

RVSC – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR THE 2023 AGM: 1ST JAN 2023 TO 20TH OCTOBER 2023

Rossendale Valley Sailing Club manage our membership and payments using software supplied by Web Collect.

Web Collect allows a maximum number of members linked to RVSC of 300 before we incur additional costs, during 2023 this had increased to a figure approaching 280, taking into consideration that our insurers have a cap on the number of members within the Insurance Schedule of 249, this meant we could have been exposed if there had been a claim made due to incorrect data.

The figures within Web Collect did not tally with what was felt to be the actual membership numbers within the Club, in order to get some clarity on the matter we carried out an exercise to remove old spurious information and member details, this meant we not only removed old out of date GDPR material but I now have confidence in the numbers showing within Web Collect.

On the back of work and time invested, initially, by David, Geoff, Mike, Mark and Nick upgrading qualifications and putting in place training and Onboard sessions, there has been a significant increase with on water activity from last year, this has led to more interest and queries being made concerning what we can offer as a club. This coupled with United Utilities rescinding their original decision to stop Paddle Boarding, we have seen an increase in memberships over the year.

Taking into consideration the plans for next years' training schedule, increasing activity on the water and new housing developments within the area, it all augurs well for sustaining this growth.

MEMBERSHIPS

Total Membership Linked to RVSC:	209
Total Subscribed Membership:	183 (170)
Family Memberships:	98
Adult Memberships:	46
Senior Memberships:	21
Student Memberships:	1
Junior Memberships:	2
Social Memberships:	5
Honorary Memberships:	2
Life Memberships:	4
Affiliated Groups:	4

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New Memberships: 2023

Family Memberships:	16
Adult Memberships:	17
Senior Memberships:	0
Student Memberships:	0
Junior Memberships:	1
Social Memberships:	1
Honorary Memberships:	0

Life Memberships: 2

Affiliated Groups: 1

THE LEGAL BIT....

In accordance with section 12 of the Constitution, membership fees become payable on the 1st January of the membership year. Any member wishing to resign their membership should advise the Membership Secretary of such by 1st December of the previous year otherwise they shall be liable for the full amount of the fees applicable. Similarly, Section 57 of the Constitution provides procedures for dealing with subsequent non-payment of fees.

Web Collect provides numerous and easy routes to apply and pay for membership.

As in previous years, the option to change to Monthly payment will only be open during January.

On the 1st of March, those members who have not resigned or renewed will be sent an email pointing out Constitution Rules 56 & 57, that subs were due on the 1 Jan and that any members who have not paid their subs by the 24 April will be subject to a vote of expulsion. At this point any members wishing to re-join will pay the appropriate joining fee in addition to the outstanding subscription fees.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

A review of the Club's insurance cover highlighted a couple of requirements/exclusions within the Schedule that required attention.

Personal Accident Cover for members between 65 and 70 participating on "Officially Sanctioned" work parties is not provided, that is unless a medical letter is sent to the insurers providing a clean bill of health. On the back of this, we have reworded the criteria on the age spread for the Adult and Senior

membership, with information about the age restriction added within the Senior Membership form.

I have also amended the wording for Junior and Social Membership, so that the need for a Parent/Guardian is covered within the Social Membership category.

I also intend to have a look at membership categories and what they offer/provide, a perfect example is the Social Member category. We have members who subscribe and then give up their time and support the club in its activities, while others make use of the facilities with no subscription.

I have always felt that if members pay their membership fees, they should have full access and use of the Club's facilities, lounge etc. For many years I pushed for this but was always told in order to have the lounge open, a Council member should always be present, on reviewing the insurance schedule and policy, I now know this to be untrue. Based on this we are looking at means of providing access for members to the facilities, however, the problem we have is that a large number of main access keys are unaccounted for, as mentioned, we have 183 members, (and growing) the latest key issued to a member was 302, which gives an idea as to the problem.

One option we are looking at is having the back door electronically controlled by a key fob. The fobs are not expensive, they can be deactivated when a member leaves the club and provide traceability, we can then look at controlling access within the building to areas not required for day-to-day sailing activities such as the classroom and the documents contained within.

In the short term, I'm going to propose that when a key is returned, instead of a £10 refund, the full purchase price of £20 is returned, this may encourage a greater uptake on key returns.

It's intended to put in place an Operating System where all the working documents are held as controlled and read only, that way the membership will have access also. This will help in some way when we are audited by the RYA, this is a work in progress.

Our Council meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month, we are here for the benefit of the Club and its Members, anyone is welcome to attend. If anyone feels that they have skills that would serve the Club and help us move forward, we are always open to new ideas and thoughts, please feel free to come along and raise them.