

Minutes of the 2013 YCC General Meeting

Thursday 21 November 2013

Council Chamber, CERN

Agenda.

1. Approval of the Agenda and Election of the Chair
2. Approval of the Minutes of GA 2012
3. Discussion of 2012 Activities
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Insurance report
 - c. Courses
 - d. Cruises
 - e. Maintenance
 - f. External regattas
 - g. Internal regattas and Match-Racing
4. Treasurer's report
5. Report of the Auditors
6. Discharge of the 2010 Committee
7. Appointment of the 2011 Auditors
8. Election of the 2011 YCC President
9. Election of the 2011 Committee
10. Preliminary 2013 Budget
11. Fees for the 2013 Season
12. Swiss Sailing and GA
13. AOB

1. Approval of the Agenda and Election of the Chairman

The 2013 YCC General Meeting was opened at 18:05 in the Main Auditorium by President Luca Canali. The agenda was approved and an attendance sheet was circulated among the participants. Forty-three members were present. (List kept by Minutes secretary.)

Gigi Rolandi, one-time President, was unanimously elected Chairman of the 2013 GM. He mentioned his longstanding membership but that he is less active these days as a corollary of work commitments.

2. Approval of the Minutes 2012

- The minutes of the Annual General Meeting (22 November 2012) had been made available shortly after that meeting; they were approved, with no changes.

○

Material: 

3. Discussion of 2013 Activities

a) At Gigi's invitation, President Luca Canali opened discussion by thanking Tim Hancox and all the contributors to the Annual Report which was now available (paper copies at meeting and online as well. He showed a .ppt presentation (*q.v.*) and commented on several points of the **season**, noting an overall continuity with the preceding season. He again noted that our biggest Club lack was of people to be responsible individually for the three Ynglings in particular but indeed for all boats.

Material:   

b) With .ppt, Haude Morel detailed the highlights and revisions of the past season in **insurance**. Our insurers *Nationale Suisse* were very satisfactory and indeed were offering further sponsorship, which would be used to pay for several Club sails by placing their logo on them. She reminded everyone that any damage to boats should not merely go in the logbook (in the phonebooth) but be reported to her directly as well. Tomasz Ładziński asked for clarification about the "*protection de bonus*" should a driver using his own car to tow a Club trailer have an accident: Haude confirmed that this only applied to Swiss-registered cars.

Gijs noted that both *Mamma Mia* and *Gipsy* might be due quite extensive (and expensive) repairs this winter: for the latter, the news had only been given the previous day, and therefore provision was not included in the budget to be presented shortly. *Mamma Mia* has unexplained paint bubbles in the antifouling, which should not be an osmosis problem in such a new boat, in reply to a question from Paul Aspell: investigations are on-going.

○

Material:   

c) Michel Chevallier had taken overall responsibility for running the **Courses** this season, and he provided an overview. There had been the usual 3-to-1 demand to supply ratio, and the annual lottery. The actual courses had followed previous practice including the now-established CNV dinghy courses. It was the second year of only offering the EC (experienced catamaran) course, but the option of only passing (or only succeeding in) the previous C "key" remained. Michel mentioned that tests had not been as numerous as students enrolled should have indicated; an all-time low of 57. He suspected that there were several reasons: an unusually early start to the season, usual (or perhaps slightly worse) unavoidable absenteeism from tests, Michel Cornevin noting

the percentage attending all courses (14%) was poor. Probably students therefore realised themselves that they were not ready, plus some lack of availability of examiners, especially towards the end of the season, as Michał Kwiatek pointed out. The new Committee will be invited to consider remedies.

Luca mentioned the "real" Man OverBoard exercise which Dan Savu and Diana Ritchie had had, late one evening and late in the season: he congratulated them on rescuing the man, Cyril, and restoring him to his boat. He was happy to award the President's Cup to them jointly for this event. Dan reported a further happy end: Cyril had been sufficiently grateful that he went to Port Choiseul on five successive Mondays to try to meet his saviours again, and was eventually lucky in being put in contact by Rachid: a nice dinner followed.

Material:  Slides

d) **Cruises** were covered by Manfred Willenbrock, since he had co-skippered the one undertaken with Denis Grier. It had been a successful trip to Majorca for one week, with six participants, all of different (but harmonious!) nationalities. No plans have been made for next season so far, but Manfred will welcome proposals.



YCC Cruise Report
2013.docx

e) **Maintenance** was covered by Gijs de Rijk, consolidated from reports from several people: he briefly noted that the fleet was ageing but in good shape generally. The Big point, which had also been noted by the Treasurer is that our finances are very healthy, almost too much so in terms of financial holdings. Discussion about a proposal to buy another boat would follow later this evening.

f) **External Regattas** were this year again coordinated by Michał Kwiatek who gave a presentation. Attendance was down this season overall, but roughly equalled 2011. He was pleased to report a lot of interest in the *Hivernal* series and some excellent results.

Material:  Slides

g) **Internal Regattas** and **Match-Racing** were detailed by Tim Foster; see .ppt. Of nine regattas scheduled (somewhat down on 2011 as availability of dates becomes ever tighter but the same as 2012), we had succeeded in running six, with three cancelled for different reasons; complete unavailability of a Q-boat driver, lack of enrolments for one of the Match-Races, etc. Michel Cornevin was disappointed overall, as he encouraged his Yngling students to go and have a try. An enquiry as to what Drag Races were was explained. A proposal that regattas should ideally be as frequent as weekly was noted, although experience seems to indicate this is simply not feasible. Luca presented the

Internal Regattas prize to Sanja Damjanovic: she mentioned that it would be a nice memory now she was moving from the area, with very happy memories of four years from beginner to winning regattas.



Internal regattas
2013 report v1.docx



Internal regattas
2013.pptx

4. Treasurer's Report

Caroline Duflot presented this report. She had worked with Maarten Schokker while he was still in Geneva but discovered over the year that many previous practices were not in accordance with what she, as a qualified French accountant, understood should be followed. She had rejigged some headings for previous reports but believes the Club has a major rethink on our tax liability in Geneva – despite CERN itself being tax-exempt. She was standing down, having found the time needed to do a correct job was disproportionate, and beyond her availability. She strongly recommended that the Club employ a professional accountant (cost c. CHF 1000.- p.a.) to assist the new Treasurer; she would be able to propose names. A tax declaration for 2013 should normally be made during the succeeding (2014) year.

Material:   

There was considerable discussion; Jan-Fiete Grosse-Oetringhaus asked for clarification whether Caroline's changes were to correct actual errors, or rather good tricks to "adjust" tax liability, to which she replied they were to adopt correct accounting practices plus corrections of previously presented figures in costs and depreciation.

Marcel Arditi enquired whether the tax office (Impôts), if apprised of our believed status, would take past lacks or errors into account; Caroline confirmed they would look back some five years usually, and this was where a Chartered Accountant was needed. Elena noted that a first step must be to check with CERN authorities as to status; Gijs noted that this had been done informally at the beginning of this year.

5. Report of the Auditors

Auditor Tomasz Ładziński was present and, on behalf of himself and fellow auditor Paula Cole, read out their Report. The overall situation was satisfactory and they had no comments beyond the Report. There were no questions.

Material: 

6. Discharge of the 2013 Committee

On the proposal of Gigi Rolandi who took the floor again, and since there were no further questions, the 2013 Committee was discharged as having performed its mandate correctly (*nem. con.*).

7. Appointment of the 2014 Auditors

Paula Cole being unwilling to stand again, Tomasz Ładziński was re-elected for a further year, with Marco Benvenuti for the second slot, there being no other offers in response to Gigi's invitation. Unanimous.

8. Election of the 2014 YCC President

At the invitation of meeting-Chairman Gigi, Luca Canali, the only candidate for YCC president for 2014, presented himself: he said he was glad to stand, having been a YCC member since 2006; he noted that a rotation of president, perhaps over 2-3 years would be ideal. Before submitting to a vote, Luca wished to present his proposed new Committee, since he felt strongly that these were people with whom he could work well.



Proposal_Committee
_YCC_2014.docx

Since there were no further candidates, Luca was elected by acclamation.

9. Election of the 2014 YCC Committee

Luca presented the Committee which he would like to see elected. Marcel Arditi, standing for Treasurer, remarked that the job was somewhat daunting, and he would willingly stand down if a more qualified person would wish to stand instead. There were no takers. The Committee (see below) was elected *en bloc*, unanimously.

YCC Committee 2014

Name	Function or area of responsibility	Comment
Chick Nichols	Honorary president	
Luca Canali	Chairman (President)	
Gijs De Rijk	Vice-president, Versoix matters, TSO BA5	
Elena Gianolio	Secretary	
Maria Chiara Casella	Treasurer	New committee member
Marcel Arditi	Assistant Treasurer	New committee member
Luigi Gallerani	Co-responsibility for: maintenance coordination	
Yann Leclercq	Co-responsibility for: maintenance coordination	New committee member
Tim Hancox	Publications	
Michal Kwiatek	External regattas, back-office software	
Julie Lefebvre	Co-responsibility for: club racing	New committee member

	coordination	
Pietro Govoni	Co-responsibility for: club racing coordination	New committee member
David Porret	Boats access system	
Rob Veenhof	Swiss Sailing liaison, and more	
Helen Morris	Social activities and shop	
Haude Morel	Insurances, vice-coordinator for social activities	
Vince Cobham	Co-responsibility for: dinghy courses and training	New committee member
Tim Huckstep	Co-responsibility for: dinghy courses and training	
Gonzalo Fernandez Penacoba	Catamaran courses and training	
Rachid Mazini	Yngling courses and training, IT maintenance	
Michel Chevallier	General coordination of sailing courses and tests	
Jean-Marc Leiser	Q-boat maintenance and Q-boat drivers training	
Sascha Schmeling	Surveillance	
Kirill Prokofiev	Co-responsibility for cruises, IT maintenance	
Manfred Willenbrock	Co-responsibility for cruises	

Luca noted that several people were stepping down from last year's Committee: Caroline Duflot, Maarten Schokker, Tim Foster, Jenny Macgregor, Andrea Messina. He presented a small gift to them (if present) with thanks for all their hard work.

10. Fleet evolution

Luca announced that one of our biggest decisions to take at this AGM would be on the possible purchase of a new boat, of a size and capability probably bigger and greater than those currently owned. Michal gave a detailed presentation; he and his Study Group (Bartek Pawłowski, David Porret, Helen Morris, Kirill Prokofiev, Michał Kwiatek, Tim Huckstep, Tim Foster, Patrick Diday, Ricardo Gonzalo, Vince Cobham) were to be warmly thanked, as Gigi proposed, for a lot of time and effort in studying the alternatives, and – even better – coming up with a proposed boat for approval. It was noted that votes should be taken for a boat, and for a potential boat in unsatisfactory shape already in Port Choiseul harbour (if found), to ensure a smooth transition and to legalise any decision the Committee might find itself obliged to take rapidly.

Material:  Slides 

There was considerable discussion: one question was why not another Surprise, since we had experience of three and they proved very satisfactory. Michał said this had not been ruled out, but the consensus was for a step beyond. Edouard Dorenbos wanted to know, since an inboard motor was apparently ruled out, whether an outboard was planned: confirmed, it was virtually essential to our needs. Gigi mentioned his own experiences as President and the need then to acquire "a wreck" (for which we had nevertheless paid some CHF 7000) merely to gain a mooring place (for a third Yngling at that time): this had been of great longterm benefit and made the case that it might be the best rapid way forward. It was also recorded that, if *Mamma Mia* were to be out of the water for potentially much of next season, because of osmosis/other concerns, her place would be available, if temporarily. Similarly, *Gypsy's* place was currently free, all considerations which we need to keep under consideration.

Gigi asked the meeting for a vote on these issues. Unanimous, in favour of authorising KCHF 20 for acquisition of "a wreck" if appropriate; KCHF 70 for a new or second-hand boat, around the J80 configuration.

Finally, in connection with fleet evolution, Gijs noted that the AGM should take a formal vote for legal reasons, authorising the Committee to dispose (sale or binning) of the varied but ultimately little-value Windsurf equipment currently stored in the BA5 building. Despite repeated efforts over several years, nobody had been found to animate the section, and it had been necessary to offer the windsurf storage box on the Port Choiseul beach to the *Etat de Genève* (thanks to Michel for negotiations), to avoid continuing liability for a deteriorating asset. Accepting that Edouard Dorenbos' hope that the boards might still be used for paddling was a non-starter (no storage any longer, insurance questions), the meeting agreed unanimously that the Committee might dispose of windsurf equipment as it saw fit.

11. Preliminary 2014 Budget

Caroline Duflot, as the outgoing Treasurer, presented a budget (*q.v.*) for 2014. There was some discussion of several items, for which Caroline gave full explanations. It was noted that, although there was no specific provision for the unexpected recent quote for *Gypsy*, this could most probably be absorbed into a generous budget elsewhere.

Material:  Slides  document 

12. Fees for the 2014 Season


Luca announced that the previous Committee was not making a proposal to change fees for 2014. Gigi called for a vote on both the preliminary budget (point 11.) They were both agreed, unanimously with one abstention. Therefore membership fees are as follows:

Category	Annual Fee	Entry Fee
Active members	CHF 300 (raised from CHF 250 in 2010)	CHF 100

Active juniors (a)	CHF 150 (ditto CHF 100 in 2010)	CHF 50
Friend members (b)	CHF 110 (ditto CHF 60 in 2010)	0
Honorary members (b)	0	0
Temporary members (c)	CHF 110 /month	0

13. Swiss Sailing and GA

Rob Veenhof took the floor, since he is most up to date with SwSa matters, and indeed, frequently represents YCC at their meetings. Rob gave a resumé of the issues currently under consideration by the Swiss Sailing General Assembly and asked the YCC General Meeting for voting instructions. He stressed that there is a continuing and urgent need for qualified umpires: he, or SwSa would be only too happy to explain the requirements and encourage new candidates.

Material: 

Rob noted that a decision was required by this meeting, whether we would accept a change to the Swiss windsurfing requirements. Pushed to a recommendation, which was proposed for acceptance by Gigi, the meeting agreed to Rob's feeling that YCC should abstain, as disinterested, on this windsurfing question. agreed, and Rob will transmit our (weighted 10) votes at the SwSa GA.

14. AOB

a) A recommendation was made, that the Winter Evenings should be continued and amplified by the new Committee; they could include cruises, navigation (Sebastian Lopienski), etc.. Agreed, and referred to Luca for action.

b) There being no other points raised, the meeting adjourned to the Smash Restaurant for the Annual Dinner, kindly organised by Helen Morris, with Apéros (thank you, YCC) at 8:30.