

**Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting
of the UK Windsurfing Association (UKWA)
Held at WPNSA, Weymouth on 18 July 2015**

29 people signed the attendance sheet, representing 34 membership votes.

Welcome and thanks to all for attending from Bob Ingram

Committee Apologies: Alastair Campbell, Peter Davis, Nigel Treacy

1. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM:

The AGM Minutes from 2014 were Approved and signed.

Proposed: Annette Kent **Seconded:** Louis Morris

Floor Vote: Approved - None against, no abstentions

Copy signed for filing.

2. Matters arising from the Previous Minutes (not covered in the Agenda Items)

Update re RYA proposed disbanding of techno and RSX Classes.

Bob has had number meetings with the RYA but as yet nothing firm has been established and no specific structure has been created. We will have a meeting at summer camp where we will try to move things forward. RYA still need to resolve who is running the training. Matter is still in progress.

3. Chairman's Report (Bob Ingram):

Thank you/s:

A big thank you to everyone who supported the UKWA during 2014 to December last year. 2013 was a particularly difficult year for us, with numbers falling away, so it was pleasant to see numbers increase during 2014 and we hope this is a positive sign that windsurfing is moving forward.

Thanks to our safety crews, race officers and all the admin team on the shore. A big thank you to Brian and Ann, who turn up and set up the events with myself and Sue and then pack everything away when everyone has gone away.

Thanks to all the additional volunteers who have come out on the boats and helped on the shore and everyone else who assisted during 2014.

A particular thanks to Alastair for the website – it is an enormous job which doesn't get much credit. He has to put a lot of effort in behind the scenes and we are all quick to moan when the latest bit of information is not there as we have become so used to having things at our fingertips nowadays. Alastair's wife has just had twins, for which we should congratulate them, and they have also moved house on the same weekend - so a big thank you to Alastair.

Thank you to the Committee for all their hard work and to the sub committees that manage the Association. Thank you to the Regions that provide us with the Regional events which have been

a great success during 2014 – particularly the Raceboard fleet which is very healthy at the Inland events.

Thanks to John Ellis for continuing to prepare the accounts for us and put a lot of work in behind the scenes with Arabella.

Not strictly a 2014 issue, but recently we have purchased a new vehicle for the crew, to move them around and in particular for launching the boats. Eddy Carr put in an enormous amount of work to make sure we have all the right gizmos and gadgets that we needed on it to make it a serviceable vehicle, so a big thank you to Eddy Car for organising that for us.

Thanks to Rod Davis for following up all the sponsorship leads. Unfortunately for 2014 we weren't able to bring a sponsor on board, but Rod does follow up all the leads we get and I am sure he will continue to do so.

Thanks also to Nigel Treacy for his continued work with the BWA. Nigel has now stood down as the Events Director of the BWA but without his input and wisdom during the setting up of the BWA in the early days it never would have happened. Nigel is continuing to stay on as Chairman but Geoff Hautman has taken over as Events Director.

Thanks to Pete Davis and his team who organise the Weymouth Speed Week here at Weymouth which is always very popular each year.

Thanks to James Palin for all his hard work as Boson. The boats are kept in excellent condition although we always have the odd bit of kit breaking, which is inevitable with what we do, including a lost wheel from a trailer on the way here this weekend. Big thanks to James for looking after all of our kit and also for disposing of the Jet Ski for which he got an excellent price.

Thanks to Arabella, who you don't see very often, but puts in an enormous amount of work behind the scenes.

Last but not least, a big thank you to my own good wife, Sue, and to Tessa for all the support they give me. Thank you very much.

DISCIPLINES

In general 2014 was a better year in terms of numbers for the UKWA.

Slalom

- Our thanks to several sponsors for their support throughout 2014 - Fanatic North, Starboard, Tushingham, Severne, Gaastra, Tabou, Quayside Windsurfing, The OTC, Puravida, Agent Eight, RRD and Boardwise.
- In 2014 we ran a program of 8 events, however one was cancelled. The BSA branding has been a great success for Slalom. We got a lot of support through magazines and websites and Pete Davis has been making videos with over 2000 hits, which is pretty

good for windsurfing. The entries were around 30 Pros, 54 Amateurs, 27 Masterblasters so around 110 entries which was 7 up on 2013.

- We have adjusted the sponsorship agreement for 2015 to reflect a fairer outcome overall for the sponsors so they all share the risk.
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BWA Wave

- Wave continues to operate with great success under the BWA banner. They had 4 events in 2014 making up the British Championship in Wales, Ireland, Cornwall and, the highlight, in Tiree. They are just planning to run 3 events in 2015 (not going to Ireland this year) but they hope to return in 2016 with a fresh sponsor.

Freestyle

- Unfortunately there were no Freestyle events in 2014 which was a great shame. We did have meetings with 2 or 3 groups and actually put a contact on the table to one group but they backed out at the last minute, so we were unable to put on any Tour during 2014.
- For 2015 Paul has successfully got GetWindsurfing on board so we are having a one-off Championship, here in Weymouth, in October with GetWindsurfing and OTC. We have put a financial package together which we hope will be beneficial to them. It is of little benefit to the UKWA other than we will operate the whole umbrella. This will be on a pre-entry system, but if we don't get enough entries the event will be pulled with reasonable notice given to competitors.

Speed

- Speed continues to operate through Pete Davis and his team here at Weymouth Speed Week. Again they had over 80 entries, which is great and they are also continuing to run the GPS Speed Challenge, so Speed continues to prosper.

Racing

- 2014 saw 5 Cup events, a reduction of 1, which we have changed for 2015. There were also 3 Inland events, which was a reduction of 2 which is what we agreed at last year's AGM.
- The highlight of the 2014 season was surely the new concept of the Champions Cup for the Youth & Masters, run by the UKWA and supported by the RYA. 230 boards on the water which was bit of a return to the old days. It's a pity we can't get that at every event, but it was a very prestigious event for us and financially rewarding as well, so a very successful event.
- In general, Formula numbers for the season were 16 (+1); Raceboard 21 (-9); RSX 40 (+11) and Techno 52 (-12).
- 2015 will see an extra Cup event with the 3 Inlands plus the event at Grafam at the end of the year which we again hope will be a very big success.

- There will be a review at the end of the season by the Committee which is what we always do and your views on any of the events are always very welcome, either after the AGM at the Sailors' Meeting or at any time at all so please let us know your thoughts.
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- We have future meetings planned with the RYA to resolve the Techno/R SX outstanding issues.

General

- Windsurfer of the year was awarded to Ben Proffitt (well deserved) and the Windsurfing Hall of Fame continues to grow.
- The UKWA continues to support the National Watersports Festival (NWF) and we are contracted to do so again in 2015.
- It is clear to the Committee that, apart from James, we are all getting a little older year by year and we need more help. We need new young blood on board in the Exec with fresh ideas and we also need much more assistance on and off the water with new crew. Please let us know if you are willing to get involved in the Association's future or on the water/ beach/admin at events please let us know or speak to Sue Ingram at the Race Office.
- Rob Kent has been appointed to the RYA Council, representing windsurfing on the Council.

4. Treasurer's Report and to receive the Financial Statements and Accounts for the year to 31 December 2014 – Paul Robinson

- Firstly a big thank you to all of you (the members) who attend the events and the AGM because without your support and involvement, we wouldn't be here, we wouldn't be able to do anything, we wouldn't be able to run competitive racing or any other disciplines. We have a finite cost of the infrastructure and resources needed to achieve a safe and efficient racing and other discipline operation, so you are NO. 1
- We are self-financing and we are virtually a fully volunteer organisation apart from paid administration and we have minimal sponsorship, although we are always happy to see any sponsorship offers or ideas that any members have. So if you know of anyone who is looking to sponsor and wants their name out there on our vehicles and trailers, etc., then please let us know and we can follow that up.
- We rely on the foundations previously established over the years, certainly in terms of our resources, and over the past few years we have had to invest heavily in replacing some of those.
- Moving onto 2014 you may recall we were still reeling from the aftermath of the worldwide financial crises and we had a deficit of £6K from the 2013 season, but during that season we had actually replaced an engine (which costs about £10K) just to give you an idea of how much it costs to maintain one boat. Also we had also replaced some other essential infrastructure items.

- We reduced a number of events, but we did – in conjunction with the RYA - organise and run the very very successful Inland Championship, the Team 15 Champions Cup. That was a first for us and was an absolutely outstanding success.
- Entry and membership fees were maintained at their previous level.
- During 2014 we did realise some assets and the Jet Ski, which had been little used in the previous 2 years, was marketed and sold by the Director of Resources, James Palin, for £3,350 which was well on the mark for its age and condition. Very well done to James, not the easiest things to sell.
- Our event and membership income for 2014 showed a substantial increase of 37% over 2013 and 2013 showed a substantial drop from 2012 of -17%, so basically the entries and the event fees and the event income was substantially increased.
- Our expenses were up slightly, but this did include a substantial cost of equipment depreciation; the more we buy the more we lose, which is an accounting scenario.
- The equipment boats and trailer maintenance has been organised and scheduled on a preventative servicing structure, apart from the odd wheel which falls off the odd trailer! But we were happily in the position where we were able to go and get a brand new trailer this weekend, all credit to those involved.
- Cost control will continue to be maintained and we have set ourselves a baseline of financial reserves, but 2014 was a successful year and we had an overall surplus of £6,752. That sounds great, but we have already made use of the surplus and the reserve for this year. We have already replaced a further engine and now bought a further trailer, but we are also going to buy a new box trailer to replace the old damaged events trailer. Since 2012 we have bought a new Rib, replaced 2 engines, purchased a new trailer and also purchased a beautiful second-hand Navara for launching and recovery (thanks to Ed Carr).

ACCOUNTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

- Moving on to the Accounts for the year to 31st December 2014, page 5 gives you our income and expenditure for the year and as you can see our turnover has substantially increased. Our expenses have slightly increased, but not to the same level, and our gross surplus was much higher than the preceding year, leaving us a surplus for 2014 of £6,753.
- If we look at the Balance Sheet on page 6, that shows us the Association's fixed assets, bank assets as cash and, as you see on the bottom line of the table, these comfortably exceed our debts. The UKWA currently is therefore in a sound financial status. We do keep a running total all the time so that we know where we stand. Hopefully we will come to the point where we have replaced all of our infrastructure and we will be in a 'start again' position.

- Thank you once again for all your support – are there any questions. None.

PROPOSED that the 2014 Accounts are agreed and signed by the Directors: Rob Kent

SECONDED: Kevin Proffitt

FLOOR: All in favour, none against, no abstentions.

2 copies signed for forwarding to John Ellis/Companies House; plus one for filing (AA)

Bob Ingram: Thank you Paul and I think I may have missed you out in my original Thank You's! Apologies for that.

Without Paul's careful management of the finances, as you can see in the last few years the difference that that has made to the Association, with the equipment that we now have through to going out and being able to buy a trailer today when we had an incident. It is an enormous thank you to Paul for the work he has put in over a number of years to put us in a good financial position and so that the Committee has a good understanding of the finances, which wasn't always the case. So, thank you Paul.

5. Resources Report – James Palin, Boson

- Most of my items have already been discussed, ie jet ski.
- Tarifa's engine was replaced over winter.
- An awful lot of work happens on and off season so the logistics are huge. We have a fantastic team of volunteers who tow boats all around the country making sure they are in the right place for each event. So thank you to all of the team who work very hard on the logistics and I would also like to propose a vote of thanks to Kevin Proffitt who runs the 'UKWA boat park' up north during the winter months and he shuttles them backwards and forwards in order to get them serviced, etc. Thank you Kevin – Applause from the room. Not forgetting Brian who also has a boat park.

6. Election of Directors (under the new Constitution):

The following elected Directors have all stood down and agreed to stand for 2015:

Chairman: Bob Ingram

Finance/Treasurer: Paul Robinson

Administration: Brian Tilbury

Communication: Alastair Campbell

Marketing and Publicity: Rod Davis

Resources: James Palin

THE EXISTING DIRECTORS WILL BE RE-ELECTED EN BLOC UNLESS SOMEONE ELSE WANTS TO NOMINATE THEMSELVES OR SOMEONE ELSE: None from floor

ABOVE DIRECTORS VOTED EN BLOC: Unanimous vote in the room – None against, no abstentions.

Existing Committee's - Co-opted Directors will be:

Head of Racing: Bob Ingram

Head of Slalom: Bob Ingram (to be replaced asap)

Head of Speed: Pete Davis

Head of Freestyle: Situation Vacant

Head of Wave: Nigel Treacy

Please bear in mind that the Committee won't be here forever, so please note that there will come a time when the old guard will change. Please consider moving forward and volunteer your assistance.

7. **AOB of the Association**

Can The Association detail exactly what the required jobs entail online and on the notice board so that people can feel confident in knowing what it is they have to do if they decide to volunteer to do certain jobs.

It was pointed out that if more people don't volunteer as crew we will run out of crew and the UKWA won't be able to put on events in about 2 years' time.

SUGGESTIONS:

Market jobs in a more user friendly manner.

Consider allocating duties to parents.

Classic example: volunteers needed to blow up marks and let them down at the end of the event.

Brian Tilbury:

Could you please add to the AGM Minutes a thank you to Bob & Sue for all their hard work during the year as this was supposed to come from the floor and was forgotten.

Meeting Closed: 8.44pm

Thank you to all those who attended

AA/21 July 2014

BRIEF NOTES FROM THE SAILORS MEETING continued after the close of the AGM 2015

Start: 8.56pm

Last year we had a visit from Mark Nichols/RYA and as we have already established that conversation is still continuing.

North Sea Cup was cancelled for 2014 owing to Techno and RSX Classes having to attend events elsewhere. For 2015 the North Sea Cup was a bit of a nightmare. We were having conversations with the organisers and right up to the Tuesday before the event we had an email to say that there was a North Sea Cup and a few people turned up. Not good for them or us as I am sure more people would have turned up had they known.

We can only make the event viable at our prices and we will continue to communicate along those lines and see where we go for 2016.

There was a proposal last year for more Cup events in 2015, which we did. We have one extra event this year. They also proposed that we have 3 day events over Bank Holidays or don't use Bank Holidays at all.

It hadn't been intended to use the second Bank Holiday in May this year, but due to events moving around internationally we had to move the Rutland event to the Bank Holiday which wasn't good for sailors or crew as they had already made arrangements and it was difficult to get crew to run the event.

We have taken that on board and the 2016 calendar at the moment has got a 2-day event on the first Bank Holiday of the year but we need to look at tides as to which venue we use.

FLOOR PROPOSED AND AGREED: Keep to 2days not 3 days over bank holidays

- Raceboards and Formula boards for use at events. Try before you buy. All areas of the country if possible, some areas more serviced than others. Long distances involved, so not viable for some parents.
- Training days for Raceboard Youth Pathways, 2 or 3 times a year,
- Kit day on a Bank Holiday Monday?
- World Youth Title, not enough youth Raceboarders at present, but you can be European Champion.
- Raceboard Europeans Brest: SUGGESTED organising a team and support to go to Brest, probably 25-30 August 2016
- Consider Looe, Cornwall for an event. Josephine Spencer's mum (Kim) to send Bob Ingram details.
- 2nd half of May and 2nd week of June – School exams – half term 26th/27 May
- Important to find a way to keep the kids windsurfing.
- Vote of thanks from the floor

Thanks to all attendees.

End of meeting 9.55pm