

MINUTES OF MEETING

NORFOLK PUNT OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

MEETING HELD AT THE NEW VICTORY HALL NEATISHEAD 2nd FEBRUARY 2013

Present: N. Khambatta (Chair), M.Griffin (Sec), C.Griffin, A. Drew, C. Drew, J. Parker, D. Long, R. Slatter, R. Whitefoot, C. Wood, R. Redington, P.Griffin, C. Griffin, T. Vincent.

1. Apologies: B. Glover, D. Adler, R. Conway, C.Balls, D. Roe, K.Dulieu, B. Wilkins, M. Boreham, J. Pye, P.Wilcox, V. Khambatta, S. Jenner, S. Clayton, R. Clayton.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 20th January 2012.

These were approved & signed by N.K.

3. Matters Arising.

(a) Update on New Website.

Rupert Redington gave a short presentation to those present on the progress made to date on the new website.

He asked for support in terms of photographs, past race results, items of general interest etc that he could publish on the site in the future, in order to further enhance the site & make it more appealing & attractive to both current members of the Association, & also visitors to the site who demonstrate an interest in our class.

Rupert asked whether there would be any objections to him publishing the minutes of our AGM's on the site, no-one raised any issues with this request, & so we can expect to be able to access these on the site in the future.

The number of daily visitors to the site to date have been most encouraging, with counts reaching as high as ten on peak days.

On behalf of the Association, Neville then presented Rupert with some wine to convey our thanks & gratitude to him, for all of the hard work & commitment that had been demonstrated by him in getting this project off the ground.

He has done a fantastic job on a project that we can all be proud of.

(b) Update on future rules change/New NPC Constitution

Neville briefed those present on the appropriate sections of the New Constitution proposed by the Norfolk Punt Club, in conjunction with the RYA, that included statements applicable to the Punt Owners Association.

In real terms any changes are both minimal & beneficial to members of the Association & were accepted as this by those members present at the meeting.

A discussion then took place with regards to the new rule that is effective from the end of the 2013 season, relating to our current rule 22.

At the end of this season, as proposed & agreed at the AGM in 2011,

Current Rule 22 becomes Rule 22.1, & a **new Rule 22.2 – The spinnaker shall not be flown from a point on the mast greater than 6750mm from deck level** will become effective.

This rule prohibits the use of mast head spinnakers in competitive punt sailing, from the commencement of our **2014 calendar**.

It was agreed that this change would be published on the website as a reminder to all members of the Association.

4. Report from the Handicap & Technical Committee.

The meeting took place this year on 1st November 2012.

Punt handicaps were discussed as an agenda item, but it was agreed that the general balance for the 2012 season had been about right, & that we should continue to monitor results throughout 2013.

Cavender, Limelight & Swallow 11 were discussed in some detail, but it was agreed that although these punts had performed well in certain events & conditions there was insufficient information available to allow us to objectively effect any changes for the 2013 season.

Other items included Matters Arising from the Update on our New Rules & Constitution, as Discussed at the last AGM, & the Travellers Series, which from 2013, will include the popular Tri Icicle event, which is always supported by punt sailors.

This will bring the total number of events to **9**, but still retaining the number of qualifying events to 4, in order to encourage overall participation.

5. Individual Members Proposals.

A proposal to clarify the existing rules relating to punts built prior to 1997, & deemed to measure, was raised by Richard Whitefoot, & seconded by Terry Vincent.

His concern is that the current rule relating to this matter is not clear in as much as whether or not the specifics relate to the hull, or hull & rig, as the terminology used is quite simply **Boat**.

It was agreed at the meeting that the wording in this rule be changed from boat to **hull**, in order to avoid any miss-interpretation in the future.

Neville agreed to study the current rules, & report back his findings at the next AGM.

6. Travellers Series.

Neville briefed out the results of the 2012 Travellers Series, which had been a great success in terms of numbers of boats competing & qualifying for this event.

6 punts sailed the 4 or more events that enabled them to qualify for the Travellers.

The Series was won by Simon & Rachel Clayton in punt 86 Peregrine.

Second was 102 Comet helmed by Richard Whitefoot, & punt 32 Cavender was third, helmed by Robin Slatter.

A special mention also went to Brian in punt 61 Shoveller, who competed in 7 out of the 8 qualifying events, & finished in fourth place.

It was agreed that the Hickling Open had been a great success, with 15 boats competing, as had the Athene Cup, hosted by NPC in 2012.

Following a discussion it was agreed that the Athene Cup should be run along the same lines in future years, as it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

A request was made to include the Snowflake in future Travellers Series events, but the handicapping of punts in comparison with other boats needs to be evaluated before making a decision on this matter.

7. Programme for 2012 & Athene Cup

NPC	Punt Open	6 th & 7 th July	Trav. Series
	Punt Champs	17 th & 18 th August	Trav. Series
	Regatta	24 th & 25 th August	Trav. Series
	Athene Cup	7 th September	Trav Series

B. Broad Open Regatta Mon. 26th August

NBYC Wroxham Week 28th July to 4th August

H BSC	Spring Regatta	5 th & 6 th May	
	Punt Open	21 st July 10.30am start 4 races	Trav. Series
	S. Eve Regatta	24 th to 26 th July	
	S. Regatta	27 th & 28 th July	Trav. Series
	Autumn Regatta	5 th & 6 th October	

3 Rivers Race 1st & 2nd June Trav. Series

Triple B 28th September Trav. Series

Tri Icicle 20th October Trav. Series

The **Athene Cup** will be hosted by **HBSC** in 2013. Further details with regards to this event to follow.

The 2012 winner of this event was punt **102 Comet**, helmed by **Richard Whitefoot**, from H.B.S.C.

The winner of the Blackbird Trophy, (i.e. the first boat home), was punt **86 Peregrine** helmed by **Simon Clayton**.

8. AOB

There was no AOB.

9. Election of Handicap & Technical Committee

There were 2 proposals to fill the current vacancies created by Will Daniels & Chris Wood who stepped down from the Committee this year.

The proposals were in support of Terry Vincent, HBSC & Mark Elson, NPC.

A vote took place, & there was unanimous support for both candidates , who will become part of the HTC in 2013.

10. Election of Officers

There were no proposals to fill the Secretarial post.

Mike agreed to continue to carry out these duties for another 12 months.

We have a current vacancy for the role of Publicity Officer, which has not been filled.

In the short term please forward any suggestions or information to Neville, our Chairperson.

The Meeting closed at 20.20pm.