

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting The Cutty Sark, Marazion – 14 April, 2006**

**Execs Present:** John Ellis (Chair), Jay Williamson (Secretary), Roger Clark (Treasurer), Alastair Campbell, Allan Cross, Trevor Funnell, Lucy Horwood, Brian Tilbury, Stephen Fry, Ian Kraft, Dave Sibley

**Apologies:** Louise Emery, Paddy Payne, Doug Pearch

50 people signed the attendance sheet. Hand count: 52

### **Agenda Items:**

- 1. Previous Minutes:** The AGM Minutes from 2005 were accepted and agreed.

Proposed: Dave Gilchrist. Seconded: Ceri Williams.

- 2. Report from the Chair:** This is the 5<sup>th</sup> AGM of UKWA, the organisation which came about as a result of the merger between the BWA and UKBSA in 2000. These organisations go back to the early 1980s. The UKWA body is authorised by the International Sailing Federation, ISAF, to put on championships in the UK, the winners of which are entitled to call themselves the UK Champions. The recognised classes which the UKWA represent are the Funboard class which cover the Wave, Freestyle and Slalom disciplines, Raceboard, RS:X, Formula Windsurfing and Techno 293.

Competition 2005: After 2 years of significant growth, last year saw a slight decline in competitor numbers. This can be identified as resulting from event clashes and the change of Olympic equipment. However membership of UKWA has continued to increase. The quality of our events has been recognised abroad, the British Open Championships attracted over half a dozen international competitors and the Youth and the Masters Formula World Championships at Christchurch was highly successful and received excellent feedback from the international contingent who attended. Thanks to Ceri and his team.

Competition 2006: This year has got off to a good start with entries at this event being up by 25% on last year, despite a clash with another event. The Hayling Island event also had a brilliant turn out.

- 3. Accounts for the year to 31 December 2005:**

The income and expenditure account showed a surplus of £5K for 2005 which, with the accumulated brought forward from previous years, gives us reserves of £17,909.

The surplus has been created over the past few years by one-offs such as the Boat Show Indoor championships and the sale of boats after the merger. The running of events is subsidised by membership fees. We now need to start thinking about upgrading safety boats and other equipment, some of which has reached the end of its life.

The balance sheet shows net current assets of £32,000, which demonstrates the healthy position the Association is currently in.

At this point questions and comments were invited from members present.

- Question - How do the event entry fees and event costs add up?  
Answer - As commented earlier, events overall are subsidised by membership fees. Events at the beginning of the season normally make a surplus while those at the end make a loss. Costs include fuel which alone amounts to around £500 per event. On top of this is the cost of the race team and, inevitably there are repair costs. One broken propeller costs around £250 to replace and 2 were broken at Hayling Island. A new engine, which is needed, would cost around £5K. Although we have some reserves built up these are for exceptional circumstances and we need to keep them in case of emergencies.

- Question – Why do the detailed accounts show a substantial increase in printing and stationery?  
Answer – The Executive felt there was a marketing opportunity for the Association at the Boat Show and produced a calendar and poster.
- Question – Why is there is an accountancy fee this year and not in the previous year?  
Answer – The year end accounts have been prepared for a number of years by John Ellis’s accountancy firm who have not charged for the work. Current best practice in the voluntary sector is to include the cost of services donated where this can be quantified and to include a donation of the same amount in income. As we cannot rely on obtaining this service for free for ever it shows the true cost of running the organisation.

Trevor Funnell proposed a vote of thanks to John Ellis for everything he has done.

The Accounts for 2005 were accepted unanimously.

Proposed: Dave Gilchrist. Seconded: Kevin Proffitt.

#### 4. **Amendments to UKWA constitution:**

(A) Add a new interpretation to article 1:

“address” means a postal address or, for the purposes of electronic communication, a fax number, an e-mail address or a text message number in each case registered with the Association;

(B) Replace article 63 with:

- (i) Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the articles:
  - (a) must be in writing; or
  - (b) must be given using electronic communications.
- (ii) The Association may give any notice to a member either:
  - (a) personally; or
  - (b) by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his or her address; or
  - (c) by leaving it at the address of the member; or
  - (d) by giving it using electronic communications to the member’s address.
- (iii) A member who does not register an address with the Association or who registers only a postal address that is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from the Association.

(C) Add a new sentence to article 41:

If an officer who stands for re-election is not re elected he or she will be eligible to stand for election to the Committee.

(D) Amend article 36 to:

The number of Directors shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum

Acceptance of amendments to all above changes - Proposed by John Ellis; Seconded: Allan Cross – Floor vote: none opposed.

#### 5. **Re-election of Officers** – Trevor Funnell took over the proceedings for the re-election of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary

- **Chair** - John Ellis; **Treasurer** - Roger Clark; **Secretary** - Jay Williamson  
All above re-elected - Proposed: Trevor Funnell. Seconded: Allan Cross

(Floor Vote – all agreed, none against, no abstentions).

- **Other committee members**

**Resignations:** Louise Emery (conflict of interest and family commitments) and Doug Pearch, who has been on the committee for a long time and has done a tremendous amount work on behalf of the UKWA but due to his own work commitments has decided to stand down.

The exec wishes to thank both of them for all their past support and wishes them well in the future.

- **Committee members who stand down this year by rotation but are willing to be re-elected**

Lucy Horwood (willing to stand again)  
Trevor Funnell (willing to stand again)  
Paddy Payne (willing to stand again)

- **New blood:** Proposal to elect Chris Masters and Ian Jones to the Exec

**Other existing execs willing to be re-elected:** Ian Kraft, Allan Cross, Alastair Campbell, Stephen Fry, Dave Sibley, Brian Tilbury

Proposal by John Ellis to elect/re-elect all the above people onto the exec committee. Seconded Mike Simpson. Passed unanimously.

## 5. **Any Other Business:**

### **Company matters:**

Question: The growth of organising committee expenses was queried.

Answer: Directors don't claim expenses to attend meetings. Fees are paid where a director takes a substantial amount of time out of their usual work, thereby losing income, to organise an event. This has happened with the Indoor Championships. Directors also spend their own money on maintenance of equipment which is then repaid.

Question: Could the exec make members more aware of their discussions?

Answer: The exec will look at emailing edited extracts of meetings to members and will discuss this at next exec meeting.

There being no further business the formal business of the AGM was concluded at this point.

### **There followed an open discussion, highlights of which are noted below.**

Dave Gilchrist raised his concerns at holding both Slalom and Course racing at one event.

Ceri Williams: The proposal that the UKWA run a joint event with championship racing to championship rules in both divisions was made in the belief that course racing could be held in strong winds and slalom in light winds and both are important. In the past there was a lack of support for the Warrior series and this did not work. The current plans to hold joint events, 2 this year, are an experiment. So whilst we are committed for 2006, if it doesn't work this year changes will be made in 2007.

Jerry Solven: Techno 293's can do both course racing and slalom.

Mike Simpson: Slalom board has his vote rather than breaking expensive kit. Slalom racing is good for increasing media coverage.

Trevor Funnell: UKWA is for all sailors in all categories. In experimenting with the Course Racing and Slalom double events this year the UKWA are trying to cover every base for every person.

Jay Williamson: There is no reason why the same kit can't be used, except for Top Flight, under all conditions.

Robert Kent: The Exec needs to communicate possible decisions to members so they can vote and express their opinions before a decision is made.

Dave Gilchrist: The Exec need to look at how many course racers don't turn up this year due to the double events.

Roger Clark: Sailors now have kit that will race in 10 knots. In addition there are older Formula sailors now coming back because of Slalom racing.

Ceri Williams: Course race numbers have increased (or weren't put off by Slalom) at this event.

Brian Tilbury: Only 7 slalom only entries this weekend.

Allan Cross: let's see what happens at the end of the weekend.

Suggestion: M-course, part of which is used for slalom only.

Allan Cross: On 2-3 September 2006 the UKWA/Fat Face National Windsurfing Festival at Hayling Island – aimed towards the intermediate freeride sailor – including masterblaster, clinics. The windsurfing industry retailers and magazines will be there, plus a big party and a one-off night time freestyle/super-X event.

Janet Pain: There are currently fuel limits at garages. Safety crew will stay on the water as long as they can to give the members as much racing as possible but remember that it's still another 2 hours after racing has finished for them to get off the water and back to base.

Mike Dempsey: RYA update – windsurfing committee made much smaller, now amalgamated into the general body of the RYA which now has access to their large legal and marketing departments – 10,500 windsurfing members of the RYA membership – 700 of those (UKWA members) are committed to competition in the UK. UKWA should be aware that there is now more opportunity for funding for individual classes for regional training, open training, etc.

Gill Humble: Proposed that committee takes the information we've been given by Mike Dempsey about the RYA changes and the funding implications on board and reports back to the membership as to how this might affect and benefit the UKWA. What should we be doing in the future?

Meeting closed: 9.10pm