



Laser

NSW/ACT District



**NSW/ACT District Laser Association
Annual General Meeting
10th November 2019 Georges River Sailing Club**

Meeting opened at 9.00am

Present

Rob Lowndes (MHASC), Kevin Phillips (Gosford SC), Phil Bookallil (MHASC), David Edmiston (GSC/MHASC), Frank Walsh (MHASC), Geoff Lucas (MHASC), Tony Ryan (CYC), Clare Alexander (DBSC) Chris Caldecoat (Belmont16's/NCYC), Sue Phillips (GSC)

Apologies John Sprague

Minutes from 2018 Annual General Meeting

Minutes from the AGM held at Canberra Yacht Club on 25th November 2018 were tabled. Moved and seconded that the minutes be accepted – approved.

Nil Business arising from the minutes.

Chairman's Report

Report presented by Kevin Phillips as attached.

Financial Report

Report was presented by Treasurer Geoff Lucas. Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet as attached. The report is prepared on a cash basis.

At the bottom line there was a \$3,181.55 loss in 2018/19 giving a balance of funds of \$88,572.00 in accounts as of closing date 30th September 2019.

The total equity of the Association is healthy however it does fluctuate mainly driven by the number and size of the events which we run.

There was a question on the apparent high cost (\$8,115.36) of the State Masters held at South Lakes ASC this year relative to the previous year's event (\$1,078.60). Geoff explained that the SLMASC event was a great success with 135 entries and that entry fees collected match the costs. The SLMASC did a great job both running the sailing and feeding and providing camping for many sailors. Their fees were based on the

number of entries leading to a higher than previous year cost. As well the 2017/18 State Masters was held as a combined event with the Open State Championships at Double Bay Sailing Club. This was also a big event with 130 entries with only a small proportion 1/8th of the costs apportioned to the Masters side of the event which was for Masters cubes.

In 2017/18 from discretionary expenditure i.e. outside of running our events and paying affiliations (\$5,373.24) to ILCA and ALCA we again provided a \$2,000 sponsorship for the very successful Women's Laser Regatta held at DBSC. As well we donated \$440.00 towards the rebuilding of Lane Cove 12ft SSC following their fire.

Moved D Edmiston seconded Clare Alexander that accounts be accepted. Report accepted.

Election of Office Bearers

Thanks given to all committee members for their sterling work throughout the year.

- Chairman
Elected Kevin Phillips
- Vice Chairman
Elected Frank Walsh
- Treasurer
Elected Geoff Lucas
- Membership Secretary
Position Open
- Race Secretary
Elected Sue Phillips
- Measurer
Elected David Edmiston
- Masters Representative
Elected Rob Lowndes
- Youth Representative
Elected Finn Alexander
- Women's Representative
Elected Clare Alexander
- Coaching Program Representative
Tristan Brown

General Business

- Dates and venues for 2020/21 season are close to being locked in and will be published when finalised. Clubs setting their schedules can contact Kevin Phillips to check proposed dates of association regattas.
- Clubs wishing to host an association regatta should express their interest to Kevin Phillips as we try to plan a few seasons ahead.
- In the Australian Championship rotation we will be hosting the 2022 Oceania Australian Open and the separate Australian Masters Championships. We will be finalising the venues for these big events shortly to give ourselves and the host clubs plenty of time to prepare.
- Chris Caldecoat General Manager of Performance Sailcraft Pty Ltd (PSA) and a member of the ILCA World Council updated the meeting on the current state of the class Olympic selection and the associated changes to the class

necessitated by the desire to remain in the Olympics. Chris made the following points;

- The Laser has been voted unanimously by World Sailing to remain the single person male and female equipment for the Olympics effectively for 2024 (Paris/Marseilles) and 2028 (Los Angeles). Equipment will be reviewed following 2028.
- The International Olympic Committee according to Chris is a strong supporter of the Laser due to its wide availability, standardised design and suitability for both men and women.
- Chris said however that the class will need to evolve mainly through a more modern rig or risk being sidelined down the track.
- World Sailing as part of the agreement to retain the Laser for the Olympics has required a new commercial arrangement for the building of the boats and provision of equipment. This will, in Chris' view, see two or three new builders enter the market. The opening up of the market will be limited by the relatively high (around \$0.5M) tool-up costs for a new builder.
- The new supply arrangements will see all boats and equipment provided with a 2D bar code uniquely identifying the authenticity of each part. As well due to the Laser starburst logo and name trademarks being held by current builders in their own area newly supplied boats and sails will carry the ILCA name and logo.
- Chris suggested that the new arrangements should make it easier for improvements like the current and long delayed Radial carbon bottom section to be made class legal.
- Rob Lowndes moved that Brett Beyer (for long term services to Laser sailing, training and coaching) Geoff Lucas (for long term services as treasurer and public officer for NSW & ACT District, Australian Laser Class Association and more recently Oceania Laser Class Association) and Kevin Phillips (for service as Chair of NSW & ACT District and Secretary of ALCA and OLCA) be made Life Members of NSW & ACT District Laser Association. Seconded David Edmiston and passed.

Brett, Geoff and Kevin join 10 other life members of NSW & ACT District appointed in over 40 years. These are Glenn Bourke, Ralph Ellis, Paul Hargan, Warwick Phillips, Michael Stovin-Bradford, Andrew York, Michael Mills, Jeff Loosemore, Rob Lowndes and Frank Walsh.

Meeting Closed 9.45 am



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Chairman's Report

NSW & ACT Laser Association AGM 10th November 2019

NSW/ACT District Sailing

NSW/ACT Lasers have had a successful 2018/19 season.

We run four major District regattas throughout the year. Our States and States Masters are our cube regattas while the Metropolitan and Coast Championships are normally run in Sydney and outside respectively.

We had 80 entries for States in Canberra at the CYC. More than 70 for the Coasts last month and 83 at Vaucluse in 2018. Our State Masters in March was a great event at a favourite location at South Lakes. This saw 123 sailors enjoy fabulous sailing conditions. The Metropolitan Championship later in March at Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club was a great event but for the biblical rain which 67 sailors braved.

All up we had some 350 entries for our events for the year.

We attempt to share regatta venues around. Our State Masters will be held this season for the first time at Lake Jindabyne. The locals are very keen and the event should be a great lead up to the National Regional and World Masters Championships scheduled for early in 2020 in Geelong.

We have had to be flexible with our 2020 regattas fitting in and around the Nationals, Oceania and World Laser events at Sandringham. As well we were forced to make a late change to the date for Metropolitan Championships at Double Bay Sailing Club. This event will now be 1st and 2nd February 2020 thanks to the Sail GP making a late decision on their Sydney Harbour leg and NSW RMS decision to close the Harbour for them on the Saturday of our event.

The Women's Laser Regatta in September hosted by Double Bay Sailing Club was again a great success and was fully subscribed. The two-day event comprised yoga each morning, on and off the water coaching clinic, debrief and Q&A, dinner at DBSC and racing all Sunday and the prize giving.

Well done the top organising team of Clare Alexander, Christine Patton, and Christine Linhart at DBSC and to all the participants.

Thanks to the host clubs for putting on a great show for us. The on the water and in the club house teams make the events work. They do it just for the love of the sport and we thank them one and all. We do pay \$1,000 per event per day to the clubs to help cover the costs incurred in running the events for us.

International Sailing

Congratulations to the many NSW & ACT sailors who competed in various Laser World Championship events.

In the Laser World Championships at the Olympic venue Sakaiminato City, Japan Tom Burton won with Matt Wearn 2nd – a great result for Australia. Two Kiwis George Gautrey and Sam Meech were 3rd and 4th so Men's Laser sailing in our neck of the woods looks to be in great shape.

Zac West finished a close second in the Men's Radial Worlds also at Sakaiminato, Japan.

15 NSW/ACT Laser Masters Sailors competed in the World Masters at Port Zélande, Netherlands in September. There were 28 Australian entries in the 300 boat event. Well done Jeff Loosemore winning the Radial Rig Great Grand Masters at the event.

Laser Retains Olympic Status

After much ado the World Sailing Council in August approved the International Laser Class Association's (ILCA) bid to be retained as equipment for the 2024 Paris Olympics, with 30 voting in favour, 0 against. This is a good outcome for the class and it could have gone another way but for some intense good work behind the scenes by the ILCA.

Part of the new arrangements leading to the Laser's Olympic retention will see some new class builders appointed – all following the strict one design principles of the past.

NSW/ACT Membership

Our District membership for the year increased 13% to 248 for 2018/19 season.

We pass more than half of our collected membership fees onto ALCA and ILCA to help to support their activities. The greater the number of Australian Laser sailors we have as members the larger our allocation of places in limited entry international events.

Administration

Hopefully we are keeping sailors informed on sailing, events, results and Laser sailing happenings through laser.asn.au. We try not to barrage members and others on our email list with endless messages. We currently have 510 people choosing to remain on our email distribution list which shows the strength of interest in Laser Sailing in NSW and ACT.

A special thank you to our own small team of helpers in particular R.O. Andrew McLachlan, our treasurer Geoff Lucas, race secretary Sue Phillips, regatta helpers David & Elaine Edmiston, VC and measurer John Sprague, Youth representative Finn Alexander, advisor and Masters Representative Rob Lowndes for their work and support.

Thanks to the many people who helped out with administration and on the water for our events. Without people just stepping up as required we could never have managed the tasks involved in staging these events.

Cheers

Kevin Phillips
Chair NSW/ACT Laser Association