

# MINUTES OF THE BUSA AGM 2011 HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT TIGER TIGER, GUNWHARF QUAY, AT 18.00

**Committee In attendance:** Adam Sunman, Jess Beecher, Peter Johnson, Alice Meaden, Will Smyth, Fancois Fung, Ed Morris, Jon Napier.

**Members in attendance:** Bath, Cambridge, Cardiff, Durham, Exeter, Glasgow, Liverpool, Newcastle, Oxford, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Southampton Solent, ST Andrews, Strathclyde, Warwick.

1. **Committee Apologies for Absence:** Jim Saltonstall, Ben Towell, Chris Carden, Anna MacKenzie, Chris Noble, Penny Jeffcoate, Mark Powell.
  
2. **Welcome By Peter Johnson:** PJ welcomed the BUSA members and congratulated the committee on a successful year of events. He also expressed thanks to Plymouth (Fleet Racing), Southampton (Team Racing), Portsmouth (Yachting) for the major events they have run this year. He congratulated the BUSA team for their performance this year. PJ thanked all the volunteers for all their help at the events this year, without their help we would not be able to run the events (like what nearly happened at the Western qualifier).
  
3. **Brief Summary of the Year:**
  - **Area reports**
    1. **SUSA:** AM reported on SUSA activities from 2010-11 (See below full report)
    2. **ANUSC:** Penny Jeffcoate was not in attendance so AS gave her report (See below full report)
    3. **Midlands:** WS reported that due to strong winds the event was not able to be completed on the planned weekend, but was completed on the reserve date.
    4. **Western:** FF reported - 18 teams (reduced to 14) with a good number through to Playoffs/Finals. Very windy event, but they managed to get a result.
    5. **South/Central:** EM reported - 17 teams at Q. V windy. Couldn't finish the round using the HL system. Some great S/C events in this area. Followed by a fantastic BUSA Finals.
  - **Team Racing:** EM - Thanks to Area Reps who ran events in tricky conditions. Birmingham did a great job running the Playoffs, as did Martin Smethers. Congrats to Oxford/Exeter Ladies for winning the finals. Thanks to helpers PJ, JB JN & all the officials who made the championships work. Good luck to Liverpool/WKSC, who have just been awarded the event for 2012.
  - **Match Racing:** JB reported 2 qualifiers have taken place. From which 12 teams have been invited to the Finals this weekend. JB would like to thank RTYC on behalf of BUSA for allowing us the use their boats. JB plans to run a similar series next year. The 1<sup>st</sup> Qualifier will be hosted by SUSA in October. Northern teams are advised to attend that qualifier. Next year will also be a FISU Match Racing year, so JB will need to investigate this event and agree a plan of action with the Committee, RYA and BUCS, however it is likely to be a CV selection process, as per previous years.
  - **Yachting:** JB reported that numbers are down on last year. JB puts this down to the increase in cost and skipper requirements/new boats. Next year the damage deposit will be raise to £3500. It should have been this for this event, however JB had managed to arrange a deal for this year. JB requested that teams give constructive feedback from the events so that we can improve them in the future.

#### 4. **2011-12 Committee (Voting)**

No committee positions have more than one nomination. Nominated members who were in attendance said a brief few words about themselves and their plans/hopes for 2011-12.

President – Peter Johnson: To follow JS will be a difficult act. He's currently closely involved with BUSA on the officials/team racing side. PJ hopes you will all be happy badgers.

Vice President – Ben Towell: (not present) JB reported BT is keen to continue to help the Committee, from afar, having a lot of experience over the past 5 years on the Committee.

Hon. Member – Alan Baser: (not present) AB is the new chair of RYAs Judging and Umpiring committee.

Chairman – Ed Morris (Southampton): Acted up as TR Chair this year and ran a fantastic championships.

Hon. Treasurer – Jon Napier: plans to continue his work from last year.

Team Racing Co-ordinator – Tessa Hamer (Liverpool): Hosting Team Racing Championships next year and already has good links with WKSC.

Website Editor – Tony Mapplebeck: Volunteered to help keep the website updated. Has been Web Editor/admin/membership secretary for the 420 class for several years.

Men's Captain – Andy Shaw (Southampton): Has participated BUSA events for several years. Knows organisational skills required.

Ladies Captain – Anna MacKenzie (Birmingham): Wants to continue to develop Ladies racing in the UK.

Keelboat Officer – No Nominations

Area reps:

- SUSA – Alice Meadon (St Andrews) – leagues swifter this year. MR qualifier planned.
- ANUSC – Ed Fox (Durham) – Increase number of teams to BUSA. Wants to do more events like SUSA.
- Midlands – No Nominations. *Post meeting note: Tom Ripley (Warwick) has volunteered for the role.*
- Western – Andy Pinkham (UWE): Ran the UWE fleet racing. Up and coming club at chew.
- South/Central – Billie Quinlan (Southampton): Wants to continue Eds good work from 2011.

## 5. 2010-11 Updates/Changes:

- **Motion 1: Constitution amendment 6.3**

Amend Article 6.3 of the Constitution by deleting:

*"the signature of the Secretary and at least one other member of the General Committee"*

and replacing it with

*"the signature of any two members of the General Committee duly authorised by the Committee"*

**Reason:** To provide flexibility in the signing of cheques and other bank transfers when the Secretary is not available. The authorised signatories will be approved by the Committee from its membership and there must still be two signatories to operate the accounts.

Proposer: The Honorary Treasurer. **RESULT:** For **ALL** – Against 0.

- **Motion 2: Annual subscription increase: to £150**

That the annual subscription be changed to:

£150 per year for Member Clubs with no representatives on the General Committee (an increase of £10)

£100 per year for Member Clubs with at least one representative on the General Committee (no increase)

**Reason:** This year, the RYA affiliation fee has increased and so has our insurance premium (due to volunteers now being regarded as employees by our insurers). Coupled with the increase in fuel costs, the subscription should be increased to cover these costs to ensure money raised from events can stay dedicated to the events or the BUSA teams. The subscription for Member Clubs with a member on the General Committee should stay the same to incentivise Clubs to put members forward for the Committee.

Proposer: The Honorary Treasurer. **RESULT:** For **ALL** – Against 0.

- **Motion 3: Ladies Championships:**

Split BUSA Ladies Team Racing Championships away from the BUSA Team Racing Finals and combine with RYA Ladies Team Racing Nationals.

**Reason:** In recent years both of these events have suffered serious demise in entries, this year the RYA nationals was shortened to a one day event with teams and there only 6 ladies teams sailing in the ladies competition.

In order to promote ladies sailing and preserve specific events for ladies it is necessary to combine the events. The combination of the events will allow many more sailors to compete in both the ladies and open events. It is hoped that this will greatly increase ladies participation and hopefully gain enough teams to qualify for BUCS affiliation at some point in the future.

This proposal has full support from Spinnaker Club and Wessex (Southampton University) Sailing Club, the current hosts of the RYA Ladies Nationals. They are open to sharing the event with a Northern sailing club on an annual basis and are in discussion with West Kirby Sailing Club about this, should there be demand to host the event elsewhere. At the championship two prizes would be awarded; one to the overall champion, the RYA National Champion and one to highest placed university (relative to other universities) who would be crowned the BUSA Ladies Champion.

Proposer: TR Coordinator

RYA Ladies Nationals are currently planned for the 3/4th March 2012 at Spinnaker Sailing Club.

**RESULT:** For **ALL** – Against 0.

Questions:

- Will BUSA help fund the promotion of the Ladies Championships?  
JN to follow up.
- Southampton Solent requested that BUSA subsidise the Match Racing entry fees. JB reported that this is unlikely as it's part of the RYA series, however training might be an option, however there would always have to be a small cost for the event. JB to investigate with RTYC (boat hire).

**6. Discussion Points:**

- BUSA Survey of member clubs

We've made a lot of changes this year. Please give us feedback. We will shortly be sending around a survey in the new term, please complete it as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to respond to this to make BUSA change.

- Swiss league: discussion.

Sailors disappointed missing out the quarters. Outcome – BUSA to discuss this with the experts in order to avoid issues in the future.

- Qualifiers – Hebbert-Lucas system – need to get more education for the organisers, so that they can explain it to the teams. Action BUSA Committee.

**7. BUSA Team reports:**

a) National events – BUSA Team Reports on the BUSA website.

b) USA Tour 2011 – Going ahead. Sailors selected from the BUSA Championships 2011 and will be confirmed in July and announced after the first BUSA Committee meeting over the Summer. BUSA will be funding the Tour £2000. Sailors will also have to source other funding.

**8. Any Other Business**

Report on e-votes and paper ballots. 2 member universities submitted 3 votes. **RESULT:** For **ALL** – Against 0.

Final question: Request for South Central area to have more finals places for Team Racing. EM responded: TRWG will address it.

## **Additional reports:**

### **3.1 SUSAS Report – 2010-2011**

The year started off in October with SUSAS Match Racing, which took place at the Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club in Rhu, and this year was Qualifier 1 for BUSA Match Racing. Eight teams from both Scotland and Northern England entered, but there was no racing the first day due to lack of wind. On the Sunday morning, the breeze filled in, and the race committee managed to get through the whole round robin with some close competitions. At the end of the day, Newcastle were the victors and second were St Andrews, as the top Scottish team, this year's SUSAS Match Racing champions. Also qualifying for the finals were Durham A, Durham B, Glasgow B and Strathclyde A. The event was well organised and ran smoothly in spite of the initial lack of wind.

At the end of October, Strathclyde, as last year's top Scottish team at BUSA Yachting, went to France to compete in the Student Yachting World Cup. Unfortunately they didn't do as well as they had hoped, but still managed to gain an eleventh out of fourteen for Scotland. At the same time, SUSAS League 1, the first qualifier of three for BUSA Team Racing Finals and hosted by Glasgow, was happening. The wind was excellent on the first day, and luckily we got through the first round robin as sailing was cancelled after only a few races of the second on the Sunday due to lack of wind. By the end of the weekend, the results stood as Glasgow A, Edinburgh B and Edinburgh A as the winners of the pools.

The next weekend was SUSAS League 2, hosted by Strathclyde, but unfortunately the wind was not so good this weekend. It filled for the in afternoons of both days, and we did manage to complete the second round robin that we had started at League 1, leaving Glasgow A in the lead, closely followed by Edinburgh B, Edinburgh A, Strathclyde A, Glasgow B and Aberdeen A in the Gold League, with Edinburgh Ladies placing fourth, but obviously not included in the final results. League 3 in February was not a great success – while the whole country had gale-force winds, at Royal Forth Yacht Club in Edinburgh, our last resort due to all the lochs being frozen, we had very little. We got halfway through a new round robin on the first day when high tide finally came, but it was abandoned on the Sunday, leaving us without a result. This meant that the results from League 2 were used, so Glasgow A, Edinburgh B and Edinburgh A qualified for BUSA Team Racing Finals, and Strathclyde A and Glasgow B qualified for BUSA Team Racing Playoffs in Birmingham, where both won a handful of races each, Strathclyde placing above Glasgow at the end of the weekend.

Both SUSAS men's and ladies' teams attended Durham Dambuster and IUSA, where they both had a lot of fun, little sailing due to wind issues, and didn't do as well as they'd hoped. The weekend after IUSA was SUSAS Championships, hosted by St Andrews. This event proved to be a phenomenon for SUSAS this year – there was too much wind to sail on the afternoon of the first day and racing was cancelled. However, the wind was perfect for the rest of the three day weekend, and we completed two round robins and the finals, with "Team Creeep" (3 e's), the Irish team, placing first, a compilation of Edinburgh A and old boys placing second, "Team Napier" placing third, and Glasgow A, the top Scottish team and therefore SUSAS champions this year, placing fourth. This is definitely the best Scottish event of the year, and we're thinking of promoting it to more English teams next year, so come along.

In all, this year has been a good one for SUSAS. It has been a shame about the weather in some instances, but events like the Match Racing qualifier and SUSAS Championships went extremely well. We hope that our qualifying teams and one ladies' team will do just as well at BUSA Team Racing Finals, BUSA Match Racing Finals, and that Scotland will improve on its performance last year at BUSA Yachting Finals.

### **3.2 ANUSC Report 2010-2011**

ANUSC Qualifiers were a great success this year with 9 universities represented by 19 teams at the event hosted by West Kirby SC. A full round robin was not quite completed but all the teams sailed 13 races, which was a great result. We also had a record number of teams through to the finals and the qualifiers with 4 direct qualifications, 2 playoff places and 2 wildcard places. The turn out and the quality of racing was excellent and we hope that next year it will be bigger and better. Plus, all the best of luck to Durham 1 and 2, Newcastle 1, Leeds 1 and Sheffield 1 at the BUSA finals!

ANUSC Open: The Big Lash was run this year jointly between Liverpool and Manchester University Sailing Clubs with a view to reinstating the ANUSC Open at this event next year. The event ran excellently with 21 teams attending and two full days of sailing a full round robin. There was also a great Saturday evening social with a ceilidh and we're hoping to see even more teams next year, whether ANUSC or not.

BUSA Team: The northern region was represented by several people this year in the BUSA team, including members of Newcastle, Durham and Leeds University Sailing Club. Congratulations to them and hopefully we'll get even more ANUSC sailors on both the men's and ladies BUSA teams in the future.