

RCYC General Meeting Minutes (7:00pm)

June 17, 2026

Live at the Clubhouse and via Zoom

General Meeting Agenda (7:00pm)

1. Call to Order: Commodore Bruce Newton
 - Welcome guests
2. Adopt Agenda – Adopted as presented.
3. Program: Robert Bergstrom shared about his experience cruising on Scoresby Sund on Greenland.
 - Robert Bergstrom is a retired medical doctor. He enjoys photography, especially of boats and seascapes. He served as President of Portland Photographers Forum in 2024, and also volunteered at Oregon Art Center, where he was a Juror for the Photography Exhibit in April 2026. Robert is a former RCYC member 10 years ago, until he sadly sold his sailboat.
 - Scoresby Sund has been inaccessible for centuries due to ice, but recent melting has made it accessible. It is the largest fjord system in the world. The location is about 70 degrees north (about the same as the Alaska North Slope).
 - Robert did a one week , 350 mile loop with a company called North Sailing out of Husavik Iceland.
 - There were two boats in their cruise: a schooner and a refitted fishing boat.
 - The sound is cold, averages 1300 feet deep, and has many icebergs.
 - Some of the icebergs were as large as a stadium above water, with 90% of their mass below the surface. They can sometimes roll over due to uneven melting.
 - The glaciers feeding into the sound were severely depleted.
 - They met up with the an all women crew who were sailing and climbing in the same area to create a documentary film. Check out via-sedna.com.
 - Robert shared numerous beautiful photos of scenery, icebergs, and the boats.
4. Swearing in New Members
 - Eric and Amber Purdell – Eric and Amber were sworn in by previous Commodore Matt Richard.
5. Introduction of Prospective Members and guests:
 - No prospective members at this meeting.
6. Minutes of Previous General Meeting – Posted on web
 - Approved by unanimous consent
7. Reports of Officers and Directors
 - Commodore – Bruce Newton

- Offshore, Swiftsure – The Offshore Race had the largest turnout ever, including nine boats from RCYC. Several of our participants were very successful. In addition, we had four boats in the Swiftsure race. See attachment for details. A recent edition of 48 North has an article about the Offshore Race.
- Ladies' Dinner – Lisa Mork and team did a great job. The event raised over \$1200 will be split between a new microwave for the galley and a local charity that helps musicians with healthcare costs.
- Vice Commodore - Barnaby Tuttle
 - Work Hour Report – for the first half of the year there have been 2841 work hours total, including 1517 on-site.
 - Clubhouse Rentals - none
- Rear Commodore - Cathy Skach
 - Website review – Sydney Cole (Dan Cole's daughter) is a senior at WWU. She has provided a report to the Web Team, which they will read and report on at a future meeting.
- Secretary - Ian Cannon
 - Communications – We received a thank you card from Portland Yacht Club for our contribution to the PYC Youth Sailing Scholarship program.

8. Directors' Reports

- None

9. Committee/Contact Reports

- Yearbook – Melissa Bearn
 - Melissa has been working on the Yearbook for 13 years. This year's book includes new sections and information about boating essentials. This provides a useful reference for services that you might need on your boat. Please mention the Yearbook advertisement when you contact the advertisers. The book almost paid for itself from advertising revenue.
 - There are two open positions on the Yearbook team: Sections editor and Advertising Renewals. It's a fun team. Most of the work is from November to March and counts toward work hours.
- Activities - Laura Richard – The 4th of July Land Cruise is upcoming. It will include open boats, live music at 2pm, and barbequed chicken for dinner at 4pm. Appetizers at 1, please bring your own alcohol. Walk 5 members will be supporting this event.
- Cruising – Bill Kramer (Commodore Reporting) - Cathy Skach will be hosting the Pirates Cruise on August 7 to 9 at Schwitter's Landing.
- Racing – Ben Emry
 - The recent Medium Distance Race included strong current and strong shifting winds. Queen Albert took first in her fleet.
 - The Long Distance Race is September 12th and 13th. It goes down to San Island (across from Saint Helens) and back. Matt and Laura Richard will be catering a barbeque at the end of the race. They'd love a few helpers to share the work.

- CRYA - Toby Elliott
 - CRYA is looking for a Treasurer and Vice Commodore for next year. RCYC members are eligible to apply.
 - Most of the ongoing conversation is about how CRYA can work for more boaters. They are considering changing the group's name to reflect being more inclusive (the word Yachting would change to Recreational Boaters)
- Education - René Emch – no report
- Moorage Report - Matt Richard – see attachment
- Any other committee reports?

10. Unfinished Business

- Proposal on Voting Procedure – Bruce
 - This proposal would change the voting process to being fully online through the Club's website.
 - So far – there is no general opposition to the change in procedure, but there have been some concerns about the voting process used to change the rules.
 - The June Board Meeting revised the proposal to include voting at the October General Meeting using the hybrid process that we have used for recent membership votes.
 - The Board is asking the Voting Committee to optimize the hybrid process for the October meeting.
 - The revised proposal is attached.
- Review of new members process – John
 - The workgroup provided a first touch concept at the June Board Meeting.
 - There were numerous comments and concerns from Board members and others in attendance.
 - The workgroup is going to do more research and come back with an updated proposal.
 - Please send comments to John Osborne.

11. New Business

- None

12. Gwinner Awards: Ladies Dinner Crew for a wonderful and successful event.

13. Good of the Order:

- Matt Richard – We are getting a lot of algae and aquatic weeds growing around the moorage. You can earn work hours if you come to the club and help remove these. Please remember to wear a PFD when working on the docks.

14. Tell Tales: Alex Jones – Was in a hurry to get out of the moorage along Walk 5 fairway. Strong current and a big barge wake ushed the boat into the Donaldson float and caused damage to the boat.

15. Adjournment @ 20:35

Congratulations Offshore Racers

Pacific Northwest Offshore International Yacht Race

May 14-17, 2026

Jim Calnon	Pathfinder	1 st	ORC-C
Naja DiPilla & Ben Emry	Penelope	2 nd	ORC-D
George Kapllani	Swift	2 nd	Cruising
Barnaby Tuttle	Sea Sponge	3 rd	Cruising
Brian Moore	Kaiju	4 th	Cruising
David Welch	Vela Volta	8 th	ORC-D
Philip Lewis	Souffle	NSC	Cruising
Chris Sheesley	Escapade	DNF	Cruising
Mark Dunham	Astra	DNF	ORC-B

Swiftsure International Yacht Race

May 23-24, 2026

Cape Flattery Race (ORC)

Jim Calnon	Pathfinder	30 th
Mark Dunham	Astra	32 nd

Juan de Fuca Race (PHRF)

Barnaby Tuttle	Sea Sponge	8 th
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Inshore Race Division 2

Phil Lewis	Souffle	10 th
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**Rose City Yacht Club
Moorage Report
June 8, 2026**

Moorage Activity:

Andy Curry had placed his Flicka 24 into Slip 12 on Walk 3 and started a sublet from David Paul and then after about 2 months removed his boat from the slip ending the sublet.

Mark Dunham in Slip 28 on Walk 1 and Pam Dunham in Slip 25 on Walk 1 have exchanged slips.

RJ Barnes and Jackie Brown with their Ranger 25, have sold and removed their boat from the moorage and have ended their temporary assignment to Slip 9 on Walk 5 as a sublet. This was a second boat situation.

New Members Alex Jones and Christina Dittmann with their Catalina 30, *Knot So Fast*, will be temporarily assigned to Slip 9 on Walk 5 as a sublet.

Tressa Yellig and Adam Zimmerman with their Schock Harbor 25 sailboat, have been reassigned temporary moorage from Slip 6 on Walk 3 to Slip 20 on Walk 1. This ends the sublet from Terri Annis in Slip 6, and commences a sublet from the assigned slip owners Richard Peek and Laura Ritter in Slip 20.

Dennis and Jan Stewart have removed their Tartan 37, named *Four Fires*, from the moorage and relinquished Slip 13 on Walk 2.

René Emch and Karen Feulner , with their Yamaha 33, named *Cando*, have been reassigned to Slip 13 on Walk 2 from Slip 22 on Walk 5.

Current Moorage Availability Status:

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

Matt Richard
RCYC Moorage Chair

Modernizing RCYC Voting Procedures

Final as approved by the Board on June 8, 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 the 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 pre-pandemic 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 eligible memberships voting.

On June 8, 2026, the Board voted to recommend to the membership the following revision to the Bylaws.

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”

Timeline for Adoption

The required Bylaw revision will be referred to the membership for approval by a hybrid voting process prior to and during the General Meeting on October 21, 2026. The Board directs the Voting Committee to try to minimize the time to confirm the attendance of memberships who had cast a ballot by possibly using a sign-in onsite and something similar for online attendees.