



# PCA 2010 AGM Minutes

20 January 2011

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Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President, Sandy Nicholson

## 1. Introduction

Present were the Executive – Sandy Nicholson, VP Racing Nathan Reece, VP Member Development Steve Davies, VP at Large Grant Machum, Secretary Peter Robson, and one or more representatives from Climax, Juice, More Trouble, Powershift, Samaya, Third Wave, Triumph, Valkyrie and Wicked, plus Frank Dennis from NSYA and Evan Petley-Jones from the Marblehead Race Committee.

## 2. Approval of minutes from 2009 AGM

Moved by me, seconded by Ed Backman, the minutes were approved as circulated. For member reference, the Minutes of all General Meetings plus any announcements arising from Executive Meetings are posted on the class website ([www.premierclass.ca](http://www.premierclass.ca)), and circulated by email.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## 3. Report on the Marblehead to Halifax Race

The Vice-Chair of the RNSYS Organizing Committee, Evan Petley-Jones, spoke about the upcoming Race. It will start on July 10 from Tinker's Dong off Marblehead Harbor. Racing will take place in 5 divisions – IRC, ORR, PHRF Racing, PHRF Cruising and Multihull. PHRF Certificates required are New England PHRF. Evan reported registrations up significantly over the last race, and urged any planning to attend in Marblehead to deal with accommodations very soon. Evan reminded us that there is a requirement that at least 1/3 of the crew, but not less than 2, have the Safety at Sea Certificate, and said the RNSYS Organizers will assist those who need these Certificates to get that course through Survival Systems. Details of this course and the rest of the Race info is available on the Race website – [www.marbleheadtohalifax.com](http://www.marbleheadtohalifax.com). There will be changes in Event activities announced over the next weeks, but there is one already. On the Thursday after the finish there will be a series of match races in J-22's near the club. Register early to have your crew included in this event.

## 4. Member Services – Steve Davies

Steve reported that as a result of discussions with various Class members over the summer, and listening to their complaints, there would be changes for 2011. Although the Class still needs funds to operate, the Executive will do its best to meet these needs through changing the use of sponsorships. For the 2011 season, there will be no dues. Any boat which meets the requirements of the rating band (lower than 90 PHRF) and indicates a willingness to present itself for racing following Class rules will be deemed a

class member. Steve said he hoped that the reduction of annoyance at being asked at several points to pay to participate will lead to higher participation on Race Days.

## **5. President's Report – Ed Backman**

Ed retired from the presidency of Premier Class after the POW weekend in September of 2010, but returned to report on the season. He began his report by asking the attendees to introduce themselves and their boat to the meeting. He then went on to note that the class began in 2001, and 2010 was our tenth season. In that time, the speed of the boats has increased. The lowest rating in the class is now -12, and many of the current members are quite different from the ocean-going racer-cruisers common in 2001. This is a good change, but changes the kind of racing the class wishes to do, and the importance of talented Race Management. We had planned to conduct our own Fall Series to help satisfy these problems, but extreme weather cancelled both attempts. Throughout the season, the major problem was uneven participation. At the end of his presentation, as a special thanks for his 3 years of leadership of the Class, VP at Large Grant Machum presented Ed with a framed photo of *More Trouble* during Chester Race Week.

## **6. Financial Report – Peter Robson**

Bank balance on Nov 20, 2009 was \$4,413.38.

Income from membership dues was \$390.00. Income from PHRF fees was \$50.00

Total Income – \$440.00

Expenses

Prince of Wales Promotion	\$ 1,105.00
Remittances to PHRF	\$ 44.00
NSYA membership	\$ 65.00
Season Keeper and Prizes	\$ 363.40
AGM Expenses (estimate)	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total expenses	\$ 2,077.40

Balance January 2011 (pending AGM expenses) should be \$ 2,335.98

Financial Report moved accepted by Peter Robson, second Hal Davies – carried.

## **7. Racing Report - Nathan Reece**

Nathan began by giving Honourable Mention to some of our members:

Philippe Paturel and Ciao Bella for winning Chester and the POW Weekend

Mark Holden and Wikked for improving so much in their move from a Beneteau 49 to a Farr 30.

Peter Bromley and Triumph for jumping into the racing and having an immediate impact.

Presentation then of the 2010 Season Championship Trophy to Hal Davies, skipper of Third Wave, by Mark Holden, skipper then of Festivus, the 2009 winner.

## **8. 2011 Season Discussion, led by Sandy Nicholson**

Sandy introduced this part of the Meeting by saying that a number of items were open for discussion, and there would be a number of changes. He began by suggesting that Premier Class should conduct its races using the PHRF Ratings of the NSYA, and remove the requirement for a PHRF New England Certificate. This was agreed by the members present.

John Roy then moved that Premier Class develop its own Handicap Review process.

Seconded by Nathan Reece. Carried

John Roy then moved that Premier Class establish a Handicap Committee consisting of 3 experienced racers to whom Class Members submit concerns about Ratings in an approved format by approximately the 15<sup>th</sup> of April and July, for research and review to NSYA Handicap Committee. Seconded by Hal Davies. It was noted in discussion that it is intended that Class Members refer their concerns to this Committee for review and comment, but this Committee shall forward ALL concerns to NSYA regardless of review result. Carried

### **2011 SCHEDULE**

Proposed that there be a major change in determining the Season Championship – there will be no requirement for an Offshore Race. Each member will count their BEST 5 events, and there will be a separate trophy for the best Offshore performance combining Marblehead and Silver Sail results. The Events qualifying for the Season Championship are:

1. Opening Regatta RNSYS - May 28-29
2. Opening Regatta Dartmouth YC – Jun 10-12
3. Opening Regatta Bedford Basin YC – June 17-19
4. Metro Race Week Jul 29 – Aug 1
5. Chester Race Week Aug 10 - 13
6. Prince of Wales Regatta Weekend (POW and Wenonah combined)  
Sep 10 - 11

This schedule was expressed as a motion by Sandy Nicholson. James Luther then noted that there was a large gap in the schedule in July, during the Marblehead and before Metro. He volunteered to act as Race Officer for a new event for this time slot, and Ed Backman indicated that BMW might be willing to sponsor that event. Because of this change, the Schedule was not voted on, and by default referred to the Executive which will meet during the Boat Show to finalize a number of details. Confirmation of the Schedule to members will be by email. Members are invited to return comments to Peter Robson re the schedule, so they may be included in the discussions by the Executive.

## 9. Sponsors

President Sandy Nicholson expressed thanks to all our sponsors, who in cash and services continue to support yacht racing in our class and make it easier to get good boats to the start lines in well-run regattas. All sponsors are recognized on our website, and include BMW, North and UK sails, Sunnybrook Yachts and Ocean Yacht Sales, Aigle, the Binnacle, William Alexander and Associates, Immedia.

## 10. Election of Officers

Nominations for each position were called from the floor. The following resulted:

President –	Sandy Nicholson (crew, Wikked)
VP Racing -	Nathan Reece (skipper, Climax)
VP Class Development –	Steve Davies (skipper, Third Wave)
Member at Large -	Grant Machum (Skipper, Samaya)
	Peter Bromley (Skipper, Triumph)
	Mark Holden (Skipper, Wikked)
Secretary/Treasurer -	Peter Robson (crew, Third Wave)

Following the elections, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

It was determined that the Executive shall meet at the Boat Show on Thursday Feb 3 at 7 pm. Frank Dennis of NSYA will assist in getting a meeting room.