

CHICHESTER CRUISER RACING CLUB

MINUTES of the 29th Annual General Meeting held at Chichester Yacht Club on Saturday, 12th November, 1977, commencing at 11.30 a.m.

Present The Commodore (J.A. Cunnison), Vice Commodore and Hon. Treasurer (F.A. Giles), Hon. Sailing Secretary (N.J. Froy), Hon. Secretary (J.D. Bence) and 22 members.

1. Apologies for absence were received from W. Courtney, A.D. Michaels, D. Lattey and R. Tait.
2. The Minutes of the 28th Annual General Meeting were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.
3. Matters arising There were no matters arising.
4. Commodore's Report A copy is attached to these minutes.
5. Hon. Sailing Secretary's Report A copy is attached to these minutes.
6. Hon. Treasurer's Report

1976

A Statement of Income and Expenditure is as attached to these minutes.

The Hon. Treasurer welcomed the services of our new Hon. Auditor, Paul Chivers. With his advice the accounts are presented in a new form which it is felt will give a more accurate picture of the years working in relation to Subscriptions and Income.

Members may find a minor difficulty in carrying forward exact figures from previous accounts but there are always minor anomalies when a new system is started.

We were much indebted once more to D. Roxburgh who undertook printing arrangements for the Club Booklet and Headed paper at a substantial saving on previous costs. With this saving, the increased subscription, and some surplus from social events, the year ended with a comfortable surplus of income over expenses, which has been carried forward to 1977.

In the 1976 accounts there is a new item of expenditure (£20) for Public Liability Insurance. This will repeat for future years and the Club will continue to be insured against claims from the Public in connection with its activities as the Chichester Cruiser Racing Club. The cover extends to our visits abroad and to our Social Occasions. It does not relieve Members of their required individual Insurance in accordance with our Yacht Registration and Declaration Form.

The year ended with 90 fully paid up Members, 14 of whom joined during 1976.

1977

The Hon. Treasurer added that during 1977 and partly as a result of the carry over from 1976 it has been possible to return £150 to the Reserve Fund which now stands at approximately £384.

It is anticipated that 1977 will end with a surplus of income, from all sources, over expenditure.

During the year 11 resignations were received, 12 were struck off the list carried forward from 1976 for non-payment of subscriptions, 22 new members joined making current membership 86 fully paid, 4 Honorary, and 2 Associate.

The accounts were approved following a proposal from P. Cooke seconded by G. Calvert, whilst the proposal to maintain the subscription at £15 was put by H. Caldwell, seconded by D. Silver and carried unanimously.

7. Election of Officers The resignation had been received, that of N.J. Froy, referred to in the Commodore's address. All the Officers offered themselves for re-election. On the proposal of R. Morris, seconded by P. Cooke they were re-elected for a further year.

P. Cooke was proposed by J.A. Cunnison and seconded by N.J. Froy as Hon. Sailing Secretary, and elected unanimously.

The Officers for 1978 are:

Commodore	J.A. Cunnison
Vice Commodore and Hon. Treasurer	F.A. Giles
Hon. Secretary	J.D. Bence
Hon. Sailing Secretary	P. Cooke
Hon. P.R.O.	W.J.W. Courtney
Hon. Auditor	P. Chivers
Representative to Chichester Harbour Federation	G. Calvert

8. There being no other business the A.G.M. was closed at 12 noon with a vote of thanks to the Commodore and members of the C.Y.C. for their hospitality.

The Annual General Meeting was then followed by a general discussion on the Sailing and Social programme. The following points were raised -

- (a) It was requested that a metal sign representing the Club burgee be flown from the H.I.S.C. box when this was being used at the finish line. This was agreed and the Hon. Sailing Secretary would approach H.I.S.C.
- (b) The difficulty of getting out of, and returning to Birdham Pool was raised, and it was suggested that more finishes at Chi Bar buoy may ease the problem. All O.O.D's were made aware of their discretion in choosing a finishing line, and this would be reiterated for the 1978 season.
- (c) The accuracy of owners times was questioned on certain races where the O.O.D. has not been available to finish the race. All members were recommended to use a stop watch, since races were often won or lost by seconds.
- (d) It was requested that only "bigger" yachts are O.O.D. for passage races, to ensure that they can reach the finish in time. This is normal practice depending upon availability.
- (e) It was suggested that a stop-watch be included in the O.O.D's kit, and this will be investigated by the Hon. Sailing Secretary.
- (f) The present points system for the Alpha and Beta points championships were discussed at length. Some members felt that the present system was "tried and tested" and should not be changed. Others however felt that it favoured those unfairly who did well in races with a large entry. As attendance tended to dwindle during the school holiday period, and at the end of the season it might become impossible for a boat to catch up although it was winning consistently, and a straight points system was therefore recommended. The Commodore cautioned that many alternative systems had been tried and all had disadvantages, but as there was a feeling that the system should be reviewed it was referred to the Sailing Committee for the next meeting.

- (i) It was suggested that we increase our publicity efforts with local clubs, marina's and through the Chichester Harbour Conservancy in order to attract new boat owners to the club.
- (j) R. Morris kindly undertook to organise a "Round-Robin" News letter for second hand gear etc.
- (k) The crew register was considered very useful and the decision to continue with it, and extend the circulation to all members endorsed.

Chichester Cruiser Racing Club

COMMODORE'S REPORT - 1977

On reading through my previous reports I seemed to have found each year to be memorable for a number of reasons. This year is no exception and I make no apology for repeating that this season has been a memorable one.

It is the year of the Queen's Jubilee and those of you fortunate enough to see the fleets assembled in the Solent will not quickly forget the sight,

For the Club it will be remembered as the first year we entertained Flag Officers of other harbour Clubs and Senior officers of the Federation and the Conservancy to a sherry party. Similar parties have been given by other Clubs in the harbour for some time now at which there has been the opportunity of meeting one's 'opposite number' and to discuss the activities of their Clubs. I am sure the standing of our Club has increased because we overcame the difficulty of not having a clubhouse of our own and without having to resort to 'borrowing' a clubhouse. From all accounts it was a good party and the Club is indebted to Christopher Purchase for kindly letting us use his Boardroom in Chichester for it. We also thank the lady members who worked hard by making nice things to eat at the party.

For a number of years, attempts have been made to form and maintain a crew's register, but for one reason or another they were never quite successful, that is until this year. Richard Tait kindly volunteered about a year ago to set up and run a crew's register. He worked very hard and very thoroughly at it and as a result we have had for the first time a most excellent register containing a large number of potential crews of different types, ages and no doubt shapes and sizes available for members of the Club. It has been a great success and we owe a great deal of thanks to Richard Tait for all his efforts and we all hope that he will continue to run his excellent Register.

You will remember that at our A.G.M. last year that two of our lady members, Margaret Cooke and Mary Lattay, very kindly offered to give a trophy each to the Club to be known as the Jubilee Trophies. Not only do we thank them for their very generous presentation to the Club of two trophies which are a bit different from the usual and which we can be justly pleased, we also thank Derek Lattay for getting the trophies made. He put in a lot of very hard work, and had some worrying times, but the result has been worth it, as I am sure you will agree when you see these rather unique, beautifully made trophies.

Some few years ago Jack Riddle presented the Ladies Salver to the Club in order that our long suffering, hard working and often bruised lady members could get into the 'hot seat' and give the orders in their race. It meant however, that two fleets had to race as one, which seemed a little unfair for the only true Ladies Race. I am pleased to be able to tell you that there are now two trophies for the Ladies Race. Alpha fleet will race for the Ladies Salver and Beta fleet for a new trophy, the Ladies Plate.

I do not intend to go into any details about the sailing as that is the prerogative of the Sailing Secretary. However, I must mention we have for the first time had two cross channel races, Fécamp and Cherbourg, both of which were from all accounts enjoyable going there but ended up on both occasions with the fleets being stern bound.

Whilst we may be a comparatively small club, in terms of membership numbers our standard of racing is high. This is borne out by the success of our members in events organised by other clubs. As you know our team in the Round the Island Race, Liverbird, Windy of Hamble and Discount came third in the Inter-Club Challenge Trophy of 16ft.-22.9ft., beating 13 other clubs. This is the first time we achieved a placing in what is a highly competitive event and the Club congratulates the team. We also congratulate those who gained places in that race and also Nigel Froy in gaining second place in the level racing Contessa Class at Cowes Week. I am sure we all applaud Peter Cooke and his crew's tenacity and stamina not to

Although we have had fewer races this year in our programme, we have had some excellent racing thanks largely to the administration work carried out by the few. Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf who work hard on race instructions, race results and the invaluable written communications, the Assistant Sailing Secretaries who do so much to ensure that, weather allowing, we have good races, and to our Sailing Secretary who does so much during the whole year. I am sure you will all join with me to thank them for all the work they have done for the Club.

As you know, Nigel Froy has resigned from being Sailing Secretary, a post he has held for four years, and enough's enough. Nigel during his term of office has brought in many changes, all of them improvements to our racing administration. Whilst we did have set courses many years ago, they were not so considered as are our present set of SPC and NPC's. Nigel also managed to get under-way the race we all talked about - the cross channel, and this year we had two! He has truly worked hard for the Club, we have benefitted greatly and I know you join me in thanking him, and Jean too, on behalf of the Club.

The Club is growing in stature if not in overall number of members, our standard of racing is getting better every year and of this we can be justifiably pleased. Before I end I am going to suggest that we could do well to use the words of Paul Elvestrom as the policy basis for our Club for future, as it happens to have been in the past - "I am sure it is more important to compete and enjoy yourself than to win".

Chichester Cruiser Racing Club

HON. SAILING SECRETARY'S REPORT 1977

I would suggest that this year the quality of our racing has been good - in fact one of our best years. By quality I mean good sport, friendly, fair and keen competition, plenty of boats in the money, so to speak, for in Alpha eight different owners had first whilst in Beta 12 achieved the premier position - of course some more than others and the accounts of our exploits on and off the race track have been duly and fully reported.

In planning our racing and its organisation we have always paid attention to the trends appearing from the annual statistics which are compiled at the end of each season. It is rare for there to be any startling movement but the figures themselves do provide us with a factual record so that we can take care to try and provide the best seasons sailing to be enjoyed by as many of our members as possible.

This year we started 26 races out of 30. 508 crossed our start lines, a fall of 52 on last season, but the programme, being shorter, this was to be expected, the individual race attendances were not greatly affected.

Alpha passage races average 9.8 (9 in '76)(8 in '75) (7.7 in '74)
Beta " " " 10.8 (8.9 ")(11.1 ") (11.5 ")

Beta's sea race average was 9.8 (8.5 in '76)
Alpha's was 8.6 this year (9.1 in '76)

The best attended race with 34 yachts was for Race 16 the Folly Trophy - the favourite Sea race was No.19 for the Rose Bowl and Shearwater Trophy with 27 out.

The average overall attendance for Passage races was 19 (both classes)(17.9 in '76, 19.4 in '75, 19.2 in '74).

It is I think significant that both the channel races were up to the average, 18 to Fbeamp and 19 to Charbourg. Perhaps here is a pointer for future planning.

Looking at the points competitions it is evident that these races produce the better attendances for whilst the average overall of Sea races in Alpha was 8.6 in points events it was 11.28 and over all Alpha points it was 10.86. In Beta too their overall points race average was 10.13 against 9.8. One must of course mention that many of the points races are also for trophies but it seems to follow that the added ingredient of points promotes greater interest.

An important statistic is the relationship of the total number of members who register for racing and who come racing, and to see how this has fluctuated from year to year.

Year	'77	'76	'75	'74
Boats registered	68	70	74	67
Average race Nos.	19.5	17.75	18.9	19
Approx. %	29%	25%	25%	28%

So this year a greater percentage of the club did on average race than in '76 or '75.

So we can go on and on with figures, suffice it to say that the mixture of events, number of races is proving successful. But I hope you will air your views on this. I do think that the percentage attendance figures must be borne in mind when consideration to new classes which is a matter that might be raised.

On the quality of our racing and forgetting the odd problem here and there, we all seemed to have come with the O. O. D. work well. There have not been any statistics

The Beta points have been in the very capable hands of Hugh Caldwell and he may like to make a comment about this process later. You will see that he has managed to bring them all home in very close order in the Beta points championship.

My Assistant Sailing Secretaries have all done their periods of duty extremely well. I would hazard the comment that by their good management all has gone very smoothly and if this is the case then it is in large measure due to them, besides the overall framework in which our racing is now organised. An important element towards this comes from the experienced team, Pam and Derek Metcalf.

My best wishes to the new Sailing Secretary whom you will elect, and lets look forward to continued good racing in future years.

PAUL CHIVERS FOLIO CLUB

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1976

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Income</u>
Duplicating and Typing	219.28	31.12.75	Subscriptions
Printing and Stationery	95.62	860.30	Donation
Handbook	110.16	-	Sundry Receipts
Postage	173.54	0.30	Sale of Ties
Telephone	34.97	18.75	Profit on Social Events:
Results Service	120.00	879.35	Receipts
Insurances	26.00		Less: Expenses
Starting Gear	11.70		648.00
Subscriptions and Donations	101.20		545.95
Sundry Expenses	12.10		
Prizes	255.77		
	<u>1,160.34</u>	111.97	102.05
(Deficit)/Surplus of Income over Expenditure for the Year	329.36	23.09	15.85
	<u>£1,489.70</u>	£1,014.41	<u>£1,489.70</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1976

<u>Liabilities</u>		<u>Assets</u>
Accumulated Fund:		Bank Balances:
Balance at 1st January, 1976	249.58	Deposit Account
Add: Surplus for the Year	329.36	Current Account
	577.94	
Subscriptions received in Advance for 1977	15.00	
	<u>£ 592.94</u>	F.A. Giles - Hon. Treasurer
		<u>£ 592.94</u>

above Income and Expenditure account for the year ended on 31st December 1976 and the Balance Sheet as at that date are the books, records and vouchers produced to me.

Paul Chivers - Hon. Auditor