

RYA Eastern Regional Committee

Minutes of RYA Eastern Region Training Panel Meeting held on Wednesday 24 February 2010 at 7.30 pm at Belstead House, Belstead, Ipswich.

Present

Terry Corner (TC), Chairman Training Panel,
Fiona Wylie (FW), Regional Vice Chairman and NSSA representative,
Peter Woods (PW1), Regional Hon Treasurer,
Garth Cooper (GC1), Regional Communicator,
Peter Hibberd, (PH), RYA Sailability Regional Organiser.
Alan Tovey (AT), Dinghy Training Fleets Manager,
Robbie Bell (RB), RYA Regional Development Officer
Paul Wren (PW2), RYA Zones High Performance Manager
Robin Hill-Sanders (RH-S), Minutes Secretary.

1. Introductions and apologies.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming members and thanking them for attending.

Not present were Edwin Buckley (EB) Regional Race Management Training Co-ordinator and Graham M Colam (GC2), Windsurfing East Region Head Coach and Team 15 Coordinator.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes having been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read. PW1 wished it to be minuted that he did not recall there having been any discussion of Item 7 Update on grant applications which should have been recorded as a Post Meeting note. The minutes were subsequently approved.

3. Windsurf Fleet

a. Management

The PW2, the HPM has indicated that he will be bringing in a number of windsurfing coaches to help develop windsurfing in the Region. Team 15 dates are known so we will soon know what the training needs are for the windsurfers. Any other dates are available for Clubs to hire.

AT was not prepared to take on the fleet as a 'commodity'. He felt the dinghies are already taking up a great deal of his time.

Action PW2

b. Progress

The fleet will be in use for the Midland Instructors Conference at Rutland then East's at Grafham. Boards will then be taken to Alton for the annual check over. A key requirement is to list the many component parts. Suitable storage requirements to be investigated. Alton seems a sensible base given that a number of the coaches live near Ipswich, and the desire to promote Team 15 in the southern half of the Region. TC will undertake the co-ordinator's role in the absence of anyone else stepping forward.

Action PW2/TC

4. Dinghy Training Fleets

a. Winter maintenance and repairs

AT had received a list of replacement fittings for the dinghy training fleet(s). Subject to clarification of which Topper fleet needed bailer repairs, it was agreed to replace bailers in the new fleet but to blank off the facility if it was the old fleet. Difference of £32 to £4.30.

The overall parts bill with 20% bulk buy discount from Alton Water Sports Centre will be between £400 and £500. All items are considered to be normal wear and tear. AT to discuss with Alton Water and put in train the repairs. Provision of rubber door mats and repairs to trailer storage container floors will reduce damage to sails and buoyancy aids due to rust.

Action AT

b. 2010 Bookings

AT tabled a schedule of bookings received to date which showed an encouraging rate of take up. It was agreed that AT could approach last year's hirers who had not yet booked, offering incentive discounts if appropriate.

Action AT

c. Issues from relocation

None so far. The move of the fleets had gone well. TC tabled a signed copy of the agreement with Alton Water Sports Centre.

Action TC/AT

d. Insurance (racing damage)

PW reported that the existing policy covered racing risks. However it was agreed not to release the boats for racing. Whilst no insurance can cover damage excesses, our documents indicate the club concerned will need to pay the insurance excess.

e. Buoyancy aids

Alton Water had reported that the buoyancy aids were in poor condition because of the storage conditions. They suggested that our inclusion of buoyancy aids indicated a responsibility for us to ensure they were in good condition. Given the range needed to fit youths from 12 to 18, their recommendation was we should stop supplying them. It was not felt this would reduce demand for the dinghies. The Panel agreed this change subject to confirmation from the Regional Committee. Documentation to be changed accordingly.

Action AT/GC

5. Reports from Members

a. Finance

The Hon Treasurer (PW1) reported that the training account was in surplus, and urged the RB to make use of the funds available to him before the end of the RYA financial year in March.

Action PW1, RB.

b. Regional Development

RB indicated a number of interesting promotional activities in connection with the policy of encouraging adult participation in the Region. These would be covered in greater detail in his report to the Regional Committee. He was able to report that 98% of Regional inspections had been completed.

c. High Performance.

PW2 reported that he was focusing on increasing the size of the Zone Squad and Team 15 promotion especially in the southern half of the Region.

d. Communications.

GC reported that the redesigned Regional website was up and running. He also had in mind to refurbish the promotional decals on the training fleets

Action GC

e. Honda RIB

GC reported that he was expecting to circulate the risk assessment documents to organising clubs shortly and that all arrangements were well in hand. RB would take the opportunity to promote the event at the forthcoming Instructors Conference.

Action GC/RB

Post meeting note; Particulars including application instructions and details of the (revised) course are published in the Spring 2010 RYA Magazine.

f. Regional Forum

FW reported that the date of the Forum was now fixed at 13 November 2010, and the RYA's new CEO, Sarah Treseder would be attending.

Action FW

g. Race Management Training

No report.

h. RYA Sailability

PH reported that the RYAS National conference had been held the previous weekend at Wyboston Lakes and had attracted over 100 delegates from all over the UK. Speakers included Rod Carr and Geoff Holt. It was fully reported on the RYA Sailability page of the RYA website.

The Woolverstone Project had received funding for a Regional Special (ie learning difficulties) Olympics at Alton Water provisionally booked for 11 September. The East Anglian Sailing Trust will be hosting the Blind Nationals in Squibs on 21 to 23 June. The training of volunteers to A1 and D1 level will be encouraged throughout the season. It is hoped that this will promote more people with disabilities to take up the sport.

Action PH

i. NSSA

FW reported that a new memorandum of understanding between the NSSA and RYA had been agreed.

6. Duplication between the Training Panel and Regional Committee

The panel discussed overlaps with the main Regional Committee. Everyone attending TP with the exception of the Dinghy Fleets Manager also reported to the Regional Committee. This often meant matters were discussed twice but it was felt on balance better to have an opportunity for a more focused look by TP.

Meeting before or after the Regional Committee was considered. On balance meeting before to agree our way forward was preferred.

7. Grant applications

The RDO indicated the availability of adult dinghies would help meet Sport England's targets for which grants were available. As 2009/2010 Sport England funding currently had a surplus, an application before the end of the financial year stood a good chance of being approved. The Panel considered a £10,000 grant application and £5,000 Regional contribution. for two Wayfarers at £7,000 each and a stacking road trailer at £1,000. RB would consider which dinghy would be the most suitable and start work on the case in time for the Regional Committee to consider on 27 March.

Action RB/TC/FW

8. Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

GC was proceeding with a promotional leaflet for the training fleets.

The Feva trailer was known to be unsatisfactory and PW2 reported that the South East Region was investigating modifications which would meet the TP's concerns. He agreed to investigate and report back.

Action PW2

9. Report to the Regional Committee

Chairman TC would not be able to attend the next Regional Committee meeting FW agreed to represent the TP.

Action FW

10. Dates and venues of next meetings

The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 16 September 2010 at 7.30 at Belstead House, Belstead, Ipswich. **Post meeting note;** Belstead House now booked.

Action RH-S.

11. Any Other Business

The panel has previously considered if electronic means could be used to manage the training fleet bookings system. Up to recent times the technology was not available to us. However an outline proposal has come to the PW. This is to be updated and considered by the TP. RB felt that he had some surplus in his Training Fund and could meet some of the cost. Again funding is available in his 2009/2010 budget so the spend window is tight. The Regional Committee will be invited to consider the broad outlines. The TP will be considering the detailed requirements to ensure that the matter only progresses if it meets all of our needs. Alan Tovey has indicated that processing the bookings is time consuming.

Action PW2/AT

TC tabled an up to date Asset List.

There being no other business the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.45pm.

RH-S. 27.2.10

Distribution; members, Regional Chairman, Regional Hon Sec, Regional Webmaster.