Newsletter December 2013

Hickling Windsurfing Club





AGM 5 Dec 2013

This is as much a social as it is an AGM. The meeting is to formalise the end of the club year and agree committee members for 2014. We have 3 committee member vacancies - refer to the following article.

We look forward to returning to St Andrews Football Club as we haven't been there for a few years. There is plenty of space, a bar (naturally), and parking adjacent to the building. It's a short drive from the City or Southern bypass.

We would love to see 'new' and 'old' members there. It's a great opportunity to meet other members informally, and hear what's going on at the club.

Open at 7:30pm, meeting starts at 8pm, so please try to be there in time to get a drink and have a chat. The meeting is expected to be less than an hour, leaving plenty of time to mingle after.

The meeting agenda and previous minutes were sent out a few weeks ago by email. We hope to see you there.

The club house is the building on the lower right.



St Andrews Football Club, Laundry Lane, Norwich NR7 0XQ 7:30pm for an 8.00pm prompt start.

New committee members wanted

Our club is very special being one of a few dedicated to windsurfing in the UK, possibly the only one. This is the result of careful management for 30 years, and so great care is needed to help it through the next 30 years. The fundamentals of windsurfing have changed little, but running the club has changed, largely due to legislative responsibilities, advances in communications technology, and members having greater expectations of club facilities.

There are 3 committee member vacancies this year, so please consider joining the committee. We meet monthly at the Brick Kilns, Little Plumstead to monitor progress, review any issues and decide next steps.

The committee are responsible for all of the club: the car park, beach, leases, boat, facilities, events, accounts, web site, communications, bills, and membership renewals. The committee have a wide range of skills to do these things but the more the merrier, and the stronger the club will be.

If you are interested then please either discuss with the chairman Dave Black on **01953 606532** prior to the meeting or let us know on the night.

Club improvements?

Early next year we are planning to run another membership survey so you can tell us what you think about the club. We took action last time to address the things you told us about: improve the loan equipment, make the showers more accessible, and improve the website. In advance of the survey please feel free to drop us a line to tell us anything you would like to see improved.

HWC Facebook trial

I'm trialling a club Facebook page. For those on Facebook then search for Hickling Windsurfing Club and 'like' the pages.

The club Facebook page is another way of keeping in touch with club news and the updates that other Facebook users leave on the Club Facebook page. I will run the trial through to the end of 2014 to see how it goes. So, if you are a Facebook user, or want to try Facebook then please visit the club pages and get involved.



First Aid

The club instructors renewed their first aid qualification earlier in the year, seen here trying to bring these dummies back to life.



We were very impressed with the Whitlingham OEC training which gave us a high level of confidence to give first aid. A valuable life skill – literally. The training helped me to correctly approach a tricky situation later this year. Without the training I may have panicked.

Club Beach lease renewal

We are pleased to advise the club Beach lease has been renewed. This has taken over three years to achieve. We needed to retire and appoint new trustees and in order to do that we needed to modify both the lease and club constitution.

The role of the trustee is now much simpler, and in future we have the ability to change trustees in just 2 weeks. We have also removed the personal liability from trustees so they are purely acting as go-betweens for the landlord and the committee. We felt this was important so that future trustees are not burdened with unnecessary liability, and to encourage prospective trustees to volunteer in future.

You may remember, the constitution was updated early in 2012 to clarify the role of the committee and trustees with respect to managing leases.

It's amazing how complicated this process was and the amount of effort involved to achieve this. Special thanks go to Dave Black, and Peter Cotes for making this happen. Thanks also to the retiring trustees: Tony Myhill, and Pat Fenn for being lease trustees for the last c18 years and also for their patience while the revised arrangements were being put in place.

The new beach trustees are Dave Black, Gareth Norman and Martin Harwood

Betty & Alan - Congratulations

The members and dragon flies are making good use of the new bench – thank you. It's a relief, we feared Alan may donate his old board for us to sit on!





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