

## RS800 Class Association Special General Meeting Minutes 12 March 2020

RS Sailing, Romsey

Chair of Meeting: RS800 Chair Dan Goodman

Secretary: Clare Sargent

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p><u>Apologies:</u> Ben Palmer, Pete Vincent (RS Class Assoc Chair).</p> <p><u>Present:</u>            RS800 Class Association Members: Tom Morris, Chris Feibusch, Dan Goodman (Chair),            RS800 sailors not yet renewed at 11 March 20: Rob Gullan, Nick Ireland, Dennis and Nikita Watson,            RS Sailing: Jim Hood, Alex Southon, Andy Taphouse, Steve Wilson.            Selden: Ben Hazeldean, Andy McCormack, Steve Norbury.</p> <p><u>Phone In:</u>            RS800 members: Andrew Handasyde Dick, Ciaran Hurney, Andy Jeffries, Luke McEwen, Martin Orton, Mari Shepherd.            RS800 sailors not yet renewed at 11 March 20: Alex Benfield, Tom Partington, Hannah Tattersall.</p>	
2	<p><u>Welcome:</u>            2.1 Dan Goodman (DG) RS800 Class Association Chair welcomed to the RS800 Special General Meeting all those present and those on the conference call.</p>	
3	<p><u>Discussion on proposed rule tidy-up:</u>            3.1 The RS800 Rules Proposal as at 13 Feb 20 is here:  <a href="https://www.rs800.org/documents/p1e0v96827v3v1gdo10db1m6lp7j3.pdf">https://www.rs800.org/documents/p1e0v96827v3v1gdo10db1m6lp7j3.pdf</a>            3.2 RS Sailing are not happy with amendment 14. Following much discussion it was agreed that amendment 14 would be removed from the proposed rule change document and investigated outside the rules update.            3.3 DG raised thanks from the class to Tom Morris, Luke McEwen, Ciaran Hurney and Andy Jeffries for their hard work in updating the rules.            3.4 A poll was raised as to whether to put the rules tidy-up proposal (omitting amendment 14) to the membership for formal vote. Proposed by Tom Morris. Seconded by Nick Ireland. Unanimous agreement from floor. Motion carried. CS to action.</p>	<p>CS, DG, RS800 tech committee, RS Jim Hood</p> <p>CS</p>
4	<p><u>Background: Why the SGM has been called:</u>            4.1 DG summarised the 3 separate issues with spreaders that have been raised:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Faulty batch of lower spreaders with 2mm plate. Four failures at Grafham Oct 19. 17 boats were affected.</li> <li>2. Spreader out of tolerances. Up to 75% of the fixed spreaders fitted to masts do not meet the tolerances specified in rules introduced in 2003 and removed prior to 2013.</li> <li>3. Spreader moving over time. It has been recognised that the deflection of Selden fixed spreaders increases with use until they reach &gt;180mm deflection.</li> </ol>           DG thanked Tom Morris for gathering measurement data.            4.2 RS Sailing completely agreed with DG's clear explanation of the situation.</p>	
5	<p><u>Selden's solution:</u>            5.1 Selden Steve Norbury, Andy McCormack and Ben Hazeldean presented their solution of a new design spreader and new brackets.            See attached Selden test spreadsheet and photos            Selden worked testing the new spreader against extant solutions on their test rig on 12 March 20. They worked on 5 spreader systems in a repeatable test to show aft bending moment which is deemed the most significant factor in</p>	

<p>spreader failure.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Standard lug</li> <li>b. Retrofit lug</li> <li>c. Retrofit lug mark 2</li> <li>d. Original Seleden bracket Vernier adjust</li> <li>e. Fully adjustable 470 style</li> </ol> <p>The design challenge is a spreader which can be fitted to new masts AND be retro-fitted to old masts. It needs to be legal and stronger than the current design.</p> <p>Selden fit spreaders at 150mm deflection.</p> <p>The spreaders are hollow and all failed at the holes.</p> <p>5.2 RS Sailing will create a set of clear instructions in order to enable correct retro-fitting of the new spreader to old masts.</p> <p>5.3 RS Sailing are happy to offer the services of our Approved Repairer Network – subject to Selden approval.</p> <p>5.4 Need for clarity in rules about lower spreader deflection measurement. RS Sailing support the concept of limiting how far forward the spreaders can be set ie 140mm as minimum measurement with no maximum measurement stated. RS800 tech committee to work with Jim Hood and Andy McCormack to draft rule. CS to implement appropriate rule change when new spreader introduced.</p> <p>5.5 Question raised as option for rule change to permit shimming to bring old spreaders back into tolerance. RS Sailing agreed that they would supply the new stainless steel brackets at a significantly reduced cost in order to avoid the need to shim. Selden agreed to investigate enlarging the bracket lugs so they can be retrofitted onto SeaSure spreaders. RS Sailing will price up the new spreader and new brackets. It was agreed that the question of a rule change to permit shimming was answered. It will be unnecessary to shim with the new brackets. RS Sailing reiterated that they will draw up clear instructions how to retro-fit and this will include a jig.</p> <p>5.6 RS Sailing are introducing a new mission critical item tracking system using serial numbers and batch control numbers. The new spreaders will be the first item on this new system.</p> <p>5.7 RS Sailing reiterated the three phase plan that had been previously agreed with the class in November 2019.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Phase one: Recall of 2mm spreaders. Complete system change at no cost to RS800 sailor. Cost to RS Sailing.</li> <li>b. Phase two: Boats less than 3 years old that have spreaders out of measurement will have the spreaders replaced with new agreed system at no cost to the sailor. Cost split between RS Sailing and Selden.</li> <li>c. Phase three: Boats older than 3 years that have spreaders out of measurement can have the new agreed system for a cost neutral price to the sailor.</li> </ol> <p>5.8 Selden to provide a visual indicator with each mast to indicate the deflection set at the factory. RS Sailing and Selden to work together to ensure accurate deflection measurement when new mast sold.</p> <p>5.9 RS Sailing and RS800 Class Association Sec Clare Sargent (CS) to complete boat specification document. This will establish the protocol for communication between RS Sailing and the RS800 Class Association in the future to enable better communication.</p> <p>5.10 Selden and RS Sailing will investigate whether the top spreader should have the same new fitting.</p> <p>5.11 It was unanimously agreed that the new spreader/bracket lug solution needs sea trials. RS Sailing and Selden will report findings back to RS800 Chair</p>	<p>RS Jim Hood RS Alex Southon, Selden Andy McCormack RS800 tech committee, Jim Hood, Andy McCormack</p> <p>CS RS Alex Southon</p> <p>Selden Andy McCormack RS Alex Southon</p> <p>RS Andy Taphouse</p> <p>RS Jim Hood</p> <p>RS Jim Hood Selden Andy McCormack</p> <p>CS and RS Jim Hood</p> <p>RS Jim Hood Selden Andy McCormack</p> <p>RS Jim Hood</p>
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	<p>Dan Goodman via RS800 Sec Clare Sargent. RS Sailing to work with Selden to coordinate the trials. A number of sailors volunteered to be involved.</p> <p><u>Afternote:</u> Sea trials will be conducted by Luke McEwen, Tom Morris and George Smith.</p> <p>5.12 After much discussion it was agreed that the class would proceed with the proposed new design fixed spreader from Selden in order to preserve the class ethos of keeping it simple and basic. An adjustable spreader cannot be retro-fitted to old masts and would therefore not be one design across a fleet of new and old boats. It was acknowledged that old boats would continue with old spreaders until point of breakage at which point they would retro-fit with the new design.</p>	<p>Selden Andy McCormack, Tom Morris</p> <p><u>Afternote:</u> Luke McEwen, George Smith</p>
6	<p><u>The way forward:</u></p> <p>6.1 RS Sailing and Selden will work with the test sailors to put the new spreader solution through rigorous sea trails. The trials are to be fully documented. To report back to Dan Goodman, via CS, by xx April. <u>Afternote:</u> Due to Covid 19 lock down sea trails have been delayed. Date of testing completion tbc</p> <p>6.2 Rule amendment to revert to minimum 140mm spreader deflection. To add into rules tidy-up proposal. CS to action rules vote. Await completion of sea trials. To coincide with live implementation of new spreader/bracket.</p> <p><u>Afternote:</u> Rule amendment: "The lower spreaders shall be 460mm +/- 10mm in length, when measured from the centre of the shroud wire along the spreader to the wall of the mast. From a line between the centre of both main shrouds at the spreader ends, the distance to the aftermost edge of the sail track will be no less than 140 mm when measured without loads on the mast or supporting stays. The upper spreaders shall be 360 mm +/- 5mm in length, when measured from the centre of the shroud wire along the spreader to the wall of the mast."</p> <p>6.3 RS Sailing to create fitting instructions.</p> <p>6.4 RS and Selden to implement QC measurement process.</p> <p>6.5 Update on all above tasks to Dan Goodman by xx April.</p> <p>6.6 Good communication with RS800 membership required throughout. CS to action.</p> <p>6.7 Dan Goodman formally closed the meeting, and thanked everyone for attending and for their hard work so far.</p>	<p>RS Jim Hood Selden Andy McCormack, Tom Morris and Ciaran Hurney CS with tech committee RS Jim Hood and Selden Andy McCormack CS</p>
7	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>No date set for next meeting but sea trial and other tasks to be completed by xx April. <u>Afternote:</u> Due to Covid 19 lock down sea trails have been delayed. Date of next meeting tbc</p>	<p>All</p>

Clare Sargent

RS Class Association Secretary