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Minutes

For

**2025 Annual General Meeting held at Plym Yacht Club
on Monday 24th February starting at 1830**

Chairman's Opening Remarks

In the absence of the president, the Vice President, Mark Hanley opened the meeting. He explained that due to personal matters, the president Ade Bevan Smith was not able to be present this evening. He went on to thank Plym Yacht Club for hosting the AGM and the following committee meeting.

Present at the meeting.

Mark Hanley (Vice President), Nick Head (General Secretary), Adrian Kemp (Dinghy Regatta Director, Major Events), Peter Wanstall (USPRS), Paddy O'Connor (PYC), Sam Marshall (PYC), Mel Severe (PYS), John Fox (PYS), Iain Petty (RNSA), Peter Bromley (RPCYC), Matt Syrett (QSC), Jerry Lock (RWYC), Neil Trathen (SSC), R Giles (KHM), Gary Wilcox (TRSC), Hannah Cash (RYA), Malcolm Wood (Co-opted), Adele Booth (Co-opted).

Apologies for Absence

Ade Bevan Smith (President), Tony Head (CYC, Handicapping), Dee Razey (Assist. Sec.), Steve Smith (TRSC), Richard Woods (TMSC), Kevin Bentley (Treasurer)

1. Approval of Minutes of the 2024 AGM held at Saltash Sailing Club on Monday 26th February 2024.

These were proposed as an accurate account of the meeting, proposed by N Head and seconded by J Lock and passed unanimously.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Reports

a. Treasurer's report. The treasurer could not be present at the meeting and his report was given by the Secretary/ Vice President. See Appendix A. The 2024 accounts were circulated to those present and adoption of the accounts was proposed by N Trathen and seconded by N. Head and accepted unanimously.

b. Regatta Director's Annual Report: a Kemp gave the Dinghy Regatta report: See appendix B. The Vice President thanked the Event Director and his team for all the effort put in, ensuring a

very successful event. The report of the yacht regatta, hosted by RWYC had been given at a previous meeting.

c. RYA Annual report – H Cash presented the RYA report. See Appendix C.

d. President's report – no report due to the president being indisposed.

4. Amendments to the constitution

None proposed in 2025.

5. Proposal to changes in subscription rates

The proposal of a rise from £120 to £130 for affiliated clubs and £95 to £105 for clubs with charitable status was proposed by M Hanley, seconded by N Trathe and accepted unanimously.

The Vice President informed the meeting that a working group was to be set up to review the method of funding the PPSA and its activities – see agenda item 9.

6. Election of Officers

The following officers were proposed:

President	Mark Hanley
Vice President	Malcolm Wood
General Secretary	Nick Head
Treasurer	Kevin Bentley

The election was taken on bloc, proposed by P O'Connor, seconded by S Marshall and accepted unanimously.

7. Confirmation of PPSA appointed representatives

The following representatives were proposed and accepted en bloc:

Regatta Directors	Adrian Kemp (PYS)
PPMLC	Hannah Cash
RYA	Hannah Cash, Dave Curno.
Major Events	Adrian Kemp
Port Handicapper	Tony Head
Plymouth Race Series Manager	Peter Wanstall
Cruising sub-committee chairman	Vacant
PPSA Radio Manager	Dave Curno
Mount Batten Centre	Emma Denham
Sailing Programme Co-ordinator	Neil Trathen
Webmaster	Ade Bevan-Smith
Assistant Secretary	Dee Razey

8. Cawsand Bay Sailing Club (CBSC)

The Secretary reported that CBSC had been a previous member of the association but had left due to membership numbers and financial constraints. Discussion had been ongoing this year as to how they could rejoin PPSA. At present CBSC has only 12 members and these are the

sailors that race on the weekend and evenings during the week. Due to these limitations, PPSA is willing to offer membership at no cost. Their sailing programme is now included in the PPSA programme. The meeting noted that grass root support was part of the PPSA raison d'etre and there was no disagreement with welcoming CBSC back on that basis.

9. Working Group to look at PPSA funding/ expenditure

The Vice President stated that a working Group to address PPSA future funding was agreed at the November 2024 Committee meeting. The working group would meet during 2025 and report back with proposals at the 2026 AGM.

The Working Group would be chaired by the President and the members would be the Officers - Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Other members would be Adrian Kemp, Peter Wanstall, Hannah Cash (RYA) and others co-opted onto the working group as required. Adele Booth offered her help with accountancy as and when required.

10. Any Other Business

No points raised.

The meeting closed at 1905h.

The next AGM will be on Monday 23rd February 2026 at 1830h, venue to be confirmed at the November 2025 Committee Meeting.

Appendix A: Treasurer's Report

With the Treasurer not being present for the meeting. The secretary reported that the PPSA operated at a substantial loss over the 2024 year. Insurance was a major item, with the Dinghy Show, and the Annual Prize giving also being large outgoings. The Treasurer had still not been allowed access to the PPSA Bank Accounts with Nat West bank. He was looking at investigating a other banking organisations to overcome huge difficulties that had been presented by the Bank during this reporting year.

It has been noted that in more than a decade now, the associations accounts had shown substantial losses on its general account. Surpluses from the regatta accounts have been used over that period to bolster the reserves.

Appendix B: Regatta Report

PPSA Dinghy Regatta Report 2024

Following a number of challenging years for both PPSA Regattas, I agreed to take on the organisation of the PPSA Dinghy Regatta 2024 as no one else came forward. As Commodore of Plymouth Youth Sailing Club, I was very keen to ensure the Dinghy Regatta did not slip off the calendar as it provided an excellent event to promote regatta sailing for young people from the port. There was also the fear that if the event was lost in 2024, it might never return in its current format.

Consultation was held with all interested Clubs and some individual sailors, with a steering group formed to take the event forward. The format and style of the event were confirmed,

taking into account the 'requirements' of a number of potential visiting classes, one of which had already been confirmed prior to our planning process.

The following classes wished to be part of the event: National Solo Class Association Western Series Championships Buzz Class Association National Championships GP14 Class Association Southern Area Championships Super Series. Phantom Class Association Handicap Series South West and OK Class Association Open Meeting Plus a full range of individual dinghies, both from within the port and visitors.

A Rookie fleet, mainly using club owned junior & youth boats was also provided.

The requirements of some of the visiting classes in relation to entry fees and prizes were particularly challenging and took up a disproportionate amount of planning time.

At one point, the predicted numbers for one class alone, required us to plan and resource for an additional race track to keep numbers manageable. It was then disappointing to see these higher numbers not materializing as entries. This also had a significant effect on budget planning.

From the outset, the steering group were looking at an event that reestablished the social element of the Regatta, which had been lost over previous years, as this had been identified as a significant negative issue by both competitors and event volunteers. Approaches were made to both local and national organisations for sponsorship to support the event, with only The Cattewater Harbor Commissioners coming forward to support the Rookie training element of the event. This combined with difficulties in tracking entry payments and thus numbers also led to budget challenges.

On the day, things went very well. A significant number of volunteers came forward from a number of clubs, bringing assets like committee boats, safety boats, mark layers, beach teams, race management and results teams. We would have been able to offer 3 race track had numbers demanded, which was a fantastic response to the call for support with the event. Overall entries were disappointing but all who attended agreed that it had been a well presented and managed event. Approximately 150 people attended the BBQ and social on the Saturday evening and the Prize giving on the Sunday. Both events had a very positive atmosphere, enabling young and old to 'Talk Sailing' well into the evening!

Obviously the implication of a successful social event linked to a reduced entry number did lead to a budget deficit for the event, particularly when some fixed costs were added. It had never been our intention to accrue a surplus, but we hoped to at least break even. Alas this was not to be. Much discussion has taken place about this and I don't intend to pursue it here. Suffice to say that the PPSA exec. now wish to take an active role in the planning and delivery any future events.

Whilst as indicated, there were many volunteers involved, I would like to personally thank a small number who led elements of the programme and without whose support it would not have been possible to deliver the event.

These are:

David Curno Race Officer Main Fleets Mark Prue Race Officer Rookie Fleet Malcolm Wood Principle Safety Officer Simon Mace Rookie Fleet Safety Officer Keith Kendall Bridge and Race Office Manager Nick Head Results Emma Link Beach Master Mel Sever Management Support

We now need to look forward to 2025 and beyond to secure the PPSA Dinghy Regatta as one of the premier dinghy classes events in the South West.

Adrian Kemp Dinghy Regatta Director 2024

Appendix C: RYA SW Report & Update

- Green blue have been involved in the Remedies project, sea grass and Marine conservation zone.
- Rob Howlett (RYA SW development manager) has been working with PYS on a Dinghy instructors course for wheelchair users and amputees (this has been slow progress but we now have progress and dates set for this year).
- Safety management workshop delivered at Tamar river Sailing club delivered in November.
- Supported Yealm Yacht club to gain Training centre status.
- Club growth and development meetings with 2 PPSA clubs.
- Legal have supported various PPSA clubs.
- Hosted a junior cadet presentation evening at Cargreen yacht club.
- Local club volunteer was awarded 'RYA IMPACT AWARD' for long standing volunteer services to cadet sailing (Dave Wheatley CYC).
- Supporting the Plymouth University sailing club to develop their team of Senior Instructors to increase their capacity and quality.
- Grant funding of up to £500 (match funded) for any RYA SW clubs which need funding for a project. Apply to RYA SW.

Coming up....

- Early stages of a project working with communities in the area who access sailing at a taster level but are not represented in clubs. Looking to support connections and help club growth.

- Regional training day for Instructors either Stithians (23rd March 2025) or Poole (27th April)2025 which are closest to SW.
- 2-day training and development programme for Chief instructors from commercial centres across the region is being delivered at Horizons Staff from Mount batten, Horizons and PYS all signed up to attend.
- Connected conference will once again be held in Taunton. This years date is 29th November 2025. We encourage a variety of volunteers to attend from PPSA clubs. Free opportunity with lots of different workshop titles, so sending a team allows you to benefit from multiple workshops at the same time.

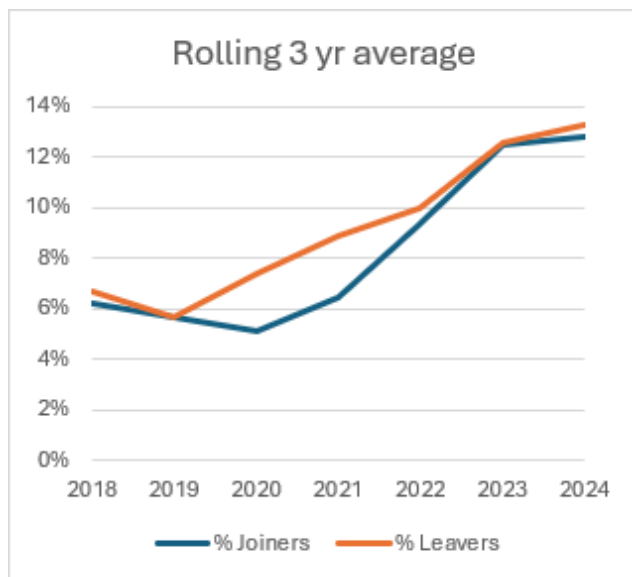
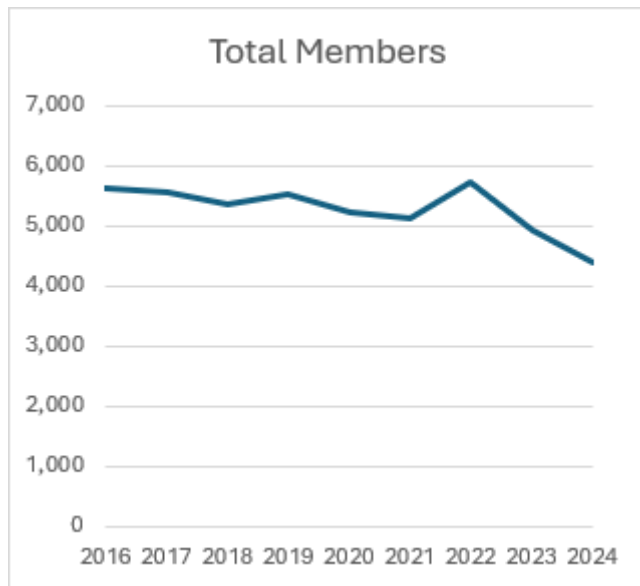
RYA – WHAT SUPPORT IS ON OFFER?

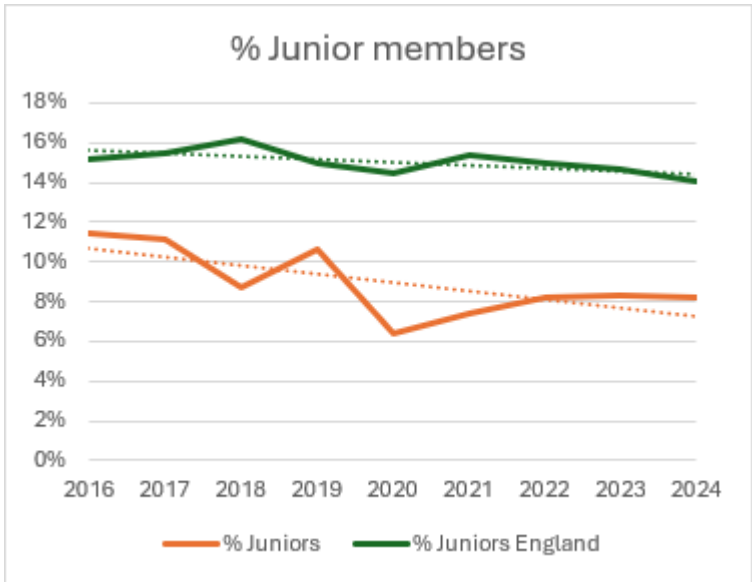
- Connected events
- Evening workshops
- Safeguarding 7 days a week emergency helpline
- Safeguarding monthly drop in calls
- Volunteer development and training (instructor, race officers etc)
- Access to data and information
- Onboard programme to develop youth participation
- Pathway clubs programme
- Legal advice and support
- Environmental and planning

RYA – CLUB CHECKLIST – HOW WE CAN HELP

1. Is there a nominated individual(s) responsible of members and participants?
2. Is there an in-date Adult and/or Child Safeguarding place and in use?
3. Do you carry out Criminal Records Disclosure in regulated activity?
4. Do you have Safety Management Systems oversee affiliate delivered activities?
5. Do you have an Equality Policy in place and
6. Do you have a complaint handling process
7. If your organisation delivers racing activity, additional question:
8. Are you aware of your anti-doping responsibilities Clean Strategy?

STATISTICS





These stats are taken from the Plymouth clubs only They are from the census data and therefore generated from the numbers that are submitted from a combination of all the Plymouth clubs.

Across the board there is a reduction in membership, Plymouth is following a trend as far as membership numbers is concerned. However the last graph showing Junior membership shows that as a % Plymouth have less junior members than most other clubs in the country.

Hannah Cash
RYA SW regional volunteer