**AGM 2017 REPORT**

The well-attended 66th AGM of the Mermaid Sailing Association was held on 1st December 2017 in Skerries Sailing Club

**Committee 2018**

The new committee elected at the AGM is:

President Paul Smith Royal Irish Yacht Club
Captain Róisín McCormack Foynes Yacht Club
Vice-Captain Paul Browne Skerries Sailing Club
Secretary Jennie Shiels Skerries Sailing Club
Treasurer Patrick Mangan Royal Irish Yacht Club
Boat Measurer Darragh McCormack Foynes Yacht Club
National Sail Measurer Con Bisset Skerries Sailing Club
Local representatives:
 Dun Laoghaire to be advised
 Foynes Bev Lowes
 Rush Des Deane
 Skerries Mark Boylan

**Rudders**

The proposal to change the maximum depth below the garboard of the wooden rudder from 28 inches to 30 inches was adopted. A deeper rudder will not be permitted.

**Scrutiny of Boats**

Eight boats were weighed at the 2017 championship. Two were found to require added weight. Boats to be weighed were selected to include the top 3 in earlier open events in 2017, and any boats known to have required added lead in previous years.

All boats were inspected to see that they were carrying the full sailing inventory. Spinnaker poles and rudders were measured. Seven boats had spinnaker poles longer than the maximum permitted length of 7 feet, including fittings. Rudder depths ranged from 21 inches to 33½ inches. Three rudders exceeded the new maximum depth of 30 inches and will have to be modified or replaced.

The measurements will be available on the website dublinbaymermaids.com shortly.

**2018 Championship**

The National Championships in Foynes will comprise 10 races from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th August, with a practice race on Wednesday 4th.

**2019 Championship**

Royal Cork Yacht Club at Crosshaven emerged as the preferred venue for the 2019 championships. We will have further discussions with RCYC about details of the event.

**Proposal for Classic Wooden Boat Regatta**

Liam Dineen and Paul Browne put forward a proposal for an annual classic wooden boat regatta to include classes such as Howth 17s, IDRA 14s, Glens, Water Wags, Shannon One Desiogns as well as Mermaids. The regatta would rotate over venues such as Skerries, Howth, Dún Laoghaire and Lough Derg. We will pursue contacts with the other clubs and classes to advance the idea.

**New Boat Owners**

We welcome Daireach Dineen, no 121 Red Seal and Oisin Finucane, no 165 Sea Fox.

**Munster and Leinster Championships, 2018**

The Munster Championships will be in Foynes on 2nd and 3rd June. The Leinsters will be Clontarf on 16th and 17th June.

**Prize Giving Dinner**

The prize giving will be in Rush Sailing Club on Saturday 3rd March 2018.

**Contact the Committee**

You can email the committee at honsec.msa@gmail.com