

Notes from the Ships Council Meeting, 31st March 2017, Southampton

Toby Marris welcomed everyone to the meeting. The following were Matters Arising:

1. Matters Arising

a. Facebook

A Small Ships Forum Facebook page had recently been created. This should be shared with the SSF members.

b. Crisis Plan

STIs crisis plan would be posted in the members log-in area. Members were invited to post their Crisis Plans as good practice examples to others.

c. Small Ships Facilities

Jose "Pepe" Etcheverria offered to suggest areas where the Host Port contract could be strengthened up for the smaller vessels.

2. Election Process

Toby Marris and Pedro Mendes were re-elected as there were no other nominations.

3. Near Misses Reporting

The meeting thanked Einar Corwin, Paul van Ommen, Jan Miles and Asser Amidsen for their recent work, ideas and proposals on reintroducing a Near Miss reporting scheme within Sail Training. The principle had been supported by members who attended the previous meeting.

It was decided that there should be an option for vessel operators to report incidents anonymously. Google Docs might be a good platform. Consideration would be given to have this as a Conference session. It would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

4. Sail on Board

Doug Prothero emphasised the importance of creating the Sail on Board as a platform to help young people book sail training voyages. Sally Titmus gave a presentation on the recent developments with the Sail on Board website (presentation attached).

5. International Sail Endorsement Scheme

Einar Corwin reported that he had a recent meeting with the Nautical Institute and advised that the scheme needs to be moved forward. The Ships Council has a responsibility to help improve standards in safety.

It was agreed to encourage vessel operators to evidence that their Captains had undergone appropriate training and had relevant sailing experience and if not recommend ISES or an equivalent scheme to inexperienced captains. STI would continue to run conferences and seminars and publish guidelines to support raising standards.

6. Revenue Generating Ideas

Haakon Vatile suggested that pay to board ticketed events around host port events such as firework displays could be developed. Host Ports should arrange any licensing that would be required. These events should not count as Host Port contracted deck parties and they should take place in the evenings leaving opportunities for Open Ship for the public during the day.

7. Date of Next Meeting

There would be a meeting in Turku on the 22nd July for those members taking part in the Baltic Tall Ships Races.