

North Wales Sailing Regional Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday April 24th 2008
at Llandudno Sailing Club

		ACTION
Present	Mark Stafford - Chairman (Penmaenmawr) Tim Bowden (Shotwick) Ken Newing (Port Dinorwic) Paul Moreton (Llandudno) Goronwy Jones (Royal Anglesey) Mary Gowers (Llandudno) Bill Barry (Royal Welsh) Liz Gowers (Llandudno) Anthony Robinson (Royal Angl)	
In Attendance	Ruth Iliffe (WYA) Sian Henshall (minutes)	
Apologies	Pwllheli SC & Holyhead SC	
	Mark opened the meeting and thanked everybody for attending. Mary has produced a draft 3 year action plan for this meeting to amend as required and agree.	
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication pathways – communication mainly comes currently via the junior and youth squads and therefore needs to be improved and increased between clubs, the regional committee, and the WYA. It was felt that some pathways would need reviewing but that all the targets set were achievable. • Sian Henshall has agreed to minute all meetings of the Regional Committee. • Regional Committee needs to be a conduit for information to clubs and back again in the form of two way information sharing. It was agreed that we could get a letter out to clubs by June 2008 in order to get some feedback for reviewing how effective current information sharing is. We need to get clubs to interact and share information with each other. • Liz has produced a poster but just needs a name – one that can also be translated into Welsh – this will be complete by July 2008. • Funding is required in order to reproduce and distribute by May 2009. • All the goals set for web links are achievable. Clubs to be encouraged to put forward role models in all sections i.e junior, youth, senior etc for articles on the website / Newsletter – this is not just aimed at the best sailors but for any reason that the club feels a person needs some recognition. 	<p>Mark & Ruth</p> <p>Mark</p> <p>Liz</p> <p>Ruth</p>
Affordable access to sailing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicky Forshaw has shown great interest in this section but needs to be asked if she is prepared to formally carry it forward. • We need to know which clubs have boats available for hire – a catalogue could be produced of where, what and how so 	<p>Mary</p> <p>Nicky</p>

	<p>that sailors without boats can go along to the club which may have a particular boat that would like to sail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcomers should be able to take out day memberships in order to pay for a day's sailing. (Penmaenmawr SC already has day memberships in place, but hire is only available at present to full members subject to requirements by junior sailors). Royal Welsh YC have produced a 'welcome pack' for newcomers and PDSC are in the process of doing so. • An example was highlighted: Littleton SC in London was declining in membership and in danger of closing, so the club bought 6 RS 200 for sailors to hire. This increased numbers again and so they went on to buy further boats and the club is now thriving. It was suggested that maybe somebody could visit this club to see how they have set this up and run the scheme. • Goronwy knows of somebody who has applied for lottery grants and could be asked for assistance. A long lead time is required for this. 	Mark
Improve validity of data...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that all timescales are achievable. • It is proposed that a generic membership form will be developed and offered to clubs to be used on a voluntary basis, not compulsory. The data collected from the membership form would be in a format that could be used for various data collection agencies such as the RYA, WYA and local councils for Rates relief. 	Mary
Regional training programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of club members who would be willing to give talks at other clubs on e.g. rigging, race office duties, volunteer management, to be compiled, creating a sharing of knowledge between clubs. This list to be published on website. • Amanda Davies, CH Pwllheli has volunteered to give a talk on basic welsh to be used when coaching • Bill has name of another speaker. • Shotwick are members of the Flintshire Voluntary Assoc who also give talks on grant applications (not necessarily sailing orientated but still relevant). • List of traveller series to be published on WYA and regional website. • We need somebody to draft a newsletter. 	Mary
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates are achievable – club development plan to be completed in time for grant applications. • 'How to' training timescale changed to Jan/Feb of every year. • Day course is available of Managing Quality Improvement if required, which could lead to qualifications. We need to measure a number of things e.g. how do we measure 'More and Better Sailing'. Ken Newing expressed an interest in attending the course from a professional perspective. 	Ruth Ruth Mary
Volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 2 pages on the RYA website on the volunteer 	Tim

recruitment	<p>programme although very 'England' orientated – there is no recognition of any Welsh sailing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that it would be a good idea to invite Jackie Bennett to North Wales to give us ideas and also so that we can show what we do in Wales. • Volunteers must be acknowledged for the work that they do. 	
Increasing participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A development officer for the On Board will be appointed in the next 2/3 months – this post will be part time, based at Plas Menai, part funded by RYA and part by Plas Menai/ SCW. • We need to share any good practise that some clubs may already have in place. • The RYA and WYA are already working on developing strategy for increased participation, therefore it was agreed to wait awhile to see what information they produce before we go forward on this point. 	
	<p>Bill proposed a vote of thanks to Mary for putting the action plan together; this was seconded by Paul and agreed by all. North Wales are ahead of the other welsh regions in moving forward.</p> <p>Ken suggested that some of the original priorities from the Strategy Committee meeting last October had been changed in this document. It was mentioned that changes would be necessary due to the perceived achievability within the region at the present time. This would probably change again during the process as other priorities come to light.</p> <p>The action plan was now agreed by 8 with 2 abstentions and therefore carried. The plan will be forwarded to the WYA in its current format. Mary will then place this in time order. This document will now be reviewed at every meeting which may result in changes depending on how individual aspects develop.</p> <p>Questions need to be attractive to clubs in order for them to take part and maintain an interest; however, we must also be careful not to bombard clubs with too much literature.</p> <p>Mark thanked everyone for the work done so far.</p>	Mary
Any other business	<p>North Wales Boat Show – 25/27 July 2008</p> <p>Bill has a 27ft caravan from the Lions for the stand at the show. Volunteers from clubs needed to man this and we also need some boats for display and also for putting on the lake. We have a deadline of 20 May to say what size space we require.</p> <p>It was suggested that we produce a card for visitors to complete with their contact details on.</p> <p>Next boat show meeting will be held on the 10th July.</p> <p>Tim has agreed to be the Environmental Rep – he is an engineer professionally and has an interest in environment</p>	

	<p>pollution etc. He explained that river water management plans are required for every river in the country – the River Dee affects a number of clubs e.g. West Kirby, Bala and Shotwick. We need to be on the list of consultees for wind farms so that we are aware of plans being put forward for consideration. Every club should have an environment policy – one could be posted on the web site as an example. Ruth Sharatt (WYA green/blue) can also give advice and talks to clubs on environment issues.</p>	
	The meeting closed at 10.05pm.	
Next Meeting	<p>Thursday June 12 2008 7.30pm Penmaenmawr Thursday Sept 18th 2008 7.30pm Port Dinorwic Thursday Nov 20th 2008 7.30pm Royal Welsh</p>	