

Minutes of the 2014 YCC General Meeting

Thursday 13 November 2014

Council Chamber, CERN

Agenda.

<http://indico.cern.ch/event/348008>

1. Introduction, Approval of the Agenda and Election of the meeting Chairperson
2. Approval of the 2013 AGM Minutes
3. Discussion of 2014 Activities
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Fleet report
 - c. New boat acquisition, J/80
 - d. Cruise
 - e. Insurance report
 - f. Report on courses
 - g. External regattas
 - h. Treasurer's report
 - i. Auditors' report
4. Discharge of the 2014 Committee
5. Appointment of the 2015 Auditors
6. Election of the 2015 YCC President and Committee
7. Preliminary 2015 Budget
8. Proposal and vote on fees for the 2015 Season
9. News on Swiss Sailing
10. AOB

1. Approval of the Agenda and Election of the Chairman

The 2014 YCC General Meeting was opened at 18:03 in the Council Chamber by President Luca Canali. The agenda was approved and an attendance sheet was circulated among the participants. Forty-six members were present. (List kept by Minutes secretary.) Tomasz Ładziński, one-time President, was unanimously elected Chairman of the 2014 AGM.

2. Approval of the 2013 AGM Minutes

- The minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting had been made available shortly after that meeting; they were approved, with no changes.

Material: 

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3. Discussion of 2014 Activities

a) Introduction At Tomasz' invitation, President Luca Canali returned to the floor and opened discussion by thanking Tim Hancox and all the contributors to the Annual Report which was now available; some paper copies at meeting and online as well at our web page <http://cern.ch/yachting> under the link menu Minutes/Reports (<http://yachting.web.cern.ch/yachting/news.html>) . Luca commented that the highlights of the year had certainly been the acquisition of the new J/80 and the CERN Cup, a successful open regatta on 29 June which will continue on an annual basis. He felt that the Club spirit was alive and well.

b) Fleet report Gijs gave a detailed report on the state of the fleet; there were no questions.

Material: [Slides](#)  

c) New boat acquisition, J/80 David outlined the process of buying and commissioning the J/80, from decision on what to buy to the first outing. He noted that 60 of the 86 SU skippers had taken advantage of an outing to qualify to take out the J/80 as skipper.

Material: [Slides](#)  

d) Cruise Manfred presented the 2014 cruises of two charter yachts in Greece, which had taken varying routes for their September week. He also showed a film made by one member, including impressive shots from a drone camera.

Material: [Slides](#)  

e) Insurance report Haude detailed the events of the season, and again stressed the need for any accidents to be reported, both in the on-line logbook and even more important, to her personally. Two accidents this season, one more severe, had cost our insurance a considerable sum, to say nothing of damage to the Club's reputation, about which Michał Kwiatek and others commented. On a question from Dirk Geppert, it was noted that while a modern fibre boat was fairly invulnerable, especially with a metal front piece, wooden boats (as in one case) were expensive to repair. Another question from Pierluigi Bortignon had Haude confirming that yes, an Insurance Company, *Nationale Suisse* in our case, could unilaterally decline to continue insurance if we became too expensive, exactly as for most forms of insurance. She agreed with Michel Cornevin that a reminder on careful use of boats next season might appropriately be sent to members.

Material: [Slides](#)  

f) Report on courses Michel Chevallier highlighted the numbers of courses we had given, at a realistic maximum considering boats available. They had been generally successful, although Michel Cornevin again regretted that dedicated attendance by students was sometimes lacking. Some discussion ensued, but no magic ideas resulted.

Material: 

g) External regattas Michał Kwiatek gave a description of the regattas in which Club boats and members had taken part during the season, and invited sailors to take advantage of the imminent Winter Regatta season.

Material: 

h) Treasurer's report Chiara gave a report on the financial happenings of the year and particularly drew attention to what she regarded as significant discrepancies of planned budget vs. actual expenditure, for which clear justifications were explained.

Material: 

Among some questions and comments, Michał wished to thank Kirill for the considerable financial saving he had made the Club by himself undertaking the sanding of the hull of *Mamma Mia* to prepare her for the correct anti-osmosis painting. Luca particularly thanked Chiara for her lucid presentation and explanations, especially as she had learnt financial matters "on the job".

Eduard Dorenbos (and later, Michel Cornevin) asked for an update on the question which had been raised at the previous AGM as to whether YCC could be liable for tax within Switzerland. Chiara explained that Marcel had investigated the situation quite closely, notably by enquiring of the CERN Staff Association and of our own financial expert, and it seemed we were not liable. Some investigations were still on-going.

i) Auditors' report On behalf of Marco Benvenuti and himself, Tomasz then presented their report and confirmed satisfaction in the running of the finances. No questions.

Material: 

4. Discharge of the 2014 Committee

Tomasz then invited the discharge of the 2014 Committee as having performed its mandate correctly (*43 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions*).

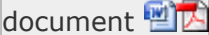
5. Appointment of the 2015 Auditors

Tomasz Ładziński said he and Marco Benvenuti would for choice not wish to stand again, some rotation in the role being beneficial. He invited offers from the floor and Giovanni Franzoni volunteered after explaining that he had no great experience or knowledge. His offer and that of one-time Treasurer Johannes Gutleber, were accepted, and they were voted the 2015 auditors (*44 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions*).

6. Election of the 2015 YCC President and Committee

At the invitation of meeting-Chairman Tomasz, Luca Canali, the only candidate for YCC President for 2015, presented himself and explained his wish to present his proposed new Committee at the same time, since he felt strongly that these were people with

whom he could work well. At his suggestion, there would be some changes of role proposed. He first thanked those current CommMems who were standing down, not seeking re-election for various reasons: Julie Lefebvre, Pietro Govoni, David Porret, Helen Morris, Vince Cobham, Tim Huckstep. They were presented with bottles of wine.

Material: 

Since there were no further candidates, Luca and the proposed committee were elected by acclamation (*nem.con.*). Michel Cornevin expressed the belief that long-serving CommMems and the willingness of ex-members to rejoin showed a healthy atmosphere on-board.

Luca then announced the winners of the two traditional Cups: the Nichols Cup went jointly to Tim Foster and Patrick Diday and the President's Cup to Dirk Geppert. They also received bottles of wine.

Elected YCC Committee 2015

Name	Function or area of responsibility	Comment
Chick Nichols	Honorary President	
Luca Canali	Chairman	
Luigi Serio	Vice-president and assistant treasurer	Returning to the committee
Chiara Casella	Treasurer	
Elena Gianolio	Secretary	
Gijs De Rijk	TSO BA5, coordination of launching and berthing of the fleet	Change of functions
Marcel Arditi	SU+GS+J80 maintenance coordination	Change of functions
Dirk Geppert	SU+GS+J80 maintenance coordination	New committee member
Luigi Gallerani	Dinghy and catamarans maintenance coordination	
Valentina Venturi	Dinghy and catamarans maintenance coordination	New committee member
Yann Leclercq	Yngling maintenance coordination	
Adam Bornstein	Yngling maintenance coordination	New committee member
Tim Hancox	Surveillance, Publications	Added new functions
Sascha Schmeling	Surveillance	Handover of surveillance activities
Michal Kwiatek	External regattas, back-	

	office software	
Pierluigi Bortignon	Club Software Development	New committee member
Sanja Damianovic	Internal regattas coordination	Returning to the committee
Alexandre Vanbellingen	Internal regattas coordination	New committee member
Marco Benvenuti	CERN Cup organizer	Returning to the committee
Rob Veenhof	Swiss sailing liaison, and more	
Haude Morel	Insurance contracts and claims, sponsoring	
Slawosz Uznanski	Dinghy courses and training	New committee member
Jannis Fischer	Dinghy courses and training	New committee member
Torsten Layda	SU+J80 course and training	Returning to the committee
Gonzalo Fernandez Penacoba	Catamaran courses and training	
Rachid Mazini	Yngling courses and training	
Michel Chevallier	General coordination of sailing courses and tests	
Jean-Marc Leiser	Q-boat maintenance and Q-boat drivers training	
Kirill Prokofiev	IT maintenance, coordination of the YCC cruise	
Manfred Willenbrock	Coordination of the YCC cruise	
Silvia Costantini	Social activities and shop	New committee member
Silvia Incardona	Social activities and shop	New committee member

7. Preliminary 2015 Budget

Chiara presented her budget (*q.v.*) for 2015, which had been agreed after lengthy discussion by the Committee. There was some discussion of several items, for which Chiara gave full explanations. Eduard Dorenbos believed that a fixed sum, building towards acquisition of new boats, was allocated every season: this is not the case, the Committee rather making specific proposals as case and finances allow. There was much discussion, speculating whether decreased use of dinghies was a result of an ageing fleet, whether current KCHF 99 bank balance is excessive, whether there was a finite ideal membership proportionate to the fleet, and others. Giovanni Dadaglio was reassured that *Mic Mac* was unlikely to need expensive maintenance soon, although

eventual replacement had to be borne in mind. Luigi Serio, another ex-Treasurer, considered that the income figures were safely conservative. Alex Cerri noted that for several years the Auditors had complained that financial reserves were disproportionately high, and in fact, they are still considerable.

Tomasz finally summarised the vote needed as a) a balanced budget with a small excess of income over expenditure (KCHF 3,8), b) the same but authorising the new Committee to spend KCHF 15-20 on a new boat (probably dinghy type), should examination prove this desirable, c) wait a further year before planning another boat (because of high expenditure this season and the current lack of a needed mooring-place, which Gijs however reported would only add CHF 800 to yearly costs). The proposed balanced budget was accepted unanimously; the dinghy addition accepted (*36 in favour, 2 against, 8 abstentions*). Tim Foster suggested that a five-year budget might be desirable.

8. Fees for the 2015 Season

Luca announced that the previous Committee was not making a proposal to change fees for 2015. This was agreed, unanimously. 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

9. Swiss Sailing and GA

Michał Kwiatek took the floor and explained that Rob Veenhof would represent YCC at the forthcoming meeting. It would be an important one, and we needed to take decisions on how we wished Rob to vote. After some discussion, the following was agreed:

- A. Vote against the new "Art. 42 Licences" (*46 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions*).
- B. Vote against any proposal to increase the membership cost (currently CHF 50) (*46 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions*).
- C. Urge the Swiss Sailing to re-think their budget strategy and adapt their spendings to their realistic income, rather than increase the cost for the clubs (*42 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions*).
- D. Vote in favour of the addition of the sentence "ou l'appartenance en tant que membre individuel passif (membre direct) à Swiss Sailing" to "Art. 8 Participation aux regattes" (*22 in favour, 7 against, 3 abstentions*).

[Edit: the figures are not consonant throughout vote: people were leaving.]

There were some strong voices in the audience that if A. is nevertheless accepted by the SwSa GA, then the YCC should probably leave SwSa. If the YCC eventually leaves SwSa, then D. would be useful for those YCC members who will want to take part in regattas.

Material: 

10. AOB

Time having advanced well beyond the scheduled Annual Dinner, kindly organised by Helen Morris, with Apéros (thank you, YCC), Tomasz decided against allowing AOB but nevertheless invited members to speak to the Committee of any concerns. He adjourned the meeting at 20:50.