



**Minutes of the Classic Yacht Association Boat Owner's Meeting
held on Tuesday 3 May 2016 at 7.00pm at the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron**

Present: There were 33 members present

Apologies: Chad Thompson, Angus Rogers, Larry Paul, Bruce Dunlop, Mike Mahoney, Bert & Margaret Woolcott, Louise Dews, James Stonyer and Alan Good.

Rod Marler opened the meeting and welcomed all present. He noted planning was underway for the 2016-17 season and contributions were welcome..

Season Debrief

1. Launch and Social Events

- (i) Fairway Bay: a safe anchorage capable of hosting large numbers
Riverhead: two enjoyable visits, a great venue and the journey a highlight of the event
Waitangi Day picnic: a successful informal and unstructured event
Cake Day: held at the end of the Round Rangitoto race and an ideal event to combine yachts and launches. The event needs good promotion

It was agreed the program of events was balanced and the venues capable of hosting both yachts and launches.

- (ii) Proposed Events for 2016-17
The Clevedon River cruise was suggested along with more involvement with Kawau over Anniversary Weekend.

2. Yacht Racing Events

- (i) Harbour Series:
Opening Day: no comments

NBYC: it was agreed two short races were well received as was the change in sailing waters. It was suggested assistance be given to the race management with Sailing Instructions and the buoys.

Round the Buoys: a request to review the clash in dates for the 2016-17 season was received.

Further to this race and as a result of severe winds being forecast prior to the start resulting in damage, a discussion took place on the responsibility of making the call to cancel racing early to avoid damage to the yachts. While the responsibility is that of the host club in the first instance and the skipper, Ian Cook suggested the Yacht Captain should call maybe six experienced skippers to get a consensus on whether to cancel the classic fleets involvement given the need to preserve the yachts was paramount. This suggestion received support from the members.

Anniversary Day Regatta: Eric Mahoney noted the shorter course introduced in 2016 after feedback from competitors had been well received. Russell Brooke suggested a course out of the harbour but as Eric explained the course had been shortened at the CYA's request and having the vessels easily viewable was of benefit to both classic yachting and the community.

He also commented on the need for the continuing support from the classic fleet to ensure the event survived in its present format. The cluster of events over Anniversary Weekend was acknowledged and Eric advised that the committee were in discussions with ATEED and Yachting NZ in an effort to rejuvenate the Regatta and become part of a Festival of Sail. A strategy was currently being put in place to develop this which would both benefit and attract sponsors and participants and it was hoped to announce the outcome of this early in June.

Alan Houghton suggested hiring a large ferry with a knowledgeable commentator on the day to accommodate family and supporters. This suggestion was extremely well received and will be looked into by the AAR committee.

Vintage & Veterans Regatta: Russell Brooke commented that given the conditions that evolved, the race should not have been started.

ANZAC Day Regatta: James acknowledged the handicaps were in need of review and Ponsonby CC would be advised that the Sailing Instructions and start times need to be available prior to race day.

(ii)

Passage Series:

Night Race, Mahurangi to Auckland and Round Rangitoto races: no comments received

Te Kouma/Man O War Bay race: the continuation of this race to be reviewed given the timing but the promotion of the venue as a combined yacht & launch event was suggested.

The requests to separate the racing with two weeks in between races was noted.

(iii)

Winter Series

James advised the newly structured Winter Series had met with a good response and ten entries were expected. While shortening the series had increased the entries, he will reassess the restructure on completion.

(iv)

Classic Yacht Regatta

James displayed the results of the recent survey on screen and preferences were:

- to retain the current hosting arrangements at the RNZYS
- to retain the three day format
- two shorter races per day
- Northern Leading area was the first preference for race course followed by the Rangitoto Channel, East of Browns Island, main inner harbour and upper harbour
- not to include the Regatta as part of the Summer Series

It was noted the ferry wash will be reduced considerably with the exit of Explore NZ ferries and a mixture of race areas could be considered.

It was agreed the Regatta should remain hosted by the Squadron and to build on the successful format now in place.

In response to an enquiry regarding transport to and from the Viaduct James advised the 2016 event had been organised late in the piece and 2017 will see a more structured arrangement regarding transport put in place.

It was suggested the Squadron could be asked to approach Westhaven for the use of vacant berths over the period of the Regatta.

The importance of confirming dates and booking the Squadron as a venue and host was stressed.

(v) Proposed Events for 2016-17 Season

The lack of series entries was discussed and as it was considerably cheaper to enter the races individually participants were choosing this option.

It was also noted there were a number of boats not entering possibly due to a lack of confidence in racing and the suggestion to place experienced sailors onto these vessels to share their experience might be helpful.

Derek Brandt requested ongoing updates regarding competitors place in the Series after each race be circulated.

James advised he was reviewing new handicap systems for next season and will advise the results of his review prior to the start of the season.

3. General Business

- (i) Boat Insurance: Derek commented on the availability of boat insurance and group schemes that were available.
Hamish suggested the Association look into the group schemes that could benefit the members.
- (ii) Classic Vessel Register: It was confirmed an updated version was underway and members will be emailed shortly requesting confirmation of details and requesting images.
- (iii) Heritage Landing: It was noted the display of vessels provided a great pedestrian attraction for the CYA and how fortunate the Association is to have this facility.
There was no waiting list in place but Bruce assured the members out of town boats were looked after.
Alan Houghton enquired whether the Landing facility may provide a revenue opportunity for the CYA and the possibilities of managing it as an asset are to be looked into.

It was noted the rotation policy had not been reviewed since being put in place in 2012 and it was agreed a review was now due.

Members were reminded of the upcoming Annual Prizegiving on Wednesday 18 May and that the Annual General Meeting date had been brought forward to Tuesday 12 July.

There being no further business Rod closed the meeting closed at 8.30pm and thanked the members for their attendance.