

NSW 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 16/4/08
AT MIDDLE HARBOUR 16FT SAILING CLUB

Meeting opened at 7.50pm.

PRESENT: Riv Robson (Chair), Michael McMahon, John Andrew, Mark Graham, Alex Deakin, Brad Andrew, Paul Linnett, Paul Donovan, Clint Bowen, Belinda Sherry, Lloyd Mulholland, Chris Mulholland, Ben Dibley and Marilyn Sorensen.

APOLOGIES: Emma Thompson.

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

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Meeting 12th March 2008.

1. Mainsails (shape and measuring) - NSW interpretation and measuring instruction is still to be issued.
2. Promotions - refer Secretary's Report.
3. Term Deposit - refer Treasurer's Report.
4. Regatta prizemoney - to be discussed at AGM.

It was moved Mark Graham and seconded Brad Andrew that these minutes be received and adopted. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

1. Commonwealth Bank - advice that Term Deposit is falling due (21/4/08).
2. Drummoyne - notification that their Regatta for 2008/09 will be held on Saturday 6th December 2008.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

1. To all clubs - circular advising of tonight's meeting.

Moved John Andrew and seconded Mark Graham that the correspondence be received and adopted. CARRIED.

TREASURER:

1. Balance of current account is \$17,993.23cr.
2. Port Hunter - Belinda reported that the PH Club still had an outstanding account for \$920 dating back to last November.
3. Term Deposit - T/D for \$46,960.88 falls due 21 April 2007. It was agreed to add \$10,000 to the deposit, plus the interest (approx \$1,890), and reinvest for a period of 6 months.

4. The following account for payment was submitted:-

- i) Belinda Sherry - out of pocket expenses for internet (\$199.75) and printer cartridge (\$31.87) - \$231.62

Moved Michael McMahon and seconded Brad Andrew that the Treasurer's Report be adopted and account for payment be approved. CARRIED.

SECRETARY:

1. Marketing / Promotion - Michael McMahon reported that he had gone back to Kate Thomas from Splash Publications. She had suggested that we need to identify a budget and then the types of activities that the Association would like undertaken.

There was considerable discussion on what role the Association should play and how it should be achieved. Some of the points discussed:-

- Association needs to undertake activities to raise our profile – not everyone felt that this was necessarily that productive;
- TV and suburban newspaper were not necessarily seen as being effective;
- Need to do more at the entry level (eg. training for newcomers, newcomers need to feel as though they are welcome, etc...);
- Promotion in local suburban papers (near where our clubs are located) could be beneficial;
- At the end of the day, individual clubs must take a proactive role, otherwise any Association efforts would be negated;
- Need to encourage juniors (teenagers) to move through from intermediate classes;
- Contact with local schools, scout groups.

It was agreed that Brad Andrew be appointed to:-

- Target specific clubs and organisations in each Zone (Southern, Central and Northern);
- Identify contacts that are influential in that organisation;
- Seek expressions of interest for a try sailing day or other activity that could generate interest in either 13ft or 16ft skiffs.
- Information gathered to be filtered back the nearest skiff club.

It was agreed to pay \$500 to Brad towards out of pocket expenses for this task.

2. Sponsorships - it was agreed that we approach Splash Publications to get a proposal and cost of providing the following:-

- Identify possible sponsors for 16ft skiffs and clubs;
- A template for targeting specific sponsors;
- Providing appropriate contacts for target sponsors.

COMMODORE:

Nil report.

REGISTRAR:

Nil report.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION REPORT:

1. 2008/09 Australian Championship - Clint Bowen, a member of the Australian Association Executive, was in attendance at this meeting to seek the NSW Association's views on aspects of the format for the Championships. After discussion, the following points were agreed as being a recommendation to the Australian Association:-
 - 7 day series (Sunday to Saturday);
 - 9 race series with 1 reserve day (aim for 2 races day 1, 2 races day 2, reserve day on day 3, 1 race day 4, 2 races day 5, 1 race day 6 and 1 race day 7);
 - Target time for races on multiple race days to be 60-70 minutes, otherwise 90-100 minutes;
 - 5 races constitute a series with no drop for 5 race series, 1 drop for 6 race series and 2 drops for 7-9 race series;
 - No race to be scheduled to have a warning signal before 12 noon.
2. Camping - The Illawarra Club has asked for an early indication from sailors as to who is proposing to camp in the grounds near the Club so that the necessary area and arrangements can be made. It would be helpful to know the space required and whether a tent or caravan. Proposed charge is \$15 per night for a site and this will include a breakfast at the Club.
3. Sail measuring - it was agreed that measuring for the Championships should be done at Zone level in the lead up period to the series.

13ft SKIFFS:

1. 13ft Focus Group - no meeting this month.
2. Masts - Mark Graham reported that a proposal had been put to the 13ft Specification Committee concerning masts. Ben Dibley had asked that carbon fibre masts also be sourced from CST in New Zealand. Masts are currently only sourced from CTech. The CST masts are produced by a process of filament winding. This is the automated process of wrapping resin impregnated filaments (rovings or tows) in a geometric pattern over a rotating male mandrel. The component is then cured under high pressure and temperature. The filament winding process produces considerable advantages over conventional hand-laid and fabric wrapped techniques. Advantages include precise fibre orientations, high fibre-to-resin ratios, straight uncrimped fibre paths, high consistency and repeatability.

After considering the cost and difference in design characteristics of the CST masts, the Specification Committee had ruled that at this stage CTech would remain as the only approved supplier. The Committee was concerned that current sailors with existing equipment might be disadvantaged by the different technology which it believed could have an impact on the class and its fair competition and that the increased cost of the masts would impact unnecessarily on the Class. This view was supported by this meeting.

3. Constitution - there was a consensus that it would be better to incorporate the 13ft skiffs within the NSW 16ft Skiff Association Constitution rather than operate separately. It was suggested that two 13ft skiff members be included in the Association Executive – a vice-President and 13ft Secretary. A 13ft Skiff Registrar position should also be created (but non-Executive). Michael McMahon and Mark Graham are to draft a suitable NoM for submission to the Association.

4. Hull - Mark Graham indicated that there was currently one new 13ft skiff hull in stock – cost \$6,200.
5. Spinnaker shute - Mark indicated that Ben Dibley had designed a new entry structure for spinnaker shutes and he had brought along the structure to tonight's meeting for consideration by the Specification Committee. Marilyn Sorensen had also brought a new bow pole cap for consideration. The Committee will meet following this meeting and report the results back to the next Association meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Club Sail Measurers - Clint Bowen indicated that he was arranging a meeting and training day for Club Measurers during the off-season. The tentative date was 2 August at 11 Sydenham Road, Brookvale. A practical example of measuring a number of different types of sails will be carried out. This meeting will precede the Association AGM which is to be held at the Manly Club this season on the same day at 2pm.

Meeting closed 9.20pm

NEXT MEETING will be at the **Georges River Club** on **Wednesday 28th May 2008** at 7.30pm.