

Minutes of the British University Sailing Association AGM held at Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club on 30th March 2005

Present

Katie Archer	Hester Robertson
Steve Gibson	Jim Saltonstall
Athol King	Susie Short
Ed Males [Chair]	Martin Smethers
Jessica Mapplebeck	Helen Wightman

1. Apologies

Daka Fadipe	Dave Steed
Emily Laurie	

2. Accounts

As HW was delayed we will come back to the Accounts at the end of the meeting.

3. Amendments to the Constitution – Ed Males

The committee have decided to ask permission to change and amend the constitution and area league rules, so that they will represent what actually happens in BUSA. The constitution has not been amended or updated for many years now. The updates will be given to all teams at the BUSA Team Racing Championships 2005. A motion was passed to move this item to the end of the agenda.

~~and will be discussed further on Friday due to lack of time.~~

4. Reports

Men's Report – Athol King

BUSA Tour - David Campbell-James and Jim Saltonstall are assisting BUSA to select the teams.

Men's events this year – The BUSA committee were asked by the RYA Team Racing group to select a team to enter a Czech Event in Prague in November 2004. The team came 2nd. The full report is available on the website. We also entered a team into the Carmella Cup and came 1st. We have also entered the Wilson Trophy. The team for this will be selected from those who have entered selections for the Tour. The announcement of the team will be after the BUSA Match Racing Finals.

Ladies Report – Katie Archer

Katie Archer took over from Gemma Farrell earlier this year, as GF was not longer able to on the committee. KA has entered the Wilson, and will select the team after the Team Racing Finals.

Yachting – Ed Males

This was a great event this year. RSYC have told BUSA that they would like to host it again.

Bids for next years events – If anyone is interested, please speak to a member of the committee.

5. Elections

As many of the committee are leaving there are 13 posts that need filling.

Area Reps:

- **SUCS – Ed Knight (Oxford University)**
Proposed by James Winton
2nd Skylar Paulich *Passed with majority vote*
- **ANUSC – Ben Schelling-Towell (Durham University)**
Nominated by the ANUSC Committee
- **WUSA/Western – Charlotte Savage (Bristol University)**
Proposed by Helen Wightman
2nd Susie Short *Passed with majority vote*

- **SUSA – to be confirmed by SUSA committee**

Team Racing Co-ordinator

- **Bethan Carden (Cambridge University)**

Proposed by Tom Heywood

2nd Dave Newey

Passed with majority vote

Keelboat Officer

- **Nick Cherry (Southampton University)**

Proposed by Nicky Macgregor

2nd ~~Rob xRatx~~ Bethan Carden

majority vote

Passed with

Publicity Officer/PR

- **Tom Heywood (~~Oxford~~ Cambridge University)**

Proposed by Jon Pinner

2nd Malcolm Parry

Passed with majority vote

Ladies Captain

- **Katie Archer (Southampton University)**

Proposed by Dave Newey

2nd Athol King

Passed with majority vote

Men's Captain

- **Jon Pinner (Cambridge University)**

Proposed by Athol King

2nd Bethan Carden

- **David Royse (Oxford University)**

Proposed by James Winton

2nd Guy Brearey

EM put the vote to the meeting with Jon *Pinner winning the majority vote.*

Treasurer

- **Nicky MacGregor (London University)**

Proposed by Bethan Carden

2nd Nick Cherry

Passed with majority vote

EM announced that he was stepping down as Chairman for next year.

Chairman

- **Steve Gibson (Exeter University)**

Proposed by Ed Males

2nd Katie Archer

Passed with majority vote

As Jonny Blackburn and James Holmes are unfortunately unable to continue as Vice Presidents the committee propose Jill Royse and Ed Males as the new VPs.

- **Jill Royse (ex-Exeter University and ex-RYA employee)**

Proposed by Ed Males

2nd Katie Archer

Passed with majority vote

- **Ed Males (Southampton University and BUSA Chair 2004-05)**

Proposed by Steve Gibson

2nd Susie Short

Passed with majority vote

6. Accounts

This year there have been 443 university clubs subscribe to BUSA, which is the same as last year. HW has copies of the BUSA accounts available for members to see if they wish.

Passed with majority vote

7. AOB

Fleet Racing – BUSA committee to request to BUSportA that the Firefly class start after the Handicap fleet at the event.

Match Racing – Mark Lees (London) requested that the entries for the Match Racing Championship be reallocated by CV selection. The committee agreed that this is what they would have like to have done, however the event is run and organised by the RYA for BUSportA, and that the event has been run on a first come first served basis in previous years. The RYA are already planning next years events and plan to run 2 qualifiers and a finals next year, however we do need you to not put non-BUSA events on the same dates as the qualifiers. The qualifiers will also need to be well attended (at least 10 teams minimum at each event). JM reported that she only had 4-5 entries for the first qualifier last November, and the year before also had low numbers.

JS thanked EM and the committee for all their hard work over the last year.

BUSA needs your help! – Ed Males

There have been a few complaints about BUSA events over the last few months, plus the committee have often found it difficult to get help for events or to find boats etc. EM reminded teams that BUSA needs your help to run the events, and without it we will struggle to continue to do so at a fair and competitive standard.

Amendments to the Constitution Cont.

Due to the lateness of this meeting the Committee proposed that the meeting be adjourned suspended until Friday morning for further discussions about the Constitution and the Area League Rules.

All Agreed

Amendments to the Constitution - AGM Continuance.

The continuance of the AGM started with a brief explanation of why the changes were needed by Martin Smethers

As suggested by the committee all questions regarding the constitutional amendments were submitted prior to the meeting to allow for a quick response. The following questions were received and responses given.

1. “Is it possible to have a set format for all qualifiers published in advance by the Team Racing Coordinator (TRC), to avoid the problems that have been experienced in the past with regards to deciding whether a double round robin should be used for example? This would mean there will not be disagreement amongst competing teams on the day. Originally a single weekend was also proposed to be set aside for these qualifiers, is this still the case?”

At the moment the constraints on time, resources and boats means that at the moment there is no fixed format so the qualifiers can adapt to needs. Under the proposed changes a system will be recommended, however due to the same constraints it will not be possible to enforce a uniform system of qualification. A single weekend will be set aside by new committee before start of academic year for the qualifiers.

2. “Why will the number of places be dependant on number of entries to qualifier? Number of entries should be reflected in number of places allocated but this should not be the deciding factor, the ability of the teams in the region should be. The TRC and Area Reps should split into similar sized and ability groups. Why put 10 teams in one region who aren’t good and give them two automatic places groups need splitting more on ability than numbers. Also can we have a standard format and course for all qualifiers published each year?”

Teams change from year to year; therefore there is no reliable way to gauge the ability of each team. Inconsistencies in standard are eliminated by playoffs. Again, as discussed, courses etc can only be suggested.

3. “I understand that the BUSA committee will be placing people into qualifiers, will there be any restrictions on where a team will be placed? I.e. a team placed to minimise distance travelled. Will these restrictions be in writing; also, are there any restrictions on how many teams can be entered to qualifiers? Also, what formula will be used to allocate the number of qualification places?”

The intentions of the restrictions will be in writing, but because of the need for flexibility, no fixed restrictions will be in place, such as distanced travelled, as venues change from year to year. All qualifiers aim to be the same size, but due to resources, boats etc, which will either increase or decrease the capacity of the qualifiers, these will vary in size from area to area.

8. The next AGM will be held at a BUSA Championships in 2006.

END