

# RS800 AGM Minutes

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Venue:** Eastbourne SC

**Class secretary:** Lizzie Cattermole



## Present

Monique Vennis-Ozanne, Hugh Shone, Anna Ormond, Brett Tudor, Blake Tudor, Elsie Munro, Tim Gratton, Luke McEwen, Bryan Ormond, Tom Morris, Ben Palmer, Dan Goodman, Ben Willows, Taylor Willows, Guy Fillmore.

## Apologies

None.

## Welcome

Class Chair Tom Morris gave warm welcome to all attendees.

## Matters Arising from 2024 Minutes

None. The 2024 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

*Proposed: Tom Morris | Seconded: Anna Ormond*

## Election of committee

- **Chair:** Tom Morris (continuing; Hugh Shone stepped down as Co-Chair)
- **Technical Rep:** Luke McEwen (continuing)
- **Results Rep:** Brett Tudor (new)
- **Training Rep:** Anna Ormond (continuing)
- **General Rep:** Ben Palmer (continuing)
- **Plank Rep:** Bryan Ormond (continuing)
- **Youth Rep:** Blake Tudor (new)
- **Fleet Rep:** Open role – to be filled at events as needed

All appointments were approved unanimously.

### Technical review:

- Mast head fitting – proposal to allow an open part (not RS-specific).
  - *Proposed: Luke McEwen | Seconded: Bryan Ormond* → **Action:** request rule change.
- Ben Willows to discuss jib D-ring issue with Luke McEwen.
- Proposed rule change to allow rope to be used for jib tack.
- Luke McEwen has drafted rule on bolt rope reinforcement but needs measurement of length.
  - **Action:** Tom Morris to measure length of patch allowed.

### Review of 2025

- Hayling training very successful, though costs have increased.
- Desire for more than one training weekend/day per year.
- Queen Mary Open was strong this year.
- Overall numbers are down.

### 2026 calendar

- **March:** Queen Mary Spring Champs
- **April:** Stokes Bay Open + possible one-day training the weekend before
- **May:** Weymouth Skiff Event
- **June:** Hayling 'Pre-Travelmunde' training
- **July:** RS Games (Travemünde)
- **September:** Torbay Nationals (week earlier than usual)
- **October:** Inlands
- **November:** Tide Ride

Exact dates subject to confirmation but aim to keep the calendar streamlined (“less is more”).

### Future years

It was recognised that the fleet must try to get back to Garda, as it is a clear attraction for people sailing 800s.

It was recognised that the fleet had raised the idea to move the Nationals into August in multiple AGMs.

- Hence, for future years to ensure the Nationals are in August.
- Whilst the 2026 Nationals are 1 week earlier in early September, the feeling from attendees is it is key to be in August going forward.

For 2027:

- Brightlingsea Nationals in September, although August is preferred by the fleet.
- If Brightlingsea or the RS700 fleet cannot move to August, then explore event share with UK based RS500 Worlds (August).
- If the above is not viable, then explore teaming up with International 14s.
- The fleet are keen to return to Garda, so:
  - Riva Cup (3 days) – idea to add sprint racing with volunteers running racing; or
  - If RS500 Worlds are in Garda, explore joining.

AOB

#### **Social Media:**

- Encourage everyone to submit content (photos, GoPro clips etc.).
- Use countdowns and regular promotion in the run-up to big events (e.g. RS Games).
- Create short video/Y&Y article to highlight aft vs crew sheeting flexibility.

#### **Youth Engagement:**

- Explore moving Nationals to August to align with youth availability.
- Interest from 29er sailors – **action:** email 29er class.
- Target sailors moving on from 200/500 fleets.
- Consider entry incentives:
  - First-time Nationals discount.
  - Youth entry at early-entry price regardless of entry date.
  - Early entry window extended (closing 2 weeks before event).
- Age definition for Youth raised to **25** (was 22) – *approved unanimously*.
- Youth entry requires both helm and crew to qualify.

**Action:** TM to set up WhatsApp polls for feedback on entry cut offs.

**Fleet recruitment:**

- Target sailors moving on from hiking fleet (link to centre main social media).
- Consider first-time entry national's fee.