



Notes from the Racing Committee meeting on 8March2015

Attendees: Andy Baker Bob Carter David McNamee
 David Philpott Ian Patterson Ian Rawet
 Neil Klabe Neil Washington Tim Obrien
 Stewart Smith

Apologies Andy Johnson James Macgregor

1. **Turn out report.** David Philpott reports that the figure he is using suggests there is a regular small increase in turnout for Sunday racing.
2. **Racing format:**
 - a. **End of Winter series event 29Mar2015** – fitting out day.
 - The meeting agreed to hold a handicap series using the Wednesday evening handicap style of three starts with two morning races without discard to feature for a result.
 - The prize giving, to include the Winter Series prizes, would be during an extended lunch period in the wet bar.
 - There will be two afternoon races using the same format as the morning with spot prize(s) for the sailor(s) taking part; to be presented after sailing in the dry bar.
 - b. **Spring Series (April to June).**
 - The use of the OL (Olympic Course) board will be retired as it is thought the term is too old. It will be replaced with TS (Triangle/sausage).
 - There will be an ST (sausage/triangle) board to provide Race Officers with another option. The new option will be introduced into the RO portfolio once suitable guidance is available.
 - c. **The option to make the upwind gate a barrier** to all sailors when they sail an off-wind leg by making the start/finish line into an obstruction for all boats “except when starting, completing a lap or finishing” **was deferred to a later meeting.** Members thought that a barrier of such a length (when added to the asymmetric gate) will have a major and detrimental impact on down-wind tactics. Committee members will canvas their peers for views and recognising the appropriate rules of sailing personally monitor for incidents whilst they are on the water.
 - d. **A WL (windward/leeward) board is on hold** for discussion at another meeting as it could also be used to introduce a leeward gate with making the upwind gate a barrier to sailors when sailing on off-wind legs.

- e. **Wednesday evening: replicate 2014** SI adding the change of points for Race Officers and RIB crews debated last year.
 - f. **Bart's Bash 20Sep2015** – a specific club race for the day will be nominated
3. Handicaps for Club racing 2015.
- a. The Great Lakes team review of the handicaps used during the winter Sailjuice series was presented by Bob Carter.
 - b. The proposal to use these new handicaps immediately was accepted and **will take effect from 29th March 2015**.
 - c. The catamaran representatives would like to see the SCHRS figures used when catamarans were competing against only other catamarans and the adjust handicaps for PY comparison when racing against mono-hull boats. The results process by the office with two handicap options was thought to be too complex. **The catamaran representatives were asked compare the differences side by side** and report back to the committee.
 - d. The committee was asked to allocate a handicap for the new LaserPerformance sail now available for the Standard rig Laser. The sail has been developed by the Class and the builder to perform the same as the existing Standard sail. The cut and sailcloth are different to allow the use of a more easily sourced sailcloth. The existing sailcloth is becoming difficult to source. The sail is not yet approved for National and International racing as the design has to be approved by ISAF. The option to allow the sail in handicap racing with the development sail PY time penalty (3% Racing Committee 2Jun13) was discussed. A request by Andy Baker, representing the Laser fleet to **use the same handicap for Club racing as the current sail** was accepted. This was because the sail had been specifically developed by the Class and the builder to be the same as the sail the new one will ultimately replace. The boats using the new sail will sign on as the **Laser Blue for club racing**.
- 4. Colour/visibility of marks. Ongoing
 - 5. Average Race Results for CRO teams: implication for Sunday race results. Ongoing
 - 6. Slipway 6 – regular used by sailors with asymmetric boats and the training groups is covered (when inland of the goose fence) with 1inch loose rock. Ian Paterson is to form a working party to sweep the slip and deposit the rock on the beach to provide a hard core base.
 - 7. Digital monitoring of wind speed and direction for committee boats. Ongoing
 - 8. Next Meeting 31st May 2015.

Ian Rawet
Chair