

Schull Harbour Sailing Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at Schull Harbour Hotel, Schull **3.00 pm 30th December 2015**

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from George Dwyer, Hugh and Angie O'Donnell, Ian Collins, Kiera Collins, Derek Harte, Conor O'Sullivan, Harry Murphy, Ted Buckley, Oonagh Buckley, Pat Foley, Martin Lane, Barry Quinlan, Ken Kilkenny, Michael Rigney, Neil and Mary O'Callaghan, George Paul, and Pat Maher .

2. Minutes of Previous Year AGM

The minutes of the 2014 AGM, which had been circulated to the membership, were approved as being a true record of the meeting, proposed by Tom Kirby and seconded by David O'Reilly.

3. Commodore's Report

Commodore Peter Morehead presented his Commodores Report;

SHSC COMMODORES REPORT 2015

Dear Officers, Committee members, Members

I have had an enjoyable year as Commodore due entirely to the efforts of the Committee to make things happen and the goodwill of the members who supported the events and initiatives as they arose during the season.

The season kicked off with some administrative work: Alan to find a sponsor for Calves Week 2015, George and Mary O'Callaghan to publish the Sailing and Social calendar and Martin to issue the Calves Week NOR. Oonagh and Jack also applied successfully to Failte Ireland for support for Calves Week.

In March I represented the club in the St. Patrick's Day parade towing the large RIB and ably assisted by my family dressed as pirates.

In April and May the hard yards were completed in preparation for Calves Week. A sub-committee of Oonagh, Jack, Martin, Alan and Tom Kirby covered every angle and Alan Crosbie was confirmed as OOD.

The leagues began in May with a good turnout. June started with a wet but enjoyable cruise to Ballydehob (just two boats). The June to September leagues got underway and later in the month Alan kicked off another successful junior season from our base on the pier.

July was notable for the Crookhaven finish on the 4th to the Ronan and Molloy trophy races and the fantastic welcome we received from CSC Commodore Mick Moloney and O'Sullivan's pub who donated a prize for the race. The following weekend we held a successful fundraiser for the Schull Community Inshore Rescue Service in the newly opened Hotel, organised as ever by Mary O'Callaghan. And later in the month Tadgh Dwyer produced a wonderful BBQ in North Harbour, Cape Clear at the end of the race. Special thanks to Niamh O'Drisceoil, ferry driver, who allowed us raft alongside her vessel overnight after some earlier congestion on the pier.

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August as always was dominated by Calves Week. The weather conspired to frighten off a few travellers, nevertheless more than sixty yachts made the starting line on Tuesday 5th August. Whether it was the webpage, the on-line entries with payment, the facebook and twitter sites, the race office, the opening reception, the mark setting and re-setting, the race management, the entries management, the committee boat, the results service, the pier and ferry management, the street management, an outstanding Sponsor in Frank Whelan's Gas Analysis Services, the good weather for the closing night or the goodwill extended by all our volunteers and supporters, Calves Week was a fantastic team effort and most importantly enjoyable for all competitors on and off the water. There are too many people to thank individually and at the risk of leaving someone out I will not begin but just to say that you did such a brilliant job that you will receive that dreaded phone call again. Also to mention that we collected successfully at registration and during the opening and closing nights for the RNLi and a cheque was presented on the clubs behalf by Don McCarthy during August.

August was also notable for a twice postponed Parent's race but we finally found a window of opportunity late in the month.

In September we raced to Sherkin on a glorious September afternoon and attended the BBQ there. The leagues concluded with a strong turnout each weekend and both results, after 15 races, hinged on the final weekend. The season concluded with a very sociable Laying Up supper in The Bunratty Inn after racing on the final Saturday. As always the results were available for the prizegiving and this time George delivered again providing the overall season results the same evening. There were so many other enjoyable moments like providing safety cover for the triathlon swimming race, attending ISA regional meetings with the other West Cork clubs, dealing with the Gardai in Schull who have been very supportive. In addition Simon, George and Martin deputised for me at many other events.

In addition to the committee and those already mentioned I have to mention a few people who volunteer and without whom my season would have ground to a halt. Dave Waters who ensures that the appropriate trophies and prizes are available each weekend, Simon Nelson who literally provides the lubrication that makes the system work and Joff McPherson who prepares and fuels the ferries each weekend. I would like particularly to thank Mary O'Callaghan, Eamonn Downey and Tom Kirby who made it clear at the beginning of last season that they were looking for someone else to take on their roles for 2016. They have provided a fantastic service to SHSC and I am deeply grateful.

Thank you also for the continued support of Rossbrin boatyard and best wishes to Edmund and Erika who retired earlier in the season.

A special word of thanks also to Barry O'Connell for his very kind donation of a Shipman 28 which is for sale and the proceeds will be reinvested in the club fleet. Finally it was my privilege to serve as Commodore during 2015. I received tremendous support from the committee and many, many members who volunteered their time, their advice, their judgement and that made it easy for me. I had a great wing commander in my Vice Commodore Martin Lane and I am pleased to hand over to him today, to wish him every success and offer my total support for the season ahead.

To reflect the enjoyable year I had, I commissioned a Trophy for the Club; The Pot Still Trophy. It is for White Sail racing and I hope the committee will find a suitable place for it in the league racing calendar.

*Peter Morehead
Commodore 2015*

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4. Financial Report

The Financial Officer Jack Allen presented the annual accounts. In summary, three second hand Dinghies were purchased for the Junior Sailing Fleet at a cost of €6,500, bringing the total number of junior sailing boats in the club to eleven. The club donated €600 to the RNLI, €2,100 to the Schull Community Inshore Rescue Service, €500 to the Schull Community Council toward the street camera fund and €500 to the locally based 49'r Team. Total membership income amounted to €11,000 an increase of €610 on the 2014 membership income.

Entry Income for Calves Week 2015 was down by over €2,000 as a consequence of the reduced boat entry from 76 to 64, but overall income for Calves Week was up by over €2,000 as a consequence of improved sponsorship and the Failte Ireland Grant. Expenditure for Calves Week was down by approximately €2,000, the most significant factor here being the Rib Running costs, down by over €5,000, primarily due to the requirement to replace the engine on the Safety Boat in the previous year 2014.

Tom Kirby proposed that the accounts as presented be approved for adoption, this motion was seconded by Michael Murphy, the motion was approved by the meeting and the accounts were adopted.

5. Re- Election of Directors.

The three existing Directors Ted Buckley, George Dwyer and David Waters are all available for re-election.

Don Boadella proposed that all three existing directors be re- appointed, this motion was seconded by Tadgh Dwyer and was approved by the meeting.

6. Appointment of Auditors for 2016

The appointment of Myles C. Ronan & Associates was proposed by Jack Allen; the motion was seconded by Frank Murphy and was carried unanimously.

7. Election of Executive Committee for 2016.

The following were the only nominations to be received for the Committee and were therefore duly elected:

Martin Lane as Commodore
Dave Waters as Vice-Commodore
Jack Allen as Financial Officer and Membership Secretary
Alan Dwyer as Junior Sailing Captain
George Dwyer as Sailing Secretary.

At this point Dave Waters as incoming Vice-Commodore took over as Chair of the meeting.

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8. Fixing of Subscription Rates

Jack Allen proposed that subscription rates for 2016 should remain unchanged as follows:

Boat Owner: €175 with €25 discount if paid by 1st June
Family Membership: €90 with €15 discount if paid by 1st June
Individual Member: €55 with €5 discount if paid by 1st June

The motion was seconded by Kevin Murray and was carried unanimously.

9. Other Business

(a) Tom Kirby stated that Dermot Cronin would be willing to give a talk to SHSC members on off shore racing, this proposal was supported by Don McCarthy and Denis Quinlan, it was agreed that the proposal would be considered by the incoming committee.

(b) Michael Murphy proposed that while SHSC club racing should continue to be run as is under the Echo Handicap system, that results would also be calculated under IRC for those boats in both the cruiser and white sail classes with a current IRC certificate. The current prize giving would continue under Echo. No prizes would be given based on IRC results. A current un - endorsed IRC certificate would be accepted. Crew numbers should be based on the SHSC sailing instructions. The motion was seconded by Tom Kirby. Several members spoke in support of the motion and no member spoke against the motion. The motion was approved by the meeting as an action for consideration by the incoming committee.

(c) Don Boadella proposed that for club races,
* Where 5 boats are entered, prizes should be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places
* Where 4 boats are entered, prizes should be given for 1st and 2nd places.
* Where less than 4 boats are entered a prize should be given for first place only.
While there was some support initially for the motion, after considerable debate the motion was not approved by the meeting.

(d) It was suggested that the incoming committee consider placing a sign on the entrance gate to the Junior Sailing Compound giving the Club contact details.

Jack Allen

Financial Officer and Membership Secretary

3rd January 2016