



**Annual General Meeting – National Yacht Club
Monday 26th March 2018**

Present

Ronan Beirne (RB) Martin McCarthy (MMcC) Peter Sherry (PS) Conor O'Regan (CO'R)
Frank Cassidy (FC) Fiona Staunton (FS) Helen Cooney (HC) David Turner (DT) Peter Doran
(PD) Chris Doorly (CD) John McNeilly (JMcN) and 55 members as per sign in sheet.

RB brought the proceedings to order at 7.35pm by thanking everyone for attending and asking those seated if they were in good standing with the Club.

PS read the notice of meeting and the agenda.

Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:-

Barry MacNeaney	Damian Quinn	Barry O'Sullivan
Ian Mathews	Paul Barrington	Susan Spain
Ken Slattery	Jack Roy	Ken Dumbleton
Con Murphy	Gearoid O'Riain	Michael Rothschild
Malachi Muldoon	Peter Ryan	Vincent Farrell
Brendan Finucane	Frank Hegarty	

Deceased listing

The names of the members who passed away in the last year was read out as follows:-

David Adam	Martin Crotty	Anthony Durkan
Patrick Linehan	John "Cas" Smullen	Donan Barrington
Bernadette Tiernan	Rosalie Anderson	Tom Healy
George Williams	John Hickey	

A minutes silence was observed.

RB Noted that on a personal note, Martin Crotty and Cas Smullen were long standing and hugely loyal to the Club and their contribution to the Club was massive.

1. Minutes

RB Asked that the minutes of the 2017 AGM were taken as read. The Motion to agree these minutes was proposed by Ian Meldon, seconded by David Mulvin and passed

by a unanimous show of hands. RB then signed the minutes of the 2017 AGM as approved.

8. Rules

RB Noted that Item 8 relating to the Revision of the Club Rules was the big item on the agenda and asked those present if they would be agreeable that this should be dealt with first – deviating from the agenda. – There were no objectors.

RB Advised that the revision of the Rules was initially driven by the Revenue Commissioners requirements to conform to tax exempt status. He further noted that as the rules had been subject to several amendments in successive years they had become somewhat unyielding and required updating. The Committee struggled at times especially in disciplinary matters with the current rules. Much hard work had gone into the new draft rules and he thanked FC in this regard. Since the publication of the draft club rules and subsequent consultation process RB was looking for adoption of the new rules at the AGM.

FC Thanked the members and stated that there was no fundamental changes to the rules, it was more clarification and to eliminate errors. The Committee sought to simplify, consolidate and modernise the rules, there are no real substantial changes. FC gave a detailed presentation (power point presentation attached) setting out the key changes including categorisation of membership and classification of each category (fundamentally a clarification of the existing rules), an addition of a Junior Sailing Secretary to the list of Club Officers, revisions to Rule 14 re members conduct and some small changes to the powers and obligations of the General Committee.

RB Thanked FC and Committee members for their contribution to the new draft rule, RB asked for comments/questions.

PC Peter Cullen

1. Peter Cullen asked about staff gratuity, by omission from the bye-laws are we to give gratuities to the staff??
2. The rule changes were primarily driven by the Revenue Commissioners, how was this?

RB 1. Traditionally there was no gratuity for staff but in a situation where the staff excel at an occasion tipping should be allowed. Currently the only mechanism to reward staff was the Christmas Tree Fund and Noah's Ark Fund at Christmas and members should be allowed to tip during the year if they feel it is warranted. It is entirely up to members which method of rewarding staff they chose.

PC Was opposed to this.

RB Noted that the Christmas Tree Fund level was reducing every year despite excellent service from staff.

- CO'R 2. Revenue want to avoid clubs selling assets and generating a tax free capital gain when the club income is tax exempt. If the Club was to be wound up and sold Revenue would require rights around the sale and an ability to tax that gain.
- LP Larry Power
Currently members qualify for senior rate at 65 with 10 years continuous full membership, is the change new members need to be 15 years a full member but not necessarily consecutive?
- RB Yes – this was to increase the value of membership as well as recognise enforced breaks in membership where the downturn had adversely affected members.
- MN Mal Nowlan – as an author of the original Ensign rates, believed that the new rates/ages need to be published and clear, the administration was not clear – certain issues need tidying up.
- RB The ability to adjust fee – in rules the criteria is 3 consecutive years an Ensign.
- MN Some requirement for consistency.
- JP Johnny Phillips – the rules review is welcome and extremely hard work – 2 areas for concern.
1. GDPR, do we need a section regarding members data?
 2. Disappointed Section 7 has not been embellished as these membership categories are being abused.
- FC GDPR – The General Committee have the power to change rules in order to comply with GDPR if necessary.
- JN Jessica Nowlan – Change in the Ensign, what's happening now, what provisions for 30 – 35 year olds, needs to be more transparent and due diligence by the office - subs were not increasing with age.
- HC Helen Cooney outlined that the Ensign to Full scale was designed to bring younger members into full membership.
- CM - Cillian Meldon confirmed that communication with this section of the membership was poor and needed to be actively addressed.
- BH – Brian Hall suggested that the General Committee be granted discretion to set Ensign rates up to age 35 however some attendees expressed concern that such discretion might be applied to individual cases rather than generically by age.

Following the very constructive debate on Ensigns and the need for the club to retain and attract younger members it was agreed that the membership category of Ensign which is for persons up to the age of 26 should continue as is. Following clarification that Members on the current Ensign rates up to age 35 are in fact full members it was agreed that a graduated scale of discounted membership

subscription should be available to members between the age of 26 and 32 (extending to 35 should they be in full time education.) These rates should be available to such members whether they were formerly ensign members or not.

The Motion to consider and approve the revised rules of the National Yacht Club 2018 (as amended by the above discussion) was proposed by Roger Bannon and seconded by Mal Nowlan – A show of Hands indicated that in excess of 66% were in favour and the motion was passed.

2. Commodores Report

RB Read the Commodore's report, and thanked members for making the NYC Club of the Year again.

AW Adam Winkelmann noted that when the Commodore was listing our sponsorship contributors he omitted Collen Construction.

RB Noted

The Motion to receive, consider and approve the report of the Club's activities was proposed by Eddie Totterdell and seconded by Peter Cullen – The motion was passed with a unanimous show of hands.

3. Financial Statements

CO'R took members through the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

The Motion to consider and approve the Financial Statements of the Club for 2017 was proposed by Brian Hall and seconded by Larry Power – The Motion was passed with a unanimous show of hands.

4. Election of Officers & Committee

RB The listing of nominations for election as posted on the Clubs noticeboard was taken as read.

The Motion to elect the Officers & Committee as nominated, was proposed by Cormac McHenry and seconded by Michael Horgan Snr – The motion was passed with a unanimous show of hands.

5. Appointment of a Trustee

RB Noted that the sad passing of Martin Crotty had left a vacancy for Trustee. At the invitation of the General Committee Barry MacNeaney had agreed to act as the new Trustee of the Club.

The motion to appoint Barry MacNeaney was proposed by Cormac McHenry, seconded by Bryan Burdett and was passed with a unanimous show of hands.

6. Election of Honorary Members

RB gave a brief outline of the 4 persons put forward to Honorary Membership.

1. Peter Gray – proposed by Eddie Totterdell – seconded by Liam Ryan
2. Johnny Hooper – proposed by Eddie Totterdell – seconded by Liam Ryan
3. Donal O’Sullivan – proposed by Chris Moore – seconded by Adam Winkelmann
4. Winkie Nixon – proposed by Cormac McHenry – seconded by Michael Horgan

The Motion to elect all 4 was passed and all 4 nominees were elected based on a unanimous a show of hands.

7. Auditors

CO’R Requested that Nexia Smith & Williamson be retained as the Clubs auditors.

The Motion to elect Nexia Smith & Williamson as auditors for 2018 was proposed by Larry Power, seconded by Charlotte O’Kelly and passed by a unanimous show of hands.

RB Item 8 has been dealt with.

9. Any other business

CO’R Advised members that the Club were implementing an increase of 10% in food and drink pricing. At the same time Members will receive 10% extra on their voucher cards including Top Ups– in effect members using their cards will suffer no increase however the system will not benefit non members using the Club – they will pay 10% as their contribution to overheads.

LP Noted that the 10% on top of the original voucher allocation will mean no nett gain to members

CO’R Confirmed same as members must present card at the bar when paying in order to receive the 10%

RB This will identify people using the Club facilities and not paying membership and contributing to the upkeep of the facilities.

MH Michael Horgan Jnr queried if members would be penalised if they use cash to which COR responded that members should put cash on their card to get the 10%

COR Sought the approval of the members to the proposed scheme. The motion to approve the Members “discount” scheme was proposed by Conor O Regan and seconded by Peter Sherry and passed with a unanimous show of hands.

AW Adam Winkelmann – noted that the position on staff gratuities had changed and expressed the view that new mechanism is not working and needs review.

JN Jessica Nowlan – queried that following the Ensign forum, could there be an Ensign member on a subcommittee?

MMcC Yes, will bring it up at the next membership subcommittee meeting.

JP Johnny Philips – queried the the plan with the capital grant?

RB Evaluating what boats to purchases in order to comply with the terms of the grant.

JP Given the boathouse expenditure, can we afford the maintenance and upkeep of new boats?

CO'R Subcommittee have been tasked with ensuring any boats purchased can cover their own operation costs.

RB Closed the meeting at 10.06pm