

Isle of Bute Seasports Club (SCIO)
(Formerly Isle of Bute Sailing Club)
Scottish Charity No - SC052412

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
for the year ended
30 September 2025

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 30 September 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the above period.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name

Isle of Bute Seasports Club (SCIO)

(Formerly Isle of Bute Sailing Club)

The change of name was agreed by the Members at the AGM held on 30 March 2022 and subsequently approved by OSCR.

Charity No.

SC052412

Address

West Bay, Rothesay, Isle of Bute, PA20 0AZ

Current Trustees

Gordon Wallace Commodore

Richard Dalton Vice-Commodore

Alan Senior Secretary

Samuel Bryan Treasurer

Alastair McMillan

Ewan Strachan

Melanie Dalton

Margaret McDonald

Other Trustees who served during the period

Resigned – Aidan Canavan

Resigned – Callum McMillan

Resigned – Janet Clapton

Resigned Harry Bowman

Resigned – Alison McDermott

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) with a two-tier structure whereby the Trustees are elected from the wider membership. It was registered in its current legal form on 17 March 2023 and operates under its 2022 Constitution. The charity was previously an unincorporated association, and the assets of that association were transferred to the SCIO on the 17 March 2023.

Appointment of Trustees

The charity Trustees constitute the Board of Trustees, which normally meets monthly. Membership of the Board is open to all voting members of the Club (i.e. Full member aged 16 or over, a parent/carer who has Full membership, a Life member, or an Honorary member)

Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting which is normally held in November

There must be a minimum of six and a maximum of ten trustees

Charitable purposes

To facilitate and encourage community participation in healthy recreation by the provision of facilities for amateur seaports in all its forms.

In furthering those purposes, the organisation will also seek to: promote safety on the water; provide training for the community; encourage and promote good sportsmanship on the water and onshore and promote respect and care for the marine environment. To always promote inclusion and equality within the whole community.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable objects

To facilitate and encourage community participation in healthy recreation by the provision of facilities for the sport of amateur boating in all its forms. In furthering those purposes, the organisation will also seek to promote safety when boating, provide boating training for the community and visitors, encourage, and promote good sportsmanship in the sport of boating and promote respect and care of the marine environment.

Activities

The last 12 months have been very important for the club as we consolidate the future of the club since forming the club from the skiff group and the old sailing club in 2022.

Its been a great year, with active swimming, rowing and sailing sessions. The sailing started off slowly this year due to a lack of safety boats, but one of our major achievements this year has

been getting two fully serviced and functioning ribs to allow us to get club boats back on the water. We are now able to hold regular sailing sessions on weekends which have been warmly welcomed, and regular coaching provided.

The skiff group has come on in leaps and bounds, with several new coxes trained, new oars, and a new trailer purchased for the skiff thanks to the tremendous fundraising efforts by the rowers last year.

There have been many swimming events including open days and the solstice swim which have been much welcomed and well attended.

We now have facilities for storing kayaks which is well utilised.

Achievements and Performance

We have agreed a lease, in principle, with the council which secures the position of the clubhouse for the next 20 years. While there is a lot of detail to finalise, this is a massive achievement and this allows us to move forward with planning the future of the club building in regard to repairs, major alterations or replacing the now rather aged building. Significant improvements have been made to the existing building, with improved doors and digital locks to the boat and kayak storage area, and CCTV cameras in the bar and boathouse areas.

A new winch has been acquired to allow the safe launching and recovery of boats at all states of tide.

Our annual major sailing race the Round Bute Race was a great success again with 18 entrants and 9 finishers on a challenging day and it remains a key event in our calendar.

We organised and hosted a charity raft race which was very well attended in August, and we had a great day for it. 4 teams of brave souls ventured out, raising £182.53 for the RNLI and £349 for the club.

We celebrated the 50th anniversary of the opening of this clubhouse in September, with a very successful social event.

Of course to keep all this going requires lots of good will and effort by a lot of people.

Although we have had three resignations from our board, we have been successful in recruiting new volunteers to the committee, and are currently sitting with just one vacancy, which we are hopeful to fill in the very near future.

Financial Review

Membership numbers have stabilised in 2025 at a slightly lower level than in 2024 (approximately 110 versus 140 in 2024). Subscription income received was £3904, reflecting the decrease in membership. Membership fees remain unchanged from 2024.

The charity normally has two main sources of funding, Subscriptions and Clubhouse Bar Income. Subscription income is detailed above. Clubhouse Bar Income amounted to £5871. Additionally the Club ran a number of events which raised approximately £1150. New this year, the club raised quite a bit in donations – £5123 total of which approximately 3000 came from members, mostly a GoFundMe campaign for a new skiff trailer, and approximately 2000 from The Adventure Sailing Trust for safety boat maintenance and some other aid relating to sail training with the Rothesay Academy.

Reserves Policy

There is not a formal Trustees' Policy on the retention of Reserves, however the balance of the general fund at the year end was £11,150, well above the amount required to cover normal operating expenses. At the AGM in October 2024 there was a similar balance, and we proposed to spend down some of this amount on deferred maintenance items in our clubhouse. We have not accomplished this in part because of the lack of a lease with the council for the land under the clubhouse.

Plans for future period

1. Maintain adequate and safe facilities for our members to access watersports, including kayaking, swimming, coastal rowing and sailing.
2. Provide more coaching sessions for sailing and coastal rowing as well as increasing the number of club days on the water for our membership.
3. Holding open days to encourage more people onto the water for sporting activities to maintain health and wellbeing.
4. Improve our land facilities particularly improvements to our clubhouse toilet facilities
5. Develop a scheme to allow access to water based activities for young persons who may not otherwise be able to access these sports.

Approved by the Trustees on 16 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by: -



Dr. Gordon Wallace,

Commodore