

RYA NI Council Meeting  
February 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 at Down Cruising Club  
Minutes

1. Apologies were received from John Magowan Irene Aston, Maeve Bell, Richard Honeyford, Frank Haslett, Newenham de Cogan, John Bell and Geraldine Duggan.
2. Minutes of the last meeting held November 26<sup>th</sup> 2008 were agreed as a true and accurate record.
3. Matters Arising are covered in the other agenda items.
4. Succession Planning & Committee Structure

The Chairman reported that his term of office concludes at the AGM in Oct 2009. Vice Chair Jay Colville will stand for election at that time. The Honorary Treasurer Oliver Lynas also retires at the AGM. Positions at the moment where there are no volunteers standing for election are Vice Chair and Honorary Treasurer. If anyone knows of volunteers wishing to come onboard please get in contact.

4.1 Appointment of Performance Committee Chairman

The Chairman announced that Curly Morris is standing down as Performance Committee Chairman and that Adrian Bell has been recommended by the Executive Committee as a willing volunteer. The meeting agreed that Adrian Bell take over the Chairmanship of the Performance Committee effective immediately.

5. Child Protection (written report by Cliff Burns)  
RYA NI has submitted a second audit response. The Chairman commented that Clubs need to manage the risk with regards to employment.
6. Equality  
Ronnie Browne reported that he is working with Jackie Reid at RYA HQ on the joint submission to achieve the next standard. County Antrim Yacht Club had circulated some very useful documents that can be used as evidence towards achieving the next standard.
7. 4 Year Funding  
Ronnie Browne reported that Feb 10<sup>th</sup> is when RYA NI expects a response from SNI. When the information is made available it will be circulated to Council and hopefully there will be no surprises.
8. Active Communities  
Ronnie Browne reported
  - RYA NI Consulted with clubs in the North Down Consortia area
  - Ballyholme Yacht Club & Newtownards Sailing Club indicated interest
  - Application was made with input from NSC & BYC
  - RYA NI was not shortlisted
  - North Down admitted the application had been lost
  - Ronnie and the Chairman met Stephen Reid from North Down to discuss the issue. There will be an opportunity to bid in year two and the indication was that RYA NI stood a better chance at that time.
  - A further letter was sent to North Down

Sheela Lewis reported that County Antrim Yacht Club received a letter from Otium to attend a meeting regarding the programme. John Lewis contacted Carrickfergus to find out what the Council were planning. CAYC weren't convinced that the plan was workable. Bob Harper also reported that he had met with Laganwatersports Centre and Eamon Masterson to discuss an application for the Belfast area but they didn't get far into the process. Craigavon Watersports Centre is also making an application.

#### 9. Elite Facilities

Ronnie Browne reported that the final technical assessment was being done by phone conference between SNI and RYA Performance Director Jon Derbyshire. Sailing is the last sport to be assessed. It is still not known when the final decision will be made.

#### 10. Relationship with ISA

Lisa Waugh read out the note from ISA CEO Harry Hermon and one from RYA Legal & Government Affairs Manager Gus Lewis.

Conclusion from meeting with ISA CEO Harry Hermon

ISA wish to

- open category 1 affiliation to clubs in Northern Ireland (all of NI)
- set up ISA training centres in NI
- are not restricted constitutionally to do this

RYA did not inform/consult with RYA NI regarding discussions with ISA on issues that will affect NI power boaters.

Recommended course of action:

- Executive to discuss further
- RYA NI to speak to RYA HQ regarding ISA proposals
- RYA NI to organise a meeting between RYA NI, ISA and RYA Hamble

#### 11. Cruising Conference Report

The Chairman reported that Maeve Bell did a great job in organising the event. RYA NI is grateful to RUYC for hosting the event. Feedback from delegates was good. There were nearly 80 delegates and a small profit was made.

#### 12. Volvo Ocean Race Galway Stop Over

Stanton Adair reported that he had spoken with the local Volvo dealer today. There should be a prize for up to 4 people. There will be full Volvo hospitality and an opportunity to get out seeing the racing. It was recommended that RYA NI write to clubs to ask them to express an interest and some kind of draw take place closer to the time.

#### 13. Sailability

Regional Coordinator Bob Harper reported:

Carrickfergus Borough Council has allocated pontoon berthing and three hoist positions for disabled sailors. CBC has also sponsored two berths on the Tall Ships visit to Northern Ireland this year.

Belfast Lough Sailability has the use of Clarendon Dock for the duration of the Tall ships event 2009. There will be a sailing display of Access dinghies throughout the event thanks to Belfast Port Authority.

Plans are in hand to host a Celtic Sea Regatta on May 22nd 2009- NI, Isle of Man, and Cumbria.

The SCUD was successfully funded thanks to Tiffany and various local businesses and it arrives early April 09.

Ballyholme Yacht Club is to receive the two BLS Squibs and will be managed by Ronnie Harris. Disability Awareness courses to be organised for BYC. Ronnie Harris to meet with Bangor Marina to try for free berths for disabled sailing.

Quoile Yacht Club with the help of John Magowan is keen to create facilities for disabled sailing.

Killyleagh Yacht Club's volunteer David Young is also keen to help out.

Donghadee Sailing Club and County Antrim Yacht Club are being refurbished and will be disabled friendly.

Carrickfergus Sailing Club is investigating Foundation Status.

Glenarm Marina is installing disabled toilet facilities.

Tall ships Board have been in touch and are keen to push the concept of disabled sailing.

Belfast Lough Sailability has their annual dinner on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 09 at CSC. Debbie Blachford from RYA Sailability will be attending.

#### 14. Tall Ships

*Thursday 13 - Sunday 16 August 2009*

*Belfast has been selected as the finishing port of the Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge in 2009. The event, which will be one of the most memorable and exciting in 2009, will take place over four days in August.*

During this time, it is hoped that over 20 Tall Ships will visit Belfast, having travelled across the Atlantic from Halifax in Canada.

The Tall Ships event will be one of the most important events in Belfast during 2009. Those attending will have the opportunity to not only see the Tall Ships but have a highly enjoyable and memorable visit.

There will be plenty of activities for visitors along the quayside, with fun, food and frolics! Activities will include music, street theatre and a variety of magical performances for the whole family to enjoy.

It has been suggested that RYA NI run some event alongside this to promote the sport. (Photo and publicity opportunity). The meeting agreed that RYA NI should get involved in some way.

15. Environmental News

Ronnie Browne reported that he had been in contact with KPMG regarding Lough Neagh Navigation Authority Consultation. RYA NI will have an opportunity to comment. The meeting raised the questions of what impact will it have and will there be a required registration. RB reported that they are a long way from deciding if there is to be registration. They will keep RYA NI involved at the preliminary level. David King thanked RYA NI for getting involved.

16. Finance

The Hon Treasurer circulated a financial sheet and reported that there should be a small surplus this year.

RYA Financial position

The Hon Treas reported that funding from RYA will remain the same in 2009/2010 there is no indication of a reduction.

The Chairman reported that it was the first time the RYA NI funding bid for SNI had been endorsed at RYA Council.

17. Reports

Performance (circulated)

Training & Development (circulated)

18. AOB

Race Management Coordinator

Robin Gray attended a Race Management Course which now allows him to run courses.

Robin has circulated a letter regarding the running of courses this year. There is also a new course on mark laying. Clubs will receive a DVD regarding fleet safety management. If a club is running any event they need to remember to do a Risk Assessment.

19. Dates of next meetings: Council Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2009, AGM Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 2009