

CHICHESTER CRUISER RACING CLUB

Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held at Chichester Yacht Club on Saturday, 29th November, 1980, commencing at 11.30 a.m.

1. Present: The Commodore J.D. Bence
 Hon. Sailing Secretary D.B.T. Lattey
 Acting Hon. Treasurer P. Chivers
 Hon. Secretary R.P. Morris

and 23 Members.

2. Apologies for absence were received from D.A. Deadman, N. Fitzgerald, N.J. Froy and R.B. Tait.
3. The Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting were taken as read.
4. There were no matters arising.
5. The Commodore's report: a copy is attached to these Minutes.
6. Hon. Sailing Secretary's report: a copy is attached to these Minutes.
7. Hon. Treasurer's report: a copy is attached to these Minutes.
8. Adoption of Accounts It was proposed by H.A. Caldwell and seconded by R. Aspinwall that the accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1979, and the 1980 season be approved. This was carried unanimously.
9. The Acting Hon. Treasurer informed the meeting that a subscription rate of £25 would be necessary for 1981 in view of the decline in membership and inflation of costs. It was proposed by R.M. Kramers and seconded by K. Freivokh that the subscription be raised to £25. This was carried unanimously.
10. Election of Officers. Nominations for the following vacancies had been received as follows:-

Vice Commodore : D.B.T. Lattey
Proposed by: Sir W.P.M. Vincent, Bart.
Seconded by : R.M. Kramers

Hon. Treasurer : Sir W.P.M. Vincent, Bart.
Proposed by : N.J. Froy
Seconded by : T.C. Kinross

The remaining Officers offered themselves for re-election as follows:-

Commodore: J.D. Bence
Hon. Sailing Secretary: D.B.T. Lattey
Hon. Secretary: R.P. Morris
Hon. Press Officer: J.A. Cunnison
Hon. Representatives to Chichester
Harbour Federation: G.E.H. Calvert
 J.A. Cunnison

It was proposed by D.M. Silver and seconded by F. Kemp that these Officers be elected. This was carried unanimously.

11. P. Chivers was duly re-appointed as Hon. Auditor.
12. After considerable discussion on the proposed amendment to Club Rule No. 3 - Membership, the Committee withdrew their proposal.

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Points Raised in General Discussion:

1. H.I.S.C. arrangements. The Hon. Sailing Secretary and Commodore informed the meeting of the discussions taking place with H.I.S.C. which it was hoped would enable H.I.S.C. one-design owners to race with C.C.R.C. on certain weekends subject to a satisfactory financial contribution.
2. Beta Handicaps The Hon. Sailing Secretary introduced a general discussion on the subject of beta handicaps and expressed his personal view on modifications which could be made to the system. The discussion also involved the possibility of returning to separate starts for alpha and beta.
3. Social Programme The Commodore's wife requested a "more structured" social programme and the Committee assured her that the social arrangements for 1981 would be subject to close scrutiny.
4. Annual Laying-Up Dinner and Prizegiving Suggestions were made that a new venue should be sought for this occasion. The Hon. Secretary agreed to investigate the possibilities of the Hog's Back Hotel or using a sailing club.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

The year 1980 was marked by the sudden and tragic death of our Vice Commodore and Treasurer, Alan Giles, and before proceeding with my Report and our Annual General Meeting I would like us all to stand for a moment in tribute to a man who did so much for our Club.

1980 has proved to be a difficult year for the C.C.R.C. In common with many other social organisations the recession has had an inevitable adverse effect upon our membership. In addition, the advent of 1 design racing at H.I.S.C. deprived us of a dozen or so members who had formally raced with us, and I shall refer to this later in my report, whilst finally, although we were spared the gales of 1979, our weather this summer was nevertheless very poor indeed; we rarely saw the sun let alone the summer!

I am very pleased however that the very ambitious programme masterminded by our Sailing Secretary, Derek Lattey, and his assistant sailing secretaries operated very smoothly indeed, and you will hear that despite our smaller membership, the Alpha class managed to survive, and indeed our percentage turnouts improved during the year. Our computer results service, pioneered by Derek and arranged through Roger Morris, by Michael Lewis, worked satisfactorily throughout the season as did our secretarial arrangements through Pam Metcalf. Those of you who have had secretarial or administrative responsibility with the Club will know how difficult it is to arrange for correspondence circulation, and Pam does a magnificent job for us under very difficult circumstances.

The three Bank Holiday weekends were highlights of our programme, and the season opened with a very good response to our passage races to Cowes and Beaulieu. The Ouistreham weekend was a success, as were the races to Cherbourg and Brighton. For me, and I am sure for many members of the Club however, the outstanding success of the year, and the event which more than justified the subscription, was the cruise in company in Brittany. Not only was this superbly planned by Derek, but also the way in which Derek and Mary led those less experienced cross channel sailors amongst us through the dangers and difficulties of the North Brittany coast, earned them tremendous respect from all of those present.

We do not have to wait for the Sailing Secretary's Report to know that Paul Chivers and Brown Bomber won nearly everything going this year. Were we not so grateful to him for standing in as Treasurer for so much of the season, I am quite sure that he would be getting threatening letters or attempts on his hull by now. I do not wish to anticipate his Financial Report but I would like to steal just a little of his thunder by saying that it is my opinion, in hindsight, that we have perhaps been unwise to hold our subscription down in the last 2 - 3 years, and if we are to provide a better service and fuller programme in the future we shall have to consider raising our subscription to a level which is more compatible with that of other clubs and the degree of participation and organisation we expect.

I would like to thank Roger Morris for his excellent work as Secretary. Not only has he provided superb surroundings for all of our Committee Meetings, he has refreshed us in substance and with his humour and friendliness, and has been prompt and effective with Minutes and Agendas. We now have a new type of handbook, which is a substantial change in style from our previous handbook. I am convinced that in time it will prove to be more practical and more economical than in previous years particularly as we no longer have the facilities of Dorothy Perkins behind us.

Richard Tate prepared the crew register once more, and this was successfully

Don Silver has indicated that he would like to stand down as Assistant Sailing Secretary, and without wishing to pre-empt any comments which Derek Lattey may make, I would like to thank Don on behalf of the C.C.R.C. for the support he has given the Sailing Secretaries during his period as an Assistant Sailing Secretary. I hope his decision does not mean that we shall see less of him in the future. I would rather feel that it is the beginning of a serious campaign to capture the Beta Championship.

Looking to the future, I feel that we have to establish our role and identity in Chichester Harbour very clearly, and build on our strengths. We are a Club for cruiser racers, and whilst this does not imply any lack of competition or professionalism in our approach to racing, it does mean that we approach our racing from the cruiser standpoint. You will hear from Derek that our proposed 1981 programme reflects this, with fewer round the buoys races and more races to harbours in the Solent and beyond. We are increasing our contacts with other clubs in the harbour, and other organisations, to ascertain if we can organise with them or on their behalf more races for our type of owner.

It will come as no surprise to many of you to learn that the H.I.S.C. one design series was not a complete success this year. H.I.S.C., my own home club, has not found its programme easy to organise, whilst its average turn-out has been below that which we have enjoyed. We should not draw pleasure from their problems, but rather consider what contribution we can make to better cruiser-racing and sailing fellowship in the harbour. Accordingly your officers are searching for a formula which we can agree with H.I.S.C. whereby, for a suitable fee, their standard rating one designs, namely the Sonatas and the Sigmas can enter a selected number of our races on an entrance fee basis. Our discussions are not yet concluded and therefore I cannot say whether we can come to a satisfactory arrangement. Suffice it to say that a number of Hayling members have expressed a desire to race with us, and I believe that if we can accommodate them, then either during 1981 or certainly in 1982 we will find that some of those members we have lost to Hayling will be rejoining us because of the much broader programme that we have to offer. In conclusion, I would like to thank all of the officers and all of the members for the support that they have given me. Businesswise my year has been a difficult one and I have not been able to compete as regularly as I would have liked. Despite the doom and gloom surrounding us I have a feeling that next year is going to be a better one, and I am confident that the C.C.R.C. will have another successful year, and I look forward to the beginning of our season, to an exciting programme, sunshine, fair winds and then the chase will be on!

CHICHESTER CRUISER RACING CLUB

HONORARY SAILING SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE 1980 SEASON

This season is a mixture of encouraging features and disappointments. We started with some apprehension, following dismal statistics for 1979, wondering how much of the Club programme would remain justifiable at the end of the season. The recruitment drive of the 1978/79 winter could not be repeated again so soon, and the loss of the HISC one designs depleted our membership. In the event the figures are not so depressing as might first appear as a number of members failed to register their boats for racing and those who did were more active.

The weather was very unkind in June and July but August and September were fine over the weekends. The overall picture was a very bad summer but we were lucky, completing both the Cross Channel Races and finding fair winds both ways to the from Brighton. The Cruise in Company to North Brittany achieved nearly all it set out to do which is surprising as it took place in mid July. Ten boats took part and, unless their crews are being much more polite than usual, they all enjoyed it very much.

The turnouts at the end of the season were significantly better than in the earlier months. For races 20 to 30, after the end of Cowes week, the Alpha average turnout was 6.5 and Beta 8.6. This seems to indicate the important influence of the weather on the size of our fleets. The boats who gave us most support were Mons Meg, Much Ado, Shandie and Brown Bomber with about 20 starts each with Mons Meg achieving 22 starts if the Nab Cups and Olympic weekend, no longer organised by the Club, are included. Three of these boats also did the cruise in company.

The distribution of prizes does not give cause for satisfaction as far too much was won by too few. This may be inevitable in Alpha as so much depends on the effectiveness of the formula and the competence of the measurers but in Beta we should prevent the sort of prize distribution which occurred this year. In Alpha only 14 boats won prizes and, of 67 prizes awarded one won 17 and the top four won 42 prizes between them. In Beta 18 boats won prizes from 72 awarded of which one won 13 and the top three 30 between them. This reflects the different system for the adjustment of Beta handicaps which was used this year which I personally regard as a failure. Alterations are proposed next year.

The points competitions were won by wide margins. Brown Bomber won every points race that she entered in Alpha and even discarded a first place. A most remarkable record which was repeated in the other races she sailed this season. In Beta Much Ado's winning record included no worse than a third place but with a higher number of discards available.

One of the problems which is now acute is the big disparity in boat speeds which we try to accommodate within the same structure. The result of trying to fit in with the one design concept, sailing in both classes but competing against each other, was the abandonment of two starts and shorter courses for Beta. This means that now the really fast Alphas and more pedestrian Betas find the courses too short and too long respectively. I would very much like to see us return to the format designed by Nigel Froy with the Beta boats starting first and sailing shorter courses as I feel it gave more fun for all of us.

On the whole an encouraging season which gives cause for hope for the future. It is intended that Cruises in Company shall be included in our programme on a regular basis, thus hopefully widening our appeal to boat owners in the harbour. This is also a move back towards the aims for which the Club was originally formed. The red hot racing image should not be part of our constitution.

I must point out to the Members how fortunate they are in having an exceptionally keen and strong body of Assistant Sailing Secretaries who have run the racing this year with a very high degree of competence. Our thanks are due to all of

Michael Lewis, of Pember and Boyle, has again provided a fine computer results service despite considerable difficulties made by, I am sorry to say, some of the members themselves. Too many boat registration forms arrived a day or two or less before the boats themselves turned out for racing. Please give us a little more consideration next year by sending in the forms early so we can sort out the fleet in good time. Again many thanks to Michael for his efforts.

Finally I must thank Pam Metcalf for keeping the Club together and providing a quiet and very efficient service. What a pleasure it is to work with her.

D.B.T. Lattey.

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Hon. Treasurer's Report for the Year Ended 31.12.79
and for the 1980 Season

Accounts for the last two years have already been circulated to all members. The only item which is worthy of note for 1979 relates to the replacement of the four trophies which were stolen. Four new trophies were purchased which cost £705, the total of the insurance claim. However, no allowance was made for plinths and engraving which was a further £280.75. As a result of this there was a deficit for the year of £87. A full valuation of all the trophies is now being carried out to avoid this problem in the future.

The number of paid-up members dropped from 97 in 1979 to 72 in 1980 and at the same time expenditure inexorably continued to increase and the result was a deficit for the season of £435. No account has been taken of the laying-up supper which has produced a profit of approximately £60. As far as expenditure is concerned the costs shown for the handbook include a total of £294 for the new style plastic binders, and of these more than half remain unused and are available for future new members.

I should like to take this opportunity, as temporary treasurer, to place on record the thanks of all members to the Officers of the Club, none of whom have claimed any reimbursement whatever for travel, postage, stationery or telephone costs. For 1981, to try and ensure that our books balance we should explore three avenues:-

1. The annual subscription should rise to £25.
2. We must actively pursue new members.
3. We must reduce the cost of prizes.

You may be interested to know that even purchasing our prizes "trade" the costs for a 1st prize are £4.88, 2nd prize £3.45 and the 3rd £3.04. If first, second and third prizes are awarded to both Alpha and Beta classes then the total cost of prizes for each race is £22.74!

Last but not least we should express our thanks to Michael Lewis a Partner of Roger Morris for operating our results service at no cost and to Pam Metcalf who has carried on as efficiently as ever.

P. Chivers
Hon. Treasurer.

AMENDMENT TO STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1980

2. The Fleet

	1980		1979		1978		1977	
	Reg.Boats	Turnout	Reg.Boats	Turnout	Reg.Boats	Turnout	Reg.Boat.	Turnout
Alpha	26	20.8	39	10.0	32	24.0	Not available	
Beta	36	20.9	50	16.8	37	25.8	"	"
	62	20.9%	89	13.8%	69	24.9%	68	28.3%

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1980

1. The Programme

	<u>Planned</u>		<u>Started</u>		<u>Cancelled</u>	
	Sea	Passage	Sea	Passage	Weather	Other Causes
Points Races	13	8	11	7	2	1
Cross Channel		4		2		2
Open Events	2		2			
Ladies Race, Crews Race and Practice Race	1	2	1	2		
	16	14	14	11	2	3
Total 1980		30		25		5
1979		31		26		5

(These figures do not include the Nab Cups and Olympic Weekend now organised by HISC)

2. The Fleet

	1980		1979		1977	
	Reg.Boats	Turnout	Reg.Boats	Turnout	Reg.Boats	Turnout
Alpha	26	20.8	39	10.0	Not available	
Beta	36	20.9	50	16.8	"	"
	62	20.9%	89	13.8%	68	28.3%

3. Turnout

(a) Average Boats per race

	Alpha	Beta	Overall
1976	9.03	8.55	17.58
1977	9.03	10.04	19.26
1978	7.66	9.55	17.21
1979	3.92	8.39	12.31
1980	5.42	7.55	12.97

Note. The 1979 and 1980 figures include the Nab Cups divided on an arbitrary basis. The 1980 figures do not include the Olympic Weekend.

(b) Boats crossing the line

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Alpha	149	141
Beta	<u>319</u>	<u>204</u>
	468	345

Note. The figures include the Nab Cups divided on an arbitrary

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INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE 1980 SEASON

<u>Y/E 31.12.79.</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Y/E 31.12.79.</u>	<u>Income</u>
237.44	Duplicating & Typing	294.90	1,468.50 (97) Subscriptions (72)
54.24	Printing & Stationery	163.57	
167.33	Handbook	444.55	4.00 Entry Fees
136.52	Postage	206.00	
10.10	Telephone	1.60	
44.68	Insurance	51.67	
14.92	Starting Gear	9.02	
118.00	Subscriptions & Donations	124.94	16.59 Profit on Social Events
90.43	Sundry Expenses	57.75	876.41 Receipts
469.86	Prizes	470.25	Less Expenses
985.75	Replacement of stolen trophies		
280.75	Less: Insurance claim proceeds	-	
<u>1,624.27</u>		<u>1,824.25</u>	
(87.34)	Deficit for the Season	(434.72)	
<u>£1,536.93</u>		<u>£1,389.53</u>	<u>£1,536.93</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st OCTOBER 1980

<u>31.12.79.</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>31.12.79.</u>	<u>Assets</u>
1,055.93	Accumulated Fund:		Bank Balances:
(87.34)	Balance at 1.1.80.	968.59	Deposit Account
	Surplus/(Deficit) for the Season	(434.72)	Current Account
968.59		533.87	
-	Creditors	620.00	
<u>£ 968.59</u>		<u>£1,153.87</u>	<u>£968.59</u>

I certify that the above Income and Expenditure Account for the 1980 Season and the Balance Sheet at 31st October 1980 are in accordance with the books, records and vouchers produced to me

Paul Chivers
Hon. Treasurer

Andr