

First 40.7 UK Class Association

Annual General Meeting – 16th March 2009 (7.30pm)

Royal Ocean Racing Club, St. James Place, London

Attendees:

Paul McNamara	(PM)	Incognito
Nick Margree	(NM)	Big Bamboo
Andrew Iyer	(AI)	Portia
Steven Anderson	(SA)	Encore
Trevor Greening	(TG)	Frontline Sailing

Apologies:

Nicolas Gaumont-Prat	Philosophie
Guy Prest	Tarka
Graeme Lewis	Below Zero
Andrew Jackson	Genie

Agenda

1. Review of Meeting Minutes & Apologies
2. 2008 Accounts
3. Nomination of Committee Members
4. Review of 2008 Events
5. Review of 2009 Activities

Minutes:

1. Review of Meeting Minutes

NM opened the meeting with a brief overview of the activities of the Class Association over the last 12 months and a review of the Minutes of the last General Meeting held at the Royal Southern Yacht Club on 10th May 2008.

2008 had been a challenging year for the Association committee to drive and support 40.7 events due to the variation in owner expectations and sailing agendas across the Class. Even so, the 2008 objectives had been achieved through the organisation and support of the following events:

- a) 40.7 Nationals (including Newcomer Prize and Association Prize)- May 2008
- b) Cowes Week Drinks Party – August 08
- c) Cowes Week Charter Boat Prize - August 08
- d) 40.7 Association Prize – prize for highest performing 40.7 yacht across selected events throughout 2008
- e) 40.7 Nationals - May 2009

The largest challenge remaining in 2009 which was again highlighted in the meeting in 2008 is to engage the whole group of owners in participating in Class Association events and 40.7 racing. The group discussed this in more detail and the solution centred on the more effective use of the First407.net website as well as developing an effective web forum that owners found easier to use and motivated to get involved.

2. 2008 Accounts

The account balance for the Class Association is healthy at the end of 2008, however we had not yet followed up on membership renewals for 2009 and need these to maintain the current situation.

NM concluded that the Association would need to more vigilant in 2009 in collecting membership fees as well as ensuring that all entrance fees for attendees at events such as the Cowes Week Drinks Party were collected in advance. The sponsorship from Beechwood Homes for the Drinks Party was gratefully received and essential to remain profitable for such an event. A new sponsor would need to be found for 2009.

3. Nomination of Committee Members

The group discussed the Class constitution and rules requirement for the re-election of the Committee members. As circulated in previous correspondence the voting on of the new committee would take place at the Nationals in May 2009 where many more owners and Association members would be present.

NM announced that he would be resigning as Chairman of the Association after the AGM due to increasing work commitments. Nominations for the Chairman and other Committee Members would be welcomed from both Members and Associate Members.

The group discussed the composition of the committee going forwards. Since the web-site was considered key to the success of the association then this role should be part of the committee. It was also discussed that as we were currently constituted an excessive burden was placed upon the chairman to do much of the work, as well as be the face and spokesman for the association. This arrangement had been acceptable whilst NM had been able to

devote substantial time to the job, however this was now not possible. It was therefore felt that the duties of the current chairman could be split between a chairman and secretary, if we had no volunteers/nomination for the current role of the chairman. The ability for Associate Members to be on the committee was also discussed. It was felt that there were probably active 40.7 crew members who would like to get involved and help with the running of the association. In particular the roles of secretary and web-master were discussed as committee roles that could be well filled by associate members.

Nominations known to the members present and to be approached included:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Boat</u>
Committee Nominee	Gareth Williams	Challenger
Committee Nominee	Simon McNamara	Incognito (Assoc. Member) (Web Master)

All Members and Owners were to be emailed to nominate Committee Members prior to Nationals event in May 09, when a new committee would be voted in.

4. Review of 2008 Events / 5. Review of 2009 Activities

As detailed in Section 1, the Class Association organised a number of events / prizes in 2008. The group present discussed the effectiveness of these events in line with the Association objectives and debated the support of similar events in 2009. The following decisions were made:

1. Association Prize – good first year of running this prize. Prize will be awarded at the Nationals in May 2009.

Group concluded that there were too many qualifying events in 2008 and this should be reduced in 2009 to encourage attendance by more 40.7 owners to the selected events. The qualifying events in 2009 are:

- a) Warsash Big Boat Series
- b) 40.7 Nationals
- c) IRC Nationals
- d) Cowes Week
- e) Beneteau Cup

2. Association Prize / Newcomer Prize as part of 40.7 Nationals

Groups agreed that this was a good form of recognition for improving boat within the Class and would actively look for sponsors for the prizes for the 2009 event.

3. Charter Prize – Cowes Week

Due to the lack of co-operation amongst the charter companies regarding the organisation and presentation of this prize in 2008, the group concluded that the Association would not support this unless the charter companies took this seriously in 2009. TG agreed to review through his contacts and report back.