

RS Class Association Management Meeting Minutes 22 November 2023

Online: Microsoft Teams

Chair of Meeting: David Smart

Secretary: Clare Sargent

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p><u>Apologies:</u> Sally Campbell (Sec), Pete Mackin (UK RS300), Gilles Peeters (Euro RS800), Pete Vincent (Chair).</p> <p><u>Present online:</u> Matt Carter (UK RS700), James Curtis (Int RS500), Bex Foot (RS Sailing Marketing), Michiel Geerling (RS Sailing Director), Sam Knight (UK RS400), Pete Mackin (UK RS300), Jamie Mawson (UK RS600), Tom Morris (UK RS800), Paul North (UK RS Vareo), Clare Sargent (Sec), David Smart (UK RS100 and meeting Chair), Will Taylor (UK RS200), Steve Wilson (RS Sailing Technical).</p> <p><u>Welcome:</u> Pete Vincent (PV) was not present for the meeting so David Smart (DS) stood up as Chair. DS welcomed everyone.</p>	
2	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting:</u> No matters arising. Minutes approved.</p>	
3	<p><u>Treasurer:</u> Sally Campbell (SC) provided notes for the meeting:</p> <p>3.1 Accounts - Key points: Bank account estimate at end of 2023 is £57,000. This is just 1000 Euros less than at the end of 2022. Budget was to make a £7700 loss in 2023, predictions show just a 1000 Euro loss, as above. Main reasons for this are:</p> <p>a. Less loss from Garda than expected, due to negotiation with club and exchange rate.</p> <p>b. Lower spend on fees than anticipated.</p> <p>3.2 Going forward we can afford to and should spend a bit more, as reserve is still higher than is good practice. The following will be implemented:</p> <p>a. Coaching grants to be increased to £150 per grant, we have money available for Winter 2023 and for 2024 coaching across all fleets. SC will promote this.</p> <p>b. In conjunction with RS Sailing, we will look at some really nice trophies to replace some lost/tatty/cheap ones for the 30th anniversary.</p>	SC
4	<p><u>Membership:</u> Figures as at October 2023 here: https://www.rs100.org/documents/p1hftq94or1jhqj9p1bcg1sqv1m4i3.pdf Fleets numbers static except RS200 fleet which is 98 down, with result that total membership down 101 on this time last year. 2022 RS200 Nationals at HISC was exceptionally popular with 364 sailors competing, many of whom joined up specifically for the event. Sailors to encourage friends to join up.</p>	All
5	<p><u>Sponsorship:</u> SC provided notes for the meeting:</p> <p>5.1 Sponsors are happy with the increased focus on making sure we include them in event names, tag them on social media, include photos with sponsor bling etc. Thank you to all fleet committee members for helping with this.</p> <p>5.2 A very positive meeting has been held with Rooster. We are in the process of agreeing a deal for sponsorship of the National Tours for 2024. Rooster to continue as RS Class Association clothing sponsor.</p> <p>5.3 Noble Marine to confirm continued title sponsorship of the Nationals. Members get discount off their insurance.</p> <p>5.4 Discussions with other event and regional tour sponsors for 2024 are ongoing.</p> <p>5.5 Once again a big thank you to all of our sponsors for their generosity and support.</p> <p>5.6 If any sailors have sponsorship ideas please let SC or Clare Sargent (CS) know.</p>	SC and CS
6	<p><u>Merchandise:</u> Rooster continue as our clothing sponsor with fleet logo branded clothing available on Rooster website.</p>	CS

7	<p><u>Race documentation:</u></p> <p>7.1 CS to conduct annual race docs review with International Judge Robin.</p> <p>7.2 Request for clarity in National's Sis as to whether go through gate or not when shorten course. To retain option of shorten course at windward mark. Suggest add requirement for whistle sound signal with flag from RIB at gate/mark. CS to investigate with International Judge Robin and then confirm with RS500 James Curtis and RS800 Tom Morris.</p>	CS
8	<p><u>Calendar:</u></p> <p>8.1 2024 calendar work well underway. Last few events to be finalised.</p>	CS and SC
9	<p><u>Coaching:</u> SC provided notes for the meeting:</p> <p>9.1 Since the start of 2022 we have approved 31 grants. 11 applications have been received for 23/24 so far.</p> <p>9.2 Conditions for the grant remain the same:</p> <p>a. We are able to award £150 per grant towards the cost of a coach, RIB, fuel or other costs.</p> <p>b. Costs above £150 would need to be recouped from a charge to the sailors or met by the host club.</p> <p>c. The group should be a minimum of 5 boats and the day open to sailors from other local clubs - we will post the coaching day on our website calendar.</p> <p>d. Entries can be taken by the club, or via the RS Class association website.</p> <p>e. At least one participant per boat needs to be a member of the RS Class Association or take out one-event membership (can be upgraded to annual membership during the year if required).</p> <p>f. Once the event has run, we ask that the organiser please send a few photos, a brief report (only needs to be a few lines) and an invoice for the £150 to SC.</p> <p>9.3 There is opportunity for sponsors to work with a coaching event. Please contact SC with ideas.</p>	SC
10	<p><u>Technical/Spares:</u></p> <p>10.1 Thanks to RS Bex Foot for providing photos of the RS technical reps for the fleet website pages. The RS200 website committee page has a name, contact details and photo for the technical rep. Request to other fleets for same detail.</p> <p>10.2 RS700 Matt Carter explained that the fleet was working with RS and Hyde to investigate standardising sail battens to supplied by RS tapered battens. Currently sailors doing homemade customised battens. Likely cost of upgrade about £50. RS Steve Wilson will chase Andy Taphouse for RS Sailing's response and report back. <u>Afternote:</u> CS to be informed of progress so need for rule change can be verified.</p> <p>10.3 RS200 Will Taylor stated their committee exploring tightening rules so sail battens as supplied. <u>Afternote:</u> CS and SC to be informed of progress so need for rule change can be verified.</p>	<p>SC All</p> <p>Matt Carter</p> <p>Will Taylor</p>
11	<p><u>Secretariat/Class/RS Sailing Relationship:</u></p> <p>11.1 RS600 Jamie Mawson concerned that RS600 not included in RS Sailing's social media posts eg Draycote Dash push. Also location on RS Sailing's website is with heritage not racing dinghies, fails to mention RS600s now in production, and has photos of the old white not the new black sail. RS Michiel Geerling apologised and will action website work.</p> <p>11.2 RS Bex Foot introduced herself to the meeting and was welcomed as the new marketing rep. She will send out a social media pack to the fleet committees so they can help her spread the good news about their sailing activity. She is very excited about working with the RS Class Association. The RS Class Association is excited about working with her too.</p>	
12	<p><u>AOB:</u></p>	

	<p>12.1 RS Michiel stated that he would be hosting RS Miami Fest in 2024 with an open category suitable for the RS racing dinghies. Currently the US market sees RS dinghies mainly for training. He invited UK sailors to get involved by becoming buddies to new US RS sailors.</p> <p>12.2 Michiel said a decision would be made in January 2024 whether 2026 RS Games to be held at WPNSA, as previously, or as part of Travermunde Woche in Germany. The proposal for Travermunde is to take over the whole beach area, to race in front of the beach, and to camp in the dinghy park where the socials would be based. So it would be a real festival of dinghy racing. If that was to happen then the fleets would all have their nationals in the UK.</p>	CS and SC
13	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u> Tbc but anticipate February 2024 online. Conference call details to be sent with calling notice.</p>	All