St Ayles Skiff International Limited SC690111

SASI Ltd Annual General Meeting

2nd November 2025

Agenda Item (Actual)	Remarks
1.Welcome and Apologies	Max welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees were invited to introduce themselves. Attendees: Max Brerends (Chair of SASI), Judith Uys (Australian Rep on SASI), Kees van Vugt (DARA Rep on SASI), Robert Graham (DCRA Rep on SASI), Topher Dawson (SCRA Rep on SASI), Rory Reilly (Observer from DCRA), Gardner Pickering (North American kit supplier), Claire Simpson (Secretary SASI), Adrain Hodge (Secretary Blakeney Rowing Club, CRAB), Frank O'Neil, (Loophead Coastal Rowing Club, County Claire). Alan Knees (Isle of Man). Apologies – Bev Meek (SASI Treasurer)
2. Minutes of the previous Meeting	The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated in advance and were accepted.
3. Treasurer Report	As per Appendix 1 - Membership Applications for 2025/26 have been issued. Affiliated membership for CRAB and Ayle of Quinte have been requested. Scottish Coastal Rowing (SCRA) Membership was requested and their secretary has been invoiced. Dutch St Ayles Rowing Association (DARA), St Ayles Skiff Community Rowing Association (SASCRAA) and Down Coastal Rowing Association (DRCA) have still to be invoiced.
4. Secretary Report	As per Appendix 2 - Max thanked Topher for his work on laying the course at Stranraer for Skiffie Worlds 2025. Topher has written comprehensive notes on this which are stored in the SASI google drive for future reference.
4. Election/Executive Board Rotation	At last year's AGM Max invited DCRA to find a candidate to replace him as Chair of SASI. Earlier in the year Robert Graham proposed Rory Reily (Strangford) who has been observing board meetings for six months. Rory was unanimously voted onto the board as SASI Chair. Max thanked Claire Simpson, Bev Meek and the NC representatives for their work and support and wished Rory Reilly all the best on the board. Rory thanked Max for his wise counsel and support in the run up to the transition of Chair.
5.Membership	Topher Dawson representing SCRA reported club membership of SCRA in the high 70's. SCRA held their AGM and a training event at Loch Tummel which was well attended. Judith representing SASCRAA reported that five more boats have been launched in Australia this year giving a total of 35. Queensland club president has spoken to New Zealand club member, Martin Ball, who said that two boats are active……. And that the number of rowers was increasing. She is keen to progress the discussion on oars in Australia as there has been a wider adoption of carbon oars. Robert Graham representing DCRA reported nine active clubs. One boat is under construction at Dundrum. There are plans for a number of local regattas in the spring and the Skiffie Fest dates are out. Friday 31st July - Sunday 2nd August. Save the date. **Update 13/11/25 - RR has been in touch with FO from Loophead and they have asked to join DCRA. RR will also contact the Seol Sionna club, also in County Clare.**

	Kees van Vugt representing DARA reported 27 clubs in NL. One club has stopped rowing but their skiff is going to Scotland. Only one NL club is not a member of DARA. Kees explained that DARA owns two skiffs to loan to visiting rowers travelling to NL to compete. He described a recent race in Belgium, Flanders Tideway, that took place in October and received a lot of publicity which will promote the St Ayles Skiff in Belgium. The Port of Antwerp sees no problem in holding big regattas and races on the river Scheldt. The City of Antwerp wants to build their own boat. Kees reported that progress on gaining the CE mark for the St Ayles Skiffs has been delayed by an awarding body losing permission to test but that alternative certifying bodies are available and that this will go ahead in the spring. In the NL everything is going well. Dara owns two skiffs (a third is currently being built) that are used for lending out at events, but also for lending to potential new clubs such as WV Schiphol in Aalsmeer. This water sports club consists solely of employees of Schiphol Airport and KLM. Kees also reported sailing and rowing in the Azores continued and recommended anyone travelling there should look it out. Adrian Hodge from Blakeney reported that despite trying, an English National Association was not on the cards. He knew about new skiffs launched on the Medway and the Severn but that no english regattas for St Ayles Skiffs had been organised. He explained that most English skiffs race on handicap with other boats. Growth is slow. Rory reported that Favoursham had built five skiffs but that it was a tricky place to row. Frank O'Neil from County Claire in the west of Ireland reported that his club was small with two skiffs, one built and one acquired. They have sixty five members and although Loophead had never had a rowing club it has been really embraced by the community and has knitted the community together. Frank feels excited about this development and feels that it ticks a lot of boxes. They have an AGM in January. Gardener Pickering representing the kit supplier in North America reported that he has sold a lot of boats but that not all buyers get back to him to say what has happened to them. There are four very active clubs in North America: Lake Champlain, Ayle of Quinte, Blue Hill Community Rowing and Bowdoinham ?? He explained that racing is again with other fixed seat boats but tends to be very far away, for example there are three races in Massachusetts. There is no coalescing organisation in USA. His club, Lake Champlain attended the Skiffie Worlds 2025 in Stranraer. Allan Kneen from Isle of Man reported they had one club and two boats. They visit other sailing clubs but their rowing is mainly social.
6.Future	Rory explained that the first thing on the agenda is the review of the Measurement Rules and the Rules of Racing. The planning is underway and information will be sent out to National Class Associations (NCA's) who will then be asked to consult their members. The criteria for the next World Championships needs to be considered and published. Rory reported that SASI had received a memorandum from SCRA raising a number of specific points of concern and that also needs to be addressed. Kees asked that the website gets updated with overseas events. Rory explained that the website had been down temporarily but is now back up and will be reviewed. Robert Graham suggested that SASI needs to review the scrutineering process and the age verification process for any future World Championships. Judith Uys reported that she has created a draft Measurement Rules and Rules of Racing review document and requested contact details for NCA's. A discussion on the actual process of collecting review comments and guidance to clubs followed. Rory concluded that a few things on that process need to be decided at the next meeting of the SASI Board. Gardener Pickering asked about the level of membership for his club and Claire explained that Affiliated Membership would be appropriate.
7. Any Other Business	Adrian Hodge felt that someone looking out for the waifs and strays was a good thing. Frank O'Neil would welcome any offer of help or advice.

	Gardner Pickering reported that four North American clubs had a wonderful time at the Skiffie World Championships in Stranraer. Robert Graham and Kees van Vugt both expressed their thanks to Max Berends as outgoing Chair of SASI for an excellent job done. Alan Kneen explained how he was looking forward to the future.
Close of Meeting	The meeting closed at 11.40 GMT

Appendix 1

Appendix 2