

NSW 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 19/10/11
AT MIDDLE HARBOUR 16FT SKIFF SAILING CLUB

Meeting opened at 7.43pm.

PRESENT: Mark Graham (Chair), Michael McMahon, Riv Robson, Ed Darmanin, Lloyd Mulholland, Chris Mulholland, Rolf Cohen, Chris Andrew, John Andrew, Paul Linnett, Clint Bowen, Alex Deakin, Roger Steel, Kathy Grudzinskas and Nikki Kirkwood.

APOLOGIES: Paul Donovan and Marilyn Sorensen.

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

PRESENTATION BY NIKKI KIRKWOOD:

The meeting began with Nikki Kirkwood presenting the findings from the survey she conducted. This was part of the "Recruiting the next generation" project she was engaged to undertake, jointly, by the NSW 16ft Skiff Association and the Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club at the beginning of the 2010/11 season.

Using a PowerPoint presentation and various graphical representations, Nikki provided a summary of the most significant findings. As part of this commentary, she engaged the meeting in discussion around some of the challenges and opportunities that have appeared from the survey and made suggestions around the way forward.

A variety of suggestions were made by the meeting participants on ways we might successfully promote the Class into the future. Alex has agreed to perform further analysis on the database Nikki has compiled. In an attempt to ensure concrete steps are taken to address the issues identified in the survey results, it was agreed we would do the following:

- Forward a copy of the PowerPoint presentation to each club.
- Provide each club with a club specific subset of the survey results.
- Ask each club to identify three practical things they can do to address issues arising from the survey.
- Ask each club to identify three things our Association can do to assist them in further promoting participation in 16ft skiff sailing.
- Delegates speak with their Commodore and/or address their sailing meeting to explain what has been discussed.

Note: The meeting agreed we must ensure the identity of any survey respondents is protected.

The meeting discussed the possibility of employing Nikki to undertake further analysis following feedback from the clubs. Nikki was agreeable, although did indicate that her time is limited as she now has other full time employment. Rolf explained that she had been paid in full for her services to date and that we were currently well within the allocated budget. With this in mind, Mark Graham felt a motion approving further expenditure, was not necessary.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:*Meeting 14th September 2011.*

1. St George Club - Michael indicated that the St. George Club would continue to be treated as a part of the Manly Club as they are no longer a separate entity. Rolf explained the Manly board had not yet dealt with the issue about creating a possible separate entity for the sailing activities, but it may be in the future.
2. Flying Ants - Port Hunter Club's decision not to support a proposed Flying Ant training day was clarified. After speaking with Arran Gore from Port Hunter, Michael explained this was due to a lack of resources to assist with the event, on top of the needs for the 16's regatta. Neil Petherbridge will contact Port Hunter in the hope of resolving the matter; however Michael feels we should assume the Flying Ant event will not proceed.
3. Yachting NSW membership - The Belmont club recently had a meeting with officials from Yachting NSW. This was to discuss issues arising from their recent membership changes. Roger explained that the meeting was productive and that it is hoped a resolution may soon be achieved.
4. Georges River Club - whilst the registration forms have yet to be lodged, Michael indicated that he had spoken with Paul Minter from Georges River and he had four skiffs to lodge registration forms with GRSC as the parent club ("Gill", "Labec", "Bruce Gault Boat Repairs" and "McKay Marine"). They had commenced racing and the fleet was supplemented by a couple of skiffs from Middle Harbour. There was still the possibility that they will have a sponsor for the regatta, and pay some prizemoney.
5. Minutes for meeting 13 July 2011 - Copies of these minutes were made available at this meeting as promised from the previous meeting.

It was moved Riv Robson and seconded Michael McMahon that the minutes, not previously presented, for 13/07/11 General Meeting, be received and adopted. CARRIED.

It was moved Ed Darmanin and seconded Riv Robson that the previous minutes for 14/09/11 General Meeting be received and adopted. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

1. Australian Association – Letter from Rob Wasson notifying the use that is being made of Association funds. The Association intends to limit the amount of assistance offered to race officials to \$2,500. It is intended to make use of local race officers, as far as possible, where Australian Championship events are being held.
2. Belmont - 20 skiff registrations (\$1,400)
 - 10 entries for combined season regattas (\$2,400)
 - 7 entries for 2 days Port Hunter (\$320)
 - 1 entry for 2 days Georges River (\$80)
 - 6 entries for Belmont (\$240)
 - 1 entry for St George (\$40)
3. Port Hunter - 3 skiff registrations (\$210)
 - 3 entries for Port Hunter (\$240)

4. Drummoyne - 5 skiff registrations (\$350)
 - 1 entry for 2 days Illawarra (\$80)
 - 1 entry for Drummoyne (\$40)
5. Illawarra - 5 skiff registrations (\$350)
 - 2 entries for 2 days Illawarra (\$160)
 - 1 entry for 2 days Georges River (\$80)
6. Manly - 23 skiff registrations (\$1,610)
 - 8 entries for combined season regattas (\$1,920)
 - 1 entry for 1 day Georges River (\$40)
 - 1 entry for Drummoyne (\$40)
 - 1 entry for Belmont (\$40)
 - 3 entries for St George (\$120)
7. Middle Harbour - 9 skiff registrations (\$630)
 - 3 entries for combined season regattas (\$720)
 - 1 entry for St George (\$40)

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil

Moved Riv Robson and seconded Paul Linnett that the correspondence be received and adopted. CARRIED.

TREASURER

1. Balance of Working Account at 19 September 2011 was \$ 9,843.86cr.
2. The following account for payment was submitted:-
 - i) Lloyd Mulholland – out of pocket expenses – battery for Seiko clock printer - **\$15**.
3. Lloyd expressed concern over criticisms made during the previous meeting, around claims made by the Treasurer for internet expenses. These criticisms led to the motion, requiring approval to be sought, in advance, of any expenditure.

Concerned, Lloyd explained that the Treasurer has performed this role for 8 years and in that time had only claimed for some out of pocket expenses, principally internet expenses, which had been approved at Association meetings. He queried why it had taken 8 years to question the expenditure.

Lloyd expressed further concern over criticism of his claim for travel expenses. He was particularly disappointed this was done in his absence. Lloyd pointed out this was a long standing arrangement. He said he only ever requested a nominal fee in comparison with his actual expenditure on behalf of the Association.

Michael indicated payment of fuel and accommodation out of pocket expenses has only occurred in recent years. The meeting discussed the need to have standing arrangements on some out-of-pocket expenses.

Rolf suggested a schedule of fees for race officials might be considered. It was also suggested the schedule of fees might include the Treasurer's expenses.

Mark expressed a need to have clarity on the issue and will examine the constitution regarding the payment of officials for out of pocket expenses to attend regattas. He hopes to put rules into place if this is found to be acceptable with Michael's assistance.

This may lead to an amendment of the motion passed at the previous meeting.

4. Lloyd requested approval for reasonable accommodation expenses for the upcoming Illawarra Regatta. This was approved in principle.

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

SECRETARY

Nil.

COMMODORE

1. Lloyd indicated he will be communicating with Rob Wasson next week, via SKYPE and will report back from the most recent Australian Association meeting.
2. Baby for Belinda - Lloyd informed the meeting that Belinda, our Treasurer, had just had a baby girl. Both doing well.

REGISTRAR

Nil.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION

Nil

13FT SKIFF REPORT

1. State Titles – Alex explained there is an issue with the timing of State title regattas. The timing coincides with the Higher School Certificate examinations and, in some cases, university exams. She believes this to be the main reason for the minimal interest shown in the 13ft Skiff State Championships this season.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Code Flags – Michael expressed a need to have a set of code flags made to take to regattas. There are times when the hosting club is missing necessary flags. Riv advised that he had a set of Association flags. He will bring these to Illawarra and he, and Michael, will check to see that the set is complete with all the flags that we are likely to need.

Meeting closed 10.14pm

NEXT MEETING - **Georges River** on Wednesday **23rd November 2011** commencing at 7.30pm.