



The NECRA committee meeting 19th March 2024

Attendees: Steve Marsden (Sec), Dave Addison (Tres), David Wheldon (SYC), Larry Wilkinson (Web), John Anderson (WYC), Ian Maychell (Web)

Apologies: Ian Lynch (Chair),

AGM minutes: the previous minutes were approved.

Correspondence: None

Website:

LW – the website host has sent a renewal notice of £300 for the next 3 years. Do we accept or shop around. Providers attract you in with a cheap offer (£75 for the last 3yrs) and then stick the price up. Changing provider would result in some work.

SM – in view of the work already done by Larry it would be sensible to accept the cost this time and look at it again in 3 years. What do others think?

Vote: Approved

LW – are we happy with the series names? It could be changed relatively easy.

SM – I can't think of another name. Should we just go with it?

Vote: Approved

LW – how many races should count in each series?

SM – I favour 4 (1/2 + 1).

DA – we can set up a discard profile that would be up to 4 no discard, 5 one discard and 6 two discards.

SM – the Offshore series has 7 races which includes the North Sea Race but shouldn't increase the races to count. What is the opinion?

Vote: 4 to count approved.

LW – do we want non NECRA events to feature on our programme?

JA – it would be good to publicise the club regattas to alert our members to other events and help bring in visitors. WYC changed their regatta dates so as not to clash with THYC.

SM – can we publicise them in any other way. I had started to put the regattas in the Cruiser page.

LW – why not change the Cruiser Programme to Other Events and put details there?

Vote: Approved

NERR:

LW – I can now produce new NERR certificates although they are very slight differences in the rating number but can't easily make certificates available from the website.

SM – I was hoping to put a link attached to the boat name which would allow members to access and print out certificates. Members are requested to carry a current NERR certificate on board at all times.

LW – I can give SM a separate page that will allow him to do that or attach an instruction to contact honsec for an emailed certificate.

SM – we should hide the non-active boats from the list of boats. The certificates must be available to non-members as well as members.

DW – I have a copy of all certificates that were available before the NERR site closed.

SM – would you provide me with those copies and I will produce a certificate if requested?

LW – what is NECRA position with regards YTC.

DW – SYC are watching to see what happens with YTC. There are still lots of problems but anticipates that RYA will start to modify their scheme to accept more differences but also anticipates that they will start to charge for the service.

JA – WYC are also watching YTC encouraging their members to get a certificate but still running with NERR.

SM – NERR still works well as long as we can operate it, it is still relevant.

CATERING:

SM – we have a problem with catering at THYC on 27th July. The club has booked the room for a wedding.

JA – how does that fit with RYA policy of visiting hospitality?

SM – do I have approval to contact various clubs to ensure that room and catering is available?

Vote: Approved

Merchandise and Prizes:

SM – I'm not happy with giving Mugs as prizes this year. Is there an approved alternative?

LW – we have produced many different prizes over the years, glasses, flags, coasters, wine goblets, etc.

SM – what would be a good prize item?

Vote: engraved whisky type glass approved.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

SM – would clubs start looking at Sis that NECRA need for the coming season. We need to see how it will work with current website and Blyth will need to produce some for the first race.

Am I ok to contact them to discuss this?

Vote: Approved

JA – I will contact WYC sailing secretary to organise those needed for the Vernon Dawson, Overnight and Return races from Hartlepool

AOB:

LW – I would like to retire from webmaster at the end of this year. I will still be available to assist but need to withdraw from the work needed to maintain the site. Ian Maychell is getting a grip on the program and with help should be able to take over.

DW – **It should be noted in the minutes that Larry has dedicated many hours over many years not just to the website but to the setting up and evolution of NECRA and without him NECRA wouldn't exist.**

All committee members expressed their thanks to Larry and wished him well.

Action:

SM – revise NOR.

SM – to contact clubs to get catering and Sis.

IM & SM – to meet with LW ref website.

SM – to source glasses as prizes.

Next Committee Meeting:

No meeting arranged – to be called when necessary.