

RS500 AGM

22 August 2018, Weymouth & Portland NSA, UK

1. Introduction

Jochem Slikboer, joint International Chair, welcomed 54 attendees to the AGM and explained that there had been a useful pre-meeting of National Chairs. He confirmed that the committee would stay the same for 2019 (details below). [**Post meeting note:** Ian Mairs has subsequently taken over from Tim Wilkins as UK Chair. Many thanks to Tim for all his work over many years, and to Ian for taking on the role.]

2. RS500 Committee 2019

International Chairs: Jochem Slikboer and Olivier Beyls

UK Chair: Ian Mairs (from Tim Wilkins)

Swedish Chair: Ylva Beck

Dutch Chair: Anneke Kikkert

Italian Representative: Matteo Migliavacca

French Chair: Alexandre Emanuel

Czech Republic Chair: Jan Pour

Builders Representative: Michiel Geerling

3. Eurocup 2018

The 2018 Eurocup has had some issues. Poor numbers in Carnac, and the Nieuwpoort event cancelled due to lack of interest. However, the Worlds in WPNSA was well attended, and there is one event left – Colico, Lake Como, Italy. Matteo Migliavacca presented the event, and stated that there would be 15 ITA boats at the event, great pasta guaranteed and some charter boats available. Michiel Geerling confirmed that there would be a 6-boat trailer available from The Netherlands, and Heather Chipperfield agreed to find out about a triple stacker from RS Sailing for UK sailors. All details now at

<https://www.rs500.org/index.asp?selection=Events&uid=1762&fleet=RS500&detail=event=1>

3. Eurocup 2019

The series for 2019 was discussed and the following was agreed.

- i) French Open Skiff, Lac du Der, France, 19-22 April. 16-year old multi-fleet regatta with training element and cheap accommodation on site.
- ii) ITA event, May or June. Lake Como or Adriatic Sea. Matteo Migliavacca to investigate.
- iii) World Championships, Lake Lipno, Czech Republic, 5-9 August
- iv) Dutch Nationals, Aquavitese, Bruinisse, September

For event already confirmed, details are at

<https://www.rs500.org/index.asp?Fleet=RS500&selection=Events>

4. Worlds 2019 onwards

2019 – Lake Lipno, CZE

2020 – France? Alexandre Emanuel to investigate, and everyone to send ideas to Heather and Chairs. RS800s are going to Monteynard, so worth considering.

2021 - ????

2022 – Medemblik, NED, as part of RS Games

5. Fleet Sponsor

As ever, the RS500s are looking for a sponsor. Everyone to send ideas/contacts to Heather and Chairs.

6. Technical Committee

A report was given by Alex Newton-Southon and Michiel Geerling. At the 2017 AGM, potential changes to the boat were proposed and discussed following some production problems. A technical committee was formed, as has been the case with recent RS200 and RS800 changes. No large changes were now proposed, just some refinements. Alex N-S said that it was important that people understood that, with the changes, it would be the same boat – no changes to hull, just deck slightly refreshed and some changes to components.

Currently, CAD drawing are being finalised, this will be passed to the technical committee for comments by end of October 2018. A prototype boat will then be made before January 2019. This boat will be loaned to members of the fleet for testing, then a class vote will be carried out to confirm all proposed changes. The idea is to launch the ‘new-look’ boat at the UK Dinghy Sailing Show in early March 2019, and possibly at the Dusseldorf Boat Show (Alex N-S to confirm). It has been recognised that there have been issues with overseas production, so boats will be made in UK, near RS Sailing HQ.

The meeting discussed sails and it was confirmed that no changes were proposed in overall design concept, but the technical committee may look into changing the material and detail to make the sail more competitive on price without losing its usability.

If anyone has any issues, they should let the technical committee know, via Heather or the Chairs.

It was asked whether there would be any impact on price. Alex N-S stated that, with today’s technology being more controlled and precise, there should be a neutral effect on price.

7. AOB

i) Crews able to take mainsheet?

An attendee asked why the class rules disallowed the crews from taking the mainsheet. It was explained that this had been discussed in the past and considered inappropriate. However, if the feelings within the fleet had changed, a members’ vote could be carried out, perhaps with the proposed boat changes. The RS800s have recently amended their class rules to allow the crew to take the mainsheet, but many crews, including the current UK and European champions, chose not to. An informal vote was carried out on the 54 meeting attendees, and 17 voted for the change; 2 against.

ii) Sail Numbers

The meeting agreed that the class rules on sail numbers (para. C.10.2 of RS500 class rules at <https://www.rs500.org/documents/p1bdf0i1371e1vtj7vnd983g9o3.pdf>) should be adhered to and policed at future events.

iii) Fleet Communication

Jochem S asked how the fleet wanted to communicate. The following were suggested:

- i) Monthly update, sent to members and placed on website.
- ii) Offer first year membership for free
- iii) Use Facebook – details are at https://www.facebook.com/groups/RS500sailors/?fb_dtsg_ag=AdyWgLQV7kZK1ktUNCJUhMTdftvMlcktdalBZumnZ2p_3A%3AAAdyU4NVJ1qvTT4F6neyep60emWasCSvuSS9fTDZnkVE_TA
- iv) Whatapp or similar for events, for those entered (e.g. I have a space on my trailer)
- v) Update the website to provide better communication.
- vi) New purchasers to be given a consent form from all dealers, so they can share contact details with Association. Via Michiel.