

MINUTES OF YAI's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 2005
HELD ON 02 MAY 2005 AT TS JAWAHAR, COLABA, MUMBAI

1. The YAI's AGM of 2005 was held at 1200 hrs on 02 May 2005 at TS Jawahar, Colaba, Mumbai. The following Council members were present :-

President

Admiral Arun Prakash PVSM, AVSM, VrC, VSM, ADC

Council Members

Lt Gen Rajit Singh, SM	Executive Vice President
Cmde SK Mongia VSM (Retd)	Executive Vice President
R Adm R Chopra VSM	Treasurer
V Adm Madanjit Singh PVSM, AVSM	President, NEA
Lt Gen VC Jain AVSM, VSM*	President, LCAI
Lt Gen BS Dhalival AVSM, VSM	President NOAI
Maj Gen S Dutta VSM (Retd)	President, 420 Class Assn
Mr. Rabi Ahuja	Chairman, INCCA
Lt. Cdr F Tarapore VSM (Retd)	President, MRAI
Mr Cyrus Heerjee	President National Seabird Assn
Cdr D S Deshwal	Secretary Offshore Sailing Association
R Adm Sanjiv Kapoor AVSM	Co-opted Member (NCC)
Capt S Contractor (Retd)	Co-opted Member
Ms Shibani Sachdev	Co-opted Member
Mr. Ajay Balram	Chairman, Racing Rules & Appeals Committee
Brig AP Singh SM**, VSM	Chairman, Race Management Committee
Cdr HD Motivala SC	Chairman Training Committee
Cmde AS Bajwa VSM	Honorary Secretary General
Capt AS Raghuvanshi	Honorary Joint Secretary General

2. Representatives of the following Class Associations/ clubs were also present :-

- (a) Army Yachting Node, Mumbai.
- (b) Bombay Sailing Association
- (c) Colaba Sailing Club
- (d) Corps of Engineers Sailing Club, Pune
- (e) EME Sailing Club, Secunderabad
- (f) Goa Naval Area Sailing Club.
- (g) Hobie Class Association of India
- (h) Indian Naval Sailing Association.
- (j) Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (Kochi)
- (k) Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (Mandovi)
- (l) Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (Mumbai)
- (m) Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (Shivaji)
- (n) Maharashtra NCC Unit.
- (p) Naval Sailing Club (Chilka)
- (q) Naval Sailing Club (Vizag)
- (r) NDA Sailing Club
- (s) OK Dinghy Class Association
- (t) Pune District Board Sailing Association
- (u) Royal Bombay Yacht Club
- (v) Royal Connaught Boat Club

Item I - President's Address

3. The President welcomed all the members to the AGM. He expressed his happiness at the immense response of the sailing fraternity through their whole hearted participation in the YAI's 45th Anniversary Regatta. The Anniversary Regatta had amply displayed the vast talent available and the desire amongst the young sailors to excel. He also appreciated the participation by the veterans, who had kept alive their interest in this sport. He observed that the YAI had come a long way since its creation in 1960 and, over the years, Indian yachtspersons had brought laurels to the country in increasing numbers. He urged the young sailors to break new frontiers.

4. The President informed the members that the YAI plans to participate in large numbers in the Asian Sailing Championship at Doha (Qatar) in Jan 2006, which will also be the venue for the Asian Games 2006. He emphasized the need for all competitors and coaches to put in their best efforts for the Asian Sailing Championship, as this would gauge our current standing at the Asian level. A good performance would lead to full support of the Govt for our preparations for the Asian Games and the next Olympics.

5. The President congratulated Nitin Mongia on winning the Bronze medal at the OK Dinghy World Championships 2004, as also Aashim Mongia and Amit Arvind for winning the Bronze Medal at the Enterprise World Championships 2004. He also brought out that 23 yachtspersons had received Special Cash Awards from the Hon'ble Sports Minister, on 02 Mar 2005, for their International medal winning performances in 2004. These awards amounted to Rs 32.45 lakhs and reflected the significant incentive given by Govt for achieving excellence.

6. The President informed the members that the YAI Council is working on the revitalisation of sailing at the grass-roots level. He also apprised the General Body that the ISAF had launched a development programme called "Connect to Sailing". He congratulated Mr Malav Shroff on being appointed by ISAF as their Ambassador to India for the "Connect to Sailing" programme and expressed the hope that he would work closely with the YAI for the good of the sport. This is a grass roots programme which is intended to significantly increase the number of participants in sailing activities, particularly amongst the youth. He looked forward to the success of this programme.

7. The President thereafter requested the HSG to take up the agenda points and progress the meeting.

Item II - Review of Minutes of Previous AGM (05 Jun 04)

8. The HSG informed the members that the minutes of the last AGM, held on 05 Jun 04, had been circulated to member clubs and no comments have been received on the minutes. He enquired from the audience if there were any issues of the previous AGM that the members may wish to discuss. As no issues were raised, Maj Gen S Dutta (Retd) proposed the passing of the minutes, seconded by Cdr PK Garg.

Item III - Honorary Secretary General's Report.

9. The HSG stated that, since the last AGM, the YAI's competitors had participated in a number of international events and in the National Championships conducted in various classes. He stated that the details of various events had been posted on the website. He then focused on the main issues summarized below.

10. **2005 Asian Sailing Championship.**

(a) Qatar has confirmed that the 12th Asian Sailing Championship will be held at Doha during 12 – 21 Jan 2006, with the following events :-

- (i) **Men**: 420, 470, Optimist, Laser Standard, Mistral Light and Mistral Heavy.
- (ii) **Women**: 420, Mistral and Optimist.
- (iii) **Open**: Laser 4.7, Laser Radial, Hobie 16 and Match Race in Keelboat (4 person).

(b) Qatar has also intimated that, for the Keelboat event, efforts are being made to provide Beneteau (7.5 M) boats by Jan 2006. In case of delay in delivery, then the event will be sailed in the Colgate 26 class, which is available at Doha. However, the Beneteau (7.5 M) will be the boat for the Asian Games – 2006.

(c) The Notice of Race for the Asian Sailing Championship is likely to be issued shortly.

(d) The 1st round of Selection Trials have been completed, except as follows :-

- (i) Hobie 16 - at Visakhapatnam 8 – 13 May 2005.
- (ii) Optimist - at Goa 8 – 14 May 2005.
- (iii) Keelboat - to be scheduled.

(e) The 2nd round of Selection Trials would be conducted in end 2005.

11. **2007 ISAF World Team Racing Championship.** The YAI's bid to host this event was accepted by ISAF at their Annual Conference in Nov 2004. This was a great achievement, against keen competition from the Royal Yachting Association. The event is planned to be conducted at Mumbai in Mar 2007. The contract document has been signed by the YAI and concerted efforts must now be made to ensure that this international event is organised and conducted in an exemplary manner.

12. **YAI Awards for 2004.** The YAI Awards for the year 2004 were presented on 01 May 2005 by the Hon'ble Minister for Sports, during the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the YAI's 45th Anniversary Regatta, to the following:-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Admiral Kohli Trophy | Mr Rabi Ahuja |
| (b) Admiral Nadkarni Trophy | Hav BK Rout |
| (c) Engineer in-Chief's Trophy | Capt Meenu Dahiya |
| (d) Admiral RH Tahilaini Trophy | Sub Rajesh Choudhary VSM |

13. The HSG informed the members that the YAI Council had approved the introduction of a "CNS Life Time Achievement Award". This trophy would recognise those who render a life time of dedicated service to the sport of sailing.

Item IV - Presentation of Accounts for 2003-04.

14. The Treasurer presented the Audited Statement of Accounts for the year 2003-04. He stated that the audited accounts had been circulated to all member clubs vide YAI Secretariat letter dated 19 Nov 04 and the YAI Secretariat had not received any observations on the accounts. There has been a quantum jump in the YAI corpus during the financial year 2003-04, primarily due to the sponsorship received for conducting the Asian Sailing Championship 2004. The Treasurer also stated that the YAI accounts for 2003-2004 had been audited by a special 3-member team from the Auditor General of Central Revenue, on behalf of the MoYAS. This separate audit was in addition to the audit by YAI's Chartered Accountants and this practice is applicable for all National Sports Federations which receive Govt aid of over Rs 1.00 crore during a financial year. The Govt auditors carried out the audit over 21 working days and the accounts have been found in order. However, a number of additional checks and procedures are to be implemented. The HSG brought out that the YAI's growth necessitated the employment of two more Secretarial staff, to shoulder the additional workload. One of these should be an accountant, in view of the need to maintain extensive records and follow Govt accounting procedures. The passing of audited accounts for the year 2003-04 was proposed by Mr Rabi Ahuja and seconded by Cdr HD Motivala.

Item V – Class Associations and Clubs should undertake Sailing Expeditions to Revitalise the Sport (by President NOAI).

15. The President NOAI apprised the General Body that the Corps of Engineers Sailing Club (CESC) had recently undertaken an expedition in two Seabirds from Mumbai to Goa and back. As this had been a good learning experience, he recommended that such expeditions be undertaken by member clubs. This will go a long way in promoting and revitalising the sport of sailing. He also brought out that CESC was planning to undertake more such expeditions in the post-monsoon period and CESC could accommodate some members from the civilian clubs for such expeditions. The President appreciated the proposal and offered support from the Indian Navy, if required.

Item VI - Funding for Boat Transfer for Optimist Sailors (by TNSA).

16. The TNSA brought out that clubs participating from distant locations had to transport their Optimist boats for the National championships. The Optimist is a children's boat and the participants are from different economic backgrounds. The boat transport charges should be subsidized so that all children could sail and not only those whose parents can afford the transportation costs, especially as there are multiple events every year in this class. The TNSA rep suggested that funds for this can be taken out from the annual budget for the sub-junior event.

17. The HSG brought out that the Govt. funding for a National event is primarily under two heads, viz 90% for boarding / lodging and balance 10 % for consumables such as fuel, medals / prizes, Opening and Closing Ceremonies etc. The Govt. Policies are rigid and are equally applicable to all sports disciplines, but do not provide for subsidising the transportation of boats or other equipment. The President

inquired if the organisers could offer boats on charter to the outstation participants. Col Oberoi of NOAI clarified that there was a shortage of boats, due to which boats were not available for charter to outstation participants. It was felt that this matter should be taken up with the Govt.

18. **Decision.** The President directed the HSG to take up the matter with the MoYAS.

Action : HSG / YAI Secretariat

Item No. VII – Replacement of Three Optimist Boats Lost due to Tsunami Damage at Chennai (by TNSA).

19. The TNSA rep brought out that three IODA 95 hulls were severely damaged due to Tsunami. These had been procured under Govt's 75% subsidy scheme and should be replaced at the earliest through the same scheme. The TNSA had identified a donor to fund the balance 25% of the cost of three Optimist boats.

20. The HSG clarified that there is no provision in the Govt scheme for the replacement of equipment that has been procured under the 75% subsidy. The funding available under this scheme is very limited, as it caters for all the sports disciplines and specific funds are not earmarked for any sports discipline. A large number of Optimist boats had been procured in end 2003 and the current focus was on getting equipment for Asian Games – 2006. Thus, at this juncture, it would not be possible to get Govt subsidy for replacing three Optimist boats for TNSA.

Item VIII – Any Other Point

21. **Circulation of YAI Activities to the Life Members.** Mr Shyam Chinani, Life Member, brought out that the YAI Secretariat should circulate information on all YAI activities directly to the YAI's Life Members, as he was not aware of the recent sailing activities. It was clarified that extensive information was being posted on the YAI's website <safind.org> and was also e-mailed to the Class Associations and Member Clubs. However, the member clubs will be requested to forward contact details of all YAI Life Members, who would be updated on important YAI activities.

Action : YAI Secretariat

22. **Identifying of Land for Sailing Activities / Storage of boats.** Mr Shyam Chinani brought out that there was a need to identify land in Back Bay Reclamation, which could be developed both for sailing activities and providing adequate space for storing boats, specially during monsoons. The civilian sailing clubs faced an acute problem of storage space. He recommended that this matter be taken up with the Govt of Maharashtra.

23. **Recognition of Efforts Put-in by Officials / Member Clubs.** Mr Ajay Balram brought out that the focus during a sailing regatta is primarily on the participants and their efforts are recognised through the prize distribution. The efforts put in by Race Committee and the Umpires involved in the conduct of a sailing regatta should also be recognised during vote of thanks. The Commodore RBYC also brought out that the civilian clubs at Mumbai had provided all possible support to make the 45th Anniversary Regatta a big success. However, this support was not recognised during the vote of thanks.

24. The President acknowledged the contribution of the Race Committee and all officials involved in organising and conducting the 45th Anniversary Regatta. In fact, no regatta or sailing championship could be conducted without the active involvement of such "officials" and not specifically mentioning this aspect in the vote of thanks was only due to an oversight.

25. **Procurement of Seabird / Lightning Class boats by Naval and Army Sailing Clubs.** Mr Cyrus Heerjee brought out that there were a large number of yachtsmen who were keen to sail in Lightning and Seabird classes. These boats also allowed the veterans to pursue the hobby of sailing. However, the number of these boats had dwindled over the years. He suggested that the Sailing Clubs of the Navy and Army should invest in these classes.

26. The President apprised the General Body that the Indian Navy was procuring J-24 boats, which would start arriving shortly. These would meet the Navy's requirements of a keelboat suitable for offshore and coastal sailing. However, other clubs may consider the suggestion for having more Lightenings and Seabirds.

27. **Award of Admiral Nadkarni Trophy.** Mr Sherry Bamboat brought out that, in the past, the Admiral Nadkarni Trophy had been awarded to children, which is a big moral booster for the youth. The HJSG clarified that the norms for awarding the Admiral Nadkarni Trophy do not mention any age limit. This trophy is for the "most promising yachtsman". For the year 2004, the trophy has been awarded to Hav B K Rout, as he had shown the best progress in this sport within a short period.

28. The President directed that a trophy be instituted for the most promising yachtsman in the children category, wherein the age limitation should be clearly stated in the selection criteria for the trophy.

Action: YAI Secretariat.

Item IX – Vote of Thanks

29. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the President YAI by Cmde SK Mongia (Retd).

30. These minutes are issued with the approval of the President YAI.

(AS Bajwa)
Commodore
Honorary Secretary General

