



**Chichester
Cruiser
Racing
Club**

Minutes of 76th AGM held At Eames farm, Thorney Road, Emsworth

Saturday 30th November 1100hrs 2024

1) Present

Committee Members-Mike Smith (Sailing secretary), Alexander Thompson (Secretary), Chris Powell (Treasurer), Richard Creer(Fed Rep)

Members Pam Marrs (Fed)Bob (Web master) Garrett, Brad & Nicolette Croshaw, Craig & FM Williamson, Guy & Claire Russell, Alex Thompson, Peter Tart, Helen Smith, Sue Garrett, Richard Creer, John Guilfoyle, Owen Farmer, Nigel Purkiss, Andrew Owen, Lucia Blash and Lucia Withers

Guests – Matt Gay and Bob Reeves

Apologies

Guy & Debs McBride (Handicapping and Results officer), Patrick & Amanda Marshall, Gavin & Sue Marriott, Andrew Reed, Michael Briggs, John & Linda Lanham, Lisa Fullerton, and Pat Morrell. Martin & Caroline Sewel, Ray Welham, Gazer Dack and Jonathan Bailey.

2) Approval of minutes of 75th AGM held in 2023 –

Proposed by Mike Smith and seconded by Pam M and agreed by those present.

3) Matters arising from those minutes - None

4) Commodore's Report- No commodore in office

5) Hon. Sailing Secretary's Report – Season 2024

I believe we have taken a positive step forward for the future fortunes of CCRC in 2024 and hope you will agree.

We started the season with a programme of 24 Races including a Cruise Race to France. By the end of the Season, we had run 21 races with 2 cancelled for bad weather and sadly the Cruise Race lost due to lack of numbers. However, a Cruise did take place in a more leisurely fashion in May with Calypso, Soft Touch and Paddy.

Further we had 21 boats registered for racing after Arcadia was sold early in the year and we had one visitor Counterpoise. Significantly, 17 boats raced at least once during the season plus one visitor. CCRC managed to achieve an average of 5+ boats on the start line for each race.

Sadly, in another change the VPRS fleet was significantly down in number of boats.

This was less surprising as one would expect new members to initially race Beta but move up to Alpha as their skills improved and their handicap under NHC became less competitive. 2024

also resulted in the loss of a number of long-time members and their boats, mainly from Alpha Fleet, these included Intrepid, Rockhopper the Harribelle and Arcadia as well as a number of boats that had not participated for a while.

Hence a plea for all members to continue to promote CCRC and encourage other boats to come racing with us. More boats are better racing.

CCRC now has 59/60 members and 6 Honorary members including about 30 crew members also making up the highest number of new members. This bodes well for the future as members have a very good pool of crew members so there is no excuse for not coming out racing. Here I would put a plea in for Skippers to use the Crew List as it includes members no longer racing their own boat but keen to keep sailing with CCRC.

The season started slowly with just 5 for the 1st Race but then 7 for 2nd Race and this continued over the Bank holiday weekend to Gosport and Beaulieu.

Unfortunately lack of wind and difficult tides meant that the Race back to Chi was cancelled. Thanks to Andrew Reed for organising the weekend socials and berthing.

Bay races 6 and 7 were between 6 boats and at the next Bank holiday 6 boats raced to Lymington and Cowes and were joined by 2 further boats returning from the cruise for the race back to Chi. The BBQ held on the upper deck of ISC was a great success and blessed with clement weather.

Thanks to Guy Russell for this social and berthing during the weekend.

Race 12 only had 4 boats, but more people came to the BBQ at Northney which also was a great success and for Race 13 we had 6 boats out.

This was followed by RTI in very heavy winds. CCRC had 8 boats down to race but only two finished new member Moonbeam and Paddy.

Then ending the Spring Series, we went to Seaview. Unfortunately, due to falling winds Race 14 was not completed as nobody finished within the time limit which was just 2 hours to allow for getting ashore in time for lunch. Fortunately Race 15 back to CHI was blessed with wind and CCRC put on a great show on the Seaview club line with 6 boats at the start.

Most of the Autumn series was taken up with racing within outside Clubs' regattas which I will not go into detail here but suffice to say numbers continued to be excellent and CCRC did well in these events generally taking 1st and 2nd prizes.

Finally, we come to our end of term passage race to the Folly, Races 23 and 24.

It was a first here for a crew member John Guilfoyle who acted as PRO for the weekend.

Unfortunately, the weather did not provide him with an easy task with serious gale warnings for the weekend. The Race to the Folly was cancelled but John and Alex at very short notice found an alternative at CYC for dinner that night and John organised a Bay race on Sunday.

These enthusiastic impromptu skills are what make CCRC so great for its members and incredibly good value for the money. I hope you all agree. Ta I should inform members that as of January 2025 a new set of Racing Rules will be introduced. Please read them and the notes which come with them on the RYA site. We will also be including a review of them in preseason 2025 talks that our Secretary Alex is arranging.

I present to you a draft Programme for 2025. It is a draft and open for discussion in the session after lunch. The Season starts earlier with the first Bank holiday on 19th April and three Bank holidays in the Spring Series. So, an early start to CCRC Racing in 2025.

Now with many more experienced members, I am hoping to get my head round Dutyman and have the programme and PRO/RO race availability set up so members can choose when they can be available to take their turn.

I should like to thank Pam and Chris for their invaluable advice and putting me straight when I have put my foot in it. Apart from this Pam has sorted and produced the prize list and today's presentation and Chris as often as not has been PRO or RO when Celebration has been Race Boat for the weekend.

Finally, I hope the meeting will show their appreciation to all their Committee Members including Alex, Bob and Guy for steering the Club through 2024 to 2025. It has been very much a team effort.

MA Smith / 29 Nov 2024

6) Hon. Treasurer's Report - Year Ended 30 September 2024

To receive and approve the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2024

The accounts are attached, and I have set out a brief commentary below.

On the income side, revenue from subscriptions and yacht registrations was little changed overall. The number of subscriptions was up by three, but the number of yachts registered was down by two.

There was a welcome increase in interest earned on the deposit account and a small surplus on last year's AGM lunch.

Under expenditure, I have continued to set aside £250 a year for Race Marks Maintenance. CCRC pays a share of the cost of maintaining the race marks in Hayling Bay, an exercise that is carried out every three years. We are expecting the next bill in Spring 2025.

Our insurers increased our premiums by £132 with no change in cover. All other quotes were considerably more expensive, so we had to renew at the higher price. This is the main reason for the increase in overall expenditure, which went up from £1993 to £2119.

During the year we sold £75 worth of pennants and battle flags to members. All of this revenue has been applied to write down the legacy stock figure in the balance sheet, which now stands at £138. The saleable stock that we have is easily worth more than this. We also have some stock (ties and caps) that is likely never to be sold.

The overall result for 2024 is a small surplus of £231.

To consider and approve the level of membership subscriptions for 2025

We have managed to keep subscriptions the same for many years, but inflation is continuing to drive expenses upwards. I therefore propose to raise the annual membership subscription from £20 to £25. The yacht registration fee will remain at £50 for the time being.

Chris Powell / Hon Treasurer
15 November 2024

PS It would be very helpful if you could set up a sub's standing order for 1 January to our new bank: Nat West Bank, sort code: 52-41-32 / Account number: 54897327

Full account name: Chichester Cruiser Racing Club

Account type: Business

Reference/comment: yacht name if paying registration fee

The Accounts were accepted. Proposed by Mike Smith and seconded by Richard Creer

7) **Hon Secretary's Report**

In Season of 2024 we lost 4 boats and in 2025 we are very likely to gain 3 or 4 new boats for 2025. These include new boats owned by Ray Welham, David Holligon, and Gavin Gavin. We will also be welcoming back Susan Rutter with Folkdance for season 2025.

The boats lost are Arcadia, Kristelle, Calypso and Highland Lady. We wish them all safe Solent sails.

The CCRC 8th June BBQ was a great success with some 25 people attending and not a burnt sausage in site.

We need club support with helping to arrange the passage weekends berths and socials. Mike and I will be sharing this work amongst all of you budding Assistant Sailing Secretaries. The winter talks held at Itchenor and ESSC Slipper we were very social learning experience and good at marketing our club amongst other sailing clubs.

We therefore propose to repeat the RO and Race Management and Racing Rules trainings again in January February and March this year. I propose to widen the audience by holding the talks in each harbour and to arrange the 2026 Winter talks sequence as soon as possible. The likely dates are 26th Jan 15th Feb and 9th March, one talk for each harbour. This year special guest speaker will be Dick Batt – who will give a talk on Sails and How to make the boat go faster. I hope everyone will bring their Partners, Pets and Crew.

If everyone who needs crew, could they please look at the CCRC Crew List first, and then consider advertising on Crew Seekers.

8) **Election of Officers**

Mike Smith (Hon Sailing Secretary) Richard Creer (Chi Fed Rep), Chris Powell (Hon Treasurer) and Alexander Thompson (Hon Secretary) and (Results officer) Guy MacBride, all agreed to continue in Office

Guy Mac Bride proposes to retire at the end of season 2025, so a Junior Assistant Results Officer is required to shadow Guy for this next season.

Still no Commodore so this position will be vacant until someone volunteers.

Still no Vice Commodore

The re-election of Officers was proposed by Pam Marrs and seconded by Guy Russell. All present agreed to these Officers continuing in their current roles.

9) Any Other Business

Guy Russell proposed that everyone's home insurance might cover any potential loss of any cups, as a result this might reduce the club insurance paid for silverware.

WhatsApp Group has been successful – and should be renamed “CCRC – Notice Board” and all member encouraged to use the “CCRC – Chat” for any gossip and entertainment. CCRC – Notice board will be used for all race notices and pre-start race announcements – especially the course which is to be made 30 minutes prior to the race starting – The course will only use the Buoy code number [as the buoy name changes all to often]. All agreed with Guy Russel who said that the WhatsApp race route announcement of buoy codes was working. This new system under pins the normal starting sequence beginning with VHF announcements 20minutes before the start. The WhatsApp race message should include angle of rolling start line and all numbered buoys and a passing letter to indicate on which side to pass the mark.

Sail GP 2025 is coming to the Solent on the weekend of 19th / 20th July. A CCRC flotilla is to be arranged to watch the races.

CCRC / CYC Bramidge Cup. No cup challenge occurred in S24, and no race has been put into the event diary for S25. John Guilfoyle said that some members at the CYC were keen to bring the race back, whilst others CYC member were less concerned, and did not enjoy the race. Mike Smith to write to the CYC Secretaries to see if the race could be arranged for S25.

Handicaps – CCRC needs progressive system like NHC. Both the NAB and Sparkes Cups were competed using YTC. The RYA's YTC system is currently free but will not be used by the CCRC club just yet. NHC and VPRS system will continue to apply for S25.

The informal part of the 76th AGM was completed and the meeting closed at 12.15.