

RCYC General Meeting Minutes (7:00pm)  
May 20, 2026  
Live at the Clubhouse and via Zoom

General Meeting Agenda (7:00pm)

1. Call to Order: Rear Commodore Cathy Skach leading the meeting. Ian Cannon, Barnaby Tuttle (online), Lisa Mork, John Osborne
  - Welcome guests – no guests
2. Adopt Agenda – Adopted by acclamation
3. Program: There was no program at this meeting.
4. Swearing in New Members
  - Alex Jones and Christina Dittman were sworn in by Loren Beach.
5. Introduction of Prospective Members and guests:
  - Eric and Amber Purdell
    - Got into sailing about 6 years ago, but not intense sailors
    - Took classes at Portland Sailing School and Hayden Island Sailing Club
    - Likes working on their boat and day sailing
    - Currently at Columbia Way West, learned about RCYC from Mike Rees
    - They like the sense of community and the pride that owners take in their boats
    - Amber grew up on the Columbia, her dad had a small powerboat
    - Amber is a nurse practitioner specializing in wound care, has first aid skills, painting and gardening
    - Eric works for Multnomah County Sheriff River Patrol and has high level novice skills at boat maintenance
    - Both enjoy scuba diving
6. Minutes of Previous General Meeting – Posted on web
  - Approved by unanimous consent
7. Reports of Officers and Directors
  - Commodore – Cathy reporting for Bruce Newton
    - Opening Day – great turnout and music by True North
    - Spring Dock Walk – gentle nudges were given to 37 members to clean their boats
    - Club insurance renewal – the policy was renewed thanks to the effort of Allan Weber. The premium was \$51k.
    - Status of projects provided with agenda
  - Vice Commodore - Barnaby Tuttle

- Work Hour Report – 1246.5 hours so far this year. 570 offsite and the balance onsite. The website will be updated shortly.
      - Clubhouse Rentals – OWSA meeting on 5/27, Ladies Dinner decorating on 5.29 with the dinner on 5/30. A private event on 6/7.
    - Rear Commodore - Cathay Skach
      - Commodores' Ball update – A band has been selected.
      - Website evaluation project by Sydney Cole (Dan Cole's daughter) for a college project at Western Washington University. She will provide recommendations.
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    - Secretary - Ian Cannon
      - Communications – no report
8. Directors' Reports
- None
9. Committee/Contact Reports
- Activities – Laura Richard & Lisa Mork – Ladies Dinner had a meal test at the last Board Meeting. Have most of the volunteers needed.
  - Cruising – Bill Kramer Memorial Day weekend Cruise to Coon Island East Dock. Saturday Happy Hour with appetizer contest. Sunday potluck at 6pm. Weather is looking good until Monday.
  - CRYA – Toby Elliott
    - CRYA has focused on making docks available and has been lobbying the Oregon State Marine Board and Oregon State Parks.
    - The ramp at Hadley's Landing on Sauvie's Island is due to be replaced by the end of June.
    - They are working to get the City of Astoria dock near the Maritime Museum upgraded to be more of a destination.
  - Education – René Emch – no report
  - Fleet Captain – Chris Richard – no report
  - Moorage Report – Matt Richard – Report attached. There may be opportunities for mooring member's second boats right now. These would pay the moorage rate for the location they are in.
  - Yearbook – Melissa Bearns
    - Yearbooks are here thanks to the work of Lorena Broawn and Diane Scott.
    - This year the Yearbook essentially broke even financially, costing about 50c per book.
    - We used last years list to determine how many hardcopy books per membership. There are a few extras if someone needs one.
    - We have some new stuff in the yearbook, especially advertisers – please check them out.
10. Unfinished Business
- None

## 11. New Business

- Proposal on Voting procedure – first touch (attached at end of minutes)
  - Many of the members present had read the proposal
  - This came out of feedback from the last vote and on-line roll call.
  - In addition, about one third of votes cast did not count because members could not make the meeting. There were also a few errors.
  - It seems difficult for many members to get to the General Meeting to vote, so these people are disenfranchised.
  - The electronic voting proposal would address these concerns.
  - The proposed electronic process would allow all members to vote, whether they could make the meeting or not.
  - The tentative proposal is to do an in-person vote at a special 4<sup>th</sup> of July meeting to ratify the new procedure. 2/3 of members present would need to vote yes.
  - The floor was opened for feedback which included:
    - A question whether there was data about participation at previous on-line roll call votes (which we have been doing since the pandemic)
    - This would seem to improve our democratic process
    - Concern that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July might not be the event that gets a good turnout of members
    - Perhaps we should use another general meeting July, or early fall
    - Prior to the pandemic we used paper ballots at one meeting a year. This seemed to work pretty well.
    - It doesn't seem that this change is urgent, could we wait until fall to vote?
- Membership Status Changes were approved at the last board meeting.
  - Resignation of Matteo Luccio and Kyoko Hamerski
  - Resignation of Daniel and Karin Brown

## 12. Gwinner Awards: (History of the Gwinner is on page 96 in the Yearbook)

- To the Yearbook crew – Diane Scott, Lorena Brown, and Melissa Bairns
- To Rene Emch for his work on the education programs at the club
- To those who worked super hard at the Walk 4 barbeque including: Mark Salholm, Brandon Soule, Ed Epiphany, Melissa Bairns, and Rick Butler.
- To Eric Eimer for selflessly offering his flat bed trailer to help with fixing the parking lot.

## 13. Good of the Order: nothing

## 14. Tell Tales: Mark Salholm and John Osborne were out on the boat. The wind was stronger than expected, and a gust pulled the sheet through John's hands. He wasn't wearing gloves and got rope burn. Gloves can protect your hands!

## 15. Adjournment @ 20:11.

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 Epifiani 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 27<sup>th</sup>.

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.