

Commodore's report:

This reports attempts to communicate to members a synopsis of the reports submitted by the Sailing Secretary, Coastal Rowing Secretary, and the Training Principal and additionally actions of the Committee since the previous AGM. Members are referred to those individual reports and the published Committee Minutes for more detail. The Treasurer's report and an update on the SCIO transition process form separate agenda items.

Sailing (dinghies and cruisers) is a core activities at CSC, consisting of both racing and recreational sailing. Club race results have been published on the website. Open and annual race events including the Ness Cup, Dinghy Regatta and Cruiser Regatta were successfully executed; the Black Isle Challenge Cup was wisely cancelled due to dangerous weather conditions. The dinghy regatta had good attendance drawing Musto skiffs from across Scotland and northern England. Beyond the club hosted events members have competed in dinghy events across Scotland and as far away as Germany and the Netherlands. Beyond the CSC hosted cruiser events the MYA cruiser series has had limited CSC participation, reflecting the diminished number of cruisers.

Recreational sailing has seen good turnouts for regular planned Friday evening sessions and a number of dinghy day-cruises. This success is the fruition of a dedicated communication effort by the organisers. Two cruisers made it as far as Orkney and another boat to Helmsdale. It is clear that recreational sailing is an important part of the Club and we would be wise to make sure it remains so.

Supporting the various regattas, series, one-day events and recreational sailing was a significant volunteer effort from Race Officers, Safety Officers, water taxis, those who maintain the club ribs and caterers. It is clear that to sustain this we need a broad base of volunteers, and I personally reflect that this has to be achieved from a healthy club membership.

Looking to 2020 there is a detailed list of decisions in the sailing report, but I highlight: that there is a desire to programme more recreational sailing, a recognition that to enable more junior involvement we will need to better involve parents. A recognition that we need more instructors and coaches at all levels. That one-day-events be pursuit race format. That current series and number of races per day be retained but with an additional non-handicap result calculated for Streakers, Solo, Laser Radial and Europe classes.

Coastal rowing has become an embedded and valued activity within the club producing a useful number of new members generated through come and try it sessions; it should be remarked that a number of rowing members are actively contributing to safety boat, catering, and club maintenance. The rowing activity has been supported through a club designed and run coxing skills course in parallel with other local clubs. In addition to regular club based rowing sessions the rowers took part in the challenging Castle to Crane race on the Clyde and Strathpeffer inaugural regatta. We should note and applaud the pioneering work being done in the Club by

the rowing section to bring about Disability Inclusion Training which will have wider relevance than just the rowing activity.

Training is a key area in the club to maintain and develop the skillsets both of participants in sailing and rowing but also the skillsets of those providing coaching and safety cover for those activities. The club currently has 6 Assistant Dinghy Instructors, and 2 Senior Instructors, the intention is to have 2 SIs, 1 DI and 5 ADIs by end of 2020. We operate with 2 Race coaches and 2 Powerboat Instructors. There is an expressed need for additional Race Coaches and Powerboat Instructors.

Shore-based training was provided for rowing and an RYA First Aid course hosted to keep instructors current. Water-based training resulted in the issue of 15 dinghy certificates and 8 powerboat certificates.

Adult dinghy training was done informally alongside recreational sailing giving 5 adults an introduction to sailing (2 of these have joined the club). There are plans to run an adult dinghy course in 2020.

Junior dinghy training has included a Stage 1 course, from which four participants are still with the club. Junior week had a fantastic tally of 17 students making good progress to level 4 or beyond; worth noting that 10 club members were required to support junior week. Dolphin sessions have again proved popular, and have had an enhanced social element.

Powerboat training: two Level 2 powerboat courses run.

Race coaching: 14 mixed adult/ junior/ youth sessions delivered to 15 participants, average attendance 5. Emphasis on how to make your boat go better and increased knowledge of racing rules/ tactics. Noted improvement in racing achievements of participants. 2 sessions cancelled due to lack of coaches.

RYA annual inspection: no issues!

Programme for 2020: More rowing Cox training and Race Officer training pre-season; and subject to demand racing rules. On the water aim for dinghy Stage 1, Adult dinghy level 2 and Junior week, Dolphins will continue. Safety Boat course, and at least 1 Powerboat Level 2 course.

Moorings:

The Cruiser section in the club remains numerically challenged, and we need to find ways of increasing the number of mooring lease holders and attracting folk to the visitor moorings. Were numbers to fall much below current levels the hire in of divers for maintenance and inspection tasks could become unsustainable.

Committee actions:

The Committee have approved a number of actions to facilitate the running and development of the Club and I thought it worthwhile highlighting these to the membership:

- Approved what was a successful application to Ross & Cromarty Sports Council for grant funding for Club volunteers attending RYA First Aid Course. The Committee has approved an application to The Highland Green Health Partnership for a Grant to cover the cost of Disability Awareness Training and an Adaptive Rowing Seat.
- Provided grants to members toward the costs of First Aid Training, an RYA Senior Instructor Course and an RYA Dinghy Instructor preparation and pre-assessment course.
- Approved a donation to 1st Avoch Sea Scouts in respect of electricity used and the invaluable use of their indoor facilities, where both Ribs were extensively overhauled by Club members last winter.
- Decided that all Club clothing will have the Club lighthouse logo including the wording “Chanonry Sailing Club” together, where appropriate, with a “strapline” for the particular activity.
- Revised the policy for charging visiting boats: A charge of £15 a day/ night for short stays on a designated visitor mooring. A charge of £70 a week for up to 4 weeks on a designated short-term mooring. And agreed the Club should maintain one extra outer mooring with a white mooring buoy and general-purpose strop.
- Progressed a SCIO application to a successful outcome and are overseeing transition.
- Oversaw a task and finish group to plan and action the Club Open Day/ Lifeboat day, which incorporated RYA ‘Push the Boat out’ branding; between sailing, rowing and rib rides 58 person trips were made on the water. Once again significant volunteer support was required to make the day a success, as will have been the case for the RNLi Ladies and the Sea Scouts who supported the event. A small number of new sailor and rowing memberships came about through this day.
- Encouraged a number of work parties to keep the Club environs safe and tidy
- Decided that stickers will be issued annually to all members storing boats in the dinghy park; the Club will act to have boats lacking a sticker removed.
- Authorised the improvement of signage around the club reflecting: (a) the revised policy for visiting boats; (b) whereabouts of the nearest AEDs (Defib) devices; and (c) the need to address the issue of dog mess around the Club environs.
- Approved the purchase of a cover for RIB Beaully.
- Authorised replacement of a broken shower in the ladies changing room.
- Authorised the purchase of a new freezer unit for the galley to replace a unit which had ceased to work.

- Authorised the purchase of a new lawn mower to support the maintenance of the club environs.

In 2020 the Club will undertake a Development Planning exercise which will put the membership at the centre of consultation, seeking to find out how members perceive the club, finding out how members would like to improve the Club and looking at the challenges facing the Club.