

OGA Association Committee Meeting

January 31, 2026, from 10:00 to 13:30

Harwich Town Sailing Club, Angel Gate, CO12 3EJ

A Zoom link will be provided two weeks in advance.

DRAFT AGENDA

	Mins.
1. President's welcome – Mike	3
2. Membership Secretary's report – Clare	6
3. Treasurer's report of accounts - Tony	6
4. Boat Register Editors' report – Alison & Julian	6
5. Small Boats Secretary's Report – David	6
6. Gaffling 4.1 Project update – Pete	10
7. Log Editor's report – Jay	6
8. Status of the Risk Reduction sub-group - Grant	15
9. Younger Members' Interest Section – Georgina	10
10. Proposed changes to how the Youth Fund is spent – Pete	6
11. 'Living Heritage' submission with the National Historic Ships – Mike	6
12. Areas to share 2025 successes, issues and lessons learnt: (Annual reports from all Areas of their activities and plans to be provided for the Officers Area one week before this ACM, for pre-reading, so not to be read out at the meeting).	
a. Bristol Channel	9
b. Dublin Bay	9
c. East Coast	9
Break - bring refreshments back into meeting room	20
d. North Wales	9
e. North West	9
f. Scotland	9
g. Solent	9
h. South West	9
13. Proposed 2027 ACM/AGM to be hosted by the NW Area - Alasdair	5
14. Review of open assignments - Colin	10
15. AOB & contingency	21
16. Date of next ACM via Zoom (Tuesday April 14, 2026 at 19:00?) - Colin	2

Note: the AGM starts at 14:30

	<u>Open assignments from previous AC Meetings</u>	
1	<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
2	<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
3	<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
4	<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 PM
5	<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
6	<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
7	<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
8	<u>November 2025 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. -----	GM
	<u>Assignments on hold pending later implementation: -</u>	
9	<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.	GMC
10	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - 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.	GMC

Completed Assignments:-

- 11 **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 requested items in the 2025 accounts document that will be presented at the ACM on January 31, 2026.
- 12 **January 2025 AC Assignment:** - All to frequently send information and photographs to Elly for website and social media postings..... completed, Elly reports that input has increased.
- 13 **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.
- 14 **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.
- 15 **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.
- 16 **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 31, 2026 AGM.
- 17 **October 2025 AC Assignment:** - 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. assignment closed as it was superseded by another at the November 18, 2025 Extraordinary AC meeting.

Colin Stroud
Association Secretary
December 30, 2025