

## Minutes of RYA Cymru Wales 2024 AGM 5 October 2024

**16.30 Hrs**

**Plas Menai National Outdoor Centre**

**With remote access video links**

### **Present (Plas Menai):**

Sian Reynolds	RYACW Director/RYACW Chair
Ken Newing	RYACW North Regional Chair/Clwb Hwyllo y Felinheli (PDSC)
Andrew Williams	Merthyr Tydfil Sailing Club
Amanda Williams	Merthyr Tydfil Sailing Club
Rosy Hearn	Llandudno Sailing Club
Leslie Radley	Llandudno Sailing Club/Conwy County Sea Cadets
Bob Lowe	Royal Welsh Yacht Club
Jo Powell	Conway Centre
Robert Morsley	Clwb Hwyllo y Felinheli (PDSC)
Matt Beaumont	SEAS Sailability
Ceri Davies	Swansea Watersports
Christopher Hoppins	South Caernarfonshire Yacht Club
Mark Govier	Merthyr Tydfil Sailing Club
Mark Jones	Bala Sailing Club
Aston Grindrod	Swansea Watersports
Neil Whiton	Swansea Watersports
Carl Rich	New Quay Yacht Club
Paula MacLavery	Red Wharf Bay Sailing and Water Sports Club
Iain MacLavery	Red Wharf Bay Sailing and Water Sports Club
Freddie MacLavery	Red Wharf Bay Sailing and Water Sports Club
Michael Leahy	Conwy Yacht Club
Bronwen Thomas	PPSA
Leah Shepherd	Rydal Penrhos Sailing Club

# Minutes



## **Present (Remote Access)**

Janet Viney	RYACW Director
Nicola Stubbins	RYACW Director
Stephen Tudor	RYACW Director/Chair, Plas Heli
Mick Renny	RYACW West Regional Chair
Andrea Gates	RYA Safeguarding Officer
Emily Cook	Neyland Yacht Club
Rob Ingram	Sea Cadets
Geoff Turner	Fishguard Bay Yacht Club
Steve Sinfield	Clwb Hwyllo y Felinheli (PDSC)
Robert Cone	Llandegfedd Sailing Club

## **Officials in Attendance:**

Nicola Penny	Independent Scrutineer
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## **Staff in Attendance:**

James Stuart	Interim CEO (Plas Menai)
Hatty Morsley	Events Officer (Plas Menai)
Ceri Yeomans	Office Manager

## **Apologies:**

Brian Oulton	RYACW Director
Andrew Pulford	RYACW Director
Jon Frost	RYACW Director
Ffion Lloyd	RYACW Director
Deborah Mahon	Sport Wales Relationship Manager
Nigel Vick	Sully Sailing Club

# Minutes

## Meeting Format

As there were representatives of 7 or more RYA-affiliated clubs and organisations in attendance, the meeting was deemed to be quorate. Those unable to attend in person were able to attend via remote access.

## Voting

Those attending were advised of the following:

- The names of the designated club representatives had been noted and recorded prior to the AGM to ensure there was only one vote per RYA affiliated club/organisation
- Only the designated club representative is entitled to vote
- Voting online to be facilitated by the “raised hand” icon function

## Welcome

Sian Reynolds, Chair of RYA Cymru Wales, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

### **1. Approval of the Minutes of Previous AGM**

Approval of the minutes of the 2023 AGM held on 30 March 2024 was proposed by Ken Newing, seconded by Jo Powell, and carried unanimously with no abstentions.

### **2. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2023 AGM.

### **3. Annual Review (to 31 March 2024)**

The Review reflects and reports on the achievements of our communities and sport during the year, and the successes are testament to the dedication of RYACW staff, volunteers, clubs and training

centres across Wales; it showcases the impressive achievements of our youth sailors, and reflects on the new initiatives implemented.

Dedicated club members Mark Govier (Merthyr Tydfil SC), and Jacob Knock and Julian Bridges (PDSC) were recognised, at the November 2023 RYA Volunteer Awards, for their invaluable contributions to their clubs and to our sport, whilst Gresford Sailing Club was awarded the title of RYA Community Club of the Year at the RYA's Dinghy & Water Sports Show held in February 2024.

We are exceptionally proud of Micky Beckett and Chris Grube, who qualified to represent GBR at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

RYACW Club Development Officer, Hester Walker, has worked tirelessly with our affiliated clubs across Wales, including assisting in the delivery of free Discover Sailing sessions and supporting applications to the Sport Wales Be Active Fund, which secured £250,000 of grant funding across 16 Wales clubs. Performance Manager, Sarah McGovern, has been diligently organising training and equipment allocation to the Welsh Sailing teams, and has led the way with UK Anti-Doping training.

Our thanks go to Sport Wales, the RYA (the RYA Safeguarding team in particular), and the Reardon Smith Nautical Trust for their continued support.

(The full Annual Review can be viewed or downloaded from the RYACW webpage: [RYA Cymru Wales AGM](https://rya-cymru.wales/ryacw/annual-review), or please contact the office: [admin@ryacymruwales.org.uk](mailto:admin@ryacymruwales.org.uk))

#### **4. Annual Accounts**

The annual accounts, to 31 March 2024 as prepared by LHP Accountants, Tenby, and approved by the Board of Directors on 4 September 2024, were made available prior to the meeting and presented for approval. RYACW is pleased to announce the recent appointment to the Board of a volunteer Financial Director, Jon Frost.

The turnover for the year was £510,181, a slight increase on the previous year but overwhelmingly due to an additional one-off Sport Wales Cost of Living grant in the sum of £26,000; this will be distributed in a number of different ways, including for the subsidising of various instructor courses. In summary, grant funding received from Sport Wales, derived from the Lottery, is channelled into pathway and performance activities, whilst monies from Exchequer funding is biased towards development and club activity.

The 2023-2024 year saw a planned deficit, financed from surplus reserves, in order to support the organisational changes through the performance period, whilst still maintaining a healthy level of net current assets, required to indemnify the company against potential financial risk.

The RYACW Board continues to monitor and assess the investment of resources to ensure RYA attains its strategic objectives.

(A further financial report is included in the Annual Review and within the 2023/2024 Annual Accounts, both available to view or download from the RYACW webpage: [RYA Cymru Wales AGM](#))

Approval of the 2023-2024 annual accounts was proposed by Emily Cook, seconded by Mark Govier, and carried unanimously with no abstentions.

## **5. Appointment of Accountants**

Following a routine investigation into the costs and services provided by Wales-based accountancy practices, upon recommendation it is proposed that Arthur Gait & Company Ltd, Newport, be appointed for the preparation of the 2024-2025 annual accounts.

Approval of Arthur Gait & Company Ltd proposed by Emily Cook, seconded by Rob Ingram, and carried unanimously with no abstentions.

## **6. Appointment of Nominated Director**

Andrew Williams became a member of Merthyr Tydfil Sailing Club approximately 8 years ago, and has been part of the huge drive to rejuvenate the club by encouraging more youth sailors and investing in a new clubhouse and new equipment.

It is proposed that Andrew be appointed to the RYACW Board of Directors, whilst simultaneously being appointed as Chair of the newly-formed Development Sub-Committee.

Appointment of Andrew Williams proposed by Ken Newing, seconded by Mark Jones, and carried unanimously with no abstentions.

## **7. Any Other Business**

No motions for consideration had been received, and therefore there was no further business to consider.

Sian Reynolds thanked all those in attendance, with a special thanks to Nicola Penny for attending in the role of independent scrutineer.



# Minutes



There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 1700 hrs, and was followed by an informal "Meet the Team".