



## PoFSA 2023 AGM

**RCYC Saturday 25th November 2023 at 10.00am**

### Meeting Minutes

1. **Present:** Chris Williams, Nigel Sharp, Derek Hill, Jane Wright, Paul Hobson, Robert Talbot, Gaye Slater, Steve Przybylski, Terry Stephens, Simon Fleming, Sarah Hancock, Mel Sharp, Julie Hopkins, Peter Harvey, Malcolm Clark, Neil and Jacky Andrew, Malcolm Forrest (Reporter)
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Mike Grice, Christine Torpy, Don Garmin, Sue Treneer, Chris Davis, Andy Stephenson, Geoff Trebilcock, John Calvert, Bernie Bagley, Chris Hosken.
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** Approved.
4. **Matters arising:** None.
5. **Dates for FSW confirmed as:**
  - 2024 Sun 11 - Sat 17 August
  - 2025 Sun 10 - Sat 16 August
6. Dates of the **Village Regattas for 2024** were confirmed:
  - Loe Beach Jun 1
  - Point & Penpoll Jun 22
  - St Mawes Social Jul 6
  - Flushing Village Jul 27
  - St Mawes Town Aug 3
  - Portscatho Aug 24
  - Percuil Aug 25

Following a meeting of the Village Regatta Committee, the dates of the **Village Regattas for 2025** are proposed as follows:

- Loe Beach Jun 7
  - St Mawes Social Jul 5
  - Point & Penpoll Jul 12
  - St Mawes Town Jul 26
  - Flushing Village Aug 2
  - Portscatho Aug 23
  - Percuil Aug 24
7. **Chair Report : Nigel Sharp.** *See Appendix 1 below.*
  8. **Hon. Treasurer Report: Chris Williams.**  
Accounts were distributed by email prior to the meeting.

#### 8.1 Income & Expenditure Summary

##### 8.1.1 FSW

- Surplus for 2023 £4,953 vs. 2022 £2,061 .
- Entry Fees at £17,967 up 11% including 5% increase in rates.

- Sponsorship up 32% after adjusting for Champagne Race Sponsorship being SPIK in 2023 but cash in 2022.
- Spend on Safety and Committee Boats down by about £800 due to no Carrick Fleet racing on Saturday.
- Under heading of Race Equipment spent £305 on Fender Sheets and £166 on Finish Banners
- Glasses for prizes down by £626 as able to use stock from previous years.
- Prizes spend also decreased due to champagne being SPIK as already mentioned.
- Miscellaneous payments included Bags for entrants which was a new item for 2023 costing £335 and partly sponsored.
- Under other income and expenses cost of volunteers' polo shirts increased by £435 although there was cash sponsorship.

#### **8.1.2 General**

- Surplus 2023 £884 vs. 2022 £498
- Spent £658 on lettering and logos for race marks.

#### **8.1.3 Total Surplus**

- 2023 £5,837 vs 2022 £2,559

### **8.2 Balance Sheet**

- Includes a distribution from Reserves of £6,000 approved by the Policy Committee on 7 November 2022.
- Cash balance at £33,466 almost same as last year due to surplus matching the distribution.
- At Policy Committee Meeting on 30 October 2023 it was agreed to ask FSW Committee to consider spending some of the surplus to improve the competitor experience in 2024.

## **9. Race Management Group (RMG) Report: Neil Andrew**

RMG includes: Neil and Jacky Andrew, Chris Davis, Nigel Sharp and Malcolm Clark.

### **9.1 Role of Race Management Group**

Neil explained the role of the team as follows:

- a. Plan the competition aspects of FSW in line with World Sailing guidelines and recommend the racing format to be followed by the PoFSA Clubs.
- b. Produce Notice of Race (NOR) for FSW. This contains information for potential competitors and is published at the end of January each year. (Target met in 2023).  
Includes:
  - i. Enablers for decision on whether to enter or not.
  - ii. How to enter.
  - iii. Specific entry requirements to be met.
- c. Set up the entry, results and scoring systems for FSW.
- d. Produce Sailing Instructions (SI) for the Bay and Carrick Fleets. These are published at the start of August each year. (Target met in 2023).

### **9.2 IRC Fleet**

Following the 2023 FSW Wash-Up meetings, the RMG has started consultation with the IRC Fleet to encourage more visiting IRC Yachts to enter.

### **9.3 Remote Controlled Race Marks**

Chris Davis has been conducting a feasibility study on the use of remote controlled marks which have been deployed very effectively at Royal Dart Regatta in 2023.

## **10. Sponsorship Report: Jane Wright**

### **10.1 Sponsor Income 2023**

Excellent result achieved with increased Sponsorship income as per Hon. Treasurer report above. Two new Race Mark Sponsors joined for 2023: Falmouth Black Rock Gin and A2 Rigging and Covers.

### **10.2 Race Mark Sponsors 2024**

Falmouth Black Rock Gin and Hotel Meudon are unable to continue, but Jane expects to announce replacements shortly.

### **10.3 Race and Class Sponsors**

Ancasta and Mainbrace Rum will continue to support the Wednesday 'Champagne Races' in 2024. Planning to put in place more 'Class Specific' Sponsors for 2024.

### **10.4 Shoreside**

Continuing to work with the Falmouth Town team to further enhance the Shoreside experience for FSW competitors.

### **10.5 Resources**

Looking for someone from one of the PoFSA Clubs to take over the Sponsorship role: please forward any prospective names to Jane. Additional volunteers also needed during FSW.

## **11. Election of Officers.**

In line with the PoFSA constitution, Nigel Sharp and Derek Hill stepped down from their positions after 5 consecutive years of service.

The following are willing to stand for election for the forthcoming year and their nomination has been approved at the PoFSA Policy Meeting on 30/10/23

- Chair: Gaye Slater
- Vice Chair: Jane Wright
- Treasurer: Chris Williams
- Secretary: Malcolm Forrest

12. **Date of next AGM** is confirmed as 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024

## **13. Falmouth Sailing Week Charity Donation.**

A cheque for £850 was presented to Robin Taylor, David Coglan and Holly Manvell of the RCYC Sailing Trust. Robin explained how the money is used to help disadvantaged local children and thanked PoFSA for this valuable contribution to their funds.

## **14. AOB**

14.1 Chris Williams gave thanks to Neil Andrew for his ongoing work as 'Examiner of Accounts'.

14.2 Malcolm Forrest asked all PoFSA Clubs to confirm any changes to officers/contact details for 2024.

14.3 Gaye Slater presented gifts to Nigel Sharp and Derek Hill on behalf of all the PoFSA Clubs to thank them for their service as PoFSA Officers over the past five years and to Neil Andrew for his ongoing exceptional service.

14.4 Gaye thanked all for attending.

## **15. Meeting Closed at 10.50**

## Appendix 1 Chair Report: Nigel Sharp.

Needless to say the conditions in this year's Falmouth Sailing Week were a considerable improvement on last year's, although we found ourselves with different challenges to the absurdly light or non-existent winds of last year. The main challenge was the lack of visibility on the Thursday, but somehow we managed to run races for all classes in the Bay and the Roads.

Then it blew hard on the Saturday, and we made the decisions to cancel the Carrick classes and bring the Bay classes into the more sheltered waters of the Carrick Roads, two decisions which seem to have been generally agreed with, without being universally popular.

Compared to 2022 we had more entries in the Carrick Roads and fewer in the Bay, despite the supposed attraction of the IRC SW championships.

As usual we have had our three Falmouth Sailing Week wash-up meetings, for the volunteers, the competitors and the organising committee.

We are always very conscious of the fact that we have good communication with "proper" classes – i.e. the one design classes and classes such as the gaffers and working boats because they have structures with class captains and secretaries etc. But it has always been different story with the handicap classes and so we have addressed this by establishing a WhatsApp forum for the IRC classes which Neil Andrew has been managing. This has produced great feedback with regard to all sorts of issues such as course configurations, handicap splits and so on, but the overwhelming message we have been getting is that the first three days should not be standalone races but should be part of a series.

The current format with a three day series at the end of the week and the other races standalone was established as a compromise really – and so much of FSW has to be a compromise because we are trying to cater for so many different people with so many different needs and wishes - a few years ago when we were getting a significant amount of feedback from people saying that a week was too long, and people couldn't spare that much time, while at the same time we were aware that other people did want to race for a whole week. But it is now clear that, apart from the champagne race on the Wednesday, we shouldn't have any standalone races. So the most likely format for next year will retain the 3-day series at the end of the week, and have a second 6-day series including every race apart from Wednesday.

As ever, I am enormously grateful to our volunteers – those who help to plan Falmouth Sailing Week throughout the year and those who help during the week itself, when, incidentally we need about fifty people to help each day. Needless to say, without them we wouldn't be able to do what we do.

And we are always on the lookout for new people to help us, so do let us know if you think you can help, or if you know someone else who might.

So as we are about to hear in the next item on the agenda, Derek Hill and I are standing down as vice chairman and charman of POFSA because our five year terms have come to an end. We often hear people standing down from such positions using a phrase such as "I've enjoyed every minute of it". Well surely that is utter nonsense. It is surely impossible to enjoy every minute of almost anything, but I will say that I have enjoyed the vast majority of it and found it very fulfilling, not to mention a great privilege. My involvement with POFSA began when I became sailing sec at St Mawes in 2008 and I am very conscious of the fact that isn't nearly as long as many of you. I have said many times and I make no apology for saying it again, that the thing I really love about POFSA is the fact that we all come together from six different clubs and work together in a genuinely friendly and cooperative

way to organise and run Falmouth Sailing Week, and do various other things as well. I think that is fantastic and long may it continue.