

## **Meeting of First 40.7 UK Class Association**

**Venue: Fastnet Room – Royal Ocean Racing Club**

**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – 7.30pm**

### **Attendees:**

Nick Margree	Big Bamboo
Paul McNamara	Incognito
Steven Anderson	Encore
Guy Prest	Tarka

### **Apologies:**

Pete Newlands	Anticipation
Andrew Jackson	Genie
Nicolas Gaumont-Prat	Philosophie IV
Adam Riddett	Fandango
John Dyer	Exocet
Chris Dyson	Lazy Dawn
Tim Spalding	Love Shack
Pete Robson	Playing Around
John Nicholas	Jeba
Andrew Iyer	Portia
Trevor Greening	Frontline Sailing
Richard Allen	Ancasta International Boat Sales Ltd.

### **Agenda:**

1. Adoption of the Rules of the First 40.7 UK Class Association
2. 2008 Events and Class Prizes including Class Starts and Scoring System to be adopted for the Class Association Championship points series and crew number limits
3. Discussion of more detailed Class Rules required.
4. Any further business

## Minutes:

### 1. Adoption of the Rules of the First 40.7 UK Class Association

As a result of recent feedback regarding the purpose and support of the Class Association a discussion surrounding the Objectives (section 2 of Class Rules) took place. It was felt that it would be counter-productive to split the 40.7 Class in the UK by inclusion criteria that did not capture the opinions of the majority of owners. However more needed to be done to sell the benefits of the Association to First 40.7 owners in order that the membership increased and the financial contribution (£20) by owners demonstrated value.

The committee members present agreed on the following:

- a) The Association should act as a point of co-ordination to develop more interest and involvement in First 40.7 Racing in the UK.
- b) The Association had a key role in sustaining the capital value of the First 40.7 yacht for all owners by providing and maintaining a website forum for owners and prospective owners to discuss technical and commercial information.
- c) The Association would organise the National Championships for the First 40.7 which would be open for members and non-members of the Association.
- d) The Association would organise a social event during the Cowes Week regatta in August as well as a social dinner during the sailing season.
- e) The Association would support the First 40.7 Class during the Big Boat Series as part of the Spring Series organised through Warsash Sailing Club.

### 2. 2008 Events and Class Prizes including Class Starts and Scoring System to be adopted for the Class Association Championship points series and crew number limits

#### **Class Starts & Class Prizes**

Although it is widely accepted that the First 40.7 is not a one-design class yacht the concerns of several owners regarding the fair and level racing of the 40.7 Class at Cowes Week, Little Britain Challenge Cup and the 40.7 Nationals was discussed by the members present.

The Class Association would have some degree of influence over the Class Start at Cowes Week and strong influence over the 40.7 Nationals. The Association would have limited influence over the organisation of the Little Britain Challenge Cup.

The committee felt that it was too late in terms of the longevity of the design of the First 40.7 to try and introduce any measurement rules into the Class and thus the IRC handicap system would be used in all Class events.

Introducing additional TCF's for "modified" boats in Class events would be difficult to administer based on the already existing variations in keel design, spreader rigs, mast material and spinnaker design. It would also require full consensus and compliance across all owners which would be almost impossible.

The Rating Office has been consulted regarding the keel shoes and as far as they are concerned the keel shoes are fairly accounted for under IRC.

The Association would address some of the owners concerns regarding matched racing at Class events by supporting the following:

- i) Lobby Cowes Combined Clubs for a separate charter boat prize
- ii) Lobby Little Britain organisers for racing under IRC in 2008
- iii) Organise 3x prizes for 40.7 Nationals:
  - 1) Winners under IRC – prize for places 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>
  - 2) First 40.7 UK Class Association Award - Prize for highest placed yacht that has not been placed (1/2/3) in the 2006 & 2007 40.7 Nationals.
  - 3) First 40.7 Newcomer Award - Prize for highest placed yacht that was commissioned after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

#### **Scoring System for Class Association Championships**

It was agreed that the Low Points scoring system of RRS would be used to score the Championship events, the details of which can be found on [www.first407.net](http://www.first407.net)

### **Crew Limits**

The members present discussed recent correspondence from owners regarding crew number limits at Cowes Week and the 40.7 Nationals.

It was felt that it would be not be constructive to influence any crew number restrictions at Cowes Week based on precedent .

However it was agreed that there should be a crew number restriction at the 40.7 Nationals of IRC +2 =12 persons.

### **3. Discussion of more detailed Class Rules required.**

This agenda item was covered in Minutes section 3

### **4. Any further business**

#### **Bank Account Signatory**

The bank account signatories are currently Andrew Jackson (Genie) and Peter Wolstenholme. It was agreed at the meeting that Peter Wolstenholme would be removed as a signatory and that Nick Margree should be added as a signatory.

The bank require a copy of the agenda and the minutes of the General Meeting for a change in signatory.