



8 Llys-y-Mor, Plas Menai, Llanfairisgaer, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1UE
Tel: 01248 670738
Email: admin@welshsailing.org

**Minutes of Strategy Committee Meeting
15 November 2007
by Video Conference
between
WIS and Plas Menai**

Present:

WIS

Chris Basten	Chairman
Susanne Newbold	Chair, South Regional Committee

Plas Menai

Bob Lowe	Immediate Past Chairman
Laurence Roberts	Company Secretary
Ken Newing	Chairman, North Regional Committee

In Attendance

Tim Hall	Director of Sailing
Richard Twining	West Regional Development Officer
Iwan Basten	Welsh High Performance Manager
Ceri Yeomans	Office Manager

Apologies

David Shepherd	Honorary Treasurer
Bill Jackson	Board Committee Member
David Vickery	Board Committee Member
Steve Morgan	SCW Liaison Officer
Paul Rowe	Chairman, West Regional Committee
Mike Butterfield	Co-opted Member
Alan Williams	Co-opted Member
Howard Yeates	Co-opted Member
Ruth Iliffe	North Regional Development Officer

The minutes of the meeting of 8 May 2007 were agreed.

Matters Arising

Accounts: The data for the 06/07 fiscal year had been finalised in May 2007 and the relevant paperwork submitted to Mark Dashfield for the preparation of the accounts.

Lottery Funding: There has been no further progress to date. It is anticipated that by the next Strategy meeting (May 2008) an update will be available.

IB advised that only recent funding details were available – could prove problematic to collate historic facts, especially given that funding has been available for the past 6 or 7 years.

Performance Report (attached)

The 2007 season has exceeded all expectations and the goal now is to continue in this vein.

RDO Reports

This year sees the introduction of a new system of training; the Welsh High Performance Manager to oversee the training of the Regional Performance Squads, with revenue direct to Welsh Yachting; Open Training is to be conducted via appointed clubs, with the clubs receiving payment direct and Welsh Yachting charging a nominal administrative fee per sailor, which will be invoiced direct to the host club.

Finance

Following concern regarding the delay in submission of the final 06/07 accounts, it was proposed to henceforth dispense with the services of an independent accountant and Dave Vickery has been requested to prepare the 07/08 accounts. Significant funding from Sports Council is dependent upon receipt of finalised accounts and subsequent financial analysis and therefore it is especially prudent to ensure that all relevant paperwork is submitted as soon as possible following year end. With the introduction of the QuickBook accounting programme, reporting has been facilitated and therefore it is conceivable that all data is inputted within a few weeks of the end of the fiscal year (31 March), allowing the preparation of the final accounts by June 2008. As this is essentially a Board matter, this will be raised at that level and reported back at the next Strategy Committee meeting.

Staffing

The anticipation that RYA would contribute to the cost of a WYA Regional Performance Manager has unfortunately been quashed following a meeting with RYA's Sport Development Manager Jon White on 23 May 2007. However, in a subsequent meeting with RYA Chief Executive Rod Carr they have agreed to partially fund (along with Sports Council Wales) the cost of the new Director of Sailing post.

Following this confirmation, the position of Director of Sailing was consequently advertised and Tim Hall was duly appointed with effect from 1 October 2007. This necessitated appointing a replacement Welsh High Performance Manager, and Iwan Basten was successful in his application, taking on the mantle on 5 November 2007. In turn, the position of Regional Development Officer (South) was vacated and as a result, following the closing date of 14 November, 3 candidates will be interviewed during the first week of December.

With essentially 3 new appointments there will inevitably be a change-over period with certain responsibilities overlapping for the immediate future. It is also important to consider that the new WHPM role incorporates the overseeing of the Regional Performance Squads and thus results in more responsibilities than hitherto.

AGM

It is proposed that the 2008 AGM be held end of January 2008. There was much discussion as to how and where the meeting would take place. As in past years, the West region is somewhat alienated geographically. However, having attempted a 3-way video link in the past, it was decided that this was not a option to be considered.

As fundamentally this is a business meeting, it was agreed to conduct the AGM via video conference between Welsh Institute for Sport, Cardiff and Plas Menai – agreed date of Tuesday 29 January 2008 and to be set late evening to allow club members to attend. A more club-orientated “forum” was proposed for later in the year to allow more generalised discussion.

David Shepherd is to stand down as Honorary Treasurer and therefore prudent to begin the search for a replacement.

Welsh Sailing Games

IB reported that the 2007 event at Cardiff Bay produced a disappointing turnout and this was felt to be due to somewhat lax organisation and enthusiasm by the host club. WYA historically has only been involved

superficially, and therefore a number of issues need to be addressed with regard to future events: how much, if any, involvement is WYA prepared to invest and whether or not CBYC should act as organiser. It was proposed that in the first instance WYA approach CBYC to discover their intentions whilst in the interim we need to determine the basis of the original agreement – this was an Executive Committee decision circa 2002/3. An option might be to involve the Cardiff Harbour Authority in future events.

Celtic Watersports Festival 2008

The 2007 event had secured funding from WAG to the tune of £2000 in support of 10 Optimist sailors. However, the results were somewhat disappointing.

Nick Sawyer of CBYC is to organise a team for the 2008 event in Bilbao and it is hoped that WAG will once again contribute to the considerable cost of supporting the competitors. In addition there should be a clear selection policy with strict criteria for inclusion. It was agreed that whilst there are a number of European events that may be more cost-effective and beneficial for WYA involvement, WAG are by definition more likely to fund the Celtic festival.

A meeting of the organisers is to be held tonight (15 November) – details to be circulated when confirmed.

Springboard Meeting

The Springboard meeting held on 6 & 7 October was well-attended and well-received. Directors to use the subsequent report as a working document for a management plan.

One item that requires significant further discussion is the proposal to abolish the current Strategy Committee and include the three Regional Chairmen on the Board Committee.

Dates for 2008

AGM – 29 January 2008 (video conference)

Strategy Committee – 13 May 2008 (video conference)

Strategy Committee – 26 October at Brynafon, Rhayader

With dates agreed well in advance it is hoped that this will allow Regional Chairmen to better plan their own meetings and to allow sufficient time to collate reports on regional developments. Important to report on the “bad” news as well as on the more optimistic aspects.

Any Other Business

Sailability: Glyn Coupland has resigned from his role as Sailability contact. It was proposed that James Dwyer, Sailability Wales, be invited to future Strategy Committee meetings.

Regional Committees: It was agreed that the recent Springboard report could be presented to the Regional Committees.

Website: Christine Stanley has been appointed WYA webmaster and in partnership with the RYA is working very hard to finalise layout – it is hoped that the site will go live within the next few weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2030 hours

Attached: Performance Report

Performance Report – November 2007

Welsh Sailors Continue to Deliver

After the successes of 2005 and 2006, 2007 was expected to be a slightly quieter year in the cycle. However Welsh sailors continued to deliver results across the programme. This report shows true strength across the programme from Junior to Olympic level.

Welsh Sailors who are members of Skandia Team GBR, RYA Performance and Development Squads - (Oct 2007)

Class	Name	Squad
Finn	Ed Wright	A
Sonar (paralympic)	Stephen Thomas	A
RS:X	Lucy Horwood	C
470 crew	Chris Grube	D
49er helm	David Evans	D
470 helm	Thomas Mallindine	D
470 helm	Hannah Mills	D
Laser Radial	Sarah Williams	DT
Laser	Dyfrig Mon	DT
Laser	Sean Evans	DT
Laser	Dominic Breen-Tuner	DT
Laser	Eifion Mon	DT

Welsh Sailors in RYA GBR National Youth and Junior Squads – (Oct 2007)

Class	Name	Squad
Laser	Eifion Mon	Standard Rig
Laser Radial	Andy Joseph	Radial Rig
Laser Radial	Gareth Henshall	Radial Rig
Laser Radial	Stevie Beckett	Radial Rig Transitional
29er	Bleddyn Mon Tom Humphreys	29er GBR and IT support
Topper	Micky Beckett	GBR National
Topper	Tom Piggott	GBR National
Topper	Doug Lloyd-Haynes	GBR National
Topper	Hannah Tilley	GBR National
Topper	Ross Moreton	GBR National
Topper	David King	GBR Intermediate
Optimist	David Pain	GBR National
Optimist	Tom Pain	GBR National
Optimist	Matthew Whitfield	GBR National
Optimist	Eleni Morus	GBR National
Optimist	Nia Jones	GBR National
Optimist	Toby Morsley	GBR Intermediate
Optimist	Molly Frost	GBR Intermediate

Key 2007 season results from Welsh sailors:

Finn (Olympic):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Ed Wright	ISAF World Championships	Cascais, Portugal	73	6 th
	Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta	Weymouth	19	Gold
	ISAF World ranking – Nov 2007			5 th

49er (Olympic):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
David Evans (helm)	ISAF World Championships	Cascais, Portugal	78	22nd

470 Class (Olympic):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Chris Grube (470 crew)	ISAF World Championships	Cascais, Portugal	112	42 nd
	ISAF World ranking – Nov 2007			33 rd
Hannah Mills (470 helm)	470 Junior European Championships	Medemblik, Nederlands	117	Gold (females) 23 rd o/a
Tomas Mallindine (470 helm)	470 Junior European Championships	Medemblik, Nederlands	117	8 th

Laser Class (U19):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Eifion Mon	UK Youth Championships	Hayling Island	36	7 th
Dominic Breen-Turner	UK Youth Championships	Hayling Island	36	9 th

Laser Radial Class (U19):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Andy Joseph	UK Youth Championships	Hayling Island	102	7 th

29er Class (U19):

Sailors	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Bleddyn Mon and Tom Humphreys	European Championships	Gottkar, Sweden	101	8 th
	National Championships	Llandudno	31	1 st
	UK Youth National Championships	Hayling Island	49	4 th

Topper Class (U16):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
Stevie Beckett	UK National Championships	North Berwick	263	2 nd
Ngairé Strawbridge	World Championships	Lake Garda, Italy	173	20 th (2 nd Female)
	National Championships	North Berwick	263	29 th
Anna Piggott	World Championships	Lake Garda, Italy	173	34 th (7 th Female)
	National Championships	North Berwick	263	17 th

Optimist Class (U16):

Sailor	Event	Venue	Entries	Result
David Pain	National Championships (Junior fleet)	Weymouth	145	2 nd
Tomas Pain	National Championships (Senior Fleet)	Weymouth	129	5 th

By no means does this cover all sailors and their results from this season. These are just a few of our performances and I apologise for missing anyone or result off this selection.

I am proud to have worked with these sailors and their associated coaches over the past 7 years as National Coach and Performance Manager.

I am happy to hand over these squads and their programmes I have established to our new High Performance Manager and trust that Welsh Sailing can continue to develop these performances. I look forward to watching our top sailors build on their results and continue at World Class level and also see the younger sailors progress through the pathway.

Tim Hall

Director of Sailing, November 2007

