



## CRUISER RACERS REVIEW MEETING

### MEETING NOTES & ACTIONS

**Date & Time: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 3pm Library**

	<b>Present</b> - Tim French, Richard Fernandes, Steve Smith, Geoff Smith, Richard Jones, Richard Leeming, Richard Hudson, Philip Clarabut, Quentin Strauss, Roger Griffiths, Chris Lucas, Tim Gorman, David Sussams, Keith Lennox.	Action
1	<b>Introductions and appointments</b> - Tim volunteered to remain class captain as he had enjoyed the role, there were no objections!	
2	<b>Review and feedback of this years' racing</b> – Feedback was positive although a main feature being a reduction in entries despite increased marketing, the regatta saw the greatest number of (cruiser) entries for events this year at 16 albeit down from 19 on the previous 2 years, the autumn series is also down to 13 from 20 last year. The Wednesday evening series had lowest at 5 boats, despite very favourable conditions this year but was very enjoyable and fun for those who sailed and enjoyed après sail at the club!	
3	<b>Calendar 2025</b> - The 2025 events are on the website, format being similar to this year but with the inclusion further Thames area events beyond MYC eg The Nore race, Ramsgate Regatta & EORA events, Janes Cup. Add link on WhatsApp	TF
4	<b>Handicaps for 2025</b> – as planned, we ditched the NHC system this year, being no longer supported by the RYA, in favour of IRC and YTC rating systems running alongside each other which has worked reasonably well (no handicap systems are perfect!). Lower entry numbers have allowed the RO to run single classes by some careful planning of courses - not too short for faster boats and not too long for others – but having the effect of increasing numbers on the start line. Notwithstanding, it was agreed we would continue with IRC & YTC but re-introduce a local handicap rating for those boats who may otherwise take part in racing (see next item).	

5	<p><b>How to increase entries (reciprocal events, new racers) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote reciprocal entries with neighbouring clubs – PC meeting L. Halston from MCC, TF contact Matt Love (MYC boats outnumbered MCC in Burton series, no MCC entries in MYC autumn series – why?)</li> <li>The continued use of advertising flyers for specific events also targeted at Medway boats in the marina – Roger Griffiths.</li> </ul>	PC/TF/RG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sail other events eg Nore race, Ramsgate regatta, Janes Cup &amp; Estuary Race, Colne Yacht club events and encourage them to sail MYC events!</li> <li>Increase cruiser racers WhatsApp group connect with QR codes.</li> <li>Continue to provide a club based ‘NHC’ class to attract those who like the idea of some competition but either don’t feel ready to commit further or didn’t enter in 2024.</li> <li>Where are the Sonatas, Dragons &amp; Squibbs?</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>Promotion and advertising, communications, website, race reports to Y&amp;Y –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add calendar to WhatsApp group - TF</li> <li>Put crew requirements on WhatsApp group - TF</li> <li>Add cleaning facilities for visiting race entries on fliers (RF).</li> <li>Circulate our calendar to other clubs, Erith YC (Duncan) , Greenwich (Richard Lemming), Bough Beech (Richard Hudson), Benfleet (Richard Fernandes).</li> <li>Add race reports, photos, mobile phone videos to Facebook (All).</li> <li>Generally, get us out there on media! (All).</li> </ul>	As noted
7	<p><b>Race Management (Spring, Wednesdays eves, Regatta &amp; Autumn Series)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional 6<sup>th</sup> race to be added onto the start of autumn series (TF to liaise with MCC re Burton series).</li> <li>Consider using MCC line jointly with MYC, not thought entirely necessary although a positive for liaison with MCC and a useful finish for some races (avoids the famous death reach approach to Upnor line!). TF to contact MCC.</li> <li>Philip kindly offered to continue with committee boat starts &amp; finishes for the Autumn Series for the next 3 years (thought I would record that Philip!).</li> </ul>	TF
8	<p><b>Duties, reciprocal arrangements with other classes.</b></p> <p>Philip asked that there would be 3 duty days in 2025, details to follow from the office, volunteers will be invited.</p>	Note to all

9	<b>AOB</b> – The requirement for entry fees for racing was mentioned and it was generally felt that non-club members should be charged but club members should not have to pay where the cost of providing racing was demonstrably already included in their membership fees. It was agreed to consider this point further.	PC /TF
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