

RCYC Board Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2026, 7 pm
Live at the Clubhouse and via Zoom

Call to Order: Commodore Bruce Newton

1. Establish Quorum (five Board members including one Officer)
 - Board Members in attendance: Bruce Newton, Cathy Skach, Ian Cannon, Karen Jacobson, Jim Calnon, Amy Larimore, Lisa Mork, John Osborne, Brandon Soule, Barnaby Tuttle (online)
 - Resident members: Rick Samuels and Lars Rutkowski
2. Welcome guests, vendors
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3. Adopt Agenda. Adopted without corrections.
4. Introduction of Prospective Members
 - Eric and Amber Purdell (Amber not present)
 - Currently moored at Columbia Way West, they are looking for a more active moorage and were impressed by our facility. They like the DIY atmosphere at RCYC.
 - They have done some ASA training at Hayden Island and also with Portland Sailing School.
 - Eric's hobby is working on their boat, and he is currently re-installing the electrical system. He can do most basic boat maintenance skills.
 - Their boat is a Nauticat 36. Their primary boating activities are day sailing and boat maintenance.
 - Eric works on the Multnomah County River Patrol, and Amber is a nurse practitioner in wound care.
5. Minutes of Previous Meeting – Approved by unanimous consent.
6. Treasurer's Report - Karen Jacobson
 - Financial Reports were distributed to the Board (available on web site).
 - After 4 months, we are catching up on collections. Receipts are currently ahead of expenditures by \$60K.
7. Reports of Officers
 - Commodore - Bruce Newton
 - Opening Day – was a big success with great turnout. There were 22 RCYC boats in the parade, 30 people at breakfast, and about 100 at the barbeque.

- Spring Dock Walk – The Commodore and Moorage Chair inspected the moorage on April 22. This resulted in “gentle nudges” to 37 members.
- Club insurance renewal – Alan Webber has taken on this task. A lot of information must be gathered to complete our application each year. This has been completed. Our premium for this year is \$51K.
- Prospective member review process – The Commodore has asked a small group (John Osborne, Laura Ritter, Matt Richards, Cathy Skach) to review the membership application process. Looking at automating some of the process and looking at how to get a little more background on prospective members.
- Status of projects: Since we are a volunteer organization, these sometimes take a little longer than expected.
 1. Effort on rebuilding the dinghy dock will be redirected toward the pipe float (storage for dredging pipes)
 2. Gate controller replacement is 75% complete
 3. Gate replacement project has determined the electrical needs and found that there is an existing conduit from the electrical service to the gate
 4. Ships stores for RCYC gear is coming along nicely with an order due to be placed soon. (Thanks RJ Barnes).
 5. The weather station is up and running.
- Vice Commodore - Barnaby Tuttle
 - Work Hours report – 1246 total hours worked so far, with 570 being offsite. 41 memberships have no work hours. Please get these caught up, since the mid-year requirement (8 hours) is due soon.
 - Clubhouse Rentals
 1. May 27 – Oregon Women’s Sailing Association
 2. May 29 – decoration day before the Ladies’ Dinner
 3. May 30 – Ladies’ Dinner
 4. June 7 – Private event
- Rear Commodore - Cathy Skach
 - A band has been selected for next years Commodore’s Ball
 - Sydney – working on a senior project – will evaluate our website and provide a report
- Secretary - Ian Cannon
 - Communications – no report

8. Reports of Directors

- Lisa Mork – The Ladies’ Dinner is about halfway subscribed. We have plenty of waiters, but need one more to help in the kitchen, and two more volunteers for dishwashing.

- Brandon Soule – The Walk 4 Barbeque is May 16th.

9. Committee/Contact Reports

- Activities - Laura Richard & Lisa Mork – Ladies' Dinner upcoming on May 30
- Cruising – Bill Kramer
 - The April cruise had 12 boats (great turnout for an early season cruise)
 - Memorial Day Weekend is a 4-day cruise to Coon Island. This will include an appetizer contest, and potluck on Sunday.
 - June cruise is Sailstice (on the solstice) to Schwitter's Landing
 - Bill and Nina will be up north for the Lazy Day's cruise. If you are interested in being a host, please email Bill.
- Education – Rene Emch (Reported by the Commodore)
 - John Osborne led a class on getting your boat in or out of a slip at RCYC.
 - On May 16 there was a class about how to crew on a race boat and crew dynamics.
- Moorage - Matt Richard (not present) - The moorage report is attached below.

10. Unfinished Business

- Walk Liaison outreach – The Commodore took the opportunity to remind directors to reach out to members on their walk. An email would be great; walking the dock is good too. A poster for the clubhouse showing the Walk Liaisons will be available soon.

11. New Business

- Proposal on voting procedure (Commodore) – first touch
 - During the pandemic, the club adopted a voting process for items requiring a vote of the membership that involves both an on-line and in-person component. The process is somewhat burdensome, and a number of members commented to Bruce that there must be a better way.
 - The current process requires in person or online attendance at a meeting for roll call. This is tedious and subject to error. At the last vote, 42% of memberhips voted, but about 1/3 of those votes did not count (since people didn't attend the roll call).
 - There appear to be three options for moving forward
 1. Return to paper ballots at a general meeting. This is a simple process that was used for decades at the club. This could appear to be making it harder for members to participate in decision making.
 2. Continue the current process. With the issues already mentioned.
 3. Switch to an online voting system through the website. This would professionalize the process, allow more people to participate, and we could verify vote eligibility. Technical support would be available to those who need it, and the Board will continue to offer

two touches for any item to allow time for board and member input before a vote is held.

- Changing the voting method to allow the all online process will require a 2/3 vote of the membership present at a meeting.
- The first touch on this item is May (Board and General meetings). The second touch will be the two June meetings.
- The Commodore proposes a special meeting as part of July 4 activities to include an in-person vote.
- Cathy Skach moved and Amy Larrimore seconded proposal to continue discussion.
- Amy supports the change, seeing it as a better approach than either option 1 or 2
- Brandon Soule also supports the proposal
- No concerns were raised by Board or members present
- The first touch will be continued at the general meeting on May 20. (Cathy will lead that meeting in Bruce's absence).
- See entire proposal at the end of these minutes.
- Proposal to provide budget to buy items for the Ship's Store.
 - A budget of \$5,000 was proposed for the initial stock for the Ships Store
 - Amy moved, Brandon seconded
 - John Osborne asked what is anticipated turn rate - It is difficult to be certain, but RJ Barnes thinks about 2 months for the initial stock.
 - Toby asked if it would be cash only - There will also be support for credit card purchases.
 - Amy asked when it will be available - Not exactly sure, but probably at General Meetings and some other events.
 - The motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of new Memberships:
 - Alex Jones and Christina Dittman – Moved, seconded, approved unanimously.
- Membership Status Changes
 - Resignation of Matteo Luccio and Kyoko Hamerski effective April 27 – Moved, seconded, approved unanimously.
 - Resignation of Daniel and Karin Brown effective April 30 (plus approve 2 hour donation) – moved, seconded, approved unanimously.

12. Good of the Order - nothing

13. Adjournment @ 19:50

Rose City Yacht Club
Moorage Report
May 11, 2026

Moorage Activity:

Matteo Luccio has removed his Hunter 340 from the moorage and relinquished his slip 29 on Walk 2.

New members Ed Epifani and Jean Cockelreas, with their Cascade 27 sailboat, *Dilis*, have ended a temporarily assignment to Slip 28 on Walk 4 as a sublet. The slip is assigned to Pete and Nancy Dalton.

Daniel and Karin Brown have sold their C&C 34, *Katzenjammer*, and the boat has departed the moorage. They have relinquished their slip 10 on Walk 1.

The two memberships of Jerry Barnes and Valerie Kennedy and separately Mike Evans and Alissa Garcia with their shared NY36 sailboat named *Desperado*, have been assigned to Slip 10 on Walk 1. Moorage and Utilities Fees will be split between the two memberships. Their boat will arrive possibly in July.

Brian Moore, with his Yamaha 33, named *Kaiju*, has been reassigned to Slip 29 on Walk 2 from Slip 23 on Walk 2.

Bobby and Libby Muerth, with their Hunter 320, named *Moon River*, have been reassigned to Slip 23 on Walk 2 from Slip 16 on Walk 3.

David Wood with his Catalina 30, named *Eagle*, has been reassigned to Slip 16 on Walk 3 from Slip 10 on Walk 3.

Ed Epifani and Jean Cockelreas with their Cascade 27, named *Dilis*, have been assigned to Slip 10 on Walk 3.

Spring Dock Walk

The Spring Dock Walk with the Commodore, a Director and the Moorage Chair was held on Monday April 27th.

Current Moorage Availability Status:

There are currently no members awaiting new moorage on Walks 1, 2 or 5. There are currently 2 members awaiting permanent assigned moorage on Walks 3 or 4 but both are presently occupying a sublet slip. Estimated wait time for these members is 3 to 9 months.

Matt Richard
RCYC Moorage Chair

Proposal on Modernizing RCYC Voting Procedures

First Touch dated May 11, 2026

Executive Summary

Our current "hybrid" voting system—requiring both an online ballot and live attendance (in person or via Zoom) for validation—has become a significant barrier to member participation. This proposal outlines a transition to a secure, fully online voting model to increase engagement and streamline club administration.

Current Challenges

Since the pandemic, our voting process has relied on a two-step process in which members first cast a ballot online (for secrecy) and then a "roll-call" is held at a meeting to validate attendance. This process has many disadvantages:

Low Engagement: The process is described by members as "tedious and painful," discouraging many from participating at all.

The Participation Gap: In our April vote, while 42% of eligible memberships cast a ballot, one-third of those votes were disqualified because the members could not attend the live meeting.

Administrative Burden: Conducting a manual roll-call of attendance by memberships that cast a ballot is time-consuming and prone to error.

Options

Option	Description	Pros	Cons
Return to in-person paper ballots	Revert to prepandemic physical meetings only.	Simple and traditional.	Effectively disenfranchises members who cannot attend physically.
Status quo	Maintain online ballots validated by live attendance.	No Bylaw revisions required.	Continued low participation and administrative frustration.
Secure online voting	Authenticated voting via the RCYC website.	Highest participation; eliminates rollcall; professionalizes administration.	Requires revision of the Bylaws.

Recommended Option: Secure Online Voting

To ensure the integrity of the vote, the new system will utilize our existing website infrastructure.

Authentication: Access is restricted to members via their secure WordPress login.

Validation: Automatic tracking of User IDs and Unit IDs ensures only Active Memberships vote and enforces the "one vote per membership" rule.

Inclusivity: The Voting Committee will provide assisted-voting alternatives for members with technical difficulties.

Time for adequate discussion: The Club would continue the practice of first touch/second touch; providing two opportunities at General Meetings to fully discuss and potentially modify any proposal prior to membership voting.

Required Bylaw Revision

To implement online voting, a proposal to revise the Bylaws would need to be put to the membership. Because this would be a revision of the Bylaws, the proposal would have to be approved by two-thirds of the memberships voting.

The proposition put to a vote:

Revise the Bylaws as follows: in Article III, Section 2, strike the words "present at the meeting" and in Article III, Section 3, strike the words "present at a meeting"

Proposed Timeline for Adoption

To transition to this new system without the burden of one final "rollcall" vote, we propose holding a Special Meeting of the Membership during a high-attendance event, such as the Fourth of July.

Action: Call a Special Meeting with at least 10 days notice (per Article IX).

Method: Conduct the Bylaw revision vote in person using paper ballots at the event.