

To RYA East Committee Members

From Terry Corner

Re **Regional Committee Meeting Agenda Item 7**

Our Chair has asked me to compile and forward to you a brief summary of Wednesdays RYA Council Meeting.

7. RYA Council Matters

This was the first meeting since the new governance arrangements were agreed at the AGM in November. Five new Personal and Life members were introduced. The meeting reviewed the Committee Minutes at the beginning of the meeting rather than the end. This was tackled in a slightly more relaxed manner and drew out the meeting length. Revised Terms of Reference were agreed for London and Thames Valley Region. These set a standard for other Regions and Home Countries to use post the governance changes. Committee Chairmen were reappointed except Cruising and Government Affairs where David Darbyshire had time expired and was replaced by Julian Hansen. The complete list of RYA Representatives on National and International bodies was presented.

A robust discussion took place on issues arising from Team 1980, the team that never was. The background is that in 1980 HM Government asked the sport's governing bodies to consider boycotting the Moscow Olympics in protest about the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Sailing, Hockey, Equestrian, Swimming and Fencing deferred their decisions.

Council reviewed a proposed change in the Instructor Medical policy. This would allow those with a restriction on their commercial endorsement, who can complete all necessary elements of the Instructors course without assistance, will be eligible to be a Cruising or Yachtmaster Instructor. We went on to consider teaching RYA Courses in a Foreign Language. Issues covered was the need to have the material translated but ensuring that it meant the same as the English version, who pays for the translation and retention of the copyright remaining with the RYA. On conclusion one of our Home Country representatives asked about translation into Welsh (and Gaelic). Neither are a foreign language nor overseas. A point perhaps overlooked by Training. These indigenous languages were to be treated in the same manner as Foreign and Overseas languages. The Commodores Cup selection policy was agreed.

Council approved the adoption of new Council Regulations, Board Regulations and Membership Regulations. The present Head of Finance, David Murray was elected a director. The election process for the Management Board has started with nine Council members submitting election addresses. The Chairman and Vice Chairman have looked at the competencies being offered and felt that it was not necessary to conduct the election in two stages. Originally to elect 3, consider competencies along with those already on the board by 'right' and then elect a further two. All five will be elected at once. Results due 4th January 2012 and the first Board meeting 10th January 2012. The successful candidates will have different Board time in order to stagger the subsequent election. The two longest serving Council members serve 2 years, the next two, 2 years and the shortest 4 years.

Finally as time ran out Council discussed different ways of working. The March meeting would take the form of day long workshop to look at Safety and then how future meetings might run.

PTC

08.12.11