Commodore's Report 2026

Rupert Kidd, Commodore

After seven years as Commodore, Rupert Kidd passes on the role and nominates Simon Baker, Vice-Commodore for many years, as the new Commodore of MOCRA.

At a glance

- **Thanks to the officers** for keeping MOCRA running – and a call for more members to help.
- **Cruising Secretary wanted.** Gordon Baird wants to focus on being Scottish regional representative; a South Coast-based successor is needed.
- **Active racing** continued in a non-Fastnet year.
- **First year of the ORC-based MOCRA rating.** Modifications for smaller multihulls will be in place for next year's racing.
- **Handover:** Simon Baker is nominated as the new Commodore.

Report

First, I would like to thank all the officers for the hard work they have put in to keep MOCRA running. If there is any member willing to help further, please step forward as there are always areas where more help would be appreciated. As discussed at the last AGM we are looking for someone to take on the role of Cruising Secretary. Gordon Baird was persuaded to continue looking after this, but he really wants to limit his position to being Scottish Regional representative and as he says in his report, we really need someone South Coast based to take this on.

It has been encouraging to see such active racing continuing in a non Fastnet year as Neil Boughton, Racing Secretary reports. This year has seen the implementing of the MOCRA rating based on the ORC system. As with any rating changes there are some areas where the new system produced some perceived bias, perhaps not surprisingly particularly in the area of smaller multihulls since the ORC system for multihulls was developed based on larger catamarans. Following the Racing Committee's review, Simon Forbes has been actively involved with modifications to the ORC system, which as he reports will be implemented in time for next year's racing. I am confident that the more scientifically based ORC system was the right path for MOCRA to take and ultimately will lead to the ability to be adjusted for the anticipated conditions for individual races. For the moment it will continue to use a single rating for all races as before.

When originally elected Commodore, I agreed to take on the role for 3 years, but now after 7 years it is time to pass the role on. It has been a privilege to have been involved in multihull racing for 43 years, especially in the early days when it was still very experimental. My passion has always been the challenge

of short-handed long-distance racing, especially Round Britain, but I have decided it is time to retire from that. It is sad to see such an iconic race rather fading away. However, this year after the Triangle Race our only race this year, we did have a wonderful two months up cruising in the west of Scotland on Suenos, despite the rain!

It is time to pass on the role of Commodore to someone more actively involved in the racing scene, therefore I am pleased to nominate Simon Baker, who has been Vice-Commodore for many years as the new Commodore of MOCRA. The Association is in good hands as all the Officers reports show. I thank you all for your support.

Rupert Kidd, Commodore