

**Draft Minutes
Dartmouth Yacht Club
SPRING GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, May 21st, 2026**

In attendance:

Tyler Rutledge, Commodore
Paul Mackley, Vice Commodore, Human Resources, Policy, By-Laws
Barry White, Rear Commodore, Racing, Regattas
Marco Plasse, Fleet Captain Sail, Sail Training
Bill Thomey, Fleet Captain Power, Entertainment
Tom Sancton, Facilities, Security
David Duncan, Marina, On Water Assets
Rob Bozin, Boatyard Operations, Environment

In Attendance: Angela Chisholm General Manager, Mary Ridgewell Recording Secretary

Regrets: Terry Hickey Treasurer, Corporate Secretary, Brian Donohue Communications, Member Services

1. **Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.**

2. **Opening Remarks from the Commodore -**

Commodore Rutledge welcomed the members and thanked them for attending. New members and members attending a General Meeting for the first time were recognized. Commodore Rutledge confirmed a quorum was present. 43 members were present.
Commodore Rutledge introduced the Management Committee and Trustees.

Commodore Rutledge presented the membership/boat statistics from May 2025 to May 2026.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: Moved by Don Cameron, seconded by Tony Mountenay, that the Agenda be approved as distributed. Motion carried.

4. **Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Motion: Moved by John Hopkins, seconded by Stephen Whitefield, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting be approved as distributed. Motion carried.

5. **Management Committee Reports, Projects, and Programs**

**Paul Mackley, Vice Commodore, Human Resources, By-Laws/Policy
Human Resources**

Paul presented the DYC Management and Staff organizational chart.

Policy

Paul reported that there were no significant Policy updates. Some minor updates are planned before the end of the year.

By-Laws

Paul reported no By-Law changes are proposed at this time.

Paul advised the members there have been some very disrespectful, abusive interactions from members toward the staff and each other. Paul reminded members that they should always conduct themselves with respect toward staff and other members. He advised this disrespect will not be tolerated at DYC.

Barry White – Rear Commodore, Racing, Regattas

Barry reported dates for this year's racing program as follows: Opening Regatta sponsored by AEL May 30/31, Wednesday Night Racing sponsored by Atlantic Yacht Sales May 13 – October 3, Monday Night Racing sponsored by Ocean Yacht Sales May 25 – September 28, Convoy Cup and Veteran's Cup Races, Sail past Salute to Veterans sponsored by the Convoy Cup Foundation August 29/30, and Bean Crock Regatta Sept. 26th, 2026. He also reported that Family Fun Races and an Overnight Cruise are being planned.

Key Improvements

Barry reported that a Crew Development workshop, consisting of a classroom session in the morning and on-the-water in the afternoon, will be held on July 12.

He noted that mark 21 has been eliminated and mark 14 has been repositioned. The Race Committee will run the last 2 fall series races on a Saturday to focus on safer race finishes before dark.

Participation and Community

Barry reported an expected increase in fleet participation with a number of new boats at DYC. The Race Committee plans a crew database initiative for members who wish to race.

Barry thanked the volunteers and the seminar presenters: Richard and Joy Martin on Coastal Cruising, Henry Raffel Racing Rules, Rod Stright DYC Handicapper on Boat Maintenance, and Preparation for Performance, and a presentation on Sail Trim by Drew Mitchell of the North Sails. .

Terry Hickey, Treasurer - Corporate Secretary

Terry was unable to attend and sent the following report:

Terry reported that Revenue is up \$72,334 or 6.37%. This includes Member Dues up \$19,542, Joining Fees up \$11,150, Crew/Social up \$5,904, Boat and Marine Fees up \$55,957 or 8.89% and Bar revenue up 22%, breaking even on wages and supplies.

Expenses are up \$66,915 or 11%. This includes Roof and Maintenance up \$68,976 with increases on other expenses due to current economy. Increases were offset by decreases in Credit Card fees, interest on Long Term Loan and a substantial reduction in maintenance costs over the year.

Terry reported that Credit Card fees are down, Cash on hand up \$49,752, \$156,297 in the Capital Deferment Fund, the Mortgage balance is \$1,270,831 with interest on the loan down \$8,399. The Mortgage has a 5-year term amortized over 12 years and 9 months.

With the extra money, DYC paid off the Demand Loan.

Marco Plasse - Fleet Captain Sail, Junior Sailing Junior Sailing Training Program

Marco reported the success of the new Junior Sail dock location and the new location of the Junior Sail Shed.

He noted that all coaches are Sail Canada certified and running Sail Canada courses of Wet Feet, and CANSail 1 – 6. Registration started in the early spring with only a few spots available. Marco commented on the Sponsor a Child Promotion.

Events being held for the Junior Sail Program are the Yard Sale June 6th and BAMSE Cup on July 29th and 30th.

Adult Sail

The Adult Sail program is also a Sail Canada certified course with a certified instructor. Marco will hold Start Keelboat Sailing and Basic Cruising courses. Also planned is the Soldier On Program, an introduction to Boating, on June 27th and 28th. This program is recognized by Sail NS.

Bill Thomey - Fleet Captain Power, Entertainment

Upcoming Events

Bill reported upcoming events on the DYC Events Calendar as follows: DYC Opening Regatta May 30th and 31st, Canada Day Steak and Lobster July 1st, the Poker Run July 18th, Convoy Cup August 29th and 30th, and Friday BBQ nights scheduled, one each month.

Bill thanked the Entertainment Committee for giving their time, energy, and efforts to make our events happen and thanked Greg Morrison for taking the lead for the Entertainment Committee.

Tom Sancton - Facilities, Security

Tom reported the following initiatives: new roof for the clubhouse, new deck furniture, the fuel area cleaned up and total enclosure around the area, landscape the front of the Junior Sail clubhouse, exterior upgrade to electrical room (lighthouse), and interior of Marine Centre finished.

The Clubhouse roof has been completed and interior water damage is being repaired. The entire clubhouse interior has been repainted and ceiling tiles and interior lights replaced.

The deck has new recycled plastic patio tables, 4 square, 2 rectangular. These were sourced from Lakecity Plastics.

Exterior vinyl siding is planned to be installed on the electrical room.

Marine Center interior to be finished and trimmed in PVC material.

Brian Donohue – Communications, Member Services

Brian was unable to attend and sent the following report:

Brian reported the transition burgee decals onsite to new design. He is creating a brand kit for future printed and digital materials.

Refreshing the Newsletter template has been completed and plans to automate member list updates are underway.

Brian plans to send out a members' survey to collect updated feedback from membership on website, newsletter, and communications to help drive the next set of goals.

David Duncan - Marina, Mooring Field, Breakwater

On the Water Assets:

David reported the water lines, with some damage, have been repaired and tested. All docks are fully serviced. The water meter at the dock head has been installed to monitor water consumption. This should help in leak detection.

The dinghy dock reconfiguration is underway. David presented a slide with anticipated new location along the seawall to allow more turning room.

Marina Wi-Fi

David preformed a Wi-Fi Survey and mapped signal strength throughout the marina. Results were sub-optimal with no interference from masts. It is planned to deploy 8 access points throughout the marina. David had received quotes to upgrade and found the quotes quite high. With Management Committee's agreement, David will do the upgrade.

Breakwater

It has been noted that the southernmost section of the breakwater is slightly down in the water. After launches are over, plans are to remove it, repair, and replace when repairs are completed.

Marina Gate

The marina gate will be moved back to the flat part of the ramp landing to comply with accessibility recommendations. There is no completion date scheduled.

Mooring Field

David reported that 6 additional moorings are to be added to the south side of the mooring field and 4 added behind the breakwater. The Emergency Mooring will be moved behind the breakwater along with 3 guest moorings.

Mooring maintenance is underway being performed by Connors Diving. David noted that 13 moorings need attention and will take place the second week of June.

Rob Bozin – Boat Yard Operations, Environment

Spring Operational Readiness

Rob reported an active spring launch and haul operations are underway.

Equipment inspections are complete.

Rob advised continued focus on safe and efficient yard operations.

Equipment and Infrastructure Maintenance

Rob reported on the following:

Travel Lift: The annual inspection and mechanical repairs are completed to date.

Yard Trailer: The trailer safety repairs are completed and is operational. Structural repairs were required and have been completed.

Bobcat: Bobcat repairs and preventative maintenance completed. There was a hydraulic hose leaking.

Mast Crane: The annual inspection has been completed. Question again asked about lifting people.

The mast crane is not approved to lift people.

Safety and Long-Term Operational Improvements

Rob reported the following: Yard cleanup and organization ongoing with good progress.

GAP analysis, third-party safety audit is underway.

He noted that continued focus is on safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability.

A member noted that the hoses in the yard require replacement. Many are leaking. Rob will look into this matter.

6. Unfinished Business

New Roof

A slide showing the damage to the roof was presented.

Tyler reported that the new roof is nearly finished. It appears that faulty shingles were the problem for the leaks. Management Committee have been in touch with the manufacturer and are working their way through the warranty process.

7. New Business

There is no new business at this time.

8. Termination of Meeting

Tyler thanked the members for attending and thanked the Management Committee and all staff for their efforts, time and dedication to the club.

Motion: Moved by Robert Breau, seconded by Don Cameron, that the meeting be terminated.

Motion carried. Time: 8:13 p.m.