

**Minutes of a meeting of the Sailing Committee on Monday 29 September 2025 at 7pm (hybrid format)**

**Attendance**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Role | Name | Attendance |
| Rear Commodore Sailing | Steve Gray | Yes |
| Sailing and Membership Secretary | Sally Gostelow | Yes |
| Commodore | David Figgis | No |
| Training Principal | Jo Wyles | Yes |
| Chief Instructor | Katie Berrington (& Ruth Oliver) | Yes |
| Race Recorder Coordinator | Fiona Clarke | No |
| Support Boat Team Representative | Matt Young | Yes |
| Laser Class Captain | Paul Kelly (PK) | Yes |
| Tasar Class Captain | Ali Nicolson | Apols |
| Merlin Rocket Class Captain | Jon Bloice | Apols |
| General Handicap Fleet Captain | David Connor | Via Teams |
| Small Catamaran Fleet Captain | Glenn Cook | Via Teams |
| Big Catamaran/ Asymmetric Fleet Captain | Peter King | Yes |
| Cruisers Fleet Captain | Jeremy Scott | No |
| Slow Handicap Fleet Captain & Cadets | Matt Crockatt | Yes |
| Windsurfing Fleet Representative | Simon Reynolds | Apols |
| Cadet Fleet Captain | George Massingham | Apols |
| Beachmaster | Georgios Rafeletos | Yes |

**Actions & decisions** Minutes of the August 2025 meeting: approved.

The SC welcomed Katie Berrington who has taken over from Ruth as Chief Instructor of the Training School.

**Equipment Status** (see attached slide for detail). Ruth updated the SC on the current state of the club’s safety and race equipment.

* The “Peter Griffin” RIB is to undergo repairs.
* It was agreed that two additional race buoys are required. **Action: Steve**
* A new anchor winch has been fitted to the Committee Boat – thanks to those who arranged.

**New Sailing Members** (see attached slide).

**2025 Programme**

**Recent events/WYC racing:** (see attached slide for details of winners).

Summer series racing concluded – turnouts down for AiH (by 30%) and Lasers (by 40%). A discussion on how to attract more sailors during the summer months concluded was held – it is proposed to split the Summer Saturdays/Sundays series into ‘Early Summer Saturday’ and ‘Late Summer Saturday’ series may encourage better participation. Also, introducing more sprint and pursuit racing. Steve will raise at the meeting of sailors on 5 October. **Action: Steve**

**Forthcoming events:** KSSA training (Oct 4): Abandoned due to high winds

**2026 Programme**

Steve had recirculated the 2026 sailing programme to SC members. Key events scheduled:

Topper SE traveller & training April 18/19

Town regatta May 2-4

Merlin Rocket silver tiller/ Tasar open meeting May 30/31

Laserfest Jun 27/28

Whitstable week July 29-Aug 2

Wanderers (with club racing) Aug 15/16

Club Championships Aug 29-31

Dart 18 open (& B14’s?) Sep 26/27

**125 year anniversary – 2027**

Plans ongoing – see attached slide.

**Training & Cadets** (see attached slide).

Jo reported that as a result of the RYA requiring to inspect and approve Westbere as a second training venue, the October half term course would be held at WYC.

**Class comments**

**Catamarans**: Peter King & Glenn Cook will assess catamaran storage and parking spots are to be based on usage.

Georgios and Steve will be carrying out a comprehensive review of boat parking. Fleet captains to let them know what spaces their fleets require for 2026. **Action: Georgios/Steve/Fleet Captains**

**Windsurfers**: Simon Reynolds reported:

* all windsurf kit is being moved out of the upper Stroud shed over the weekend of 4-5 October to make way for the roof replacement on 6-8 Oct.
* Simon represented WYC at the recent Division2 European Championships in Slovenia, finishing 10th overall. He also competed in the Dutch National Championships finishing 6th overall.
* Due to the recent high winds, the windsurfers have been very active.

**Other matters**

Boat parking in rigging area: Steve asked fleet captains to remind their fleets that boats are not be left in the rigging area at any time. **Action: Fleet Captains**

**Slotty management**: Colin Smith has volunteered to help with CB management.

**Safety Boat crews**: Steve to look into strengthening the system to ensure rostered crews are aware of their duties, especially those “Water User” members who don’t own their own boat and therefore have no fleet captain. **Action: Steve**

Matt Young highlighted the fact that more safety and committee boat drivers are required.

**Early series 2026**: possibility of following the same format at the winter series, ie Sunday racing only. Steve to raise at the meeting of sailors. **Action: Steve**

Date of next meeting: 7pm, Nov 3rd – hybrid format.

Steve Gray

01 October 2025