



Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

Thursday 16th July 2020 at 19.30 by Zoom

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from Roger Pescod, Jonathan Law, Andy Smith, Richard Williamson and James Houlihan.

Those attending were; Adrian Solesbury, Alan Voysey, Amy Clements, Andrew Lewis, Andy Lapsley, Clair Durkan, Gerry Talbert, Phil Armitage, Chris Laiolo, Mark Williams, Murray Quinney, Neil O'Leary, Nick Bowles, Patrick Vasey, Paul Alderton, Peter Denison, Shellie Rogers, Stuart Dawes, Sue Whitehill and William Taylor.

2. **Adoption of the minutes of the 2019 AGM and matters arising.** The minutes of the 2019 AGM were adopted by the meeting unchanged.
3. **Captain's report.** NB presented the Captain's report, shown at Annex A. There were no questions from those present.
4. **Treasurer's report** PA presented the club's accounts from 2019, shown at Annex B. Berth fees had been set for each event to generate a small surplus which had resulted in an increase in the accumulated fund over the year of just over £1500.
5. **Election of Officers and Committee members.** All five members of the committee were prepared to stand again for 2020/21 and so were elected by the meeting. There had also been pre-meeting offers of help for the committee from three members which would be pursued.
6. **Race programme** NB explained about the cessation of racing earlier in the year following the coronavirus lockdown. The club's first 2020 event, the Sunsail #2 over the weekend 21/22 March had been cancelled as had the #3 due to take place 2 weeks later, by Sunsail but the club had been given vouchers to be used for another two weekend's racing to be used before the end of September 2021.

There was still a chance that the club could enter a Sunsail event later this year, in September or October but this would depend on most of the distancing restrictions being lifted.

7. **Awards** The club has two awards to give. The Mosika Alma trophy which was the windex from the yacht of this name which was rolled over in the 1979 Fastnet (but survived), awarded to Neil O'Leary for his skippering of the 2020 Caribbean 600 entry. The second award is the Helen Clark trophy, awarded to a non-committee member in memory of Helen Clark who did a lot of behind-the-scenes activities for the club, awarded this year to Gerry Talbert for his efforts in bringing the Caribbean 600 race together.

8. **AOB** NB described the club's developing efforts to buy a yacht. A business case has been prepared and will be sent to the CSSA for consideration at its October General Council Meeting. The club would like to buy a yacht, second hand, suitable for racing, about 35ft long.

Such a yacht would be suitable for racing in the Solent, along and across the English Channel.

When it wasn't being used for racing, it would be used for cruising and for developing sailing and racing skills so as to maximise income from it.

The business plan envisaged berth fees around £60 per berth per day which is about 2/3 of the current cost of a berth in one of the Sunsail weekends and hopefully more attractive to CSSA/CSORC members.

There was then a discussion and the following points were raised by members;

- 1) It was felt that CSORC publicity should be better. There didn't seem to be much publicity for CSORC on the CSSC website.
- 2) Perhaps CSORC should be branded as a racing club, not as an offshore racing club which might sound a bit daunting to prospective members.
- 3) One member suggested that a multiyear deal with, for example, Sailing Logic might be more cost effective. Then the club would not need to pay for the yacht's maintenance or run yacht husband team. However, there were concerns that it might not sit well with CSSC, who would ultimately be the owners of and carry liability for the boat. PA undertook to consult with the CSSA Treasurer on this point.
- 4) There was a comment about insurance and how expensive it might be but PA pointed out that this had been taken into account in the business plan.
- 5) There was a discussion about keeping the yacht at POG but again this has been considered in the business case and discounted.
- 6) There were strong warnings not to underestimate the costs of maintaining the boat, including the cost of damage,
- 7) There was a suggestion that there would be demands on volunteer effort to run the operation to a professional standard.
- 8) On the positive side was a recognition that the time is right, in a buyer's market, with the opportunity of a grant, and a club fund accumulated over 15 years for just this purpose, to buy our own boat.
- 9) The members were thanked for attending and for their inputs to the discussion.

The meeting closed at 21.10

Annex A – Captain’s Report

Report July 2020

CSORC has continued to offer a number of opportunities for racing sailing at a range of levels from the accessible to the exotic. 2020 has of course been an exception for reasons that I’m sure will seem unreal when we look back on them, or at least I hope so.

IDOR

CSORC entered two boats in the IDOR (Phil Armitage and Crispin Allard) and finished 5th and 7th.

Fastnet

The club chartered a First 40 which Simon Zavad skippered. The required 300 miles of offshore racing in qualifying were completed, despite retiring from the first race; becoming increasingly competitive against comparable boats. This was maintained in the Fastnet itself, although an injury resulting in a diversion to the Scillies meant the final result did not do justice to that performance.

De Guingand Bowl

DNF. There were only 15 finishers out of 68.

Morgan Cup

50th/85 in IRC overall.

St Malo

107th/171 in IRC overall.

Fastnet Race

Despite a diversion to the Scillies due to injury Merlin finished 214th out of 278 finishers.

Caribbean 600

CSORC chartered a Dufour 460, Oarsome Dream, with Neil O’Leary skippering, and successfully completed the race coming 50th out of 54 finishers, in a generally very light wind race.

In 2020 we were all set to compete in two of the Sunsail Race Series when the seriousness of the CoV outbreak became apparent and that was the end of racing for the year. A small crew did manage a February outing in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve Yacht Club First 40.7, with a view to chartering later in the season. Conditions were “lively” and events have now overtaken this plan as the RNVRYC boat is no longer available.

Thanks to all those involved in organising and sailing the events of the last year and in continuing to offer a degree of racing sailing to our members. We look forward to building on our current activities and extending them in the future.

Nick Bowles

CSORC Captain

Annex B – Treasurer’s Report



Report & Accounts - 2019

Income and Expenditure for the Year ending 31 December:

	2018		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Income from events	13,800.00		24,880.00	
less Charter costs	-12,746.00		-21,122.00	
less other event costs	-840.00		-2,203.40	
Surplus on events		214.00		1,554.60
Other Income		0.06		
Interest received		16.29		12.05
Net income		230.35		1,566.65
Expenditure:				
Prizes and awards		24.45		
Administration				
Surplus on operating activities		206.90		1,688.86
Capitation grant				
Net Surplus		206.90		1,688.86
Fund at 1 January		20,145.00		20,350.90
Accumulated Fund at 31 December		20,360.80		21,817.66

Balance Sheet as at 31 December:

	2018		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Current Account		582.35		4,696.95
Deposit Account		14,168.55		14,180.60
Prepayments		5,600.00		16,000.00
Creditors				-12,960.00
Net Current Assets		20,350.90		21,917.55
Accumulated Fund		20,360.80		21,817.66

2020 Caribbean 600 charter cost and security deposit

2020 Caribbean 600 income in advance

In accordance with CSSA guidelines, there is no requirement for Audit. As Income and expenditure are less than £25,000, they will not require an inspection of Accounts.

Produced by Phil Armitage
Treasurer CSORC
21 January 2020