



# Sailing Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 2 at Chester Yacht Club

## Call to order

A meeting of **Chester Yacht Club** sailing committee

## Meeting chair

*Rear Commodore*, Sean Pearce

## Attendees

Attendees included:

Sean Pearce, Kim Johnson, Malcolm Fraser, Charles Walker, Patricia Finlay, Dawson Baker, Art Backman

## Members not in attendance as invited

Rick Thompson, Ivan Fitch, Shawn Mulrooney, Topher Wurts, Thane MacDonald, Bruce Flinn

## Approval of minutes

Minutes of September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 accepted and approved

## Unfinished business

No unfinished business brought to the attention of the chair pertaining to meeting held September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Agenda

1. Meeting minutes made available to membership
2. 2020 racing calendar
3. Schedule accommodations
4. Thursday night spinnaker declaration
5. Fall series start time
6. Race committee procedures
7. Thursday night spinnaker declaration

## Minutes

### *Item 1.*

Sailing committee discussed the benefit of having sailing committee meeting minutes made available to the membership.

It was agreed that minutes would be beneficial if made publically available via the CYC website if properly recorded and formatted.

Only relevant information should be included

### *Item 2.*

- The 2019 racing schedule was briefly discussed and its success based on participation reviewed
- General consensus being that the 2020 schedule should be replicated
- Novice cup
  - Little to no participation recorded in the past two years, weather conditions being the biggest factor
  - Majority agreed that continuing with an evening race is the best possibility to have greater participation

### *Item 3.*

There have been a number of members who have suggested that restructuring the summer racing series schedule would benefit and accommodate those who would like to participate in the entirety of the series, without having to commit to race every Saturday. Or race four consecutive Saturdays in that series.

Alternatively:

- Is there a way we can run two races on a Saturday twice in the series bi-weekly
- Do a Saturday and Sunday (in the same weekend) race in that series bi-weekly

Committee discussed that it may be a worthwhile effort to compile a list of options which may appeal to the member ship, create a survey and distribute. While understanding that there may be minimal participation the schedule will remain the same unless there is sufficient engagement.

Sean volunteered to start a list of questions to present to the sailing committee next meeting, committee will review and change appropriately and Kim will create survey using survey monkey and distribute

The goal being to provide a racing schedule which accommodates the majority of the sailing membership to increase participation.

### *Item 4.*

Increased participation noted on Thursday evening races

General consensus that CYC should maintain spinnaker option

Discussion of declaration per series

- Boats will have to declare spinnaker or non spinnaker rating per series
  - That declaration shall be honored for entirety of series
  - Failure to honor said declaration will result in a DSQ only if declaration is made as white sail and spinnaker is used
  - Sailors may sail white sail having declared spinnaker, but will take the spinnaker rating
  - Sailing instructions will be revised by Trish for 2020 season to note above change

### **Item 5.**

Membership expressed interest in having earlier start times for fall due to less daylight hours

In the past CYC started fall series races at 18:00 vs. 1830

- At that time many sailors were late to the start line and starts were delayed
- Start times were changed back to 18:30
- Suggested compromise to 18:15
  - Suggested to include in membership survey to gauge opinion/interest

### **Item 6.**

Increased participation and quality of sailing has resulted in common occurrence of general recalls

Expressed by membership as to why common practices of U flag and Black flag starts are not practiced

- Patricia confirmed that it is difficult to start a race with the limited resources the race officials have as is. Starting formats such as U or Black flag require mark, pin and committee boats all with qualified staff.
- Otherwise noted that some competitors may not even know what it means to start under U or Black flag

## **New Business**

Course cards

Several sailors expressed concern that race marks are not located at the coordinates listed on CYC course cards etc.

- Art Backman noted (being a professional surveyor) that there are different settings which can be confused and used incorrectly on gps electronics
  - ie: degrees-minutes
  - degrees -decimals

- degrees-minutes-seconds
- CYC uses Degrees minutes and seconds which will be noted on course card

Distances on the course card for some marks are incorrect.

Patricia agreed to modify and simplify the course card, Sean agreed to use a mapping application to check, confirm or change the distances by using gps coordinates

Suggested that we include in the survey that membership provide input about courses or course changes which would encourage more participation and enjoyment

**Next meeting scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Location Chester Yacht Club**

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Signed

Rear Commodore, Sean H. Pearce

Date submitted: November 12, 2019

Date approved: