 3 High Spirits	○
Offshore S2W	Class 1 Icon	✓
	Class 3 Drumbeat	✓

Return W2H	Class 1 Biscuit	<input type="radio"/>
	Class 2 Tarka	<input type="radio"/>
Offshore NSR	Class 1 Blue Bear	✓
	Class 3 Nancy Spain	✓
Offshore W3H	Class 3 Drumbeat	<input type="radio"/>
Offshore S2H	Class 1 Still Game	✓
	Class 2 INXS	✓
	Class 3 Midnight Cowboy	✓
Offshore H2T	Class 1 Cordon Rouge	✓
	Class 2 Phoenix	✓
	Class 3 Drumbeat	✓
Offshore W2H	Class 1 Icon	<input type="radio"/>
	Class 3 Drumbeat	<input type="radio"/>
Offshore S2H	Class 1 High Spirits	<input type="radio"/>
	Class 2 Phoenix	<input type="radio"/>
Return H2W	Class 3 Drumbeat	<input type="radio"/>
Return H2S	Class 2 Phoenix	<input type="radio"/>

Open Meeting 8.30

### Club Regattas

JA – disappointed that NECRA were no longer incorporating club regattas in their programme. He recognised the need to support each others events. At WYC 2024 regatta there was food and entertainment from the Friday.

SM – there was poor advertising in the lead up to that event. People were not aware of socials at club.

AC – if you're going to race in club regattas there is a need to take part in all races or it skews the results. Scarborough and RNYC are fortunate that they have enough club boats to make a good event. It would be possible to make the THYC regatta a 1 day event.

JH – last year when he left RNYC to come home on the Sunday he felt guilty leaving before the end but the Sunday race was a long distance and they needed to get home. RNYC did a great social evening and were very welcoming.

AH – if NECRA go back to regatta events it would need a much greater commitment from crew.

JC – If the regatta had a short Sunday race it would be feasible to do.

SM – would SYC be prepared to do a 1 day event – NO

SM – would clubs be prepared to do a shorter race on the Sunday with the NECRA return race starting after 12:00 – YES

AC – this the opinion of those in attendance tonight. What about rest of membership.

SM – my thoughts would be to do a feeder race to every regatta and create an additional Feeder Series with a Return race after the Sunday race. It would give an incentive to get boats to the event to take part in the social and then being position to take part in the racing. If the clubs would restrict the length of Sunday morning races to allow boats to get home

starting the NECRA Return 12ish. We should decide on a way forward and then questionnaire the membership about our proposal.  
IL – a draft programme will be prepared and we'll then seek the opinions of the clubs.

## **YTC**

CJ – is NECRA going to go with YTC rating system?

SM – at this moment in time we have no plans to change. ScYC is the only one to take it on but also use IRC and THYC are going to trial it in 2025. NECRA can only use it when the majority of clubs are using it. We already sail with ScYC and are able to extrapolate results easily as long as we all sail the same course with the same start. It is relatively easy to give a temporary YTC or NERR rating for visiting boats.

DW – SYC have done comparisons on all their 2024 races and there are certain boats that have a significant difference to NERR although 2024 is much better than 2023. If it continues to improve it's probable that most clubs will take it on eventually.

## **Merchandise**

SM – is there any other merchandise that members would like to see available?

JH – if we had a burgee we could advertise our membership of NECRA.

JA – members should get a burgee as part of membership.

SM – the burgees would need to be better quality than the small year flags which fade quickly which would make them more expensive. I do plan to order some to sell.

AH – can you get shirt sizes not in stock?

SM – I can get shirts relatively easily but small quantities are more expensive. Current shirts are of good quality and the base colour blue is our brand colour.

## **Website**

SM - Larry Wilkinson is stepping back from the maintenance of the website at the end of the year and Ian Maychell is stepping in to run it with Larry providing assistance when necessary.

DW – Larry has been involved with NECRA from 2 years after it's creation in 1964 – 58 years of continuous service.

IL – Larry has been the backbone of NECRA and it probably wouldn't have survived without him. It's an amazing record of achievement.

SM – we must think of something to honour this record

DW – whatever that is still wouldn't be enough. I suggest we collate as many things as we can and then debate.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.