



Classic Yacht Association Boat Owners Meeting Minutes Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 7.00 pm at the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron

James Mortimer, Chair, opened the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed the 28 members present.

He introduced John Erkkila, co-owner of PASTIME, who gave the members a brief update on her restoration noting it had been his great-grandfather's boat. He advised on completion of her restoration she would berth in Auckland.

1. Launch Events

(i) Debrief and comments on 2019-20 Season

James commented on the lack of events later in the season mostly due to the loss of our Launch Captain, and assured those present that the coming season would be well organised.

Alan Houghton added his thoughts on the issues within the Launch Division and lack of events, and again James reassured the members the events for the coming season would be much improved.

(ii) 2020-2021 Season

There were a number of events in place for the launches which would be circulated in the new seasons calendar shortly.

James introduced Andy Ball, Yacht captain who chaired the remainder of the meeting.

2. Yacht Racing Events

(i) Debrief and comments on 2019-20 Season

Hamish Ross expressed his thanks and enjoyment of sailing in different waters and the change in the Series to Premier & Summer had been well received with the away events creating great camaraderie.

Hamish also mentioned the difficulties of the Anniversary Regatta start and course in the harbour which is organised to show the fleet off to the public of Auckland.

Joyce pointed out the start was honouring a commitment to start the harbour races outside the RNZ Yacht Squadron and his complaints should be directed to the AAR Committee.

Regarding any change to the race as in starting from Mahurangi, Larry Paul commented on the spread of the fleet on the Sunday Mahurangi return race, and the significance of the fleet would be lost should the Anniversary Regatta classic fleets race become the Mahurangi Return Race to Auckland.

Hamish suggested alternative courses should be considered and the CYA should propose these to the AAR Committee.

(ii) Premier and Summer Series - debrief and comments

Andy noted there would be a two week gap between all events in the coming season. It was suggested Te Kouma, Coromandel and Kawau could be considered for the 2021 22 Season.

- (iii) Winter Series
Currently in progress and noted it was being enjoyed by all participants
- (iv) Classic Yacht Regatta
It was generally agreed this had been a successful event in 2020.
- (v) TopYacht entry and results program
It was noted the CYA Series and races would be run under the TopYacht system this season.
Chad Thompson suggested the starting point for the 2020-21 Season should be the 2020 Classic Yacht Regatta.
Robin Kenyon commented on the handicaps being performance based with no bonus points being allocated for authenticity such as in the CIM system in Europe.
The general feeling of the meeting was that TopYacht would result in an improved handicap system.

3. General Business

- (i) An invitation from the Tauranga Yacht club to participate in their Centennial in 2021 has been received. The CYA will publicise the event and skippers will have the option to participate in the Cruising Rally proposed for the 26-27 March overnighing at the Mercury Islands and the Centennial celebrations in Tauranga over Easter.
Andy Ball pointed out the clash with the CYA Kennedy Bay weekend but skippers could consider both options and make their own decision.
- (ii) James outlined the Proposed Amendment to Classic Yacht Policy circulated with the Agenda as Attachment 'A'. Hamish commented he didn't feel the new sails on RAINBOW needed to be declared but it was generally agreed that major changes to the early classics should be carefully considered and any under-water or rig changes should be notified on entry.
The Classic Yacht Policy is to be amended to remove the reference to new sails.
- (iii) The request from the A Gaff-rigged vessels to have a separate start from the A Bermudan Fleet was discussed.
Hamish explained the enjoyment of starting in an A Gaff fleet as in the Classic Regatta was shared among the skippers and perhaps the Premier Series only needed to be considered.

James explained the complexity of awarding the historic trophies within the Association to a divided fleet, and that the numbers of regular entries in some races hardly warranted two starts.
It was also suggested there were other options for the start such as a longer line or splitting the line to improve safety while keeping the A Division together. It was also suggested a pre-Season meeting with both fleets of skippers to discuss the protocols, courtesy and a better understanding of Gaff-rigged v Bermudan vessels, particularly rounding buoys could make an enormous difference to the enjoyment of racing for all skippers.

The outcome of the request would be further considered at the next Executive Committee meeting of the CYA and duly advised.

Chad Thompson commented on the necessity to have separate starts for the classic fleet at the Mahurangi CC Regatta and suggestions were also made to have the bigger faster vessels start before the dinghy classes.

James Buttle (Commodore, Mahurangi CC) advised it was currently under discussion.

James also requested more encouragement, support and promotion of the Modern Classic fleet which has been declining in numbers over recent years.

There being no further business James as Chair closed the meeting at 8.32pm