



International Optimist Class Association (UK)



Committee Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14 May 2024

Minutes of the meeting to be read in conjunction with the papers produced for the meeting.

Present

Chair – Sarah Gosling (SG)
Vice Chair – Stephen Wright (SW)
Treasurer – Richard Bourke (RB)
Secretary – David Davies (DD)
Sailing Secretary – Suzie Holland (SH)
Teams Officer – Vicki Perratt (VP)
Safety Officer - Rob Garlick (RB)
Training Officer – Andy Byrne (AB)
Technical Officer – Will Welfare (WW)
Volunteer Officer – Filippo Di Salle (FDS)
Regional Development Officer – Carren Bell (CB)
Child Welfare Officer - Alex Keegan (AK)
Equipment Officer - Jono Pank (JP)

In attendance

David Campbell James (DCJ)
John Perham (JP)
Harriet Morsley (HM)

Introduction/Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from Andy Ramus, Filippo Di Salle and Chris Atherton - RYA Junior Racing Manager

2. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest declared.

3. Chair's Report

- a. Minutes and action points from the last meeting.

The minutes of the last committee meeting on 5 March 2024 were approved by SW.

Action SW - to contact Clive Grummet OCA to get an update on the progress of membership for national events and training. membership.

ACTION RB & SW - to work with the regional reps to centralise all regional bank accounts.

ACTION CB - to set up a process for gathering Coach qualifications and DBS certificates.

ACTION SW - THE IOCA UK refund policy to be completed.

ACTION AB - to write a report to be presented to committee on the plans for IOCA UK training for 2024 - 25.

ACTION SH - to identify an evening at the upcoming IOCA UK National Championships when the IOCA UK Annual General Meeting can be held.

ACTION DD - to prepare the notification of the IOCA UK AGM by the first week in July and set out a timetable for the AGM.

4. Training Officers report Report

a. RYA pathway review update

AB informed that he had had meetings with Chris Atherrton - RYA and reported that the RYA is moving training away from Regional Training Groups (RTGs) and moving towards junior class training being delivered by "Pathway Clubs". CA asked AB to give consideration to how IOCA deliver training in association with the RYA. There is clearly going to be a need for close working relationships between the RYA and Class to deliver a comprehensive regional training and racing programme. Discussions are ongoing between AB, CA and CB.

b. Class Coach at IOCA events

SH expressed the view that having a Coach at IOCA UK national competitions added a significant amount to the costs of running an event.

The general view of the committee was there was some value of having a Coach at events but it needed to be cost effective. In particular the onshore briefing were successful and did add some value. The format/aims of the on-the-water aspects needed more thought. An alternative where 'local experts' from the club undertake onshore briefings was discussed. The Committee agreed that there should be further discussion on this matter outside the meeting.

5. Regional Development Officer's Report

a. Regional Junior Championships - alternatives

CB - reported that alternatives to the Regional Junior Championship were being investigated by a number of clubs and organisations. The North event will be picked up and run at Derwent Reservoir and the South event at WPNSA. We do not think the East event will run. The midlands event will be replaced by another junior event run by Draycote WSC later in the year. For IOCA the weekend in question comes straight after the Early Summers, so was always a potentially difficult date.

b. Grass roots growth - summer training and events

HM - reported to the meeting that the lack of knowledge and experience with the Optimist is a barrier to clubs running Optimist events and training. To improve this situation HM suggested that an

experienced Coach works with a number of clubs to develop the knowledge and experience of Clubs and Club Coaches. This would be supported by the Class but there needs to be a drive from the clubs to plan and run events and this has been difficult to generate.

6. Sailing Officer's Report

SH - informed the meeting that to date only 7 responses to the Events Venue 25 survey sent to committee members had been received.

ACTION All Committee members - to complete the Event Venue 25 survey and **SH** to collate the responses.

7. Teams Officer's Report

VP - reported to the meeting that all the teams had been selected and invitations sent to sailors and planning for all teams was underway. It had been a long and challenging process and the Committee are very grateful for all the work by Teams and the Selectors to make it all possible.

8. Safety Officer's Report

RG - feedback to the meeting that the RYA Safety Course was very informative. The required Risk Assessments for Sailing Events are in place and being used by the Class. There is no further specific action required.

AOB

There was no AOB.

Date of the next meeting

2 July 2024.

The meeting closed at 9:15 pm.