

NSW 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9/2/11  
AT MANLY 16FT SKIFF SAILING CLUB

Meeting opened at 7.40pm.

PRESENT: Mark Graham (Chair), Michael McMahon, Ed Darmanin, Roger Steel, Ian Heritage, Paul Linnett, John Andrew, Chris Andrew, Alex Oliver, Riv Robson, Lloyd Mulholland & Chris Mulholland.

APOLOGIES: Nil.

CLUBS REPRESENTED: Manly, Belmont, St George, Illawarra, Georges River, Middle Harbour and Drummoyne.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

*Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010.*

1. “Recruiting the next generation” project: - Michael McMahon reminded meeting that the online survey had a cut off date of 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Meeting was asked to encourage more people to complete survey soon.
2. Sail Measuring: - Michael McMahon indicated the sail measuring document would be published on the association website in the near future.
3. 13ft skiff sail measuring template - second template still not obtained.
4. St George outstanding debt - Payment has yet to be received from the St. George club. The St. George club is now controlled by the Manly club. The delay in payment is thought to be due to issues with the administrator. The Secretary is to contact the administrator.
5. St George Club - consideration still needs to be given to voting rights, etc... in the NSW Association Constitution.

It was moved Ian Heritage and seconded Riv Robson that these minutes be received and adopted. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

1. Manly - Received registration form from 13ft skiff no. 33 ‘Holey Dollar’.
2. Alice Walker - 1 entry for 13ft skiff No. 16 (“Livewire”) for Botany Bay Championship.
3. Botany Bay Championship - Advice from Rolf Cohen regarding details of prize money for the regatta.
4. 13ft skiff age limits – Query received from Rolf Cohen regarding the age limits for 13ft skiff sailors intending to race in the Botany Bay Championship.
5. Drummoyne – A cheque for \$940 was received from Drummoyne club for invoice no. 114.

6. Tom Drury - from the Belmont club indicated he would like to sail a 13ft skiff in the Botany Bay Championship. He would like to borrow a 13ft skiff for the event.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

1. All clubs - Notice of race for Botany Bay Championship.

Moved Riv Robson and seconded Alex Oliver that the correspondence be received and adopted. CARRIED.

TREASURER:

1. Bank balance (cheque account) - \$10,223.71cr.
2. A query was made whether prize money from State titles has been paid. It appears this money has not yet been paid to competitors. The Association is waiting for some clubs to pay entry fees and season registration fees to provide the cashflow to make the payments.
3. National Titles Expenses – Payment of expenses for officials attending the recent National Titles in Queensland was approved. A decision was made to reimburse expenses up to an amount of \$1,500 per official. Receipts are sought for audit purposes. Details need to be submitted to Michael McMahon. Meeting also discussed option of asking the Australian Association to contribute to the New South Wales Association official's travel expenses. It was agreed that an invoice would be sent to the Australian Association to reimburse these expenses. It was believed the RQYC were paid 4 to 5 thousand dollars to run the recent National Titles. The meeting's consensus was that the event was well run and a worthwhile exercise. It was noted that race officials were not provided with lunch or drinks during the series.
4. The following accounts for payment were submitted:-
  - i) Splash Public Relations – invoice No. SP10201 – cost of upgrading skiff website - **(\$1,320)**.
  - ii) Belinda Sherry- out of pocket internet security expenses - **\$85**.
  - iii) Lloyd Mulholland – out of pocket expenses – attending Australian Championships - **(\$1,470.70)**.
  - iv) Riv Robson – out of pocket expenses – attending Australian Championships - **(\$825)**.
  - v) Michael McMahon – out of pocket expenses – attending Australian Championships - **(\$969.70)**.
  - vi) John Andrew – out of pocket expenses – attending Australian Championships - **(\$1,500)**.
  - vii) Mark Graham – out of pocket expenses – attending Australian Championships - **(\$???)**.

Moved Paul Linnett and seconded Ian Heritage that the Treasurer's Report be adopted and accounts for payment be approved. CARRIED.

SECRETARY:

1. The Botany Bay Championship will be held in 3 weeks time. There are currently 35 entries, with one additional entry received tonight. It is possible that some St. George entries may still be received.

COMMODORE:

1. The Australian Championship carnival in Brisbane was successful, though the weather was not ideal.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION

1. Zhik sponsorship for 13's - The 13ft skiff fleet was sponsored by Zhik. An invoice for \$950 was received by the Australian Association for caps, however, they provided prizes to a value of about \$1,615 for the various heats. This was similar to previous years.
2. Hervey Bay - Rob Wasson has spoken with a representative from the local Council and the discussions were very promising to get reserved areas, etc...

REGISTRAR:

Nil.

13ft SKIFFS:

1. Age limit - An issue arose during the recent National Titles in Queensland. An entry form was accepted with crew details missing for an over age competitor. The oversight did not become evident until after the 1<sup>st</sup> race was completed. The skipper of the skiff eventually lodged a protest after race 6 when the Race Committee after the Race Committee failed to place the skiff in the series. After Race 1 the Race Committee had agreed to score the skiff during the series and place it in each race, however, had refused to place the skiff in the overall series. The Protest Committee upheld the RC's decision, however, in doing so indicated that if the Class Rules do not intend a skiff to be scored in a series, such notice must be given in the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. It was agreed that it will also be necessary to be more careful when accepting entry forms for regattas, as the Protest Committee were critical of this point.
2. Principal Coach - Manly club have advertised for a principal coach across all classes, including those at the St George Club.
3. Future of 13ft Skiff Class - Alex Oliver raised certain issues that were currently surfacing at the Middle Harbour Club with their Juniors and the 13ft skiff class. There appear to be signs that the 13ft class may have problems into the future. Following pressure from a group of parents, it would appear that they are becoming increasingly interested in their kids sailing 29ers. This may pose a serious threat to the viability of 13ft skiffs at Middle Harbour, but also at other clubs.

It was felt there may be a gap between the flying 11s class and the 13ft skiffs. There appears to be a gap in terms of age and skill but also a social gap with some sailors too young to fit into the 13s and 16s culture.

It was noted that 13ft skiffs are significantly more expensive than 29ers. 29ers apparently cost around \$12,000 while 13ft skiffs can cost up to around \$22,000.

There may be a need to strengthen the class at the committee level.

Middle Harbour report having seven 13ft skiffs but enough interest to run 20 skiffs, but there is a lack of second hand boats. It is thought it may be necessary to allow mixed fleets of 29ers and 13ft skiffs. Discussions between Manly and Middle Harbour clubs

will be ongoing on this point. Ed Darmanin will report back to the next Association meeting on the progress of any discussions.

4. Botany Bay Championship - Mark Graham indicated that anyone entering the Botany Bay championship shall be done in accordance with the 13ft skiff Class Rules, particularly with regard to the age limit. Michael will post these on the association web site. He asked whether the Association should have an independent person examine/oversee the Class Rules to ensure there are no issues that may arise similar to the problems that surfaced with the age restriction provisions at the recent National Titles.
5. Queensland 13ft Skiffs - Mark Graham mentioned the need to keep the Queensland Association 'in the loop' when making decision about the class in New South Wales. It may be worth putting someone from Queensland on the Rules Revision Committee.
6. Increase of age limit - Following discussions with representatives from the Class in Queensland at the recent National Titles, it was agreed that a notice of motion should be proposed to increase the maximum age limit to 30 years, for girls sailing 13ft skiffs. A Club will need to submit this motion for voting by the NSW 16ft Skiff Association.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Skiff Forum - Ian Heritage raised difficulties he and others have experienced in viewing the forum on the Skiff Association website. Michael will investigate with Kate Thomas.
2. Starters Boat for Botany Bay Championship - Investigations will be made into the possibility of the Manly club providing their starting boat for the Botany Bay championship.
3. Heats 1 and 2 of 2011/12 State Championships - Paul Linnett requested the Illawarra club be allowed to host the first 2 heats of the state titles next season (last weekend in October). They have already been allocated 2 heats of the titles for next season under the rules. This request was approved by the meeting.
4. Mark Graham noted that voting to choose between Drummoyne and Manly clubs for the 2012/13 National Titles location needs to be made by the end of February.

Meeting closed 9.19 pm

NEXT MEETING - **Georges River Club** on Wednesday **9<sup>th</sup> March 2011** commencing at 7.30pm.