

**THE BUSA AGM WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 30TH MARCH 2021
VIA ZOOM CALL- 18:30 HRS**

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Karen Thomas, Abby West, Emily Hill, Pippa Cropley, Kate Ledgard, Will Cunliffe, Patrick Croghan, Jenny Cropley, Iona Smith, Rebecca Coles, Jamie Webb, Daniel Fox, Emma Hartley, Peter Saxton, Hugh Braidwood, Aberdeen, Aberystwyth, Bath, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Bristol, Brunel, Cambridge, Cardiff, Dundee, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Imperial, Kent, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Loughborough, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Oxford Brookes, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield (Uni of), Solent, St Andrews, Strathclyde, Surrey (non-voting), Sussex (non-voting), Swansea, UEA, UWE, Wessex, York, Jess Beecher RYA, ICSA.

	Item
1.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u> - KT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ailsa Muskett (BUSA)
2.	<p><u>Notifications of AOB</u> - KT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AW - BUSA 2020-21 Sailor Survey • JB - RYA Introduction to Umpiring Course
3.	<p><u>Welcome & Chair Summary</u> - KT</p> <p>Chair would like to thank the committee(s) for the last two years.</p> <p>Communication - A highly successful Instagram Championship was led by EH, as well as AW inputting previously to media strategy and content. This has led to a large increase in BUSA social media presence. There have been Chair led meeting summaries and BUSA Committee members have also posted more on the BUSA Sailing/BUSA Area Facebook groups to make committee updates more personal and transparent.</p> <p>A big thank you to AW for developing and creating documentation and policies to help member clubs and future BUSA committees.</p> <p>There has been a big step towards organisation independence from the RYA in the last 2 years and a lot of work has been done behind the scenes. HP and HB have helped keep BUSA running professionally and efficiently. JB & CL (RYA & BUCS advisors) have helped over the last two years to advise on structure and external support surrounding championship delivery. IS, NA and AM have been helpful student advisors during the last two years, including proposing the changes to the Team Racing Championships. Although the proposed change didn't happen, we created a sixth national region, which has helped us support and recruit more clubs. Discipline Officers (RC,DF, AW & JW) had their roles created as part of the initial 2018/19 restructure and as part of this have made a big impact on discipline development and have ensured opportunities for clubs. Area Chairs (JH, WC, KL, PC, EW and PC) have done a brilliant job keeping member views at the forefront of national decisions and strategy changes. In particular, the BUSA SSS relationship has become stronger and EW's work on this has provided valuable feedback ensuring we make changes within BUSA which are inclusive of all. KL has led on work around Sustainability the past year and we look forward to seeing it develop further. Our committee also created new working groups such as WINSS and Sailability.</p> <p>Considering Inclusivity and the future, we are continuing to build our partnership with RYA Sailability and have created an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy with the help of ICSA TIDE where we hope this will continue. KT invited ICSA representatives to say more about the TIDE project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cori - We have been working with KT and are excited to work with BUSA further. For more information take a look at the ICSA TIDE website [posted in zoom chat]. • Preston - How did this all start? Last summer after George Floyd discussions started, ICSA considered improving diversity and inclusion. Sailing didn't seem to be governed by collegiate sport governing bodies so the group proposed to do something within their region & designated committees. They then took this forward on a national level. • Cori - ICSA is run by coaches, so this was one of the first times students have been driving a change which is exciting. Objective: creation of an inclusivity diversity and equity task force (TIDE) with all members connected and supported (on website and slack). Several TIDE groups focus on their own regions, which could link to how BUSA could do this within their regions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preston - A discussion guide has been created for all teams to help talk about tough issues, leading to designing a programme working on areas such as team culture and socio-economic bias. 321 people have taken part in these presentations and the findings have given tools to sailors on how to get involved. • Cori - Culture & demographic survey - This has helped to define what is meant by improving diversity within sailing based on the current demographics. For example, women experience around twice as many derogatory comments within colleges and other related areas. 1,000 athletes and 60 coaches were included within the survey. Could BUSA do this too? • Preston - Policy creation - Anti-discrimination policy changes were made within ICSA e.g. making sure venues comply/have their own. This is also included in ICSA National Championships which will ensure a larger group of sailors discuss and make changes. • Cori - A big focus has been on media presence, taking conversations outside of the community e.g. sailing magazines to bring conversations to other communities. ICSA TIDE works with partners, high schools, Canada/US Sailing, etc. Have also learnt from BUSA and plan to expand through better inclusion. • KT- Sign up on the BUSA/ICSA TIDE survey if interested - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdd1QPeq5_F3A_2UyCg0vYqUAAk4q93opf04SX_icPu7pV_mKg/viewform?usp=sf_link
4.	<p><u>Minutes of the 2020 AGM</u> - KT</p> <p>Proposed by Abby West, seconded by Rebecca Coles.</p>
5.	<p><u>Summary of the Year</u>- AW</p> <p>We're aware it has been a really tough year for everybody, a lot has been cancelled but everyone has been really great at finding creative ways to engage with BUSA and be resilient in challenging times.</p> <p>Area Reports</p> <p>Scotland: Despite the lack of sailing, some projects have kept rolling such as coach coaching workshops (RYA Scotland), which were well received. Virtual TR champs were hosted by AUSC and went very well. SSS Yachting ran online keelboat championships with a coach and the keelboat captain is currently working towards an RS21 summer coached event in Scotland.</p> <p>Northern: In the most recent area call, it was mentioned about organising local university racing next term. Still looking for a northern chair - it is rewarding and helps a lot of clubs. Discussion around committee expansion happened.</p> <p>Midlands: Recently had a successful fundraising campaign for MIND charity and raised over £2,000. There has been a succession of well attended captains meetings. Summer events are in the pipeline (eg Old Joe) and more will be coming out soon.</p> <p>Western: Big shout out to Exeter for organising the Big SW Race For MIND. Western region were looking to put on a regional training event- although it didn't happen, thanks to Cardiff for doing the work in preparation. All clubs got on the water before Christmas and everyone did well to keep their clubs running given the circumstances.</p> <p>South Central: A few teams ran training sessions at the start of the year and other teams hopefully will be soon. 4 USCs train at the same sailing club which we hope should help with inter-club training. A lot has improved with development in the region and a yachting captain has been added to the regional sub committee. There has been great engagement with Sailability focus week which can be pushed again when back on the water.</p> <p>Eastern: This was a new region. A great new development officer was elected. We are looking to organise inter region training and to expand the committee with a keelboat officer role. There was a BUSA virtual sailing regatta held at the start of the year, with a good turnout from the region.</p>

AW - all area chairs have worked hard to adopt area committees this year by electing area development officers and holding captains meetings. This should over time improve development and engagement.

Discipline Officers

Team Racing:

All submitted bids were of a very high quality which should help incoming committees- please consider re-submitting these bids for next year. Women's Nationals will be 12/13th June with NOR released soon, hosted at Rutland with a campsite which should enable any club to attend. Events are starting to pop up and hopefully there will be quite a lot of summer activity. There is some concern over remaining experience/knowledge around event management which BUSA are working on guidance for. We recommend the kSail blog and UKTRA website which provide a lot of useful information for those looking for more information. RYA/kSail/BUSA are working on video coaching resources which will be out before next term, for clubs with less experience. UKTRA has been moved to 13/14th November. Entry deadline will be in the summer holidays so make sure committees do not miss out on applying during their changeover periods.

AW - BUSA/kSail partnership is an opportunity which could benefit all our member clubs hosting events, such as the results service. You will get free access as a BUSA member club but you also need to have a kSail web account created. Discounts on equipment are also available.

Keelboating:

RC took over in late October but has thrown herself into organising the yachting nationals which was going to be hosted by Fairview (after a move away from Sunsail due to lack of fleet numbers). Partnerships have been created and foundations laid for future events so there is a lot in the pipeline for future years. RC has been in discussion with RORC Racing Manager to potentially host the event in the future. Other ideas that could be pursued going forward are using RS21s, student affiliate memberships with yacht clubs, etc, to build the network of BUSA Yachting. Fairview/Sunsail as a potential long-term partner could also provide discounts for BUSA members on charters and courses.

Match racing:

AW - Event was cancelled in 2021. Thank you to RYA for trying to make it run. It was also the first year of open bidding for the event as the Weymouth venue can be a challenge for many of our member clubs. The RYA runs it well but it can be very expensive to compete at. Not many other venues have the ability to host the event and finances are a challenge. Open bidding will continue so potential new locations can be considered. More RYA match racing events are running now sailing is starting again so we suggest these are worth having a look at. BUSA is looking into the possibility of organising a training event - Royal Corinthian is a potential club which could host this. This may be viable to run this autumn to help new students and teams to gain experience before entering bigger events.

We really need someone to run for the Match Racing Officer role in order for events to be run for clubs this year.

Fleet racing:

There has been a large focus on actioning the requests made after the 2019 championships to make the next Fleet Racing Championships as successful as possible for all sailors. The 2021 event date will be published soon and BUSA will be aiming to make it as accessible as possible, by working with class associations such as the Firefly Association. The NFACan also support students entering and getting boats to the Firefly Nationals this coming summer. RS 200 nationals in August and 24hr race in September are also offering incentives to students to enter.

Development

Almost 100% response from member clubs in the 2020/21 Membership Survey. Area development officers have been added to area committees. This initiative has expanded support on a regional basis for clubs. Increased webinars and zoom calls have helped with accessibility for clubs, Attendance has been good and recordings are posted on the BUSA YouTube channel. In Focus weeks on our social media channels have also been very effective. There were a record number of sign ups for the Green Blue Sustainability Challenge. WINSS working group will be continuing next year and open to any volunteers wanting to improve representation of women in sailing and reduce barriers to involvement.

Finance and Accounts

Financial year accounts were reported from 31st August 2019 to 31 August 2020. BUSA ran with a surplus which has kept the organisation financially sustainable. There have been questions around why membership fees were needed this year - this will be answered later (seen below).

The BUSA five year budget was presented through to 2025 which included how we would stay financially sustainable, especially as support from the RYA draws to an end. Information will be on the website.

Question from Sheffield “This year we have seen very little in return from our membership payment, whilst we understand the organisation needs some finance to continue running, as do we as sailing clubs - will there be a reduced membership price next year? Or will events be subsidised with last year’s income? Alternatively, if the money has been spent it would be good to see some transparency around this so we are aware of how our money is spent, and can justify this year’s membership.”

BUSA response: Our financial year does not run through to the close of this academic year, so the accounts presented are for last academic year. Therefore these are only painting half of the ‘Covid’ picture as some events were run as normal but the Easter events were cancelled. Whilst we do not have the exact number for this year, we have kept fixed costs to a minimum. However, these still come to £13,000 which includes RYA affiliation fees, website, administration and other online accounts. All event income (£12,000) was not taken this year due to all cancellations. The income seen for this year is from RYA support which is being reduced, as well as membership affiliation costs. This means that we do rely on club support in the form of the affiliation fee. A big thank you to all clubs. We appreciate how expensive student sailing can be and we will make sure it is as inclusive and affordable as possible. An alumni funding scheme has also been introduced to provide more development funding for clubs.

6. Constitutional Amendment(s) - KT

Summary of committee role changes given by Chair - we are proposing to reduce our committee size by changing the two VP roles to one single role. The VP will mostly be assisting the Development officer with longer projects, such as Sailability, Sustainability, etc. ensuring they will carry on being run over time.

7. OFFICERS & HONORARY MEMBER

7.1 There shall be the following Officers:

- (a) The Honorary President
- (b) ~~The Two~~ Vice-Presidents
- (c) The Chair
- (d) The Vice-Chair
- (e) Honorary BUSA Treasurer
- (f) The Team Racing Officer
- (g) The Fleet Racing Officer
- (h) The Keel boat Officer
- (i) The Match Racing Officer
- (j) The Development Officer
- (k) The Media Officer
- (l) 6 Regional Chairs (Scottish, Northern, Midlands, Western, Southern, Eastern)

Voting was offered via a Google Form. 62 votes were received. There was over 96.8% acceptance for the above proposed changes.

7. Officer Elections - KT

Contested Roles:

Eastern Area Chair

Questions were asked to applicants Imi Bellfield and Patrick Croghan

Media Coordinator

Questions were asked to applicants Liv Teasdale and Pippa Cropley

We don’t at present have a Northern or Western area chair standing, though there is someone ready to take the Southern Area Chair role. The Match Racing Officer role is also vacant. Chair asks interested parties to get in touch. A bi-election can be organised for anyone (from a paid member club) who may want to run for a position.

<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> - AW</p> <p>Sailor survey AW - Completing this survey is everyone's opportunity to shape BUSA going forward and make your opinions heard. Please share this link with your club so survey results represent as many student sailors as possible.</p> <p>RYA Introduction to Umpiring Course JB - An opportunity has arisen to attend an RYA Introduction to Umpiring Course. If you would like to join the RYA Race Officials Academy for a 2-evening Introduction to Umpire course on Tuesday 13th April and Thursday 20th April starting at 19:00 each evening please sign up here: https://rya.eventsair.com/online-introduction-to-umpiring-academy-course-2/march21</p> <p>We are offering this course at a discounted rate of £10. Booking closes on Friday 2nd April 2021.</p> <p>Thank you Peter Saxton, BUSA President - Thankyou to the national, regional and club committees for staying resilient and proactive this year. A big thank you to KT/AW for a lot of hard work. New and exciting challenges ahead.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Results of the 2021-2022 elections announced</u> - KT</p> <p>Media Coordinator - Pippa Cropley by one vote, suggestion for Liv to work with Pip this year.</p> <p>Eastern Area Chair - Imi Bellfield</p> <p>All uncontested applicants have been voted in.</p> <p>A total of 65 votes were received.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p><u>Annual General Meeting Dates for the coming year</u> - HB</p> <p>Proposal for future AGMs to be held online due to the increased accessibility to all clubs across the regions. New date will be published soon. Any thoughts can be emailed to the committee.</p>