

flying fifteen Spain: Annual General Meeting 11 November, 2017

Attendees:

Roeland Raikmakers Amenti Mas	2877	
Stephen Parry	3471	Treasurer & Measurer
John Walker	3577	President
Stephen Babbage	3598	Secretary
Michael Beecken	3600	Fleet Captain
David Miles Corinne Onvlee	3610	
John Leaf	3825	
<i>by Proxy</i>		
Michael Clough	3432 & 3804	<i>(John Walker)</i>
Hugh Birley	3817	<i>(Stephen Babbage)</i>

1 Review of past year – John Walker, President

The fleet has downsized in 2017, largely due to events at RCNPP. The racing calendar was changed frequently, often at very short notice. This resulted in many being unable to sail, as they could not plan their travels or personal calendars. One outcome was moving the Mallorca Championships to coincide with Palma Vela, and be sailed in same races. (Difference was Palma Vela had one discard, championships none.)

Initially, it seemed that we were regarded as a second-class fleet, behind the club's other fleets. However, recently RCNPP seem to have recognised that flying fifteen is still the most active fleet.

We continue to be published every month in The Islander, the largest yachting magazine in the Mediterranean. Do any other fleets get this much publicity?

2 Recognition of Pepper – John leaf

One of the founding members of the Flying Fifteen fleet in Mallorca sadly passed away recently after suffering a terrible motor scooter accident.

Pepper Constable, American born, but long-time resident in Europe, first arrived in Puerto Pollensa aboard a catamaran called "Running Free" in 1992. He quickly got to know the local "ex-pat" community and he and Hugh Wilson, who had a yacht brokerage business in town, came up with the idea of starting a one-design racing fleet in the Port.

Hugh had sailed Flying Fifteens in Poole harbour in England and he and Pepper were very sure that this would be the ideal boat for these waters. How right they were!

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Six jolly sailors – the others: Tim Aisher, John Leaf, Mark Manning and Ian Royse– brought six boats from the U.K. and the fleet was born. A few years later another six boats appeared and so the fleet gradually grew until now there are over thirty Flying Fifteens on the island. Of course, Pepper's boat was always instantly recognisable as his entire spinnaker was stars and stripes – the American flag!

William Pepper the third (yes, that is his real name) busied himself restoring an old house, as well as a bar named "El Gallito" in the old town of Pollensa. He later built a small house in the country, on top of a hill with a magnificent view to the sea, and named it "The Pink Palace".

It was when he was on his way home at the end of September and turning off the main road that he was hit by a speeding car and taken to Son Espases hospital in Palma with severe head injuries, from which he did not recover.

Pepper was still sailing up until last year, and although he sold his boat a few years back, he always would lend a hand or offer to crew when needed. We will all miss his dry American humour and the stories he would tell about his travels to many parts of the world.

May he Rest in Peace, John Leaf – Spanish Fly 3825

The above will feature in the December issue of The Islander.

The Pepper Pot – presented by Pepper, needs to be recovered for next year – ***JW to follow up on this.***

3 Approval of 2016-17 Accounts – Steve Parry, Treasurer

Up to date with FFI dues.

Extraordinary expense (€170) to return 3432 ESP to Pollensa after Palma Vela (we had leant boat to Belgian ff President for the regatta)

Around €98 on hand (further increased by €100 subs collected on day)

4 Voting of officers

After discussion, it was agreed that the role of Newsletter editor was unnecessary, and would be cancelled. All other officers re-appointed nem-con.

5 Set 2017-18 subscription rate – new Treasurer

Agreed to continue €25 per boat for 2017-18. To be paid before first major regatta of 2018 – probably Palma Vela.

6 Relations with RCNPP

Race calendar: We need a published calendar that won't change during the year, and especially at zero notice.

Send dates of CVPA races to MB – **SB [done]**
Prepare draft calendar – **MB, by November 22**

Yard rental: We have an agreement to a discounted yard rental of €80 where a minimum of 10 race days are sailed. MB supplies list of those boats qualifying in past year at beginning of each year. For 2017, discount applies to: 3471, 3577, 3600, 3610, 3763, 3804, 3817, 3825. The club is complaining that we don't pay, however, the office is disorganized, and they do not send invoices.

Agreed that it was the club's responsibility to improve their processes, but that we should each be responsible for making payments.

All boats to contact RCNPP office and pay their yard rental – **all, asap**

Other: Seek earlier start time (13:00?) – **JW to follow up with Per Antoni**

DM noted that crane chain is dangerously worn – **DM to fix**

7 Club Boat

Boat has been used less in 2017 – agreed that it needs to be attractive, so as not to scare people off.

check out condition – **JW, by end of November**

Noted that the insurance was only for third party – this is the only cover that Pantaeinius will offer for flying fifteens.

SP said that his insurance (3471) was fully comprehensive, and said he had received exceptional service from them. Agreed that if this was more favourable, we would move to them.

send information on these insurers - **SP [done]**

8 Matters arising

No matters arising

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9 Any other business

Roeland Raikmakers raised the issue of races start times and course briefings. MB indicated that this was published on the RCNPP cruiser WhatsApp group. SB pointed out that this was a poorly focused group, with a huge amount of irrelevant, extraneous content, and that few ff sailors would want to join it.

post the course briefing to the flying fifteen Spain WhatsApp group for future races - **MB (ongoing)**

Meeting adjourned at 19:15



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flying fifteen Spain: officers 2017-18

President	John Walker	jwsurv@hotmail.com	+34 609 693 133
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