UK RS Tera Class Association

UK RS Tera Class Association Minutes of AGM 2020

Date: 9th December 2020 at 8.30pm

Held: via Zoom

Attendees:
Rob Ahlheid (Chair), Steve Angell, David Bailey (Technical Representative), Max Barber (Wales Representative), Lynn Bew, Carrie Bridgeman (North Representative), Dylan Collingbourne (South Representative), Marcus Collingbourne (Class Development Manager /Secretary), Davis Evans, Sarah Glazebrook, Steve Jenkins (Vice Chair – Racing), Simon Lomas-Clarke, Patrick Pakes, Jon Partridge (Manufacturers Representative), Dan Sears (Treasurer), Duncan West (RYA Representative), Andrew Yates.

Apologies:
Jane Sunderland (Press & PR Representative)

Format:
This years AGM was held as a Zoom video conference. Class Development Manager Marcus Collingbourne facilitated the meeting and illustrated the various reports with a PowerPoint presentation. Any voting was carried out by a show of hands to camera if in disagreement.

Minutes of Class AGM 2019
The Minutes of the Class AGM 20219 held at Brightlingsea Sailing Club had been circulated to all member prior to the AGM. Marcus suggested that these were a true record of the meeting and this was formally proposed by Max Barber and seconded by David Bailey.

Chair report
The Chair report was delivered by outgoing Class Association Chairman, Rob Ahlheid.
"2020 will go down as one of the most bizarre years on record. That said, we did try our best to make the most of a bad situation.
Some highlights were the 19/20 cycle squad weekends, which got off to a great start topped by the excellent 2019 Christmas party held at Rutland SC. A big thank you goes out to Silvia Jauma Jenkins, Emma Mc Tiernan for organising this memorable evening and The West family

for the excellent Turkey and trimmings, which was enjoyed by all. After the first lock down The Nationals, which were put together in record time, provided some great sailing over a sunny bank holiday weekend. We then managed to squeeze in the End of Season Championships just before another lock down period. Even during lock down the class has been busy with a Virtual Start of season regatta, the toilet roll challenge and more recently many virtual class room regional squad sessions.

As a class we have made great strides in the right direction when we drew up our class development plan based on our newly adopted ethos of 'Fun, Learn, Race'.

The key aims of the plan are to encourage more participation in the Tera Class; provide broader access to coaching and racing; More effective communication to our membership and the building of a Tera community. We put a funding proposal to the RYA to help us realise our goals and we were awarded with a development budget for 2020, with a view to extend into 2021.

We appointed a Class development manager, Marcus Collingbourne, to drive the aims outlined in the development plan forward. I would like to thank Sarah Lomas Clarke, Peggy Field and Sarah John for their time and effort as class secretary and event coordinators during 2019/2020 period. With the introduction of the class development manager these roles have been amalgamated.

In terms of class development, we have established 6 regions, which have their own squad training and regional racing circuit. With this we have increased our formal training from ca 45, under the previous national squad set-up to ca 85. We launched our new UK Class association website in the spring, with a much fresher look and feel. In addition, the administration processes have also been greatly streamlined, through online registration and payment. Rooster has been appointed as our class title sponsor for the 'Big Four' National events. Over the next months a lot of progress will be made to establish the regional development, and this will also become a feature at the National events.

On the class equipment side we took receipt of our new class Rib, which is going very well. After careful assessment the engine of our second rib is due for renewal. A competitive quote has been found and ideas for crowdfunding are being discussed as an effective means creating a budget for buying this engine.

Any organisation runs because of the active engagement of people. With sailors moving on to other classes, so too do their parents who helped out as part of the committee. I would like to thank Dan Sears, Treasurer, Paula Maclaverty, Safeguarding officer; and David Bailey Technical representative for performing their roles and their contribution on the UK Class committee. This means that there are a number of vacancies that need to be filled on the committee so do please come forward if your are able to help out.

My time as Class Chairman is also coming to an end and I have enjoyed being part of the class and setting out our new direction very much. Steven Angell has kindly stepped forward to be the next UK Class Tera Chairman and subject to your approval will take over in the coming weeks."

Treasurers report

The Chair report was delivered by outgoing Class Association Treasurer, Dan Sears. Dan started his report by thanking Class Development Manager Marcus Collingbourne for his help during the year implementing new financial systems and for his help in compiling the report. His report is below:-

This report covers the period of August 2019 to August 2020.
Some of the key highlights from this year were

1. Purchase of new subsidised Rib
2. Sale of old Blue Rib
3. Limited National Events due to Covid
4. Development Grant from RYA
5. Introduction of the Class Development Manager
6. Development of new Website and banking capabilities.

(The bank analysis can be found at the end of this document)

In this financial year we are supporting our regions to be able to collect and pay using the facilities provided by our new website.
As we look towards the next reporting period we will be further utilising our accounting software, Xero, to be able to give event and region breakdowns.
The impact of the Covid virus has had a marked effect on the Class this year, both in terms of membership and event income. Traditionally our first events of the year ie Start of Seasons and Inland Championships act as a driver towards membership and this, along with the fact that we have been unable to offer a Regatta Fleet at our events we managed to hold, which normally attract the younger, less experienced sailor, has led to a slight fall in membership numbers this year. We are certain to reverse this trend next year with an end to the virus in sight.
This year we were fortunate to receive a grant from the RYA to help fund the Tera Class. This grant was split between administration (£1.5k) and class development (3.5K). The admin part of the grant has enabled the Class to invest in software to enable us run our own website, manage our calendar and to set up all the online payment facilties for use for Class and regional events and training. The development grant has helped the Association in developing its move towards regional training groups and growth of the Class generally.
As mentioned earlier, our grant from the RYA as enabled us to develop new tools to make the administration of the class easier and more professional. A new website was launched in the Spring and utilises new software to enable us to book events online, seamlessly collect payments and automatically produce forms and receipts. We have also introduced Stripe as our payment collection method. This not only automates much of the process, but also offers a more cost-effective solution to the Class. Except under exceptional circumstances we have negated the need for cash or cheque payments. The Association has traditionally used Paypal to collect membership subscriptions. Now we have migrated to Stripe, the monies held in the Paypal account will be transferred to our main account and the Paypal account closed.
We are showing a figure of £180 in our sponsorship account line, but this figure has been greatly augmented by our new Class sponsorship agreement with Rooster, who have agreed to supply a fantastic range of prizes for our four National events, saving us 100s of pounds annually on prizes. Harken also generously donated prizes for our 2020 Nationals.
The existing financial summary does give a slightly confused picture of the Class finances, as because of the reporting date structure it shows an imbalance between income and outgoings across the sailing year.
To this end, the Association will be producing an in-depth set of figures for the financial year

November 1st 2019 - 31st October 2020, which will give us a much more relevant set of accounts and also give us a null starting point for future annual reporting structures.
It has been a great year as Treasurer, but it has now become time to move on. Will and I have loved being involved in the Tera Class and will miss all the Tera events we were involved in.

Technical report
The Technical report was delivered by Association Technical Officer, David Bailey, another committee member who is moving on after years of sterling service both to the UK Class and the International Class.
‘‘A variety of queries have been sent through during the year on points of detail ranging from why have new Tera sails suddenly got eyelet in them, rigging, through to general advice from people looking to buy boats who have been asking what they should be looking for / avoiding in the second hand boats.
This year saw the introduction of scrutinising at the Nationals in Weymouth with a handful of boats being selected randomly. This has happened at Worlds events for many years and interestingly showed up a few issues. Most commonly points were to do with the number of blocks on the down haul, advising (and only advising) the removal of the hook to the outhaul, removal of branding through to the most common one where sail numbers were in the wrong position ie side / height. For many this came to light too late to dispensations had to be applied for to the race officer and were generally granted, however, in advance of the next nationals I feel a National preparation sheet will need to be issued listing the key watch points.
The approach taken to scrutineering has been firstly to review boats and advise competitors of the rules / compliance but also and I feel more importantly to assist those with less experience as to how they might improve their boats - as a friendly class I’d hate to think this is about policing, more helping people get the best out of their boats correctly.
A point that has been raised at both national and worlds levels is the use of "Tack Tick" type devices. This arose again this year prior to the Nationals. Whilst the class rules allows for compasses be that electronic or manual, our response to such requests has been to decline their use within events for the following reasons

- Affordability and accessibility into the class (keep the boat as low cost as possible including accessories, this is a point of sailing entry for many)
- Peer pressure (as soon as one child has one there will be a feeling that “I” need to have one)
- Sailing by feel and instinct (rather than sailing a tack by reference to the a bearing on the device you sail by feel, looking around, intuition)
- Fairness (some devices have modes by which they can suggest you might head up or down - this is not accepted in the class rules)

However, there is a counter argument that says sailors may use these devices in subsequent boats so they should be accepted into this class to get sailors ready and used to them.
As we have now sold our son’s boat 3159 I am looking to step down from the role as Technical officer as soon as a replacement can be found. I wish the sailors, parents, members and volunteers in the association all the best for the future and look forward to seeing the class continuing its growth.’’

Training /Events report
Class Development Manager Marcus Collingbourne outlined the progress of setting up our regional training groups following the RYA model of moving away from national training. The Class had 2 regions which had successfully run regional training, namely the East and the North. All other regions have had to be set up from scratch.
Wales, Midlands and te South regions have now been established working across various models such as pay per sail with the South establishing a full season paid programme. It is hoped that Covid doesn't impinge to much on our training plans

The four UK Class events have been confirmed as follows:-
Start of Seasons – Hayling Island Sailing Club: 15/16 April 2021
Inland Championships – Burton Sailing Club: 19/20 June 2021
UK National Championships – Filey Sailing Club: 28/31 August 2021
End of Season Championships – Draycote Water Sailing Club: 23/24 October

Date/Venue of AGM 2021
It is proposed that next years Annual General Meeting should be held via Zoom conference late November/early December 2021.

Election of Officers
Steven Angell – Chair. Proposed by Max Barber, seconded by Steve Jenkins
Andrew Yates – Technical Officer. Proposed by David Bailey, seconded by Steve Jenkins
With no nominations for then posts of Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer, Rob Ahlheid proposed that
Helen Ahlheid serve as interim Treasurer
Marcus Collingbourne proposed that
Di Collingbourne serve as interim Safeguarding Officer
Both posts were seconded by Vice Chair – Racing Steve Jenkins.
These positions are to be held until the vacancies can be filled.
All nominations were confirmed unanimously.

Any other business
No other matters were submitted by the deadline.
Marcus Collingbourne closed the meeting with a vote of thanks to outgoing Chair, Rob Ahlheid, for his term as Chairman of the UK RS Tera Class Association

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

UK Tera Association Account Summary 01/09/2019 - 27/08/2020

PayPal Account

Opening Balance 1/9/19	£	2,119.75
Closing Balance 27/8/20	£	3,574.48
Running Balance	£	1,454.73

Income	Membership	£	1,522.51
Outgoings	PayPal Charges	£	67.78

Main Account

Opening Balance 1/9/19	£	27,717.95
Closing Balance 27/8/20	£	27,250.30
Running Balance	-£	467.65

Income	EOS	£	3,217.00
	Squads	£	20,827.50
	RYA Grant	£	5,000.00
	Bank Adjustments	£	3.22
	Membership	£	1,155.00
	Sponsorship	£	180.00
	Nationals 2020	£	11,367.30
	Sale of Blue Rib	£	1,500.00
	Total	**£**	**43,250.02**
Outgoings	Worlds 2019	£	468.00
	RYA Rib	£	7,434.00
	Events and Squads	£	19,194.10
	Nationals 2019	£	7,876.89
	Nationals 2020	£	470.00
	Admin Costs	£	4,375.15
	Class Event Support	£	700.00
	RIB maintenance	£	1,563.90
	Insurances	£	1,635.63
	Total	**£**	**43,717.67**