

AUSTRALIAN 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF PRE CARNIVAL CONFERENCE  
MEETING HELD 3/1/08  
AT ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON, Manly (Qld)

Meeting opened 9.10am.

Chairman: Lloyd Mulholland

APOLOGIES: Gary Paton; Brad Andrew

CLUBS REPRESENTED: Belmont, Manly, Georges River, Drummoyne, Brisbane Sailing Squadron, Queensland Cruising Yacht Club and Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron.

PRESENT: Rob Wasson, Lloyd Mulholland, Brad Colledge, Riv Robson, John Andrew, Chris Mulholland, Craig Corke, Clint Bowen, Mark Graham, Michael McMahon, Danny Anderson, Glenn York, Ian Kennedy, Sean Harrison, Niki Hawgood, Geoff Hawgood, Brett Davis, Kyle McDonnell and Greg Searant.

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Meeting held 13/1/07

Matters arising: Nil.

Meeting held 20/1/07

Matters arising: Nil.

Moved Craig Corke and seconded Riv Robson that both these minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

INWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Illawarra - formal expression of interest to host 2008-09 Championships.
2. Drummoyne - expression of interest to host 2008-09 Championships, if IYC not interested, and also to host 2009-10.
3. Belmont - expression of interest to host 2009-10 Championships.
4. Manly (NSW) - expression of interest to host 2008-09 or 2009-10 Championships.
5. Q16ftSSA - request for ruling on Class Rule 14.1(b) – can you carry more than one spinnaker?
6. Middle Harbour - Notice of Motion to delete Class Rule 7.16 and amend note to rule 2.9.
7. Middle Harbour - amendment to their original NoM; effectively seeking to allow carbon spars, except masts.
8. Belmont - Notice of Motion to restrict number sails for Aust Championships to 2 jibs 2 mains 2 spinnakers.
9. Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron - request to affiliate with Aust 16ft Skiff Association.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

1. All clubs - notice of today's meeting.
2. All clubs - enclosing Notice of Race for 2007-08 Aust Championships.
3. All clubs - advising of break down of prizemoney for 2006-07 Championships and method of how money would be distributed.
4. All clubs - seeking any expressions of interest to host 2008-09 series.

5. Q16ftSSA - ruling on Class Rule 14.1(b) – yes, more than one spinnaker can be carried in the boat.
6. All clubs - advising of Middle Harbour NoM re. carbon spars.
7. All clubs - advising that Middle Harbour NoM on carbon spars had been lost (1 for 5 against).
8. All clubs - advising of Belmont NoM to restrict sails.
9. RQYS - advice re. acceptance of affiliation request.

Moved Mark Graham and seconded Riv Robson that the correspondence be received and adopted. CARRIED.

SECRETARY / TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Michael McMahon advised that he would be standing in as Secretary during the meetings at this Carnival in Gary Paton's absence.
2. Financial Report attached.
3. Discussion concerning budget item of \$5,000 for "prizemoney, if requested". Brad Colledge indicated that the Qld Association had secured sponsors for prizemoney, however, if there was a shortfall in some expenses might seek recompense from Aust Association.
4. Subsidy for NSW officials - payment towards out of pocket expenses (\$500 each) for four NSW officials (Michael McMahon, Lloyd Mulholland, Riv Robson and John Andrew) assisting with this series was agreed to.

Moved Robert Wasson and seconded Glenn York that the Secretary/Treasurer's Report be adopted. CARRIED.

COMMODORE'S REPORT:

Lloyd welcomed all to what should be a wonderful carnival and wished all competitors good luck. He said that, if the current pattern of inclement weather continued, we would have to be prepared to be flexible in race scheduling, etc....

NSW REPORT:

Michael McMahon reported on behalf of NSW. He said that they currently had 94 skiff registrations, a drop of about 12 on last season. He mentioned that several clubs were still struggling to maintain their numbers.

The recent State Championships had concluded successfully with fleets of around 50. It had been the closest series for a number of years and was won on a countback by "OAS" from Belmont Club.

Mark Graham reported on the 13ft skiffs. The separate website for 13's was now up and running. There were currently 15 13ft skiffs, spread between two clubs, Manly (11) and Middle Harbour (4). An very positive expression of interest has recently come from a member of Georges River.

There was general discussion on Class numbers for 16ft skiffs and Mark Graham suggested that we need to look at our objectives for the future, in particular, develop a strategy and include 13ft skiffs as part of that strategy.

QLD REPORT:

Brad Colledge reported on behalf of Queensland. He said that their numbers had not increased from last season, but two second hand boats were purchased from NSW to update their fleet. There were 7 skiffs at Brisbane Sailing Squadron and 4 at RQYS. The ones at RQYS sailed in a combined fleet of 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s.

Brad mentioned that they had secured two second hand 13ft skiffs, donated by NSW 16ft Skiff Association. Only one was currently racing, but they hoped to have the other racing soon. He said that they had limited resources to promote the Class, however, there were good junior fleets at both BSS and RQYS which should provide a good feeding ground.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS:

Nominations for Australian officials for the 2008/09 season were called for and are as follows:-

PRESIDENT	Rob Wasson	Proposed B. Colledge second J. Andrew
COMMODORE	Lloyd Mulholland	proposed Riv Robson second Clint Bowen
SECRETARY/TREASURER	Gary Paton	proposed Rob Wasson second Craig Corke
NSW DELEGATE	Clint Bowen	proposed M. McMahon second Riv Robson
QLD DELEGATE	Brad Colledge	Proposed R. Wasson second L. Mullholland

As there was no more than one nomination for each position they were unanimously accepted as proposed. The above committee's election will take effect from 12 January 2008.

2007/08 AUSTRALIAN RACE COMMITTEE:

The following were nominated to compose the 2007/08 Australian Race Committee for this current series:

Michael McMahon	NSW (Chairman)
John Andrew	NSW
Clint Bowen	NSW
Robert Wasson	QLD
Al Worling	RQYS (Race Officer)
Suellen Hurling	RQYS (Regatta Director)

The above nominees were unanimously accepted.

PROTEST COMMITTEE:

Protests would be taken care of by Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **2008/09 and 2009/10 Australian Championships** - there was discussion on the expressions of interest and venues for these Championships. It was agreed unanimously that the 2008/09 Championships would be hosted by Illawarra Yacht Club, although the meeting expressed disappointment that there was no representative from that Club at this carnival.

After further discussion on the 2009/10 series on the three remaining applicants (Belmont, Manly and Drummoyne), a motion was moved by Craig Corke and seconded by Lloyd Mulholland that Belmont be the favoured venue. It was ultimately agreed 4 votes to 1 (For – Belmont, Manly, Georges River and BSS; against – Drummoyne; abstain – RQYS) that the venue be Belmont.

The 2010/11 series will return to Queensland, however, they have yet to decide a venue.

It was agreed that, in future, clubs seeking to host the series should lodge an expression of interest with the Australian Secretary, well prior to the AGM where a decision is to be made (at least 2 years prior to the carnival). The submission should include a broad outline on what the club was offering (facilities, sponsorships, prizemoney, support craft, etc....). A letter just indicating an interest was not good enough.

There was also discussion on the timing of the Carnival and over what period it should be conducted. Geoff Hawgood said it was difficult for some Queenslanders to attend if it was not with the first week or two of 1 January. This view was supported by some, however, others said that later in January was sometimes better as, depending on the venue, accommodation prices could be cheaper. There was also discussion on the length. There were again suggestions that we hold shorter, back to back races over a shorter period (ie. keeping it to no more than 6-7 days). No consensus was achieved on this issue.

2. **Annual Club Affiliation fee** - agreed that the Annual Fee remain at zero dollars (\$0).
3. **Secretary/Treasurer Honorarium** - agreed unanimously that the position of Honorary Secretary/Treasurer be paid an annual honorarium of \$750.
4. **2007/08 Sailing Instructions** - these had been issued by the Australian 16ft Skiff Association in conjunction with RQYS. Michael McMahon indicated that there had been some additional suggestions made to amend these instructions and that these would be discussed by the Race Committee after this meeting. These include allowing 360° penalty turns (in lieu of 720°), use of an additional mark beyond the windward mark for boats deemed OCS, there should only be a 10 minute gap between the 16's start and the 13s and the protest time should be reduced from 90 to 60 minutes.
5. **Carbon spars** - Michael McMahon drew the meetings attention to the Carbon Spar Report that had been commissioned by the NSW Association. There was some discussion on the issue and it was noted that a recent NoM lodged by Middle Harbour to adopted carbon booms, poles and dolphin strikers had been defeated.

Meeting closed 10.25am.

Next meeting to be held on 11 January 2008 at RQYS at 9.00am.