

**New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron
Onepoto Lagoon, Northcote, New Zealand**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the soccer clubrooms at Onepoto Lagoon on
Sunday 5 November 2006 at 3.50pm.

Present: President Ivan Fraser, acting chairperson Richard Plinston and 14 members, including past commodore Murray Garrard.

Apologies: Murray Johnson, Ross Carrick.

Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday 11 October 2005 were received. Ivan/Geoff McGill Cd.

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

The status of the club's tug-boat was raised and the consensus was that the 'boat should come under the care of the current sailing committee and brought to the lagoon on race-days. Ross Carrick as custodian (and assembler) of the tug (but unlikely to continue as a member of the sailing committee) is asked to hand it on to the new committee. There were no other matters arising and the Minutes were confirmed.

Reports: President's Report

Ivan spoke to his report, which included a desire to step down from the presidency and other positions. Ivan also expressed appreciation for the get-well gift basket, which the committee arranged.

Secretary's Report

Secretary's report covered meetings held during the year. Membership is steady at 31 financial members, 4 up from last year with at least 2 new members planning to join up. Similar pressure on radio frequencies with non-sailing members urged to make a decision as to their sailing future.

Sailing Committee

On behalf of the members on the committee Ross expressed his committee's thanks to the sailors who competed during the year while urging new members to seek help tuning their yacht. Most Sundays have been very good helped by the warm winter. Members were thanked for the way they conducted themselves. Gerald Moss expressed his thanks to the sailing committee for their efforts.

Club Boat

Richard had re-assembled the club boat and it is back in use and popular with members (when theirs has broken down), visitors and prospective members.

Financial Report

Treasurer Julie presented the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2006. A balance of \$2415.13 compares with \$2411.34 for the previous year. Simon/Bruce Cd Julie's work on behalf of the squadron was acknowledged with acclamation. Julie was presented with a small gift in appreciation.

Election of Officers

Commodore	Position remains vacant
President	Richard Plinston was elected. Simon/Gerald Cd
Secretary	Peter Andrews was re-elected. Ivan/Simon Cd
Treasurer	Julie Adamson was re-elected. Peter/Dave Cd
Editor	Dave Harley was re-elected. Peter/Gerald Cd
Sailing Committee	Geoff Atkinson, Geoff McGill, John Dowler and Bruce Watson were elected. Simon/Dave Cd

Prizegiving

In addition to the prizes for competition additional awards were made as follows:

For Services to RC yachting	David Harley
Most improved newcomer	John Dowler
Sandbaggers award	Not awarded
Comedian's award	Not Awarded

General Business

Subscriptions

PP Ivan proposed that subs remain the same in that a full single sub is \$25, family \$30, with a 50% discount from 30 April. Ivan/Gerald Cd. The concession of a \$20 single and \$25 family at the AGM itself was continued.

Additional Frequency

Proposal to charge a member \$10 as a fee for the privilege of holding an additional radio frequency. Dave/Geoff Cd

Associate/Social members

Agreed to evaluate the possibility of permitting a form of restricted membership to past members unable to sail regularly, but who may be able to turn up for a sail providing of course there is no clash with a radio frequency if they bring their boat. These members would receive a newsletter.

Match Racing Proposal

The proposal to concentrate match racing to a challenger series and to eliminate a defender series was proposed. Discussion ensued with PP Ivan proposing that the motion "lie on the table" Seconded by Kevin Whitehead. The meeting therefore agreed to not vote on the motion but to leave it to the sailing committee following a survey of all members in writing. Some points made:

- Ivan drew the meeting's attention to the "Deed of Gift" for the Defenders series. An attempt will be made to get the details of the 'Deed.
- Ivan described the make up of the defenders as followed by an earlier America's Cup event.
- Paul Stubbs would prefer a shorter series. Encouraged to put a proposal in writing.
- If the members agree to a new series club to consider possible "retiring" of a cup.
- Kevin is in agreement with the proposal and feels the members will get behind and support the eventual challenger.

Other Business

- Nick Webb, past member has an old seawind for sale.
- A minimum number of sailors for a day's racing was discussed. As Ivan explained only a thunderstorm would really prevent organised competition. A minimum number for competitive sailing, including a member of the sailing committee is 4.
- Kevin suggested some changes to racing schedule highlighting a large gap in programme. Emphasised to members the seawind is a competitive yacht designed and meant for racing. And that penalty turns should be taken regardless of the event. The incoming sailing committee has some work ahead to come up with a new schedule.
- Paul believes Thursdays could be used for practice and social sailing.
- Bruce suggested a summer B Series. Probably countered by Dave's lotto racing idea which is in fact a competitive event, but not for an annual award.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 5:20pm.

President.....Date.....

President's Report 2007

I was somewhat ambushed into the role of the President at last year's AGM. Ivan was retiring after several years and no one had come forward as a replacement. I had agreed to chair the formal part of the meeting and was stuck when David nominated me and there were no others.

It took some time to find all that is required of the position. Fortunately I have a supportive committee who run the club. In particular I would like to thank the racing committee for running the club days at the pond as it is enjoyable, well organized and friendly racing that is the purpose of the club.

Geoff has built a new course board and two new starting countdown timers that are a great improvement. He has also revived the club tug after its sinking and built his own tug which is significantly better at recovering yachts and laying out lines.

David has produced some great newsletters. Sending these out as PDFs had reduced the production and mailing costs and, more importantly, reduced the workload of collating and envelope stuffing allowing more timely delivery to the members.

The weekly results and commentary have also been distributed using PDF format and Email as these are accessible using almost any computer with freely available software. The addition of photographs from the day's sailing has also been well received. I encourage people to use my cameras if I am sailing. Most of the photographs are cropped and scaled down to suit screen display, if particular pictures are wanted for printing I can often send higher resolution images. Of course, only a small sample of the photographs that have been taken can be used, most are mundane anyway. If anyone wishes a particular subject I may already have this, or could arrange to take it.

The club membership is growing and this also has resulted in a growing turnout of at the pond, giving good competitive racing. There have been up to 15 at the pond each Sunday with only a few days with fewer than 10. It is also noteworthy that most members have won races and almost all have placed in at least one race.

The club boat has drawn in members of the public, especially on days when the weather has been warm and the winds gentle. Many have

tried sailing on the pond and have been added to the email distribution list. Several have now become members with their own boat; others may do so in the future.

There have been some problems with the pond. The weed growth in March and April highlighted the need for better communication between the various groups and for documentation on the operation of the controls and the procedures for flushing. It was also necessary to monitor and record the water quality so that this could be used to lobby the council for improvements. This need led to the formation of the Coordination Committee and to the WaiCare Group. These two initiatives have led to a much better relationship with the council. Hopefully our lobbying will result in silt removal from the pond, oxygenation fountains and other improvements.

Richard Plinston
President

Secretary's Report

Year ended 30 September 2007

Four meetings were held during the year with most members of the committee able to attend. Our thanks to David Harley for the use of his business premises.

Membership remains stable at 27-30 with 2 new members paying in advance their subs for the New Year. We lost a member in Perry Skilton who died suddenly. Perry sailed a Yamaha 60.

Securing radio frequencies for new members remains a challenge, and it was pleasing to see members relinquishing frequencies no longer required. Members are assured that their frequency is protected for club events so long as they remain financial. Alan Tong of ACE Hobby has been helpful in giving advice on the availability of crystals, also for their generosity in donating prizes for the raffle at the AGM.

Onepoto Lagoon Coordination Committee

From mid March until the end of April there were problems with the algae. This was caused by a combination of the long summer warmth and insufficient flushing. The very heavy rain at the end of March flooded the pond and sank the weed. A week of flushing after that killed the weed but the dead stuff floated around until early May.

The pond condition had been looked after by Bill Herald of the Electrons for some time and he wanted to retire from this. The Electrons had also taken the brunt of weed clearances with several working bees. They had also been able to have PD workers help with raking out the algae. The other users of the pond, including NZRYS, did not contribute or even communicate very well with each other.

The Coordination Committee was formed with the intent of ensuring that the pond is maintained and that all regular users are informed of the state and when flushing will interfere with its use. This would also provide a single point of contact with the council.

As there had been no documentation on the pond controls or the procedures it was necessary to start by gathering information about how the controls operate and how the flushing had been done, in particular about how it must relate to the state of the tides.

While most flushing and pond maintenance in the past had been reactive to problems, such as weed growth, it was felt that preventing the problems would be more effective and less disruptive. It would also be necessary to involve the council by lobbying them over such issues as silt removal and upgrading the fountains.

The committee also started a WaiCare group to monitor the water condition. WaiCare provide the testing kit and a website to hold the results.

These results have shown the council that oxygen levels are very low and need to be increased using oxygenators in the form of fountains. Keeping the salinity up with regular flushing and having oxygenators will keep the weed growth under control.

The Onepoto data is at:

<http://www.waicare.org.nz/site/locations/onepoto-pond.aspx>

The Eastern Stormwater Drain is used as a control and the data for this is at:

<http://www.waicare.org.nz/site/locations/eastern-stormwater-channel.aspx>

For both of these links follow the menus to 'Site Data'. Photographs and comments are in the menu sections 'Photo Point' and 'Diary'.

The Club Tug

The Upwind newsletter of May 2007 carried a report of how the club tug was recovered and made seaworthy enough to be used. Since then it has been involved in a few rescues, some of which it managed to complete. A couple it failed to have sufficient weight or power to help with.

Geoff's Toot Tug has been much more successful for rescues and as a general workboat, such as taking out lines to pull buoys to new positions. See the September Upwind newsletter for an article on this.

The Club tug has, however, been more of a success with several children. With the father trialling the Club Boat, the children can be amused and kept busy driving the tug around the pond, usually at full throttle.

It had been intended that the tug could be used as a committee boat as one end of a start line. No satisfactory way of anchoring the tug has been devised, or more specifically, no easy way of recovering an anchor that would adequately hold the tug in position. It would also be feared that it might not survive an overly aggressive starter.

Sailing Committee Report

Committee : Geoff Atkinson, John Dowler, Geoff McGill and. Bruce Watson

The sailing committee this year didn't have a lot of sailing organisational experience but we got through the year's program without too many difficulties. We hoped that enthusiasm would camouflage the learning curve.

We had the usual mix of wind patterns and lake conditions. The best sailing conditions generally seemed reserved for fun days – so make sure you come to these next year.



The weather patterns conspired to produce lake weed and Richard has spent many a day researching pond conditions and setting in place a committee to reduce the problems for subsequent years ahead. We thank him for his efforts. When the weed stopped, the storms threw a tree or two into the lake to keep us busy.

This year we trialled a "lotto series" for much of February, with the winner alternating between the day's winner and a random draw.

Aggregate match racing was reserved for the first Sunday of the month. This gives everyone a chance to enjoy match racing even after being eliminated from the Challenger or Defender series.

The normal four season fleet series were completed with an even spread of success on many of the days. The dropping of 2 worst days results meant you did not have to attend every weekend to still have a realistic hope of finishing high in the standings. So for those favouring particular wind strengths, you are bound to find one or two days to suit over a series.

The years' results have been well documented in the weekly emails from the President but for completeness sake I have summarised the series as follows:

Summer Series

This took place in late November, through December 2006 and produced one of the tightest series for some time. It was decided on the last race of the last day when John (11) prevailed from Geoff (40), with Richard (01) third. Not surprisingly the winds for this series were generally in the high end of the range. Weed caused problems in this series and only 5 boats contesting the penultimate day.



Autumn Series

Mid March saw the start of the series and day one saw the first race win for Peter Wilcox, always a milestone for those new to racing.

Day 2 found a tree planted firmly near the center of the pond and added more character to racing that day.

Weed caused day three to require a short course to avoid the worst areas. Generally the wind for the next few weeks was more variable and the weather took a move on the colder side.

April 15th was a great day for Geoff (18) and he recorded 4 wins and a 2nd to easily win the day.

April 22nd even produced the rare event of cancelled sailing, although a few patient types stayed for the occasional puff to produce a contest in fun.

This meant the best 4 of 5 days were tallied up to decide the series. When the calculations were complete John Dowler (11) again has his hands on the cup with David (10) taking second spot from the ever-consistent Richard in third.



Winter Series

Always a series for the hardy skippers (or foolhardy - as their wives or girlfriends would say) to compete for glory. Often rainy, winds can be very strong on nearly non-existent. Sometimes we got both winds in the same afternoon.

After a few weeks of weather extremes, first day of racing was on the 8th July. John (11) and Neil (6) shared the success of the day.

Neil again was to the fore on Day 2 but Harry won 4 races to easily win the day.

Day 4 of the series was unique in that the water was so high that the boats had to be launched and retrieved from the bridge at the southern end. Richard had his best day for some time in the light conditions winning four races. Kevin Webb enjoyed his first win on this day with the Guinness sponsored "Green Machine".

Day 5 produced 4 fine wins for Bruce (33) and this took him to the top of the leader board.

The final day was won by Kevin (37) with three wins from Ivan (84) and Geoff (40).

You can see that many members had good days in this series but consistent results gave the series title to Bruce (33), with Geoff (40) sneaking past Richard (01) for 2nd and 3rd respectively.

As a reminder of the Winter series “Bridge Day” I have included this photo with suitable ornithological adornments, in keeping with the Presidents’ newsletters this year.

We are reliably informed that the little fella on the table is a Swallow. The rest can be seen regularly around the pond during the year.



Spring Series

Spring being a season of the promise of sun but the delivery of showers lived up to it’s reputation.

The first day of the series belonged to Bruce (33) who dominated with a great total of 8 points.

Day 2 was one of the few days lost to sailing with winds producing a drifting of the fleet. Racing was abandoned after race 1.

Day 3 produced light winds and rain that got steadily harder as the day progressed. Peter Wilcox (90) had his first race win and extended it to 3 for the day. But Richard earned the best total of the day in his ideal conditions to lead the series at the halfway point.

At this stage of the series the winds kicked in, with vengeance some would say. And it continued for enough weeks to bring the heavy weather sailors into the series.

Day 4 had Bruce (33) and Ivan (84) scoring well in the extreme conditions. Control was hard and breakages many!

The penultimate day again had the trees bending fit to break. Luckily the wind gauge proved the wind acceptable (just) for racing and when the scorer’s work was complete Geoff (40) had the best total of the day from John (11).

This closed up the series to a couple of points only separating Richard (01), Geoff (40) and John (11) going into the final day.

The final day, after 2 non-competition days of very strong winds, dawned overcast with light winds. These oscillated both in strength and direction during the afternoon. A big turnout caused even racing with no-one scoring a dominant total.

So when the dust (or should that be weed) settled, Richard (01) deservedly claimed the series from Geoff (40) and John (11).



Challengers Match Racing Series

11 skippers put their names down as Challengers but there were 2 “no-shows” on the first day that produced an awkward draw. I acted as race controller and Ivan refereed many of the matches. 5 of the 9 rounds were completed on day 1 with only 2 points separating the top 6 boats.

The Match of the Day was the last race between David (10) beating Geoff (18) by tacking clear ahead after a tacking duel on the last leg and then holding on to the line. Both had done well with 3 wins scored.

Day 2 was staged on June 10th and run by Ivan. Lake water level was down and wind strength was variable, from very light with lots of holes, to fresh gusts.

Only 4 of the challengers (Paul (7), Dave (10), John (11) & Geoff (18)) turned up and only one round was needed complete the series, all others winning by default. A sail-off was required with 3 boats tying for 2nd. The 3 semi-finalists from this were Paul (7), Dave (10) and John (11).

The following week saw only one round completed in light and variable winds.



June 24th saw the completion of the Semi-finals in gusty conditions. David (10) and John (11) progressed on to the final

The final was completed on Aug 19th in an odd series whereby David jumped to a 4-0 lead but John rallied to level at 4-4 before David, suited by the dropping wind late in the day, lead around the course for a clear win and taking the series.

Defenders Match Racing Series

This proved an organisational challenge this year.

The schedules of 3 defenders, Kevin (37), Ivan (84) and Richard (01), never seemed to produce all three simultaneously on suitable race days.

Splitting the 3 rounds over several days was not ideal and close racing meant the series was not decided until the last day. Ivan won over Kevin and Richard in the last round to take the series.



Match Racing Cup

Racing started before the final round of the Spring series and further racing was attempted at the end of the day. At that stage Ivan (84) held a narrow lead of 2-1 from David (10) but it was apparent that luck was playing an increasing part in the racing. It was decided to cease racing for the day.

Hopefully the series will be concluded before the Annual General Meeting.

**NEW ZEALAND RADIO YACHT SQUADRON
TREASURER'S REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2007**

2005/06		2006/07	2006/07
2411.34	Balance as at 30 September		2415.13
	INCOME:		
605.00	Membership subscriptions	520.00	
0.00	Additional frequencies/hatch covers	85.00	
309.31	Race day entry fees	282.50	
530.00	AGM meals / raffles	75.00	
17.37	Interest	<u>18.23</u>	
1461.68	<i>Total Income:</i>		980.73
<u>3873.02</u>			<u>3395.86</u>
	EXPENDITURE:		
721.22	AGM meals and prizes	222.38	
203.00	Trophies, engraving and printing costs	247.45	
0.00	Wind meter	86.95	
6.00	Stationery	0.00	
100.00	Donation for AGM speaker	0.00	
317.67	Club boat costs	0.00	
0.00	Prizes for race day entries	173.30	
80.00	Gift hamper for President	0.00	
30.00	AGM venue hire	<u>50.00</u>	
1457.89	<i>Total Expenditure:</i>		780.08
2415.13	<i><u>Balance as at 30 September</u></i>		2615.78
<u>3873.02</u>			<u>3395.86</u>

Treasurer
Julie Adamson
07/11/07

NEW ZEALAND RADIO YACHT SQUADRON 2007 PRIZES AND AWARDS

Summer Series 2006/07 for the North Shore World Hobby Cup

First	John Dowler
Second	Geoff Atkinson
Third	Richard Plinston

Autumn Series for the Mongoose Cup

First	John Dowler
Second	David Harley
Third	Richard Plinston

Winter Series for the Hobby City Cup

First	Bruce Watson
Second	Geoff Atkinson
Third	Richard Plinston

Spring Series for the NZRYS Cup

First	Richard Plinston
Second	Geoff Atkinson
Third	John Dowler

2007 Match Racing Challenger for the Aquapro Trophy

First	David Harley
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2007 Match Racing Defender for the Citizens Watch Cup

First	Ivan Fraser
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2007 Aggregate Match Racing

First	Richard Plinston
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2007 Match Racing Cup

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Divisional Racing

First A division	John Dowler
First B Division	Bruce Watson
First C Division	Kevin Webb

Most Improved Newcomer	Simon Martelli
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Services to RC Yachting	Richard Plinston
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Sandbaggers Award
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Comedians Award
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