

**Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting of the UK Windsurfing Association (UKWA)
Held at Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy on 1 May 2010**

59 people signed the attendance sheet.

1. Welcome from Bob Ingram

Apologies: Peter Davis; Alastair Campbell; Roger Clarke; Nigel Treacy

2. Previous Minutes: The AGM Minutes from 2009 were Approved.

Proposed: Rod Davis **Seconded:** Brian Tilbury

Floor Vote: agreed

3. Matters Arising (not covered in the Agenda Items) None received

4. Chairman's Report (Acting Chair Bob Ingram)

Thank you to everyone for supporting the UKWA during 2009, a big thank you to our safety crews, race officers and officials. Thanks to our volunteers particularly the support boat crews and shore based admin crews; thanks to Alastair Campbell who has continued to develop the website and again, moving to 2010 which leads to big advances with the online entry system and online membership and although that's causing Arabella quite a headache it is a good move forward for the Association – and thanks too to Arabella. Thanks to the Committee itself for their support and hard work, thank you to John Ellis and his company for preparing the Accounts, despite retiring from the Exec last year we have him up here again to talk to you about the financial situation of the UKWA again this year. Thanks to the sponsors of the UKWA during the 2009 season, thanks to Donna and Tina for organising the end of year party which was a great success and which I am sure everyone enjoyed – and of course to James and his band who performed there. Finally and I hope I haven't forgotten anybody but thank you to my predecessor, Ian Jones, for all his hard work for the association in the previous 2 years.

Moving onto the various disciplines within the UKWA, the majority here are racers but the UKWA is an umbrella organisation for windsurfing in general. This was the first year that the Association decided to progress without Ceri but we should see those savings reflected in the Accounts – and although Ceri is with us – welcome Ceri - I am sure John will fill us in more when we come to the accountant's report.

Regarding the various disciplines, I will run through what happened in 2009, how we're moving forward in 2010 and if anybody has any questions please feel free to ask them.

Slalom: thanks to Neil Pryde, and in particular Chris Lewis, for sponsoring the 2009 Series. Unfortunately there was only 1 event that counted due to lack of wind, which impacted more perhaps on Slalom than any other discipline.

2010, moving forward, has seen 3 companies come on board now, Neil Pryde, Starboard/Tushingham and Fanatic/North plus Quayside Windsurf as an independent running 1 Slalom event and the UKWA running one – 8 in all under the banner of the BSA but that is just a division of the UKWA and everything runs through the UKWA. We've got fixed contracts with each of the players which guarantees an income toward the UKWA.

Wave: Wave was pretty much run by Louise and Adrian during 2009 which only produced a very small income to the UKWA but the UKWA did benefit from membership of the UKWA. It is difficult to identify exactly how many Wave members there were, probably in the region of 75 active wave sailors but possibly up to 200/250 members who may have joined the Association through the wave discipline, so they are a very valuable asset to the Association.

Wave continued: 2010 sees a completely different arrangement. The Wave sailors are running events under a separate banner of the British Wavesailing Association (BWA). They have set up their own committee, they are running their own events and the UKWA are sanctioning those events and we are allowing the BWA to use our Titles. A big thank you to Jay Williamson and Nigel Treacy who put a lot of effort in making sure that this co-alliance worked and there is a contract in place between the UKWA and the Wavesailing group which is available for anyone to look at if they want to see it.

Speed: Pete Davis looks after speed for the UKWA. Unfortunately there was not enough wind during Speed Week in 2009 – I am told that they need 25% of competitors to reach speeds of over 30 knots for it to be a counting event.

Peter has asked me to thank Dakine, who were the sponsors of the event, and to tell the AGM that it was a very successful event despite the lack of wind with all the 140 places being sold out almost instantly.

2010 will be just as successful, Dakine are on board again and Pete is also looking at bringing in a GPS ladder for the Association, so that's a good move for them.

Freestyle: there was only 1 freestyle event during 2009 at BrightAir, which was a great weekend but with no wind at all. There were some associated costs with that and in the Accounts you can see a small loss for Freestyle which was due to having to pay the judges and with no wind being forecast most sailors stayed at home. They missed a great weekend but there was a small loss for the UKWA.

For 2010 we had a meeting with Trevor Funnell, who used to run Freestyle for the UKWA. We approached him for advice on how we could run a Series and by the end of the afternoon he was running it for us! So there will once again be a British Freestyle Tour, I think about 5 events are already scheduled which will run alongside most of the Slalom events, and one of those is already an International junior event, so Freestyle is looking good and I am hoping that we can bring that on very strongly.

Our thanks go to Trevor Funnell as well as he has contributed all the new equipment needed for Freestyle events.

Racing: 2009 saw 5 Inland events – thanks to the Regions for putting those on; 5 Cup Events and the UKWA hosted the National Junior Championships with the RYA at Whitwell and also hosted the RYA Youth & Masters/British Open, which was in Weymouth round about November time.

Race events were very successful in 2009, with particular growth in the Techno and RS:X Fleets and the resurgence of Raceboard which I think is really important for the Association moving forward. Formula numbers unfortunately have fallen off a little and lets hope we can grow that. I know Keith Atkinson is putting some effort into the with Formula Experience so we hope we can move that forward in 2010.

2010 will see a similar format and one important thing we are doing this year is bringing back the North Sea Cup which will be at Folkstone. Marc Carney has put in a fantastic amount of work in Folkestone to get this event off the ground. The Council have put in terrific support so we hope it will be a great event for us.

Windsurfer of the Year: Pete Davis intends to run the same system of voting again this year as it was very successful in 2009.

5. Treasurer's Report

We do have an elected Treasurer who then got posted abroad so John Ellis will present the accounts to the room.

Accounts to 31 December 2009: You can see a copy of the Accounts on the website

Page 3 reflects that the figures do show a true and fair view of the Associations affairs and that they comply with the Companies Act.

The surplus last year (2009) and the year before (2008) was roughly the same at around £4K. The Association has an accumulated surplus now of around £18K, which is needed as a reserve for any bad year and to pay for and provide the equipment; the boats, buoys, PA system, etc.

The Balance Sheet reflects the net current assets, which show the solvency of the Association. The solvency being how much the current assets (the money that is owed to the Association or in the bank) exceed the current liabilities. The figure is around £25K this year, which is an increase on the previous year.

Summary: The Association made a surplus last year (2009) on a slightly lower income than the year before (2008) and it has net current assets in a healthy position given its size.

6. Class Structures within the UKWA.

Bob Ingram:

Racing: Raceboard, Techno, RS:X, Formula – The UKWA is the Class Association for all of these classes and we would like to see the Classes run themselves in effect with more representation from the sailors to the Exec.

Bob has had a couple of meetings with Kirsty and Duncan (RYA), with Richard Sills, Nikki Flannigan and Phil Hards to discuss moving Techno forward. The goal then would be to roll out that similar programme across the various Fleets. Raceboard has a structure set up already, which is fairly similar to the way we are talking with the Techno. Where we would like to see this go is that each discipline would have at least a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (for funded classes/or with a developed income) who would be responsible for running the Class and reporting the UKWA Exec. Ideally, but not necessarily, the Chairman of that Class would sit on the Executive Committee [or a group of at least 3 identified individuals who organise Class related issues].

The RYA is putting a lot of money to fund these classes and they should see that the money is being used in a very responsible manner and when we have structures in place to demonstrate that we are capable of running these classes if they are giving us some money.

We will be asking for support particularly from parents in the Youth groups. We would like to get these structures set up as quickly as possible across all the Classes of Racing.

7. Election of Officers

Jay Williamson:

The constitution requires that all the officers (Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary) stand down each year.

Looking ahead, all other positions were organised around when the UKWA was just racing and it was a much simpler organisation than it is now. Over the last 3 or 4 years we have tried to move towards having an Executive Committee that is fully representative of all the Disciplines and all the Classes, which has resulted in the Committee getting bigger and bigger and it has got to the point where it is very difficult to have a meeting (a) that you can get everybody to and (b) where a lot of the business is relevant for all of the people who go to the meeting, so the organisation is now at the stage where, over the next year, the Committee needs to look at the Constitution and will probably come to the next AGM with a proposal for changes.

The other thing is that as the Committee has got even bigger, not only is it unwieldy there is also a lot of admin because currently everybody on the Exec is a Director of the UKWA which means that they have to be registered and de-registered with Companies House.

The way that we are thinking (for this year's Committee to decide) is to move to a smaller Board so that the Board and the Executive Committee won't be one and the same thing leading to a smaller Board of people who are actually registered as Directors and a larger consultancy group of the Exec. The plan would be that the Board rarely needs to meet unless there is a major policy issue that affects all of the disciplines. Much more of the work would be done through groups like the Class Committees and through the Discipline Committees that happen at the moment, and then the main delegates report in to the Board who control the assets and finance of the organisation.

Nominations for the Officers:

Bob Ingram – Chairman

Paul Robinson – Treasurer

Jay Williamson – Secretary

Election of the above Officers en bloc - AGREED:

PROPOSED BY: Janet Pain

SECONDED: Dave Sibley

VOTE FROM FLOOR Carried

Execs:

Head of Racing – Bob Ingram

Head of Slalom – Roger Clark

Head of Speed – Pete Davis

Head of Wave – Nigel Treacy

Head of Freestyle – Trevor Funnell

Class Representatives:

Raceboard – Brian Tilbury

Techno – Phil Hards

Formula – Dave Coles

RS:X – vacant

Funboard – to be announced

Active Regional Representatives

London & SE Region
SW Region
Midlands
North East

Paul Robinson
Richard Sills
Dave Barratt
Dave Dobson

Specialist areas

Boson
Race Team Rep
Publicity
Webmaster

Dave Sibley
election notification by crew awaited
Rod Davis
Alastair Campbell

Election of the all above Execs, Reps and specialist areas en bloc - AGREED

PROPOSED BY: Peter Ash
SECONDED: Gill Humble
FLOOR VOTE: Carried

8. There being no relevant other business – meeting closed 9pm.

Thanks to all those who attended.