

OGA - GMC Meeting Agreements and Assignments

from the Meeting of December 4, 2025

Participants: Alison Cable (co-opted Boat Register), Clare Thomas (Membership Secretary), Colin Stroud (Secretary), David Bewick (co-opted Small Boats Secretary), Julian Cable (co-opted Boat Register), Mike Beckett (President), Tony Kiddle (Treasurer)

Not Present: Georgina Tall (co-opted Younger Members Secretary), Jay Cresswell (co-opted Gaffers Log Editor)

1	<u>Gaffers Log Archive:-</u> It was agreed that only one set of hard-copy Gaffers Logs/Newsletters should be held by the OGA once the following has been completed: • Jay to check existing hard-copy archive for completeness and to compare with Alison/Julian if they have anything that is missing to ensure one set is as complete as possible. • Tony to continue to ensure the searchable digital archive is complete and then, <u>when this is finished</u>, Log Editor or Boat Register Editors to send a set of all past publications, not already stored there, to the British Library Legal Deposit so the British Library hold a full historic record. (note that although all Gaffers Logs will be stored in the OGA Digital Archive, they will not appear to users until they are three years old). The address of the British Library Legal Deposit is now in the GOLD membership database, as an "Associate", so copies of all Logs, starting with Issue 112, are automatically posted there.	JayC TK
2	<u>Photograph Library: -</u> Jay to report at the next meeting.	JayC
3	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> In response to Richard, Jay and Peter highlighting the need to improve external communications, the GMC will continue to look for a volunteer External Communications and Sponsorship Officer.	GMC
4	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Regarding the possible change in legal status, a paper produced by Georgina was circulated prior to the meeting. Members discussed the possibility of changing to become either an incorporated company limited by guarantee, or a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Possible advantages and disadvantages of both options were discussed but no consensus for change was reached. It was agreed the OGA would remain an unincorporated organisation for now, and that the GMC will continue to investigate the options and gather professional views. Area Officers to seek views from their members or committees to enable a decision to be made at a subsequent AC. It was noted that the final decision would have to go to the national AGM for ratification. <u>Update: November AC Assignment: -</u> At an Extraordinary ACM on November 18, 2025, it was agreed to remain unincorporated and to take actions to reduce risks and liabilities when organising events both on and off the water. Grant to set up a sub-group of the AC to look at reducing risks. Pete Elliston and Georgina offered to be in the group with Alasdair offering input, as required, on management of safety on the water. The sub-group should not consider risks related to actions or decisions made by skippers. (eg. Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing). It was agreed that the sub-group should look at policies, procedures, risk assessments, contract templates and processes for shared learning, with an initial report to the AC on January 31, 2026 and to have something that can be incorporated into the Handbook for OGA Officers before the start of the 2026 sailing season. Confirmation should be sought from the RYA that policies,	

	etc. conform with their standards of good practice. All areas should be consulted so the results are workable for both large and small events, inland and tidal. Mike to brief Members at the January 2026 AGM on the background, current position and ongoing actions.	MB
5	Merchandise: Georgina to obtain a quote for the production, and distribution to Members, of an A4 size 2026 calendar.	JT
6	It was agreed to buy an additional Zoom user account to support Georgina's YMs lectures. Colin to arrange.	CS
7	Colin to follow-up with Ellie regarding finding a new Online/Social Media Manager.	CS
8	It was agreed that, for the time-being, due to technical complications, we should not pursue the option of making the Officers Area of the website viewable to logged-in Members.	
9	David to follow-up with Mike Dixon as a potential successor for the Small Boats Secretary position.	DB
10	<u>Not Assignments to the GMC but included here to keep all in one place: -</u>	
11	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> All Areas to continue to attract new members and communicate with their local clubs, harbour authorities, etc, and share successes and lessons learnt at future ACMs.	All
12	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Paul to ensure the proposed flip-book viewer is usable on all screen formats, to address concerns by Mary and Alison.	PM
13	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Three Areas (NW, Scot. and EC), as a trial, to contact a manufacturer of new Gaffers, or Gaffer kits, with the objective of recruiting their customers as OGA members. Existing OGA leaflets and cockpit-cards to be used if required.	AS JC PE
14	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Alasdair to contact all areas for more ideas to support his proposal to promote other organisations offering gaff rig sailing with a view to increasing OGA membership and then to encourage others to support through a Gaffers Log article and online.	AS
15	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> All to spread the word among your Areas that we need to find, before the end of 2026, a Treasurer to succeed Tony and a Small Boat Secretary to succeed David.	All
16	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Alasdair to provide costs, to the next meeting, for the proposed 2027 AGM/ACM at the Windermere Jetty Museum, organised by the NW Area.	AS
	<u>Assignments on hold pending later implementation: -</u>	
17	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> The GMC will, in 2028, revisit the use of the online "Member List", instead of a printed Yearbook, to see if there is a need to go back to a printed Yearbook.	

- 18 **October 2025 AC Assignment:** - The GMC will add additional advice into the Handbook for OGA Officers regarding food allergy risks and contracts with catering companies. on-hold pending outcome of the November 18, 2025, sub-group looking at reducing risks.
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- Completed Assignments:-**
- 19 **January 2025 AC Assignment:** - Tony to include, when presenting annual accounts, bank balances from 2 previous years and ensure the previous year summaries are complete, including special events, for example, the OGA60 event totals in the 2024 accounts.....completed December 4, 2025, Tony has now included items in the 2025 accounts document that will be presented at the ACM on January 31, 2026.
- 20 **January 2025 AC Assignment:** - All to frequently send information and photographs to Elly for website and social media postings..... completed, Elly reports that inut has increased.
- 21 **April 2025 AC Assignment:** - The GMC to make a proposal, for discussion at the next ACM, on the OGA becoming a company limited by guarantee. It was agreed to better understand the pros and cons then, if necessary, present a proposal/recommendation to the AC..... completed, this assignment was replaced by another at the October 2, 2025 ACM.
- 22 **April 2025 AC Assignment:** - As the NE Area Committee has been unable to recruit anyone to continue to manage and organise the Area it was agreed that the NE and EC Areas should merge, covering Dover to Eyemouth, and that the EC would take ownership of the two NE Gafflings. Paul to talk to Francis. Completed at the EC Area AGM on November 2025.
- 23 **April 2025 AC Assignment:** - The 2026 AGM/ACM will be organised by the EC Area, to be held in either Colchester or Harwich..... completed, plans are now in place and arrangements published in the Autumn 2025 Gaffers Log.
- 24 **October 2025 AC Assignment:** - Colin to provide the above proposed Rule changes to Jay for publication in the Winter Gaffers Log so they can be voted on by the Members at the January 31, 2026, AGM..... Completed, Rule Changes published in the Gaffers Log and the vote is now on the published agenda for the January 13, 2026 AGM.

The meeting closed at 19:35h

The next meeting will be on January 8, 2026, at 19:00

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85354885436?pwd=IEJG2D0tUvDI1M9gWzqGOAwn4BQRKi.1>

Meeting ID: 853 5488 5436

Passcode: 782114

Colin Stroud, Association Secretary
December 9, 2025