

**First Coast Sailing Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
February 04, 2023**

(St. Augustine Yacht Club main dining room)



Chairman Justin Muller called the meeting to order at 10:00

About 30 members and friends of the organization were in attendance.

Chairman’s State of the FCSA report

Justin Muller made a short PowerPoint presentation with historical information about membership, current goings-on, and other general information about the organization. See attached.

Items highlighted included an encouragement of all boats to get a rating. “We do good work” in this area and it’s only \$30. Last year 2022, 75 boats were phrf rated and registered, up from 60 in 2021. The numbers are recovering after the Covid events. Let’s focus on growth of participation in the various race related events, and in the sailing community in general. Dues this year stay unchanged: \$35/\$30 members, \$25/\$20 associate members, \$5 temp rating, \$5 change rating. Cruiser & Performance definitions seem to be working at this point.

Proposed Board slate:

Chairman	Justin Muller	Motion from the floor to vote by Tom Davis.
Vice Chairman	Guy Anderson	Seconded by several from the floor.
Treasurer	Allen Jones	
Secretary	Adam Norwood	Vote in favor of the slate was unanimous.
Chief Rater	Adam Norwood	

St. Augustine Race Week report

Dan Floryan, Event Chair, spoke about the 2022 financials, sponsors, formats, etc. – what was good, what was not. Balance sheet ended with \$44,540 income, with \$32,754 expenses, netting a ‘profit’ of \$11,786. \$11,046 was distributed to the scholarship program to 45 recipients. This brings the total donated to date for SARW to \$58k.

2023’s format will remain the same, including the “Reef” turning mark for the offshore Cruisers.

2023’s budget estimates are \$49,500 income with \$38,550 expenses, leaving a hoped for net of \$10,950. The goal for participation of 40 offshore competitors, 10 inshore, and 25 youth 420’s. Thus far there are 2 Diamond sponsors, 7 Master & Commander sponsors, 4 Gold sponsors, and 6 silver sponsors.

2016 was the largest participation of yachts, but the trend is generally downward. However, the youth participation trend is upward, which is encouraging.

Some floor discussions arose. Highlights include: the RC should wait till morning of each race day before ‘cancelling’ racing – weather just isn’t that predictable. Further, we could possibly move communications to texts as and additional backup to the VHF notice concept is the SI’s.

Treasurer's Report

Allen Jones, Treasurer, provided a report of the current standings for both the FCSA and SARW accounts as of January 31, 2022. FCSA had about \$6,700 a year ago, and about \$3,700 today. The annual budget for FCSA is about \$3,800. Insurance is FCSA's single biggest annual cost. With the re-implementation of the \$150 annual charge to each of the member clubs, we should be ok, even with the rising insurance and other costs. Membership dues are expected to remain about the same, about \$2,500.

SARW had around \$20,800 a year ago, and \$20,500 today. The net for the 2022 efforts was \$739 after all scholarships were distributed.

Financial obligations are current for Insurance, Florida sales tax, PO Box, US Sailing Membership, IRS 1099-NEC, and Chamber of Commerce Association. To be completed in March are the 2022 IRS 990N and the Florida nonprofit Corporate Annual Report.

Club Reports:

Epping Forest Yacht Club

Allen Jones reported that the number of slipped sailboats is growing quite a bit. No other items of note since the prior year's completion of re-builds necessary after the storms. The open-invite race schedule for the year includes the DuPont and Kings Day races in the Spring and Fall, along with the Jessie Ball women's race in June.

Florida Yacht Club

Chris Waddell reported that the construction of a the protective pier on the North and East side is under way. This will provide an additional 30 slips from the current conditions. The waterfront personnel are looking to have more pickup keel boat racing this year – especially with their J24 fleet.

Halifax River Yacht Club

Todd Stebleton reported that club will again put together their Commodore's Cup series this year. Their thinking is to include the SARW race days in the scheme similar to how they have included the SYC's Lipton Cup race days in prior years. Participation in 8 races is required for eligibility. For each of the races, they are working to add more significant shoreside events to encourage participation. The St. Augustine Dash held over the Labor Day weekend is being renamed the Max Smith Memorial Starlight Race.

North Florida Cruising Club

Allen Jones reported that NFCC membership is currently way down, but it still is holding on with several social and sailing events planned for 2023. The club will be 55 years old this year.

Rudder Club of Jacksonville

Tom Davis, Commodore, reported that RCoJ is continuing to work to increase their youth involvement. Ten used 420's were purchased this year for youth sailing efforts. Membership is up over 150 from 95 just 2 years ago. They continue to add lift hoists in the wet slips one at a time, with the goal of being all lifts eventually. The Marina is 95% full currently. The membership has agreed to go ahead with attempting to buy the property immediately to the north of the club's property. This will bring options for beach launching, and many other benefits. 28 race days are planned for 2023, including foiling sailboard races. The Mug Race is on again for May 6. 2022 had 90 boats participate as racers. A Tall Ship race is also planned in concert with the event.

Smyrna Yacht Club

David Smith reported that the plant/facilities is in great shape again after all the various repairs and upgrades implemented after the recent storms. The last hurricane in 2022 brought about 2 feet of flooding onto the property, but they have been able to quickly clean it up. The membership of the club is capped at 525, and they have a waiting list of 156 – i.e. things are good. Bryan Flora is the new Fleet Captain. David is handing over the Lipton Cup management, after 10 years, to John Roach. The club purchased 4 Catalina 16.5's in 2022 to add to their 'shared' fleet. On a side note, last year's Lipton Cup RC boats got beat up pretty bad, and the racing was very nearly cancelled. The humans and boats made it though and all have been repaired.

Harbor Sailing Club

Queens Harbor Sailing Club has been reorganized as HSC. Jack Feeney continues to lead this entity. No representative attended this year's meeting.

North Florida Cruising Club

Jerry Holt reported that NFCC will host 3 races and about 5 cruises this year. The membership numbers have diminished a bit in the last few years. We're still here though, for 54 years now.

St. Augusting Sailing

Roseanne Points reported that the club has several new boats in 2022 with 12 slips filled at Commache Cove Marina. Membership is up to 50 at this point, and their facility now includes a dedicated classroom.

St. Augustine Yacht Club

Justin Muller, Commodore, reported that the Youth Sailing Center is now approved and in the final construction planning phase. The primary donor for these efforts is Stanley Parish. In 2022, the youth program had about 300 kids move thru. Marissa Burier is the sail program leader for this. The club has 6 420's, 4 Lasers, and several Optis.

Richard Amerling (in attendance) is the new Rear Commodore of Sail. He reported that the club has acquired a robotic mark to be used/tested this year. Further, he will be encouraging all racers in SAYC events to download and implement the RaceQS application for recording each yacht's race details and uploading for replay and analysis – got a lot of hope that this could help things out.

Saint Augustine Sailing Sisters

Brianne Muller reported that similar to 2022, 3 women's race regattas are planned. Spring Forward, Wendy Thomson Memorial, and Bikini. During the Bikini Race event last year, about \$12k was raised for SASS charities and donated.

Chief Rater's report

Adam Norwood, Chief Rater, reported that all renewals plus a few others from 2022 were mailed out via USPS in January. Several have already been returned. Should be able to have all completed and mailed back to the certificate holders before March 1. This year again, individual certs will be available on SailJax.com (sans personal contact info) in addition to the summary listing.

11:45 – 12:30 Lunch Break

Buffet lunch of tossed greens, chili, sausages, et al provided by SAYC.

2022 Sailing Club Representatives were not officially announced –

Each club should designate someone to represent them. Send corrections to the Secretary or the web master – in this case the same person, Adam Norwood. These are my best guesses for 2023.

EFYC Keith Keller
FYC Dustin Domer
HRYC Todd Stebleton
NFCC Robert Beringer
RCoJ Tom Davis
SYC David Smith
SAYC Richard Amerling
HSC Jack Feeney
SAS Rose Ann Points
SASS Brianne Muller

2021 Trophies Awarded

All open invitation club races were eligible for points. Compete in a minimum of four races, and at least 2 venues (with different organizing authorities) and you are eligible for the trophy hunt. The published scoring grid was used to award points for every race. Multiple regatta races in a single day are counted as 1 race. Distance and overnight races are scored as double the number of competitors. Highest totals win. No minimums apply for the women's series.

2022 awards were announced by Tom Davis (who did the calculations), with incoming Chairman Justin Muller distributing the physical trophies to each recipient. Congratulations to each.

Adjourn, 13:05

Adam Norwood, Secretary
February 16, 2022

2022 Overall Offshore Performance Class:

1st Rock Star, Tim Tucker

2nd Qwiksail, Robert Scaringe

3rd Obsession, Norman Church

2022 Overall Offshore Cruiser Class:

1st Veria, Brianne Petit-Muller

2nd Flamingo 2, Jill Kennon

3rd Ariel, Daniel Floryan

2022 Overall Inshore Performance Class:

1st Rattle & Hum, Adam Norwood

2022 Overall Women's Series, All Female:

1st Flamingo 2, Jill Kennon

2nd Veria, Brianne Petit-Muller

3rd Swim Up Tiki Bar, Barbara Sperbeck

2022 Overall Women's Series, Mixed Crew:

1st Rock Star, Angie Ullmann

2nd Bladerunner, Mary Bakker

3rd Morgana, Kelly Korous