



## **Racing Committee: notes from the of meeting 8 October 2017**

### **Attendees:**

Catherine Joce      Dave Philpott      Neil Klabe      Ian Rawet  
Tim O'Brien

### **Apologies:**

David McNamee      Ian Paterson      Neil Washington

- 1) Turnout - Dave Philpott's report:
  - a) When the weather is good attendance is up in both am and pm races see the first three weekend in August where there were circa 40 a.m. and 17 p.m. starters. When the weather is bad (and we have had some no wind/high wind days this series) attendance drops off and some afternoon races have been called off altogether. No surprises here.
  - b) When there is a special event attendance overall, morning and/or afternoon, is much healthier. D of E 50a.m. then 20p.m. Note the fall off in the afternoon might have been exaggerated due to the late starts in the afternoon. Barts Bash had 30 (including 5 Challengers from GWC) for an afternoon race, nearly the same as in the morning.
  - c) Comparing the Spring Series to the current Summer Series, to date, essentially no change in average attendance.
- 2) Racing format for November, December and January:
  - a) Revert to winter sailing with three races and five starts sailed back to back.
  - b) First race start 11h00.
  - c) The start to reduce to three a minute start sequence instead of five to improve the turnaround i.e. Start one is numeral 3, start two numeral 5 etc.
  - d) The proposal for the Asymmetric start number four to include the asymmetric catamarans so as to leave start three for catamarans that sail the handicap course was debated. A decision to make a change in the starting order was deferred until the asymmetric Feet Captain is available to be included in the decision.
  - e) Meanwhile, to assist the office and the competitors differentiate between the standard catamarans and the asymmetric catamarans when signing on, the potential for a different paper colour for the signing on sheet is to be explored. Catamaran sailors signing the wrong sheet would be awarded DNS. **Action**
- 3) How to promote racing and the racing format during Sunday afternoons in the Summer of 2018. The objective is to identify a format that will be attractive to sailors new to Sunday afternoon sailing without deterring the existing Sunday morning and afternoon sailors.
  - a) Feedback from fleet discussions would indicate that the FF15 fleet would prefer to retain the existing format (two p.m. races with or without a change in format) whereas single handed fleets would prefer racing to finish at lunch time (13h00 is late by the time packing and



- showing is completed). In order to achieve an earlier finish, an early start is required which could impact upon the volunteering resources.
- b) A questionnaire is proposed to be circulated to all Club members seeking their views. Each committee member is asked to forward the questions they think necessary to determine the format that will fulfil the objective to identify a form of racing that will be attractive to sailors new to Sunday afternoon racing/sailing without deterring the existing Sunday morning and afternoon racing sailors.
  - c) The questions will be collated for presentation to the November Club Council meeting for approval. **Target date is 15<sup>th</sup> November** for complete questions to be with Dave Philpott. The questions should be framed in such a manner that a member should be able to identify whether they would be more active or less active if the idea were introduced.
- 4) Race Committee:
    - a) electronic aids, ongoing
    - b) Use the video recorder ongoing
  - 5) Fleet Captains have received lists of new members. Is it possible to identify (highlight) those who are new to the Club and those that have transferred from other fleets? **ACTION**
  - 6) Date of next meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> January. The dates of future meetings, taking place circa four weeks before the start of the next series, will be published on the web site calendar: 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Ian Rawet,  
Chair