



420 Monthly Committee Meeting  
GBR International 420 Class Association  
13th April 2026  
Meeting via Google Meet

**Start Time:** 19:40

**Chair:** Piers Sheppherd

In attendance:

Piers Sheppherd  
Mark UB  
Victoria Skelding  
Rosie O'Donnell  
Alice Bailey  
Steve Smith  
David Fletcher  
Rachael Potter  
Claire Fletcher  
Claire Upton Brown  
David Davies  
Mark Howard  
Sam Sandow

Apologies:

## **Welcome**

Piers Shepherd opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and thanking them for their continued support.

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## Chair Update

- Class Governance:
    - Only two out of 23 other RYA recognised, endorsed, youth and national dinghy classes reviewed (2 were unavailable to non-members) are incorporated - Optimists and Formula Kite).
    - International governing bodies tend to be incorporated - many in the UK.
    - Clubs are all moving towards incorporation.
    - Recommendation to move towards incorporating.
    - **Action: DD to continue with next steps to incorporate.**
    - **Action: RP and DD to discuss constitution**
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## Membership / Welfare Update

- Safeguarding course
    - **Action: AB to attend safeguarding course**
  - Youth Nationals
    - 2 x concussion incidents being covered by RYA.
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## Events

### 2027 Calendar

- SS talked the committee through the 2027 calendar proposals. Due to poor attendance at Spring Championship the past 2 years the following proposals were put forward:
  - Proposal 1: Winters in January, Inlands in February, Springs in March
    - Concerns over whether that was too many back to back weekends away for sailors in February and March with training too.
  - Proposal 2: Winters in January and Springs in early March - these would become the qualifier events with Inlands being changed to Late Summer Championship in September and a GP being added in April.
    - This was the recommended proposal and will be implemented for 2027
- **Action: SS to continue research on sailor geographical locations to ensure a fair spread of events across the country.**

## Nationals

- **Action: RP/CUB to contact Brixham to discuss socials and budget**
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## Finance Update

- Still awaiting 1 x Palamos payment
- **Action: RP/CUB/SS to calculate event profit/loss for winter events**

- Big thank you to Mark H for getting Quickfile up and running to ensure invoices and payments can be actioned efficiently!
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## Training Update

- Vicky led on a full training update and the launch of the Class Development Team for 2027
- Youth Nationals Review - inefficiencies being reviewed and OCA update recommended.
  - Action: RP to email members to ensure updated parent contact details are added.
- 2026 Nationals - 2 days open training pre nationals 25 - 26 August, Brixham Yachts Club approved.

## Summer Teams Training Camps

- Training open to all selected summer teams boats (minus YS) and cost will be £500 per boat. Queen Mary Sailing Club and WPNSA.
- Tim to lead this camp
- 2nd - 3rd May Queen Mary or Datchet
- 25th - 27th May WPNSA
- Action: RP to add training to OCA

## 2027 420 Class Development Team

- Cost £995 per boat for 10 days training prior to each championship event
- This is for the middle of the fleet circa 12 boats some of which did RYA TAT last year but not in BSYT class team or RYA TAPD. Invite only.
- Tim Rush to lead on this.
- Continue regional hubs (maybe move to Frensham Pond and Leigh and Lowton)

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## Marketing / Sponsorship Update

- Xtremity - Mark from Xtremity happy with coverage on socials and at events.
- Gill Teams Kit:
  - Gill are looking at our international kit and tweaking the current one so it still matches the GBR bibs. There are several options including changing the base colour to white. We also included sailor feedback including a preference for the writing on the reverse. Will start the kit order schedule shortly.
  - GBR bibs, there are a few missing and some in poor condition but overall we will be using last years with a small order to replace damaged ones
- Suggestion to invest in 2 x 420 Class 'feather flags'; typically <100GBP +VAT for 4.2m flag\* & carry case.
  - To generate awareness, interest and presence of the class at events and in the boat park.
- 2026 Gill sponsorship ideas also discussed.
- 2027 Dinghy Show - need a bigger stand and more presence as a class at the event.

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## International Update

- Worlds and Europeans Team Offers sent out to sailors/parents.
- Need to collate a list of house parents and drivers
- DF has done a lot of research on group bookings with Ryanair and hotels and general logistics - thank you!
- Action: DF to create an updated costing list/information pack
- Action: DF/RP to create Teams Whatsapp groups
- Action: RP to create teams letter to be sent out to schools

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## Technical Update

- StS and MUB met with Adam Parry (RYA Technical Manager)
- Looking to get ~5 people trained as Maintenance Measures (possibly immediately prior to Brixham Nationals)
  - Recommended to implement by committee
- Joint review on Jib Head adjustment rule again - will be consulting Int Class Tech authority again for follow up clarification
- Class to go back to having 2 sets of sails for events
- Request that the UK propose a dyneema forestay - in consultation.