

NSW 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8/9/10
AT GEORGES RIVER SAILING CLUB

Meeting opened at 7.45pm.

PRESENT: Mark Graham (Chair), Riv Robson, Michael McMahon, John Andrew, Roger Steel, Paul Linnett, Ian Heritage and Ben Bradley.

APOLOGIES: Lloyd Mulholland, Chris Mulholland, Paul Donovan, Paul Minter, Ed Darmanin and Belinda Sherry.

CLUBS REPRESENTED: Manly, Georges River, Belmont, Illawarra and Drummoyne.

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Meeting 7th August 2010.

1. Mainsails (shape and measuring) - NSW interpretation and measuring instruction has now been forwarded to the Australian Association for their approval before publishing on the website.
2. Constitution for 13's - Further discussions still to take place.
3. 13ft skiff sail measuring - still awaiting procurement of a new set of templates for NSW. Mark Graham has followed up. Robert Atkins will supply.
4. Australian Steering Committee - the voting process is still underway in regard to the NoM to adopt carbon spars. Currently an amendment submitted by the Manly Club has been circulated to clubs and is awaiting voting (due in about two weeks).
5. 2011/12 Australian Championship - a formal submission for voting was sent to clubs from the Australian Association. Voting is complete and the result, albeit a narrow majority (5-4), is that the Championships will be held at Hervey Bay.
6. St George – outstanding debt - skiff registration fees and regatta entries is still outstanding, pending resolution of the Club's external administration. Negotiations are still proceeding with the Manly Club on an amalgamation deal, along with the St George Motor Boat Club. A third consortium has now pulled out. St George members are to vote on their options at a meeting on 30th September 2010.
7. 13ft skiff mould - is still in Brisbane and is under the care of the Queensland 16ft Skiff Association. It is currently being used to build several hulls. Mark has drafted an agreement to be signed by Rob Wasson. In addition, a request was lodged by Ian Kennedy from Queensland that the NSW Association pay the transport cost of the mould to Queensland. Mark Graham has declined the request, indicating that the Queensland Association will have to pick up that cost.
8. 13ft skiff – proposed age limit increase - Mark Graham has replied to Queensland and advised that it was agreed by the NSW Association last year that we would not allow any further changes till at least the end of 2013/14 season in an attempt to provide some certainty to the age restriction that has been varied several times since the Class began. Mark highlighted the fact that the purpose behind the introduction of 13ft skiffs was to have sailors progress to 16ft skiffs. He reiterated the fact that the current rules do not

stop older people from sailing in 13ft skiffs it merely prevents them from competing in National and State titles and interclub events. They could sail at club level.

9. Manly Club – Sailing Business Plan - to be discussed in General Business.

It was moved Riv Robson and seconded Paul Linnett that these minutes be received and adopted. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

1. Yachting Australia - letter from the YA advertising a National Sail Measurers Clinic to be held on Saturday 16th October at Woollahra Sailing Club from 10 am to 4 pm. It is to be run by ISAF measurer Barry Johnston. It is hoped to address problems each class may have. It is asked whether any of the 16s club measurers are interested in attending. The clinic is limited to 30 places and costs \$50 for the day. Nominations will be sought from clubs in a circular. The NSW association is prepared to pay for the registration cost. John Andrew is interested in attending.
2. Manly Club - nominating Michael McMahon as a life member of the NSW Association. This will be submitted to the next AGM.
3. Jim Scott - email received from a Victorian boat builder, Jim Scott, re 13ft skiffs (see 13ft Skiff Report). He would like to be allowed to build 13ft skiffs under licence to sell to young Victorian sailors. They are interested in using this as a lead in to people sailing International 14's.

The meeting felt it would be a good idea, however, it was considered that the boats must be built from an Association approved mould and that some copyright issues may need to be addressed. Potential issues were discussed, such as ownership of the mould to help keep control; the possibility of a royalty to be paid on construction of each boat and the pressures that may arise from people wanting to make 13's an anonymous class and the fact they are will be used as a feeder for 14ft skiffs in Victoria.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

1. To all clubs - circular, including advice of tonight's meeting.
2. Queensland Association - email regarding the age restriction for 13ft skiffs.
3. Department of Fair Trading - annual return for the Association.
4. To all clubs - request for details of each club's Commodore, Race Secretaries and other key officials.

Moved Riv Robson and seconded Ian Heritage that the correspondence be received and adopted. CARRIED.

TREASURER:

1. Bank balance (cheque account) - \$14, 219.04cr.
2. The following accounts for payment were submitted:-
 - i) Splash Internet - payment for Web Hosting of 13ft skiffs site – invoice No. 212 (\$330).
 - ii) Belinda Sherry – Treasurer's internet expenses - (\$199.75).

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

SECRETARY:

1. State Championship expenses - the Secretary reported that the host club for the State Championship heats at Salamander Bay will be charging \$1,500 to cover their expenses. After some discussion it was agreed that the Association will pay this expense from entry fees collected.

No prize money will be paid for the event unless a sponsor is found. The Belmont Club, whose turn it is to host these State events, has decided to still host a regatta event during the season and they will be committing prizemoney to that event, although it will not be an Association event. Roger is to make enquiries about the progress in Belmont finding a sponsor for the Salamander Bay event. It was agreed that the Association will provide prizemoney of \$6,000 for the overall results of the State titles, divided between the handicap and scratch results. This will be skewed towards the handicap event in the hope that it may help to attract more skiffs to the event.

2. NSW representative to Australian Association - there has been a question raised about the placement of NSW and QLD representatives on the Australian 16ft Skiff Association committee. The constitution requires someone to be nominated through their respective State Associations and this has not been occurring to date. The question was raised when the dispute around carbon spars occurred earlier this year. The NSW association will be seeking nominations for the Australian Association at the next NSW meeting. A circular is to be sent to clubs in relation to this matter.

COMMODORE:

Nil.

REGISTRAR:

Nil.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Nil.

13FT SKIFFS:

13ft Skiffs – Victoria - Mark Graham has received an email from Jim Scott in Melbourne. He would like to be allowed to build 13ft skiffs under licence to sell to young Victorian sailors. They are interested in using this as a lead in to people sailing International 14's. They believe the 13 to be better than the 29ers.

The meeting felt it would be a good idea, however, it was considered that the boats must be built from an Association approved mould and that some copyright issues may need to be addressed. Potential issues were discussed, such as ownership of the mould to help keep control; the possibility of a royalty to be paid on construction of each boat and the pressures that may arise from people wanting to make 13's an anonymous class and the fact they are will be used as a feeder for 14ft skiffs in Victoria.

Mark Graham to email Jim Scott suggesting that the NSW Association may lease a mould to him.

SKIFF PROJECT/BUSINESS PLAN:

Nicki Kirkwood is the person undertaking work on the skiff project/business plan. Michael McMahon has met with her and she wants a contact from each club so she can interview representatives to get a feel for what is happening within the class.

Nicki wishes to have a questionnaire completed and this may be circulated via e-mail. Her estimated time frame is 1 day per week over the next 20 weeks. i.e. she hopes to complete this work toward the end of this calendar year.

Nicki comes from a marketing/promotions background and will charge at the rate of \$60 per hour. This is significantly less than her usual rate. It was agreed that we should try to get some ongoing feedback as she progresses.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Mainsail Measurement Instruction - there was discussion on the instruction as drafted by Clint Bowen. Following feedback from other measurers, the only question revolved around whether the gap for cuff for the D1's should be included or excluded. After some discussion it was agreed that it should be included, to make it easier for measurers, although it was recognised that the area would be minimal. The draft is now to be sent to the Australian Association for their endorsement.
2. Port Hunter entries close on 6th October 2010. For clubs to get a discount on full year entry, they must also be submitted by 6th October 2010. The state title entries close on 20th October 2010.

Meeting closed 9.25pm

NEXT MEETING - Manly Club on Wednesday 6th October 2010 commencing at 7.30pm.