

Zephyr Owners' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Pt Chevalier Yacht Club, 1930hrs, 18th August, 2011

1. **Attendance:** M Sargisson, R Ebert, T Snedden, A Miller, P Williams, C Hargreaves, R Martin, B Peet, R Turner, S Smith, D Currie, G Salthouse, S Pyatt, T Ross, D Blair, C Maddren, B Baker.
2. **Apologies:** N May, A Knowles, B Hopwood, C Smith, A McGlennon, P Humphries, *Accepted Ebert/Snedden.*
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Mt Pleasant);** These had been previously circulated in the West Wind and were taken as read. Accepted as a true and correct record of the previous AGM. *Williams/Snedden.*
4. **Matters arising from the previous meeting;** Nil
5. **President's Report;** Murray Sargisson read out his Annual Report. He alluded to the many people that had contributed to the ZOA over the last year, especially Don Currie, Russell Turner and Tim Snedden with their collaboration over the NZ Rigging masts. The ZOA looked forward to the first Nationals in Wgtn next year. The full report will be in the next West Wind. Report accepted *Sargisson/Pyatt*
7. **Treasurer's Report;**
 - Tim Snedden spoke to his previously circulated report (West Wind, July 2011).
 - Orders for new boats have been received, a new stock of veneer for them sourced and their pricing reviewed and adjusted. Veneer for a further 10 boats was now on hand and the ZOA would review the need to hold more if supply was likely to be a problem.
 - Work had continued on the masts and the latest mast was presented at the meeting. It has measured close to the median in our mast database and was therefore acceptable for "production". An initial run of three masts to be ordered with further orders subject to satisfactory testing. A stock of four masts was intended. Price to be decided, but it was likely to be similar to the previous Northland Spars price. Three pricing options were likely;
 - Bare mast
 - Kit set of fittings for owner finishing
 - Fully finished.
 - 2011 Budget: Tim outlined the generally healthy state of ZOA accounts, a legacy of Alex Aitken's time as Treasurer, and recommended no change to the current subscription of \$20. He also outlined an indicative budget for the coming year. He anticipated mast and boom trading volumes would increase, but it was unclear by how much. *Moved "that the ZOA subscription be maintained at \$20."* *Snedden/Ebert*
 - Audited Accounts: Matt Hannah's contribution in the auditing of ZOA accounts was acknowledged.
 - **Election of Officers;**

The following Officers were elected, having previously agreed to nomination;

Patron; Noel May, Ebert/Peet
President; Murray Sargisson. Ebert/Williams
Secretary; Rob Ebert, Sargisson/Snedden
Treasurer; Tim Snedden, Sargisson/S Smith
Auditor; Matt Hannah, Snedden/Sargisson
Committee Members;

Steve Pyatt (Auckland)
Shane Smith (Christchurch)
Andy Knowles (Tauranga)
Chris Hargreaves (Wgtn)
Russell Turner (Auckland)
Richard MacKay (CZOA President)
Phil Williams (Wgtn)
Tony Miller (AZO)

7. General Business;

Building Report

- Covered under the Treasurer's Report

Masts

- Now at the "production" stage as outlined in the Treasurer's report.

Sails

No new production issues. Six currently in stock. Dave Blair queried whether the cloth had changed, as he felt the sails were not lasting as long. This prompted a discussion on the quality and longevity of the current sails. In general though, the meeting indicated general satisfaction with the sail quality and supply. It was understood that the sails were now made off shore and folded for shipping to NZ. This resulted in a crease in the after part of the sail that disappeared with use. A general discussion around sail construction and supply would be had with Doyle Sails if the opportunity presented. The specified cloth should also be a matter of record.

Carbon Masts

Tony Miller outlined AZO's continued interest in carbon masts for the Zephyr class, suggesting that the move was inevitable ultimately and that the class would take about three years to investigate and develop the carbon option, so we should start the investigation now. This prompted a wide ranging discussion covering the following points;

- The ZOA had made itself aware of the issues in carbon mast development, but had focussed its efforts in securing the continued supply of alloy masts with NZ Rigging as a more pragmatic option.
- Whilst the ZOA was vulnerable with one mast supplier, there was no short to long term risk to the supply of alloy masts providing NZ Rigging remained a viable company. Even so, a number of alloy fabricators could conceivably manufacture the masts if needs be. The risk could be further mitigated by the ZOA holding greater inventory of masts.
- Experience with carbon masts in other classes was available; Key points were;
 - A one design sail is an advantage – it means only one mast need be developed.
 - Alloy masts that were failing provided an incentive to move to a more reliable carbon mast
 - The mast measurement database was able to provide a basic static bend specification for a carbon mast
 - Producing prototype masts was relatively straightforward, but subsequent testing by the class to determine their sailing characteristics needed to be accurate and was time consuming. Starling experience suggested that depending on mast stiffness, carbon masts could lower the ideal class weight as lighter sailors became adept at depowering

their rig. The Zephyr class would need to be careful in managing this risk.

- Development of a sailing carbon mast prototype would likely undermine developing supplier relationship with NZ rigging and stimulate interest in the masts.
- Carbon masts should be more properly termed composite masts.
- Class rules do not currently permit composite masts

It was resolved that *“the ZOA investigate the development process for a composite mast” Moved Miller/Pyatt, carried with three dissenters.*

Brian Peet was asked to contribute his experience with composite mast development based on the Starling experience.

Nationals 2011-12

Phil Williams outlined arrangements for the National Championships at Worsler Bay.

National Championships, Worsler Bay Draft Programme.		
Date	Event	Social
Wednesday Feb 1 st , 2012	Registration, Measuring	
Thursday, Feb 2 nd , 2012	Registration, Measuring Invitation Race, Race 1	BBQ
Friday, Feb 3 rd , 2012	Races 2,3,4	Dinner at the Roxy
Saturday, Feb 4 th , 2012	Races 5,6, 7	Wgtn Sevens Final
Sunday, Feb 5 th , 2012	Races 8&9,	Prizegiving
Monday, Feb 6 th , 2012	Travel Home	
Secure overnight storage for boats would be available. The Wellington Sevens were on at the same time, so sailors were advised to book early.		

Contest Measuring

Phil sought advice on the measuring required for the Nationals. This prompted a discussion on what could and should be measured, and how, the general feeling being that this was still an area that needed tightening up. It was agreed that the ZOA needs to supply templates for the foil plan and thickness, with Don Currie and Russell Turner undertaking to do this. The ZOA also undertook to provide guidance to the host club on what should be measured and what wind limits the event should be governed by.

National Contest 2012-13

At an Auckland venue, time and date to be decided.

Boat Weight and Modifications.

Steve Pyatt drew the meeting's attention to recent discussion in the Auckland Zephyr Owner's AGM seeking clarification on what can legitimately be done to get boats down to the minimum weight allowed in the Class Rules. It was suggested that many may have already been lightened in apparent contravention of the class rules. The meeting accepted the view that owners need to be allowed to 'rebuild' boat to get near the 57kg limit as it keeps the old boats sailing. It was recognised that the rules need to focus on enforcing "performance factors" such as hull shape and mast length rather than enforcing aspects that don't affect performance. Clarification on the

measurement of rudder size was also suggested – is it below the rudder cheeks or below the hull extension.

It was suggested the rules be scrutinised with a view to having them incorporate the principles expressed. Don Currie, Steve Pyatt and Shane Smith undertook to look into this.

Boat Weight

A proposed rule change suggesting an allowance for additional items usually on the boats when weighed, was mooted. It was suggested it be referred to the group looking at boat modifications and weight. In principle, it was suggested that as many of the performance enhancing factors as practicable be included – such as foil weight and other routine such as cleats, control lines, hiking straps and compasses.

Rule Changes

Rob Ebert proposed some “tidy up” rule changes that had arisen in the mast and hull supply. He proposed dealing with these over the next year or so. The internal halyard rule change was no longer being sought by Wellington sailors.

Publicity

Greg Salthouse spoke to the ever present need to publicise the class, and the meeting did identify the possible risk to class growth from the Laser Radial. The meeting agreed that the ZOA should look positively at any publicity proposals.

Meeting closed 2215