

Commodore's Report 2025

It has been encouraging this year to see such active racing scene in the West Country and in the Solent described in Racing Secretary Neil Boughton's report. The Fastnet Race had a record multihull entry in what turned out to be a classic Fastnet with a beat all the way to the Rock and a run all the way back to Cherbourg. It was nice to see Harvey Bowden win the Round the Island Race multihull class on his Firebird Hyper. Harvey had previously sold Orion, his other Firebird after twice completing the race in heavy weather only to find the racing for boats that size had been cancelled!

As we reported at the last AGM, we have been looking at modifying the MOCRA rating system to one based on based on the Offshore Racing Congress (ORC) system and now plan to implement this change for 2026. Simon Forbes, the Rating Secretary, has been closely involved with ORC, including some potential modifications. While the existing MOCRA system has been pretty successful in providing pretty fair results over the years, there have been some anomalies appearing in particular in relation to larger multihulls. The ORC system also has the benefit of having the potential to vary the handicapping in accordance with the conditions of a particular race. Simon Forbes will briefly describe the system at the AGM.

I would like to thank all the MOCRA Officers for their contributions to keeping the Association going through the year. This year we, especially, thank Tim Wilson, who is retiring as Treasurer, after 32 years of service. Many thanks, Tim. We would like to welcome Enora Pichon, who, subject to approval at the AGM, will take over as Treasurer. Enora has been shadowing Tim's work through the year, so that she is up to speed to take over.

At the Dinner following the AGM at the RNLI centre in Poole this year, our speaker will be Andy Cloughton, naval architect and former Chief Design Engineer at Ben Ainslie Racing and now with ORC, which should be very interesting and informative. We look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM.