



**Minutes of the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.30pm  
By Zoom Webinar**

**Chairman:** Róisín McCormack (President)

**Attendance:** Jennie Shiels, Paul Browne, Paul Smyth, Darach Dinneen, Mark Boylan, Aileen Boylan, Paul Thorne, Mark McCormack, Vincent McCormack, Frank Browne, Jim Carthy, Brian McNally, Paddy Archer, Michael Lynch, James McCormack, Dan Brennan, Alan Butterly, Martin O'Toole, Nigel Young, Stephen Costello, Sam Shiels, Con Bissett, Ross Galbraith, Susan Roundtree, Patrick Mangan, Jonathan O'Rourke, Roger Bannon.

**Apologies:** Paddy Dillion

**1. Virtual Housekeeping**

The President outlined the virtual housekeeping rules, which entailed the recording of the online event, visibility of the Committee and how to ask questions. She also thanks the Committee for all their support this year during which was a very difficult and unprecedented year for everyone.

**2. Minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting were circulated in advance of the meeting and taken as read, adopted and signed by the President.

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**4. The Hon. Secretary's Report**

The honorary secretary's report was read by Jennie Shiels the Hon. Secretary. The report was adopted.

**5. The Hon. Treasurer's Report**

The Hon. Treasures report was read by Mark Boylan the Hon. Treasure. The report was adopted.

**6. The National Boat Measurer's Report**

Due to Covid this year there was no boat measuring activities and therefore no report tabled.

**7. The National Sail Measurer's Report**

Due to Covid this year there was no boat measuring activities and therefore no report tabled.

## **8. Election of Officers**

It was agreed that all Committee members would be reappointed for another year. The only replacement would be the National Sail Measurer role as Paddy Dillion is stepping down. The Committee wished to thank Paddy for his support over the last number of years.

President	Róisín McCormack
Captain	Paul Browne
Vice-Captain	Darrach Dinneen
Hon Secretary	Jennie Shiels
Hon Treasurer	Mark Boylan
National Boat Measurer	Darragh McCormack
National Sail Measurer	Paul Thorne (proposed to replace P Dillion)
Class Representatives	Dun Laoghaire: Paul Smith, Foynes: Mark McCormack, Rush: Alan Butterly proposed TBC with RSC, Skerries: Aileen Boylan

It was agreed to appoint Paul Thorne as the National Sail Measurer. Therefore a replacement Class Representative in Rush Sailing Club would be sought.

## **9. Appointment of Honorary Auditor**

It was agreed that this will be reviewed by the Committee and a new Honorary Auditor appointed.

## **10. Championship 2021 & 2022**

As the 2020 National Championships were postponed this year due to Covid, it was agreed that they would be held in Tralee Bay Sailing Club, Fenit in August 2021. A note of thanks to the Commodore, Liam Lynch for all his work this year trying to facilitate the championships and proposed regatta that subsequently had to be cancelled.

It was advised that we have received two offers to host the Championships in 2022, one from Foynes Yacht Club and the other is from Sligo Yacht Club. Mark McCormack advised that Foynes will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022 and wanted to mark the occasion by hosting the Championships. An online poll took place at the meeting to seek an early indication on which venue might be favoured by the members. 18 people participated in the online survey and 61% of the participants favoured Foynes. The MSA Committee will review this at their next meeting and follow up with both venues as well as other possible venues before making a final decision on the venue for 2022.

The draft calendar of events for 2021 is available on the website, there are still some events to be confirmed. It was highlighted by Sam Shiels that Skerries would benefit greatly if they could hold the Leinsters next year or in 2022. It was agreed to review the current plan to have the Leinsters in Lough Ree Yacht Club in June and consider holding the Munsters there instead. It was also highlighted that Foynes have traditionally held the Munsters over the last number of years and a review of this should also take place.

## **11. Heritage Project**

As advised in the Hon. Secretaries report the first ever Mermaid built "Amy" number 1 has been acquired by the MSA. This was thanks to a number of people, Dr Frank Keane the original owner of the boat, Paul & Frank Browne who went to see the boat and meet with Dr Keane as well as Dan Brennan who bought the boat on behalf of the Committee. Dan also organised the exhibition space and storage of the boat in Dublin Port Heritage Centre.

## 12. Other Business

Work is well underway with transferring the current mermaid plans from paper based to electronic format. Ruairi Grimes agreed to work on this project on behalf of the MSA and is currently being supported by Ross Galbraith and Jonathan O'Rourke. It is expected that this important project will be completed next year.

Ross Galbraith has also updated the Blue Book with changes that were made at last year's AGM. A copy will be available on the website shortly. It is also expected to review the format of the Blue Book and digitise it. It is also expected this will be completed next year.

The Committee was asked to consider plans to promote the Mermaid Class. It was agreed that the Committee at its next meeting will look at launching a vision plan and seek feedback from the members on how this might be achieved. **Action: Review vision plan launch at next MSA meeting**

The President thanked everyone for attending the first virtual MSA AGM, the Committee for their additional time and support this year and to the members for their patience and understanding during what has been a very difficult year.



---

**Róisín McCormack**  
**President**