

**MINUTES OF THE AGM OF THE BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SAILING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON THE 30TH MARCH 1999 AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY SAILING CLUB,
FARMOOR RESERVOIR, OXFORD.**

BUSA Officers present:

Simon Hamilton	Chairman
Geoff Camm	Senior Honorary Treasurer
Steph Calvin	Vice President
Barney Smith	Vice President
Christian Hamilton	Honorary Secretary
Ian Williams	Men's Team Captain
Jayne Bubb	Ladie's Team Captain
Ali Sutherland	Yachting Convenor

Members of Sailing Clubs Represented:

Exeter	N Bubb, J Pelly
Bristol	R Verian Jones, Axell, Fewtrell, A Wright.
Oxford	S Copp, H Morrison
Cambridge	J Sutcliffe, A Tremlett, J Palmer.
Southampton	S Shaw, N Brockway, Colin Russell.
Birmingham	J Camm, K Gillow, F Pring, N Sinclair, S Watson, R Leegood.
Warwick	A Brushett, P Reid, S North, D Reeney, I Fallon, A Watkins.
Manchester	D Green, J Copping, R Fitzherbert, C Baylis, H Thorogood, D Nopuller, J Pryde, K Greig, P William-Symthe, J Rickerby
London	S Barron-Fox, M Campbell James
Bangor	S Ash, T Beans
Leeds	L Wood, L Taylor, J Dixon, P Robinson, J Cvole, S Cubley.
Newcastle	G Lewis, Lucy M
Portsmouth	M Jones, S Cleland, J Dyer, A Twik, D Mason, H Marsh, R Barnes, C Stacey, K Gill, J BennetH Jones, B Priest.
Reading	N Hawby, P Willimas, L Martin
Liverpool	S Jawlinson, M Dropoutson, S Janlin, J Spaulinson
Swansea	M Ackland, D Smith

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ed Wilton, Welsh League Representative, Clare Evans, Honorary Treasurer.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the last AGM held on the 8th April 1998 at Bristol University, have been previously circulated, were taken as read and approved by Jayne Bubb and seconded by Christian Hamilton.

3. CHAIRMANS REPORT

This year has seen major changes to BUSA with the new structure to the committee this year

incorporating the Team Racing Working Group, which this year mainly dealt with team changes, this seemed to work well, with all decisions being made promptly. This year was also the first year that BUSA Playoffs were held to sail off for all remaining places at the BUSA Championships, the regatta was a great success, with all the races completed in unfavourable weather conditions. Another first for BUSA was the introduction of the National League Rules which were designed to create a level playing field throughout the country, it was suggested to all Universities that any ideas for the league rules would be gratefully received and they should make contact with the BUSA Committee.

The American Tour selection has taken place, with two selection weekends in Larks and First Class 8's with the final team being selected after the BUSA Championships, the feedback from the selection procedure has been great, and I would like to express thanks to Sam Barron Fox, Ian Williams and also the selection committee for all their hard work to make the trials such a success.

The BUSA Committee throughout this year have been looking at the possibility of gaining BUSA Sports points for BUSA Sailing events, this was still in progression and contacts are being made with BUSA Sports. It was noted that if BUSA can gain points it will therefore make it easier for teams to get finance for events from their AU's.

One of BUSA's main initiatives for the coming year is to develop links with Universities to enable training camps to be set up. Coaching for these training camps will be sought from either UKTRA Coaches or through past students who will be able to develop their coaching skills prior to training camps at an Umpire / Coaching weekend organised in conjunction with UKTRA. All those attending the AGM were asked to bear this in mind and anyone leaving University this year was asked to contact the BUSA Committee if they were interested in carry on in team racing. Over the next year we hope to set up a BUSA Alumni to assist in financing BUSA and providing old team racers available to Universities

The National Match Racing Championships this year have been a great success for students with a large majority of the last 16 teams at the finals being students. Ian Williams was congratulated on his 2nd position this year. It is hoped that in the coming year match race practice sessions will be organised around the country as there is obviously a wealth of talent throughout university sailing.

The Student Yachting Nationals are planned for the 5th - 8th April, in Sunsail boats with organisation from both Southampton and Portsmouth Universities. The Royal Ocean Racing Club has again come aboard to run all race management of the event through their Griffin Scheme and links between BUSA and the RORC have become very strong. It should prove to be a great event.

Finally thanks to everyone involved on the BUSA Committee for all their hard work over the year.

4. TREASURERS REPORT

I am pleased to report that BUSA funds are healthy with Total Assets now standing at £9416,

an increase of £2228 from last year. However before anyone leaps to any assumptions, I must warn that there are substantial expenses in the offing which will soak up this apparent surplus.

In my budget forecast which I gave to the Committee last September, I predicted income for the year of £7~003 (including some £1 470 of late subscriptions from the previous year) and expenditure of £7,177, an overspend of £173. I therefore stressed the point that it would be necessary to make a special effort to chase up subscriptions this year. I based my forecast on receiving payments from on 43 Colleges and Universities. I have not checked the list again but I am pleased to report that thanks to the positive action spearheaded by the Secretary, it would seem that some 46 Universities have paid up on time this year.

With one major exception, expenditure has been very much as I budgeted. The exception is the £2300 for the USA Tour that is presently £2,100 underspent against what was asked for.

In summary annual subscriptions amount to £4,800 at present that is boosted to £5,000 by interest on BUSA accounts. Approximately half this income is spent on the contribution to the RYA for the Secretary's salary and other administrative expenses such as travel expenses for committee members to meetings etc. The remaining £2,500 is available to be spent on a variety of sailing activities. At present this money is spent on a comparative few events and I believe that there is a strong case for using BUSA funds to benefit rather more.

Finally, I believe that my predecessor in this job would be the first to admit that the paperwork he handed on to me was a little awry. Hopefully during my term of office, I have been able to bring some order to the accounts and hand on to my successor a floppy with the accounts in Quicken that I hope will be helpful. I have enjoyed my year as Treasurer but believe that this is in part due to the support I have had from fellow committee members, in particular the chairman, and I thank them all. Accounts for the year attached.

5. APPROVAL OF BUSA ACCOUNTS

The BUSA accounts were approved by all those present, proposed by Geoff Camm and seconded by Christian Hamilton.

6. MEN'S CAPTAIN REPORT

The BUSA Men's team have not competed in as many events this year as in previous, the year started with the inter service which BUSA won 7 to 0, It was suggested that in future years the boats should be changed therefore being a little fairer to the services. The BUSA Team attended the European Student Team Racing Championships in Holland which they won yet again, it is suggested that in future years the BUSA Team should not attend as the competition standard was low and BUSA had won it several year in succession.

A BUSA Team attended the Carmelia Trophy which is a two boat team racing event held by the Royal Yacht Squadron, unfortunately the weather was against us all the way and no racing was held on either day.

A BUSA team also competed in the Team Racing Worlds trials and although the team was not selected it was felt that they were very competitive and held their own against all other teams that attended.

The BUSA American Tour trials have taken place over two weekend in both Larks and First Class 8's which as previously reported were a great success. The American Tour Team Captain has been appointed, Sam Barron Fox will be leading the team to America and we wish them all when selected success.

7. LADIES CAPTAIN REPORT

BUSA Ladies sailed at the 1998 Wilson Trophy, unfortunately we did not do very well.

The other event BUSA Ladies sent a team to was the Ladies Nationals run by Southampton. The team consisted of Nicole Johnson, Rosie Brown, Steph Calvin, Chantal Nicholson, Jenny Heeley and myself. We sailed well all weekend and beat Spinnaker in a best of 3 race finals.

The next event is this years Wilson Trophy in May. Anyone interested in a place in the team should speak to myself or the new captain.

It is suggested that in the future due to lack of interest in competing in the Wilson Trophy the money would be better spent in sending a Ladies team to the RYA Ladies National Match Racing Championships.

8. YACHTING CONVENORS REPORT

This years Student Yachting Nationals are well underway and are looking like being a great Championship. The Royal Ocean Racing Club have become heavily involved in the Championships again this year, with Alan Green, Janet Grosvenor and David Aisher heading up the race organisation team, through funds from the Griffin Scheme. Both Southampton and Portsmouth Universities have all shore side and team organisation covered and Colin Russell and his team have done a sterling job on the organisation for the event. It proves to be the best yet.

The RYA BUSA National Match Racing Championship this year are of the 10th and 11th April at Queen Mary Sailing Club and are already fully subscribed, as always the event looks to be some of the best racing yet.

9. OTHER OFFICERS REPORTS

10. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

PRESIDENT

SASHA KARACHESEVIC

PROPOSED: Steph Calvin

SECONDED: Christian Hamilton

SENIOR TREASURER

MEN'S CAPTAIN

CHRISTIAN HAMILTON

24

SIMON SHAW

11

LADIES CAPTAIN

LIZZIE EDWARDS
JO SUTCLIFFE

16
14

PUBLICITY OFFICER
NED BROCKWAY

PROPOSED: Christian Hamilton
SECONDED: Jayne Bubb

HONORARY TREASURER

YACHTING CONVENOR
ALI SUTHERLAND
COLIN RUSSELL

16
9

TEAM RACING CO-ORDINATOR
NICK BUBB

PROPOSED: Jayne Bubb
SECONDED: Geoff Camm

11. CONSTITUTIONAL MOTIONS

It was nominated by the BUSA Committee that the following constitutional amendments should be made:

In item 2 of the constitution remove 'The Honorary Secretary' and replace with ' Team Racing Co-ordinator'.

Delete Item 4 (b) of the Standing orders and replace with ' For international matches, the team shall be selected by trials, or by the BUSA National Committee'.

Delete Item 4 (c) of the Standing Orders and replace with ' For non-international matches the Team Captain will be responsible for the methods of selection and choice made.'.

This was proposed by Ian Williams and seconded by Jayne Bubb, and was accepted by all those attending.

12. MOTIONS

13. EMERGENCY MONTIONS

14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Ian Williams opened the discussion on the format of the BUSA Team and which events they should attend each year, this included the Wilson Trophy, and also the Student European Team Racing Championships. It was agreed by all attending that the entry fee money for the European Student Team Racing Championships would be better spent on training weekends based in the UK. It was also noted that there was great backing for a BUSA Development team to be launched this would allow more team racers to compete with BUSA and also would be a good basis for BUSA Team selection. Representative from the north supported this idea as it would allow the chance for northern team racers to become involved. The new men's captain was tasked further investigate budgets for training weekends and also the start of the development squad.

A question from the floor then followed, ' Is there a standard University Team Racing Boat' Barny Smith responded that at present one could not be suggested, as only one University had bought new boats in the last year, it was suggested by the BUSA Committee that this topic should be discussed at the next Team Racing Working Party Meeting, as a universal boat for both University Team Racing and also National team racing would further team racing on a whole.

It was asked by a representative of Southampton why there was a fee to hold the Team Racing Championships and also the Yachting Nationals payable to BUSA. Simon responded that there normally was a lot of time and effort made by the committee with each of these championships, whether it be helping or phone calls etc, and therefore BUSA had decided years ago that there should be a fee.

Concern was expressed from the floor about the North South divide and that it should be tackled to make sure that Universities from both North and South should keep in contact with each other. This would enable all Universities to have good contact with both the BUSA National Committee but also with other Universities. The task of publicising this was delegated to the new publicity officer and it was noted that BUSA Committee should initiate this as soon as possible.

There being further business the AGM was closed at 9.30pm