

RS Class Association Management Meeting Minutes 18 March 2024

Online: Microsoft Teams

Chair of Meeting: David Smart

Secretary: Clare Sargent

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p><u>Apologies:</u> Sam Knight (UK RS400), Matt Carter (UK RS700).</p> <p><u>Present online:</u> Lynn Billowes (RS Sailing Marketing UK), James Curtis (Int RS500), Michiel Geerling (RS Sailing Director), Pete Mackin (UK RS300), Jamie Mawson (UK RS600), Paul North (UK RS Vareo), Clare Sargent (Sec), David Smart (UK RS100 and meeting Chair), Will Taylor (UK RS200).</p> <p><u>Welcome:</u> Pete Vincent (PV) was not present at the start of the meeting so David Smart (DS) stood up as Chair. DS welcomed everyone. The suggestion was made that if a fleet chair cannot attend they nominate a fellow committee member to stand in their place.</p>	
2	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting:</u> No matters arising. Minutes approved.</p>	
3	<p><u>Treasurer:</u> Sally Campbell (SC) provided notes for the meeting from Heather Chipperfield the bookkeeper:</p> <p>3.1 2023 Accounts: Overall loss just £515 on a turnover of £45,288. Budget was to make a loss of £7000. The actual loss was less than this due to less loss from Garda than expected, due to negotiation with club and exchange rate, and lower spend on fees than anticipated. Accounts published on website here: https://www.rs200sailing.org/documents/p1hpauuobupet1nd01eka14kofmr3.pdf</p> <p>We have c£57,000 in reserve.</p> <p>3.2 2024 Budget:</p> <p>a. Budgeting on virtually the same income, with an increased spend of c£10k loss to reduce reserve in an organised way.</p> <p>b. Similar income for membership, no fee increase put through for 3 years, will need one next year, will put a proposal to membership. Will need vote to amend constitution if want ability to increase fee without full vote every time eg to increase fee in line with inflation.</p> <p>c. Lower net income from events (all aimed at break-even) and RS Sailing running the 30th anniversary regatta, in place of an RSCA Summers.</p> <p>d. Inflationary increase in fees.</p> <p>e. Doubling coaching spend to £3400, via coaching grants.</p> <p>f. Widening participation eg via women's events.</p>	SC and CS
4	<p><u>Membership:</u> Figures as at February 2024 here: https://www.rs100.org/documents/p1hpds39uh1vfuan9pli1739ags3.pdf</p> <p>Final 2023 membership numbers were down on 2022, virtually all due to drop in RS200 numbers following exceptionally high 2022 with HISC Nationals as reported at the last meeting. Other classes very comparable 2022 vs 2023 except RS800s up >10%. Sailors to encourage friends to join up.</p>	All
5	<p><u>Sponsorship:</u> Thanks to all our valued sponsors.</p> <p>5.1 Rooster National Tour confirmed. There has been a delay in the delivery of the 2024 Rooster National Tour prize caps. Delivery is expected soon. Rooster to continue as RS Class Association clothing sponsor.</p> <p>5.2 Noble Marine Nationals confirmed. Members get discount off their insurance.</p> <p>5.3 Marlow Ropes new sponsor for RS200 Nationals.</p> <p>5.4 RS Sailing kindly donating spinnakers for charity raffle prizes for RS200, RS400, RS700, and RS800 Nationals.</p> <p>5.5 Harken once again sponsoring Sprints.</p> <p>5.6 All RS200 and RS400 regionals sponsors continuing: Sailing Chandlery, TridentUK, Stewart Brewing, West Country Boat Repairs. Thanks to all.</p>	SC and CS, All

	<p>5.7 Sadly no support from Salcombe Gin this year, but would like to thank for last 3 years.</p> <p>5.8 Gap for an Inlands sponsor, and joint sponsor with Noble Marine for Nationals for all but RS200s.</p> <p>5.9 Action point for all to seek and develop sponsor contacts. Looking for sponsorship from £50 upwards. Michiel offered to help with creation of sponsor pack and suggested sharing with all members so they could help. Reminder to everyone to promote sponsors in all event reports and prizegiving photos, and to tag on social media.</p>	<p>Michiel and SC</p> <p>All</p>
6	<p><u>Merchandise:</u> Rooster continue as our clothing sponsor with fleet logo branded clothing available on Rooster website.</p>	CS
7	<p><u>Race documentation:</u></p> <p>7.1 CS has conducted annual race docs review with International Judge Robin Gray.</p> <p>7.2 Robin Gray will take forward his recommendation for shorten course board to be displayed on committee boat to the RYA Race Management Committee. On close examination the RSCA SIs need no change for clarity of shorten course.</p> <p>7.3 Recommendation to continue best practice of PRO and fleet rep consultation before event, daily meetings during event, then wash-up after event in order to provide best race management for all.</p>	All
8	<p><u>Calendar:</u></p> <p>8.1 2024 calendar underway.</p> <p>8.2 2026 RS Games to be held at Travemunde, Germany 25 July – 1st week Aug 2026. End date tbc cos event length tbc 12 to 14 days long. Decision by 21 July 2024. All RSCA nationals to be held in UK.</p>	CS and SC
9	<p><u>Coaching:</u></p> <p>9.1 44 grants awarded so far but more money is available. Encouragement is made for RS400 and RS700 coaching. And coaching in the North and Midlands.</p> <p>9.2 Conditions for the grant remain the same:</p> <p>a. We are able to award £150 per grant towards the cost of a coach, RIB, fuel or other costs.</p> <p>b. Costs above £150 would need to be recouped from a charge to the sailors or met by the host club.</p> <p>c. The group should be a minimum of 5 boats and the day open to sailors from other local clubs - we will post the coaching day on our website calendar.</p> <p>d. Entries can be taken by the club, or via the RS Class association website.</p> <p>e. At least one participant per boat needs to be a member of the RS Class Association or take out one-event membership (can be upgraded to annual membership during the year if required).</p> <p>f. Once the event has run, we ask that the organiser please send a few photos, a brief report (only needs to be a few lines) and an invoice for the £150 to SC.</p> <p>9.3 There is opportunity for sponsors to work with a coaching event. Please contact SC with ideas.</p>	SC
10	<p><u>Technical/Spares:</u></p> <p>10.1 RS200 sail batten as supplied – question whether able to tighten rules. Michiel to chase RS Sailing’s response so matter can be resolved. RS200 gybing strop, obsolete spinnaker pole – class committee to put forward rule change proposal to membership.</p> <p>10.2 RS400 jib cunningham adjustment. Michiel to chase RS Sailing so matter can be resolved (cost of change and stock of current jibs to be advised).</p> <p>10.3 RS600 issues with SuperSpars mast supply ongoing. Selden offered to make trial mast. Recommendation to measure range of masts to come up with new</p>	<p>Michiel</p> <p>RS200 committee</p> <p>Michiel</p> <p>Michiel</p>

	<p>specification. Solution either replacement mast supplier or suppliers in parallel to same spec. Awaiting RS Sailing green light to go to trial. Michiel to chase.</p> <p>10.4 RS300s same issue with SuperSpars mast supply. Awaiting RS Sailing green light to go to trial. Michiel to chase. Pete Vincent very clear that is it vital to safeguard mast supply for all our fleets.</p> <p>10.5 Carried forward from last meeting: progress of standardising RS700 tapered battens with Hyde and RS Sailing?</p> <p>10.6 Michiel to set up meeting with Andy Taphouse (RS Sailing tech lead) and fleet tech reps quarterly to drive action forward. Common problems across fleets noted. CS and SC to supply tech reps names to Michiel.</p> <p>10.7 Lynn Billowes encouraged members to use the RS Sailing Store ticketing system to enable problems to be tracked and therefore resolved.</p> <p>10.8 Paul North gave outline of proposed scheme to build more RS Vareos. RS Sailing and designer Phil Morrison support the idea. JJ Boats proposes to make a mould using current champion boat. Four or five buyers contribute to share the cost of the mould build. JJ Boats to take on the masts, sails and spares. Look to build hulls to be equally competitive with current hulls. Aim to maintain competitiveness in new sail and mast with robust upgrades as required. Need to investigate who would be the new licence holder. RSCA cannot take on any financial liability. Michiel will look to how K6s moved away from RS Sailing and feedback any lessons learned. New RS Vareos will need new name eg just Vareo. To remain within RSCA. Feedback to be made to next meeting.</p>	<p>Michiel</p> <p>Michiel</p> <p>Michiel</p> <p>Michiel</p> <p>CS and SC</p> <p>All</p> <p>Michiel, Paul North, CS</p>
11	<p><u>Secretariat/Class/RS Sailing Relationship:</u></p> <p>11.1 Everyone welcomed Lynn Billowes back from maternity leave.</p> <p>11.2 SC asked Lynn to follow up on sponsorship of new trophies for RS Sailing 30th anniversary as per pledge from Nov 23 meeting.</p> <p>11.3 Michiel encouraged everyone to enter events early to create positive snowball effect. Recommended use of key influencers. Consider offering key individuals charter boats.</p> <p>11.4 It was noted that entry to RS 30th regatta is very expensive. RS will advertise the high value package which the entry covers: meal, goodies, party band etc. RS Sailing will engage with the RSCA on both pricing and entry fee content before the next big event.</p>	<p>SC and Lynn</p> <p>CS and Michiel</p>
12	<p><u>AOB:</u></p> <p>12.1 SC thanked all the fleet chairs for their hard work across the year and their time in attending the meeting.</p> <p>12.2 Lynn asked for sailors to look out any “old skool” RS photos for display in the RS 30th anniversary gallery.</p>	<p>All</p>
13	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>Tbc online. Conference call details to be sent with calling notice, in agenda and in email text too.</p>	<p>All</p>