British Contender Association AGM 2017

Held at South Caernarvonshire Yacht Club 2nd September 2017 at 6.00pm

Present

Chris Boshier, Ed Presley, Tony Brooks, Peter Dives, Chris howe, Tony Cook plus 25 members

Acceptance of 2015 Minutes

Proposed Gary Langdown Seconded by Tom Hooton

Chairmans report

Nothing new to report, thanked everyone for their help and support.

Treasures report

Peter dives explained the BCA accounts in detail. Not having the expense of the dinghy show has made a difference to the accounts, main expenses Dinghy show publicity, subsidised entries and web hosting.

Membership secretary report

Tony Cook explained the total number of members was now 65. He proposes to send out Stickers, member details form and events list to each member. Also proposed £30.00 if paid by the end of January £35.00 after end of January.

Technical report

Chris Howe explained there would be voting on 2 issues, Centreboard tip measurements to allow for damaged boards plus changes to amateur build details to allow GPR lamination in hull construction.

Chris Boshier spoke about a discussion that was held at the Denmark Worlds on the issues with not allowing camera's and the issues with mast measurement, Jaqueline is writing a guide for future use on how to measure a mast correctly.

Forthcoming events

Ed Presley explained the format would remain the same for next year with 10 open events plus the Nationals (to be held at Hailing Island). He is looking at the possibility of an event at Dracote Water and the return of Datchet as the opening event for the year.

2019 will include the nationals at Broadstairs and we will also be going to Quiberon France.

All above reports Proposed by Richard Butner, seconded by Chris Howe

Proposals for class growth

Ed Presley started the discussion on Class growth and explained the subsidised entries for the Nationals also the possibility of professional training events. The majority were in favour of the subsidised entries for the nationals, this idea of subsidised entries did attract a few that otherwise may not have come.

Professional training events was discussed and put to a vote with 1 member for, all others against. Mark Watts explained he would be happy to help at Weston as he has some experience with training. It was decided that we should continue to provide training events but with long term contender sailors providing the training.

Tony Cook suggested more/better advertising, Carl Tagoe made the suggestion that we should show where Contenders are sailed, possibly on the website. It was agreed that we need to make it more attractive to younger people and perhaps have as many old boats at clubs that could be used by interested club members, Dave Davies has done this at his club to good success, and he explained that having old tubs that people would not be afraid of damaging was a good idea. Members not the BCA should look at doing this at their own clubs with possible financial help from the BCA.

Fiona Collins was asked for her opinion as she is new to the fleet, Fiona suggested that more help for people starting out would be helpful, she also suggested that making the BCA boat available a few weeks prior to an open meeting at the same club may be a good idea.

Any Other Business

Gary Langdown made the point that we should not bring races forward if it is suspected that races may be missed the following day due to too much wind or not enough, it is OK to catch up later. After a brief discussion it was put to the vote.

For 20, Against 1, Abstain 10

Gary Langdown proposed that the BCA should approach the ICA with regards to possible changes to the racing course format for International events, it was suggested that finishing after the leeward mark would be better and fairer for all. A brief discussion followed with suggestions on the length of the beats could be shortened but may cause more problems in larger fleets. The length of the course should be based upon the wind speed to give the correct amount of rounding's to provide a race of the correct time length. Chris Boshier agreed to put this to the ICA after a vote.

For 15, Against 4, Abstain 12

Election of officers

Chairman:	Chris Boshier
Secretary:	Tony Brooks
Treasurer:	Peter Dives
Membership secretary:	Tony Cook
Technical:	Chris Howe

Nick Noble put himself forward as Chairman but all existing officers were happy to continue,

Proposed by Richard Butner and seconded by Nick Noble

Ben Holden, thanked the committee for the work they do on behalf of the members.

Next AGM to be at Hailing Island Sailing Club during the Nationals

Talk From Mark Hartley

Mark Hartley spoke about the position they are in with the design and manufacture of the new Contender hull, he explained that they are around 2 weeks away from completion of plugs and that a finished boat would be expected by October. They aim to supply a complete package with CNC produced moulds for Centreboard, rudder blade and dagger board stock.

The design of the cockpit floor will provide more depth to aid tacking and better drainage. Once a boat is complete it will be on show at Southampton boat show, the Dusseldorf show and all other shows that Hartley's attend. Hartley's have also offered to help with promotion of the class including leaflets and posters etc. They will also prove a part exchange programme once they are established with production.

Questions from the floor.

Carl Tagoe asked if there was anything that the BCA could do to help Hartley's, Mark suggested help with promotion of their boat by use of leaflets/posters at clubs etc.

Chris Boshier thanked Mark for his talk.

AGM closed at 6.45pm