



# National School Sailing Association

www.nssa.org.uk

National School  
Sailing Association



@NSSASailing



Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of the **National School Sailing Association**, which took place on **Tuesday 24th July 2018**, at **Datchet Water Sailing Club**.

1. Apologies for absence. Jennie Conway, Rosie Bain, Martin Styles, John Denton, Ralph Tingle, Michael Edwards, Dave Williamson, Adrian Kemp, Barbara Darling, Neill Ransom.
2. Approval of minutes from the 2017 AGM, which was held at Banbury Premier Inn Hotel, Ermont Way, OX16 4AE, on **Saturday the 7th of October 2017 at 6:30pm**.  
Proposed by Viv Brookes, seconded by Alison Wood.
3. Matters arising from last year's minutes:
  - a. Improve communications. A newsletter was proposed and this has been done.
  - b. Publishing of dates. Trying to get calendar for the next sailing year out as early as possible. Which we have done.
  - c. Name. Was asked that we look at the word 'school' in our name. This was discussed by the exec, and the possibility of changing the name was considered. The potential of this was discussed, but we have decided to postpone this name change and consider it as part of wider constitutional changes over the next few months.
4. Chairman's report from Steve Lloyd (See report attached below).
5. Treasurer's Report from James Conway.  
Proposed by Steven Lloyd, seconded by Becky Sharpe.
6. Appointment of Auditor. To appoint an independent examiner of the accounts of the Association for 2015-16. Nomination: Rachel Crawford  
Proposed by James Conway, seconded by Steven Lloyd.
7. Appointment of vice-presidents.

Beale, Terry	Evans, John
Bellamy, David	Goodison, Paul
Blannin, Anna	Kemp, Adrain (MBE)
Chapman, Geoff	Passmore, Martin
Darling, Barbara	Rangecroft, Andy
Dennison, Michael	Ransom, Neill
Denton, John	Styles, Martyn
Dowd, John	Tilsley, John
Edwards, Michael	Tingle, Ralph
Ellis, Mel	Williamson, David

Proposed by Ellie Gaddes, Seconded by Stuart Jones



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8. Officers.

<b>Chair</b>	Steven Lloyd
<b>Vice Chair</b>	James Conway
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Elena Gaddes
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Jonathan Leeding
<b>Chair, Sailing Committee</b>	Stuart Jones
<b>Chair, General Committee</b>	Vacant

Proposed on bloc by Jon Sweet.

9. Sub-committee.

**General Committee**

Calum Mitchell  
Rosie Bain

**Sailing Committee**

Viv Brookes  
Paul Berry  
Jon Sweet  
Stuart Jones  
Elliot Rose

Additional nomination of Rob Mallett for sailing committee. Rob was co-opted onto the committee.

Proposed by Claire Bain, seconded by Steven Lloyd.

**Meeting Closed at 20:26.**



## 2017-18 Chairman's Report

Having completed my first full year in the role as Chairman of the Executive Committee, it is with pleasure that I present my annual report.

In time honoured tradition, our NSSA year started with the National Regatta, last year hosted at Grafham Water. The regatta was a success, blessed with fair weather, good sailing and few issues for the experienced team. The winds were generally favourable, if a little light on a couple of the days and were complimented by the off water activities including the rather popular barbeque.

Supported by the Executive Committee, the Sailing and General committees have continued to deliver the annual programme of sailing events with enthusiasm, commitment and vigor. These have included Match Racing; Single Handed Team Racing, Double Handed Team Racing, Inland Championships, and then rounding the year off with what looks to be another successful National Regatta hosted by Datchet.

Our High Flyers Award, supported by the Andrew Simpson Sailing Centre, again provided an opportunity for eighteen young people to access coaching that may otherwise be out of their reach, whilst enjoying first class facilities and, of particular note, brilliant weather for a week of intense sailing in Weymouth. We have support for this initiative again this year but remain in need of volunteer adults to help us deliver this and other events.

There are obvious pressures and demands on our older competitors, but it is rewarding for all when they are able to maintain an involvement with the organisation after they have finished being eligible to compete. We have a drive to encourage all, but particularly 'younger blood', to become involved in event organisation and within committee roles.

In partnership with the Merlin Rocket Owners Association (MROA), we arranged for three teams of young people to participate in the Merlin Rocket National Championships. Feedback was really positive, and both the NSSA and the MROA hope to keep this opportunity moving forward. However, there were no responses for participation in 2018 which was disappointing.

Whilst accessible sailing events are undoubtedly our core focus, we continue support for initiatives and opportunities to wider benefit young people involved in the sport of sailing at all levels. We have allocated some funding this year to purchase a set of race rigged Toppers which we will be offering under an annual loan scheme to youngsters who are unable to otherwise gain long term access to good boats. Details of this will be circulated on the website and to team managers.

Acknowledging our strengths, it is equally important that we try to understand our weaknesses. We recognise there are continued challenges to NSSA to maintain and develop it's appeal in a competitive 'event marketplace'.



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Working with our Development Officer, Stuart Jones, we continue to try and communicate more effectively, support our volunteers and event organisers, and establish a wider base of volunteers and supporters.

Feedback through surveys with our participants has identified that although young people enjoy the racing, equally important are the social and team experiences during NSSA events. The survey also identified that the majority of our volunteers are not parents of current competitors, but work with us because they enjoy the events in their own right.

Stuart has worked hard through the year, including helping build links with class associations and other youth organisations to promote the NSSA, increasing participation at our events, and leading interactions with the national governing bodies. We have had seven teams attending events in the last year that have not participated with us previously. We want to continue to build on this and intend to maintain the Development Officer role within the organisation for a further period.

Our finances will be discussed in the relevant report, but remain healthy under the continued guidance of our current treasurer, James Conway. James and Jen will remain actively involved with NSSA, but are both standing down from their current committee positions. Alongside all of the other members of the NSSA, I thank James and Jen for their exemplary commitment and hard work.

I look forward to working within our dedicated team for the year ahead to develop our organisation and help ensure we offer opportunities through sailing to children and young people for many years to come.

Steven Lloyd  
Chairman of the National School Sailing Association.  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2018