



RS700 Class Association AGM Minutes 2026

Venue: Royal Torbay Yacht Club

Date: Friday 4 September 2026

Time: 7:00pm

Chair: Matt Conner

Attendance: 11

1. Welcome

Matt Conner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

No apologies were received.

3. Matters Arising from the 2025 Minutes

There were no matters arising from the 2025 minutes.

4. Election of Committee

The current committee was noted as:

Role	Name
Chair	Matt Conner
Social Media	Elliot Booley
Technical Representative	Nathan Steffenoni
Social Media	Rob Higgins
Plank Monitor	Nathan Steffenoni
RS Builders Representative	Guy Rivington

Matt confirmed that he would be standing down as Chair.

Elliot Booley and Rob Higgins were proposed as joint Co-Chairs. The proposal was made by Elliot and Rob and was seconded by Simon.

The proposal was accepted.

Robbie volunteered to take on the role of Training Representative, with responsibility for supporting training at the Inlands. Robbie has already provided training at an event earlier in the year.

The proposal was accepted.

5. Technical

Superspars / bespoke parts

The ongoing issue around the availability of bespoke RS700 parts from Superspars was discussed. This has been raised at previous AGMs.

It was noted that a breakdown in the supplier relationship, and Superspars' ability to supply parts to RS Sailing, appears to have contributed to the problem. Matt felt that confidence in the current relationship was low.

The possibility of identifying an alternative supplier for components such as masts and booms was discussed, including Selden as a potential alternative.

Alex NS joined the meeting remotely.

Alex apologised for the parts service. RS have been distracted over last few years but are now concentrating purely on RS Sailing and specifically on spars, supply and website with a new stock system in January. Rs are committed to ensuring price point is reasonable.

Superspars:

Easiest situation would be to stay with Superspars as the mast is good but RS struggling to get stock from them. Stock promised for delivery in July has still not arrived. Moving forwards the only real option to go with a different supplier. Alex suggested approaching Selden to develop a new mast.

Alex proposed working with the fleet to develop a Selden mast and felt it could be a relatively quick process. Suggested timescale: 2-3 masts over the winter with correct design by 3rd mast. New mast by start of next season. Matt to arrange a couple of people to help develop new masts over the winter.

The question was then raised about booms. Alex felt this was relatively simple to solve.

Matt asked about other parts essential to sailing the boat. Matt to send Alex a list of all essential parts and RS to ensure stock availability moving forwards. New stock system should eradicate problems.

The question was asked as to whether there are any other potential suppliers. Alex felt Selden were the best option – reliable and quick. Nathan (tech rep) supported this view.

Matt asked about possibility of a sectional mast (2 or 3 pieces). Alex said this would be more expensive due to the need for sleeves but open to explore the idea going forwards.

Matt thanked Alex for his efforts and for the price reduction. Alex left the meeting.

A vote was held on whether the class should move to Selden:

- In favour: 10
- Against: 0

The proposal was unanimously supported.

6. Class Association Staffing

Laurie provided an update on the current Class Association staffing situation, including the changes to the CA secretariat and plans for the coming months.

7. Review of 2026 to Date

The following events were reviewed:

Event	Entries	Notes
Chew Valley – March	6	With RS100s and RS400s
Stokes Bay – April	4	
Dabchicks – May	15	With RS500s
SnetFest – June	8	
Nationals – September	16	

Overall attendance was considered to be broadly in line with 2025 figures, although attendance at individual events remains relatively low.

It was noted that sailors are often reluctant to commit to events early, instead waiting to see the weather forecast before entering. This leads to a high proportion of last-minute entries.

The Rooster Tour was discussed, with the view that it provides valuable visibility for the RS700 class and would be a shame to lose.

There was no Euro Cup in 2026.

Membership

Membership figures as of April 2026 were reviewed and are broadly in line with 2025

The importance of encouraging sailors to become Class Association members was discussed.

It was agreed that more needs to be done to communicate the benefits of Class Association membership to sailors.

The possibility of introducing a more accessible form of international membership was also discussed, with the aim of encouraging more overseas sailors to join the class association.

Action: Explore options for international membership and improve communication around membership benefits.

8. Plan for 2027 and Beyond

The following key events were confirmed or discussed for 2027:

Event	Date / Notes
Riva Cup	27–29 May – dates and attendance confirmed by the club on 30 July 2026
Nationals – Abersoch	8–12 September – with RS100s and RS400s

Inland Championships

Grafham Water was suggested as a possible venue for the 2027 Inlands, potentially returning in October. The decision will be reviewed following the 2026 event.

The importance of multi-fleet events was discussed, particularly opportunities to bring the RS100, RS300, RS600 and RS700 fleets together.

Additional events

Stokes Bay was discussed as an early-season event. Matt was keen to retain it on the calendar.

Dabchicks was considered important because of the size of the local RS700 fleet and the strength of the social side of the event. However, feedback had identified issues around parking, launching, dinghy storage and the distance from the launch area to the sailing area.

It was suggested that the event should be scheduled to make better use of the tide and that improved visitor and boat parking arrangements should be investigated.

Lymington in June was discussed. As it falls relatively close to the Riva Cup, it was suggested that this could be promoted as a class event but not necessarily included as a Tour event.

Riva Cup

It was noted that the RS800s are also planning to attend the Riva Cup and that there is likely to be a strong Czech turnout.

A vote was held on including the Riva Cup in the RS700 National Tour:

- **In favour:** 7

The proposal was supported.

Snettisham / SnetFest was also discussed as a potential Rooster Tour event.

Looking further ahead, the possibility of joint events with other single-handed RS classes could be explored.

2028 Nationals

The proposed venue for the 2028 RS700 Nationals is Brixham, with dates of 7–10 September.

The event was agreed with Peter Lytton on 8 October 2025.

9. AOB

Event support and sponsorship

The approach to supporting events going forward was discussed.

It was felt that the sponsorship package should be reviewed, including consideration of items such as event T-shirts and other event support.

Czech Nationals

The class received an open invitation to attend the Czech Nationals at Lake Lipno in October.

Malek has offered the use of his boat to anyone wishing to travel out and compete. Members interested in attending were asked to let the class know.

Vote of Thanks

Matt thanked everyone for their hard work and support during his time as Chair.

A vote of thanks was given to Matt for his tenure as Chair.

Laurie updated the members about recent staffing changes. Laurie to remain as class secretary to the 700s.

Actions

Action	Responsibility
Take forward exploration of alternative suppliers for RS700 bespoke parts, including Selden	Committee/Alex NS
Confirm arrangements for the new joint Chair structure	Elliot Booley / Rob Higgins
Develop/support training opportunities, including at the Inlands	Robbie
Improve communication of Class Association membership benefits	Committee / CA
Explore options for international membership	Committee / CA
Review Grafham Water as a potential 2027 Inlands venue following the 2026 event	Committee
Investigate improved parking, boat storage, launching arrangements and tide timing for Dabchicks	Committee / Event Organisers
Review the RS700 sponsorship/event support package	Committee
Finalise the 2027 event calendar and National Tour	Committee

Laurie to support all actions as required.