

## The 'X' One Design Class Association

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Class Committee

**On: Tuesday 19th January 2010 at 18.00 hrs**

**At: CBRE, Ocean Village, Southampton**

<b>Present:</b>	William Norris	XOD Class Captain
	Neil Clifford	Cowes Division
	Keith Hughes, Diana Wilson	Hamble Division
	Chris Blevins	Itchenor Division
	Fenella Lees, Rory Paton	Lymington Division
	Hugh Deavin, John Edmonds	Parkstone Division
	Nick Dorley-Brown, Neil Payne	Yarmouth Division
	Crispin Tombs	RMYC
	Jonathan Fairchild	Chairman, TAC
	Jeremy Willcock	Chairman, Centenary Committee
	Ado Jardine	New Build Project
<b>In attendance:</b>	Tina Scott	XOD Class Secretary

#### Opening Remarks

The Class Captain described that his future approach to Class Committee meetings would be to invite the Chairmen of all the XOD Committees, as well as the Class Historian, Official Measurer and Webmaster, and, from time to time, any other Class member whose attendance he thought might be of value to the Class Committee in relation to the items to be discussed in the agenda. He confirmed that voting on any issue would only be by the Class Committee members and that any member of the Class Committee should feel free to object to the attendance of any such invitee in respect of all or part of the meeting. He explained that he would usually wish the agenda to be available at least a week prior to the meeting and to be available to all Class members via the website and/or email distribution. The Class Committee agreed with this future approach.

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Tim Moorhouse (RMYC), Alan Perry (Itchenor), Peter Taylor (Chairman, Way Ahead Committee), Ted Roose (Chairman, Marketing Committee), John Wilson (Official Measurer), Richard Field (Class Historian) and Paul Fisher (Webmaster).

#### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th October 2009 were approved and signed.

#### 3. Committee structures and organisation

The Class Captain confirmed that the XODCA Constitution and Rules establish the organisational structure and make clear that the Class Committee is the principal decision making body. The powers of the Technical Advisory Committee were also clearly defined as that of advising the Class Committee on technical matters. The roles of the Centenary, Marketing and Way Ahead Committees were not defined in the Rules. It was agreed that these committees also reported to and advised the Class Committee, but clarification and definition of their roles was desirable. It was also necessary to co-ordinate meetings of the Centenary and Marketing Committees to avoid overlap of work.

#### 4. Class Committee

It was agreed that future Class Committee (CC) meetings would alternate between Lymington and Southampton, would start at 6.30 or 7.00 pm depending on loW ferry arrival times, and would be held every 2-3 months in 2010. Committee Chairmen were asked to provide written reports for circulation in advance of the CC meeting and would also be invited to report in person.

#### 5. Centenary Committee

It was agreed that the Centenary Committee (CenCom) tended to talk about the same items as the Marketing Committee (MarCom) so liaison between the two chairmen was needed to avoid overlap.

Jeremy Willcock, CenCom Chairman, reported that tasks had been delegated to the various CenCom members. An overall sponsor had not yet been identified but a Plan B had been drawn up. The key items for the Centenary were all possible anyway, but a sponsor would be very welcome. The Sponsorship Brochure was available from Ted Roose. X1 on Cowes Parade was essential and Hugh Deavin reported on earlier contacts with the Falmouth museum, reviewing issues such as insurance, rigging, transport and costs. Jeremy Willcock would speak to Peter Taylor about taking this on, to leave the Class Historian to concentrate on his book. A Centenary coffee table book was also planned, full of pictures and Divisional reports, priced in range of £20-50, printing to be organised by David da Cunha with proceeds from sales, sponsorship and the Class, with the aim of publishing in the autumn of 2011 in time for Christmas. A painting of the fleet was also being considered with prints being sold. Events being planned in the Divisions for 2011 were reviewed and included a Ball at Yarmouth in February, a Dinner at the RMYC in March, a Round the Island Race and the Bembridge, Westmacott and Classic Week regattas. Details of events were requested to be sent to the Class Secretary.

**Action: Divisional Captains**

The next CenCom meeting was planned for February and would coordinate with the February MarCom meeting.

#### 6. Cowes Week 2011

It was confirmed that racing at Cowes Week would include a mini-series of 3 days held on the Tuesday-Thursday, details for which were being finalised by Peter Taylor with CWL. The start would be from the RYS line extended to a Committee Boat as the ODM. One of the starts would be a running start for photo opportunities and there would be an early start on the Thursday. The mini-series would be part of the overall Captain's Cup series. It was noted that the Cowes Harbour Master would need to be informed early enough for the anticipated number of moorings to be laid. A dinner for 400 was reserved in Cowes Yacht Haven for the Thursday, which was the best day for inviting The Princess Royal, but no development on this was possible until October 2010.

#### 7. Marketing Committee Report

The Class Captain confirmed that the role of the MarCom was to promote the class in the short and long term and to support particular events such as Cowes 2011, with the search for sponsorship. A report sent by the MarCom Chairman pointed out that the MarCom recommended early registration of intent to race at Cowes 2011 to enable numbers to be assessed. The MarCom also asked if the Class Committee was agreeable to the sail number 200 being issued out of order as an additional incentive to build a new XOD and the Class Committee agreed to this on the condition the boat would be sailing by Cowes Week 2011. **[Class Captain's Note:** although this proposal was canvassed at the last Marcom meeting and discussed at this CC meeting, the Class Secretary has (very delicately) pointed out subsequently that we may not have the power to do as we wish about X200: Class Rule B.9.4 states that "sail numbers are only to be allocated a sail number on the correct issuing of the final measurement certificate.... (and are) to be allocated in numerical sequence". The natural meaning is that as and when a boat is measured it is allocated the next number after the previously allocated number. So it may well be that we do not have the power to do as we wish without a change in the rule – which we could not do before the AGM. And since an order has been signed anyway, we may not need to create an artificial incentive. The Class Captain suggests we return to this question at our next meeting and probably then should let things take their natural, numerical, course.]

The XOD News had been published with 80% of the cost being covered by advertising and ten copies were distributed to each Division. Help was requested with distribution of the newsletter through clubs and event organisers. Distribution was being coordinated by the MarCom Divisional representatives. The Class Committee sent thanks and congratulations to Ted Roose for producing the XOD News publication.

## 8. Technical Advisory Committee

The Class Captain confirmed that the preferred procedure for issues to be referred to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was either from the CC, from the TAC or from the Divisional representative. Exceptionally, however, it might be appropriate for the reference to come from an individual member rather than his or her Division. The CC agreed that rule interpretation was for the CC to issue having first taken advice from the TAC and Official Measurer. It was also agreed that matters for TAC, eg, guidance, interpretation, research, should first go through the CC – except for those matters it chooses to look at of its own initiative

Following discussion on the Rules, the CC asked the TAC to identify one or more persons to review the Rules to eliminate ambiguity and clarify the existing Rules. This could be a TAC member or another volunteer, who could set their own time frame to complete the review before the 2010 or 2011 AGM. **Action: TAC Chairman**

Jonathan Fairchild, TAC Chairman, reported on the TAC meeting held on 12th January 2010. The Measuring Procedure had been updated by the Official Measurer and the Boat Check List was being reviewed. The TAC considered that zip luffed jibs were acceptable under the XOD Rules, but this had been referred to the Way Ahead Committee for wider consideration.

- **Mast rake:** The TAC considered that limitation of the mast rake was desirable and had looked at ways of managing the problem incorporating the 6'2" issue. The Class Captain asked the TAC to review this and to issue a report for CC consideration, so that the CC could issue guidance to members. TAC was asked to report on that issue after its next meeting with a view to CC offering guidance (if appropriate) thereafter.
- **Rigging:** The TAC had discussed the 10" shroud rule, deciding that sufficient trials had been done. The CC confirmed that at the last AGM, the proposal to change the rigging was deferred until after the centenary, so the existing XOD rules applied for the next two years. Lymington Division queried their Autumn 2010 open meeting and were asked to obtain their Divisional members' views and report back at the next CC meeting. **Action: Fenella Lees, Rory Paton**
- **Boat Check Lists:** The Official Measurer and the Webmaster were working on an update of the Check Lists, to produce a Five-Year detailed Check List and a shorter Cowes Week Check List.
- **Minutes:** The TAC Chairman confirmed that he would produce minutes of TAC meetings to be made available on the Class website.

## 9. Measurement

The Class Captain confirmed that it was very important that the Measuring procedure was clarified and delegating tasks from the Official Measurer to Divisional Representatives would help to make the job work. The Official Measurer was working with the Webmaster and TAC to produce the final proposal for circulating prior to the next CC meeting. It was confirmed that the big Class load cell would remain as the only Class load cell, but small ones would be purchased for each Division.

The chairman of TAC was asked to consider the Official Measurer's proposal at its next meeting and then advise the CC of its recommendation so that the CC could issue guidance on the new/improved procedures as soon as possible.

## 10. Way Ahead Committee

On behalf of Peter Taylor, Way Ahead Committee Chairman, the Class Captain reported that not much work was planned immediately, but there would be more in 2012 and in the future.

## 11. Deputy Chairman

The Class Captain announced that, in view of his professional work commitments and the need to delegate occasionally, he had appointed Peter Taylor to be Deputy Chairman in accordance with XOD Constitution 3.1.i. The CC confirmed their approval and gave their unanimous support.

## 12. Honorary Treasurer

The Class Committee welcomed Rory Paton back to the role of Honorary Treasurer.

## 13. XN1

The Class Captain said he had asked Ado Jardine to attend this meeting not simply because of his close interest in the rigging proposal (now withdrawn) but because there had been no update on this project at the AGM.

Ado Jardine invited everyone to sail Xoanon either at Lymington or in their own Divisions for a week or two, as she was fully insured. He confirmed there were 49 shareholders. The CC considered the options for the future racing of Xoanon and decided that racing within a Division was a divisional matter. No guidance was possible from the CC regarding individual protests, because the boat was not an XOD and did not have a measurement certificate. For Open events, the current rules applied and the CC agreed that Xoanon was not eligible to enter Open events and should not be allowed to race with the XODs unless all the entrants agreed to it in advance. The CC agreed that the current focus was on the centenary but that they needed to address the issue after this and actively consider the role of Xoanon after 2012. This should be done with the Way Ahead Committee when they look at alternative methods of construction.

## 14. Cowes Week 2010

The Class Captain asked for suggestions on improving racing in 2010 for the next CC meeting.

**Action: Divisional Captains**

## 15. Team Racing – Cowes 2010

The Class Captain asked for Divisional feedback for the next CC meeting on having the team racing on the second Saturday of Cowes Week or otherwise provide views/advice as to what (if any) team racing should take place at Cowes this year and when it might best be arranged.

**Action: Divisional Captains**

## 16. Secretary's Report

**Inter-Divisional Cups:** By rotation this year, these were for awarding by the Itchenor, Lymington and Yarmouth Divisions.

**Handbook 2010:** This was in preparation and any corrections needed were requested.

**Membership:** There was a total of 298 XODCA members in 2009 and 42 new members had joined in the year, up from 29 new members in 2008.

## 17. Mediterranean Adventures

The CC agreed that this would be worth exploring further and, apart from a trailer, time and enthusiasm, an estimate of costs was needed. It also needed an organiser and someone to contact the various clubs about the events, arrangements and eligibility of an XOD to enter. Neil Payne offered to produce outline costs and to speak to Stuart Haill, X130, as a possible volunteer organiser.

**Action: Neil Payne**

**18. Any Other Business**

Ado Jardine announced that X140 Lucrezia would be awarding a trophy to the first lady crew to cross the line for Cowes Week overall.

**19. Date of Next Meeting**

March 2010, date to be confirmed.

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_