



**Minutes of the Combined Comet Class Association – Annual General Meeting
Llangorse Sailing Club – Saturday 5 May 2018
Chairman – David Talbot**

1. **Apologies** were received from Stephen Linton (Duo Representative) and Guy Farrant (Trio 428). 21 members were present.
2. **The minutes of the last AGM** 27 May 2017 had been posted on the CCCA website for some time. There were no comments or amendments and Chris Mayne proposed that they were accepted as a true record and this was unanimously agreed by those present.
3. **Reports.**
 - a. Association Officers.
 - i. Treasurer:

Caroline McAusland presented the Association accounts and her written report (attached).

The current balance was £4784.29 on 27th Feb 18.

Discussion on the points raised in the report concluded that:

 - a. Free membership should be maintained.
 - b. A minimum balance of £2500 should be maintained in the CCCA account by which point action to address the decline in funds must have been taken.
 - c. A small levy of £5-10 per boat should in future be added to the entry fees for the Inland and National Championships to contribute towards the cost of trophies.
 - ii. Secretary:

Bob Horlock presented his report (attached). He noted that 6 Trios and 2 Duos had attended the 2017 Inlands at Burghfield. Whitefriars SC had held a successful open meeting on 29/30 Jul 17 with 10 Trios, 3 Versas and 1 Duo attending. The Trio Nationals at Exe SC had seen 22 Trios take part including 5 boats sporting the new Mk2 rig. The Duos had held their Nationals at Cransley SC in Jul 17. 8 Duos took part with Nigel Austin being crowned National Champion. (See Duo Report attached).

2017 had seen the introduction of the Mk2 rig featuring a Seldon mast and boom and North sails including a laminate main.

iii. Chairman:

David Talbot asked the Secretary to read his report (attached) for him:

He thanked all those who had made 2017 a successful year for the CCCA. David had been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease last August and is losing his voice and so he was stepping down after 18 years as Chairman of the CCCA. He wished Adrian Padro all the best in the job (assuming that he is elected!)

b. Builders

i. Versa, Zero and Duo (Comet Dinghies –Andy Simmons)

Andy said that he was still repairing boats and might be building a Zero this year. He noted that second hand boats were still selling well and were holding their value.

ii. Trio (Peak Dinghies – Glyn Rawson)

Glyn presented his report (attached). He reported that he had sold a number of new rigs with most people opting for the laminate main. He noted that there had been a few teething troubles but with help he had managed to work through the issues. Peak dinghies have also built 3 new boats all delivered to owners at Exe SC. He reiterated his belief in the boat and thanked people for their support.

Discussion on the points raised in the report included:

a. Glyn currently has no further orders for new Trios.

b. In future he expects to be able to deliver new Trios in about 8 weeks from the placing of the order.

c. Some members expressed concerns about whether some of the 'teething troubles' had been fully resolved.

d. The build quality of the new boats and the performance and handling of the new rigs was praised by those who had bought them.

4. **Adoption of Accounts** – The motion that the 2017 accounts be adopted was agreed unanimously.

5. **Proposed Rules Changes** – The Secretary stated that experience of sailing with the new rig had shown that a more powerful kicker was required to control the new mainsail. It was therefore proposed that the Trio Class Rules 7.2e be changed to allow the total velocity ratio of the kicking strap to be increased to a maximum of 16:1 from the previous 12:1. There was some concern that if introduced to the old rig this may lead to excessive bending of the boom but since the new sails could be fitted to the old mast and boom the rule change would not be limited to the new Selden mast and boom. The

change to the rules as detailed in the agenda was proposed by Rex Frost, seconded by Ian Upton and agreed unanimously.

6. **Proposed Changes to the CCCA Constitution** – The Secretary explained that with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations on 25th May 18 the CCCA needed to adopt a data protection policy that was compliant with the new regulations and amend the CCCA Constitution to refer to the new data protection policy. The change to the constitution as detailed in the agenda was proposed by Bob Horlock and agreed unanimously.

7. **Vote of Thanks to Retiring Chairman** – Bob Horlock thanked David Talbot for all the work he had done as Class Chairman for the last 18 years. He noted that David had been Chairman for the entire time that Bob had owned a Trio and said that David had shown tact and diplomacy, a willingness to listen and a determination to do the best for the Trio and subsequently the Versa, Duo and Zero classes as they joined to form the CCCA. On behalf of the CCCA, Bob presented David with a framed photograph of David sailing a Trio signed by many past and present members of the CCCA saying that this represented a token of the gratitude of the association for the work done and of best wishes for the future.

8. **Election of Officers and Committee:**

- a. Chairman. Adrian Padro was elected unopposed.
- b. Secretary. Bob Horlock was re-elected unopposed.
- c. Cruising Secretary. Steve White offered to provide cruising opportunities for CCCA members in conjunction with Cody SC.
- d. Treasurer. Caroline McAusland was re-elected unopposed.
- e. Newsletter Editor. It was suggested that this post be retitled Communications Officer to encompass the many ways in which the CCCA now communicates with the members. Tracie Padro volunteered for this role and was elected unopposed.
- f. Versa Captain. No-one had come forward to volunteer for this role which had been vacant for 2 years despite e-mail requests to Versa owning members.
- g. Duo Captain. Stephen Linton was re-elected unopposed.
- h. Webmaster. Steve Ashford was re-elected unopposed.

9. **Venues for Inlands, National Championships and Open Meetings for 2019.**

- a. CCCA Inlands. It was suggested that Llangorse be approached to hold the Inlands again in 2019. This was agreed and Llangorse SC have provisionally agreed to welcome us back at the same time next year.
- b. Nationals
 - i. Trios. Bob Horlock reported that he had contacted 7 clubs along the South coast, none of which were interested in staging the Trio Nationals in 2018. Thus the 2018 Nationals would again be held at Exe SC on 20 – 22 Jul 18. For 2019 he would approach Paignton SC and

Simon and Lou Doliczny would ask Brixham when they visited later in the summer. The aim would be to maintain the 3 day, 7 race format in the summer holidays sharing with another class as required.

ii. Versas, Duos and Zeros. The Duo Nationals would be again held at Cransley SC on 30 Jun 18. It was likely that they would continue to be held at Cransley, where there are currently 14 boats, in future years. In the absence of a Versa Captain and with no Versas having turned up for the last 2 years of Inland Championships the future of Versa racing does not look promising and a location for National Championships for either the Versa or Zero was not discussed.

iii. Open Meetings. It was likely that Shustoke and Whitefriars would hold open meetings again next year.

Bob Horlock
Secretary CCCA
11 May 2018

Reports

Treasurers Report

Current balance £4784.29 on 27th February out of which we will be taking the cost of trophies for the Inland and National championships.

The income over expenditure for the year ending 2017 is £54. The major expenses have been the usual recurring ones such as the cost of trophies and the RYA affiliation fee.

We have continued sponsorship from Noble marine Insurance, however, this is gradually declining. It was the princely sum of £700 in 2011, £500 in 2017 and in the new financial year it is £400.

We seem to be holding the account balance very steady but I wonder whether we should set a minimum balance in the account, below which we would need to consider topping up the account?

There are various options to be considered:

- 1 Sponsorship of the main sailing event i.e. the Nationals! This might work when they are held at Exe but smaller numbers attending elsewhere might limit the opportunities!
- 2 Adding a modest sum to the cost of entry to both CCCA Inland and National championship events. A surcharge of £5-£10 per boat would be adequate.
- 3 Reinstating annual membership of the CCCA. The disadvantages are keeping up to date with contacts, e mail addresses etc. A point also to consider is that most of the expenses are incurred in providing prizes for events and as such it would seem fairer for those that race and enter the events to bear the cost.

Caroline

Income and Expenditure
Year ending Dec 2017

	<u>Dec 11</u>	<u>Dec12</u>	<u>Dec13</u>	<u>Dec14</u>	<u>Dec15</u>	<u>Dec16</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>
Membership	£15	£17.50	£17.50	Free	Free	Free	Free
Trio	41	32	27				
Versa	42	32	16				
Duo	13	8	5				
Zero	11	7	4				
Total	107	79	52	0	0		
INCOME							
Annual Subscriptions	1605	1383	910	0	0	0	0
Bank Interest	1	1	4	10	11	11	2
Championship Income	170	0	0	0	0	0	0
Noble Marine	700	650	600	550	500	500	500
Total Income (£)	2476	2034	1392	560	511	511	502
EXPENSES							
Dinghy Show (Alexandra Palace in March)	468	476	550	0	0	568	0
Luminous Tales (printing & postage)	(3 eds) 1112	(2 eds) 458	(1e-ed) 0	(1e-ed) 0	(none) 0	0	0
Internet (domain name, website)	125	20	20	24	525	315	48
RYA (Affiliation Fee)	190	195	185	115	120	125	125
Trophies (inc. engraving)	508	148	174	0	88	231	275
Total Expenses	2401	1299	929	139	733	1239	448
SURPLUS (£)	75	735	463	421	-222	-728	54

Notes

1. Balance in Nationwide Account was £4486.94 on 1st Jan and currently stands at £4784.29 on 27/02/2018

2. Noble Marine continue to support us, we have their banner on our website and we refer to the National Championships as "sponsored by Noble Marine".

Secretary's Report

The 2017 AGM was held in conjunction with the CCCA Inlands at Burghfield Sailing Club on 27th- 28th May 2017. The minutes were published on the CCCA website in June 17.

At the Inlands sponsored by Noble Marine, 6 Comet Trios and 2 Comet Duos competed for the trophies over excellent courses set by race officer Ian Bullock. In a gusty Southerly F4, 4 races were sailed on the Saturday. Adrian and Tracy Padro from Shustoke SC demonstrated how a Trio should be sailed winning all 4 races ahead of Steve Ashford and Martin Yeomans from Whitefriars and Bob and Colette Horlock from Exe. In the Duos Nigel Ford got the better of Stephen Linton. With a flat calm on Sunday the overnight results stood and Adrain and Tracy retained their Inland crown.

Whitefriars SC staged an Open Meeting/Come and Try it/Race Coaching on 29/30 July 17. 10 Trios 3 Versas and 1 Duo had lovely sailing with steady breezes sunshine and rain and good courses. All 5 Training Trios were out plus 2 Home boats and 3 visitors. First Versa on Saturday were David and Rose Blake and first Trio was Steve Ashford and Martin Yeomans. On Sunday Versas first place was taken by Hazel Parkes and Rosemary Dilworth with Adrian Padro and Jayne dominating the Trios with 4 firsts.

2017 saw the introduction of the Mk2 Rig to the Trio. Peak Dinghies provided a prototype rig for Trio 450 'Woozle' and this was sailed by CCCA members at Exe SC, Whitefriars SC and Shustoke SC during late May/early June. The feedback from these trials sails by experienced Trio sailors was overwhelmingly positive. The CCCA Committee asked the whole Trio owning membership of the CCCA to vote on rule changes that would allow Trios with the Mk2 rig to remain within the CCCA. After some heated discussions the rule changes were passed by the required 2/3rd majority at the end of Jul 17.

The 19th Comet Trios Nationals sponsored by Noble Marine were again held at Exe SC from 1-3 Sep 17 and 22 Trios, 6 visitors and 16 from the home club, gathered for an event held in light winds. 5 Trios made the first appearance in competition of the new Mk2 rig featuring a Seldon mast and boom and North sails including a laminate main. This produced some of the closest racing ever seen at a Trio Nationals. After 6 races the top 5 places, containing 2 original rigs and 3 new rigs, were separated by only 6 points and all of the top 5 had a race win. Nevertheless Andrew and Caroline sailing their original rig were duly crowned Trio National Champions for the 7th time. They were ably chased by Steve and Martin in 2nd and the Padros in 3rd.

The change in Data Protection legislation with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations means that we need to change the CCCA Constitution and adopt a Data Protection Policy. In addition because we have no clear record of how we obtained the data within the membership register we will need to ask everyone to complete a CCCA membership form to update their data.

Bob Horlock

Chairman's Report.

We have had a successful year since the last AGM at Burghfield and I would like to thank all those that has made it so. To the organisers of events: racing and cruising and their teams. To all the committee and in particular to Bob Horlock for all the organisation, emails and enthusiasm he has put into the class and the impartial balancing of interests through to the new rig introduction. Steve Ashford for the website and facebook page, Caroline McAusland as Treasurer and Steve White for supporting cruising.

I was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease last August and am losing my voice so I am stepping down after 18 years as chairman. So now I would like to thank everybody who has contributed to make the Comet Trio Association and its successor the Combined Comet Class Association what they are - that is the many committee members, the builders, the supporting clubs and most important all the sailors themselves for making it happen. The class association was founded on 16th June 1997 (the Trio was introduced in 1995), so we are fast approaching our 21st birthday.

I wish Adrian Padro all the best in this job (assuming he is elected), I was told that I would not have to do anything in the job when a couple of committee members sidled up to me at my first nationals in 2000. I could tell him the same, but already he has done a lot for the class, and will find it difficult not to encourage and support more people to enjoy these versatile boats.

David Talbot

Duo Report 2018

The Duo Nationals were held last July at Cransley SC. Result: 1st Nigel Austin, 2nd Peter Stein, 3rd John Linnell. 8 Duos took part which justifies our decision to continue to hold the Nationals at Cransley where there are now 14 resident Duos, with most being sailed regularly. So we will be holding the 2018 Nationals there on June 30th. I hope that the CCCA will continue to advertise events that are open to Duos, but my experience suggests that few Duo owners are now willing to travel. But 8 at the Nationals is a good deal better than several recent years (e.g. Weymouth) when only myself and one other boat turned up. I have the email addresses for about 20 Duo owners (who have agreed to receive emails) and will continue to advertise events and encourage others to join in.

Stephen Linton

Peak Dinghy Builders Report

Following the approval of the new rig, there have been lots of people buying, with most opting to go for both new spars and sails. The laminate main has been the more popular of the two options, with a few people opting for the Dacron main, mostly along with a laminate sail too.

As with most things new, there have been a few teething troubles, though these have hopefully all been ironed out now. It's very unfortunate that I live so far away from those that have been buying the new rig. As a result I have not been able to be as hands on as I would have liked. We have managed to work through the issues, with email, phone and text messages, providing a flow of information between ourselves and the manufacturers. So a big thank you to all those who have provided input, it has been a big help and long may it continue.

We have also built three new boats, the last one soon to be delivered. This in turn has seen three second hand Trio's put up for sale and I understand all snatched up very quickly. This reinforces my view that there is real potential to grow the Trio fleet; I am still struggling to come up with ideas on the best way to do this, so please share any ideas you may have.

I first saw a Trio when our Club (Ogston SC) bought six in 2002. The Club still have them, plus two more bought a couple of years later. About eighteen months ago, following a visit by an RYA Coach, our Training Officer became convinced that the Club should buy some new training boats and embarked on a trial of the rota moulded offerings from the bigger outfits. He produced a feedback form and all the instructors took them for a test sail. At the end of the exercise they all said "what's wrong with the Trio's?" In fact they are so good and well made, that they have decided just to keep them. It's this training market that I would like to tap into and in so doing get some new to sailing to look for a Trio.

Once again, thanks for all your support and input, please feel free to get in touch with any suggestions or questions.

Glyn

Peak Dinghy.

5th May 2018.