



NSW & ACT Laser Association

NSW/ACT District Laser Association Annual General Meeting 10th December 2020 By Zoom Conference

Meeting opened at 7.40pm

Present

Kevin Phillips (Gosford SC), Geoff Lucas (MHASC), Ben Byford (RPAYC), Hans, David Taylor (RPAYC), Sue Phillips (GSC)

Apologies Nil

Minutes from 2019 Annual General Meeting

Minutes from the AGM held at Georges River Sailing Club 10th November 2019.
Moved and seconded that the minutes be accepted – approved.

Business arising from the Minutes

Information on ILCA class name changes and builders referred to in the 2019 AGM meeting minutes has changed with the passage of time. Refer to Chair Report 2020 for an update on evolving situation and included ILCA web site link.

Chairman's Report

Report presented by Kevin Phillips as attached.

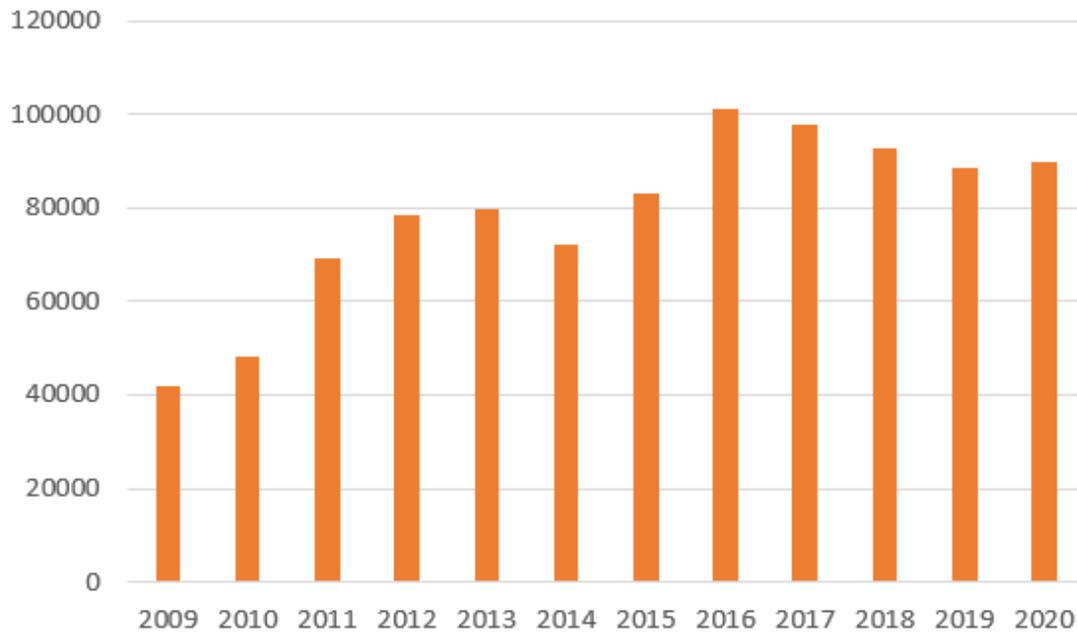
Financial Report

Report was presented by Treasurer Geoff Lucas. The report is prepared on a cash basis.

At the bottom line there was a \$1,161.61 surplus in 2019/20 giving a balance of funds of \$98,733.61 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. The slide below was displayed. It shows the total equity at 30th September each year for the past 12 years.

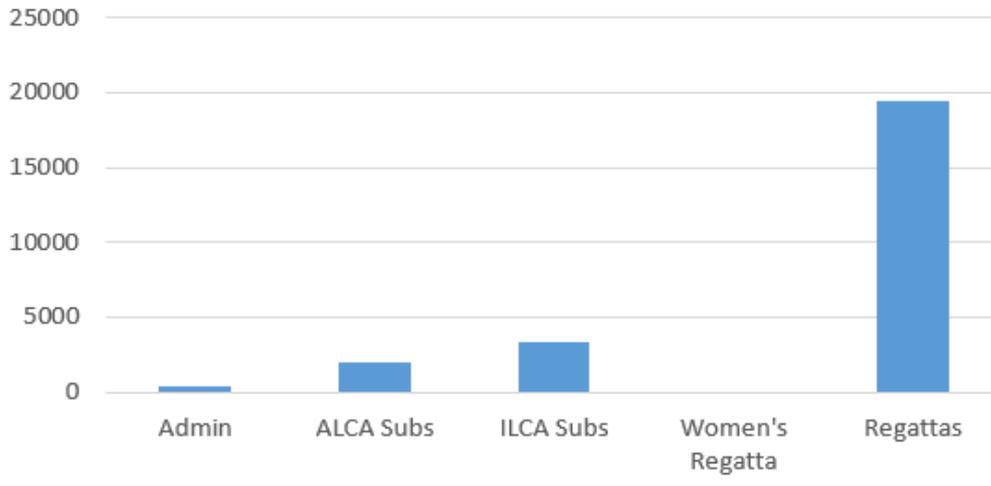
NSW & ACT Laser Equity at 30 September



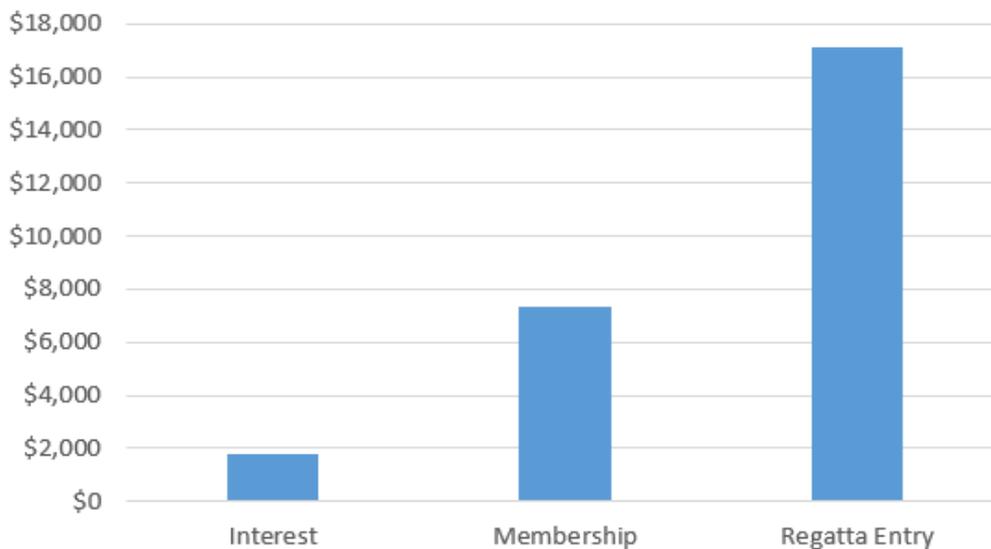
It was explained that most of the funding relates to the running of regattas as our main activity. As Geoff explained this can vary from year to year as events are held in more or less popular venues. Our endeavour is to share the events around rather than always selecting the venue which will attract the largest number of entries.

The split of revenue and expenses for FY 2019/20 is shown below.

NSW & ACT Laser 2020 Expenses



NSW & ACT Laser 2020 Revenue



With the cancellation of the DBSC Women's Regatta due to COVID our expenses were reduced by around \$2,000. We normally contribute this sum to assist DBSC with running this event.

Moved Sue Phillips seconded Ben Byford that accounts be accepted. Report accepted.

Election of Office Bearers

Thanks were 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
Elected Ben Byford

- Race Secretary
Elected Sue Phillips
- Measurer
Elected David Edmiston
- Masters Representative
Elected Rob Lowndes
- Youth Representative
Open
- Women's Representative
Elected Clare Alexander

General Business

Event Venues for 2021/22

- Dates and venues for 2021/22 season are close to being locked in and will be published when finalised.
- Clubs wishing to host an association regatta should express their interest to Kevin Phillips as we try to plan a few seasons ahead.
- David Taylor expressed keen interest for RPAYC to host an event in next season.

Planning for 2023 Australian Championships

- ALCA and WA Laser Association were forced to postpone the 2021 National Championships originally scheduled for 1-8 January 2021. The 12 months delay has meant that our Nationals and the separate National Masters will now be held in 2023. The venues and dates already agreed are;
 - Oceania & Australian Laser Open & Youth Championships – Georges River Sailing Club 1-8 January 2023
 - Oceania & Australian Laser Masters Championships – Port Stephens Sailing & Aquatic Club (PSSAC) - 10-13 February 2023
- We had started planning for the events as originally scheduled. With the one year delay we will be moving back into planning action early in 2021.
- We will need to sign up a large number of volunteers particularly for the Georges River Nationals to manage on water, measurement, entry, registration, scoring and jury functions.

Promotion and Events for 4.7s

- Discussion was held on initiatives to increase 4.7 fleets and possibility of running dedicated 4.7 events at venues which are more easily accessed by typical 4.7 sailors many of whom don't have ready access to road transport.
- The possible resurrection of the Association sponsored 4.7 rig (sail and bottom section) rental/loan program was discussed.
- Ben Byford expressed an interest in participating and it was resolved to set up a conference call of interested persons to discuss 4.7 promotion options.

Meeting Closed 8:20 pm



NSW & ACT Laser Association

Chairman's Report

NSW & ACT Laser Association AGM 10th December 2020

NSW/ACT District Sailing

NSW/ACT Lasers had a successful 2019/20 season. Fortunately we had scheduled our events in 2020 earlier than usual to avoid clashing with the Victoria 2020 event program. This meant that we finished our events before COVID-19 took hold of our lives.

We ran our four major District regattas in the 2019/20 season.

We had 96 entries for States at Georges River SC in November 2019. This event was preceded by the Coasts at Gosford in October 2019 with 69 entries.

In February 2020 the Metropolitan Championship at the greatest Laser club in the world Double Bay SC (DBSC) saw 98 entries. We were forced to make a late change to the date for this event thanks (not) 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 day we had long originally scheduled the event.

Also in February we had the State Masters at Lake Jindabyne. The folks there turned on a fabulous event – entertainment, good food and some good wind - on day one at least. There were 66 sailors there to enjoy the event very few of whom would have sailed that weekend at their home clubs because it was blowing the oysters off the rocks on the coast. This event was nicely timed between the bushfires and COVID.

All up we had some 330 entries for our events for the year.

We have had to cancel the Coasts (Port Kembla SC in October) this season and unfortunately the DBSC's very popular Women's Regatta likewise was victim of COVID health orders. The Women's Regatta will be back larger and better than ever next season.

Our State Championships in December 2020 were able to proceed with COVID Safe rules in place. There we had the maximum allowable 120 entries. This series was boosted by Australian, New Zealand and Belgian Sailing Team participation.

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 are looking forward to the State Masters on the fabulous sailing waters of Callala Bay from Jervis Bay Sailing Club 13-14 February 2021 and the Metropolitan Championships at Hunters Hill SC (HHSC) 6-7 March 2021. HHSC are really keen. They are a strong club with a great junior development program and will run a fabulous event for us.

We attempt to share regatta venues around. Our program for season 2021/22 is still open so if your club has an interest in running any of our events please be in touch. We manage and fund prizes, handouts, entry registration, scoring etc and we pay \$1,000 per event per day to the clubs to help cover the costs incurred in running the events for us.

National Championships Re-scheduling & Planning

ALCA and WA Laser Association were forced to postpone the 2021 National Championships originally scheduled for 1-8 January 2021. The 12 months delay has meant that our Nationals and the separate National Masters will now be held in 2023. The venues and dates already agreed are;

- Oceania & Australian Laser Open & Youth Championships – Georges River Sailing Club 1-8 January 2023
- Oceania & Australian Laser Masters Championships – Port Stephens Sailing & Aquatic Club (PSSAC) - 10-13 February 2023

Earlier this year the Port Stephens Council seeking to get greater community benefit from the PSSAC club and its iconic location opened expressions of interest for the management of the club. The Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC) was selected to manage the facility. In subsequent discussions with NCYC they have expressed strong interest in continuing with our original agreement with the PSSAC management to run our National Masters there in 2023.

We had started with arrangements for the two national events before the postponement but will resume and finalise these through calendar 2021. We will need a range of volunteers both on the water and for measurement and event management ashore to make these events the best ever.

International Sailing

In Australia we were fortunate to have been able to run three World Championships (Men's and Women's Worlds and Radial Men's at Sandringham pre COVID. The World Masters at Geelong YC had to be cancelled though the Oceania and Australian Laser Masters was (just) completed before COVID took over our lives. All other 2020 World Championships scheduled in the Northern Hemisphere summer have had to be cancelled.

Well done the Victorian Laser Association for the fabulous organisation of these World events as well the Australian Nationals.

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

Laser/ILCA Changes

The intensity of debate on Laser/ILCA changes has diminished. Two new builders are in production and four more are progressing towards commercial supply of hulls. Though there has been some turnover of management and staff there we are fortunate to have PSA continuing to supply quality boats and equipment. Some other Laser regions in the World have not been well served by the near monopoly supply arrangements of the past and are looking forward to the new builders ramping up.

Without a change to the old three World builder model World Sailing could not have retained our class as Olympic equipment. Because the three original builders, who hold the Laser trademarks, could not all agree on a new supply arrangement which met WS's requirements

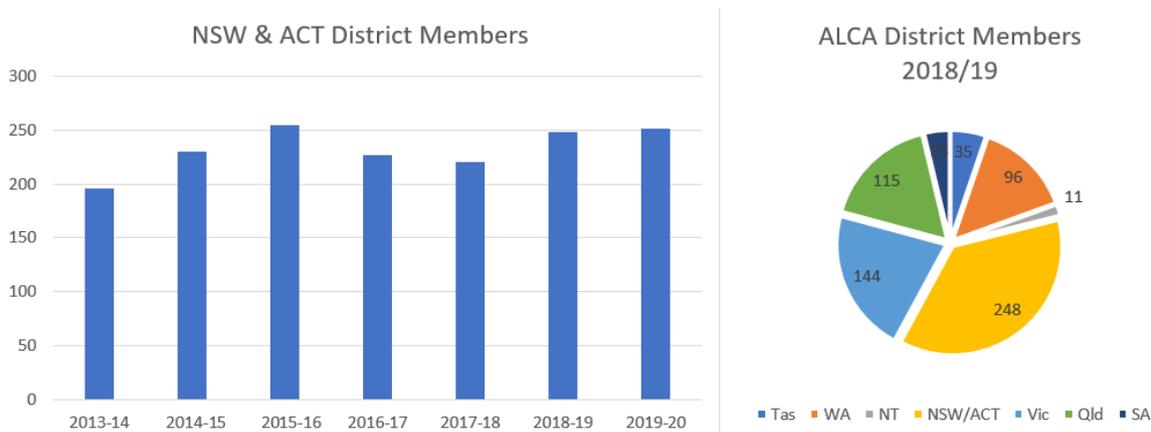
ILCA was compelled to introduce new builders and to use the ILCA brand and logo going forward.

More information is on an ILCA post at

<https://www.laserinternational.org/blog/2020/06/12/progress-report-on-new-class-builders/>

NSW/ACT Membership

Our District membership for the year increased slightly to 251 (from 248 in 2018/19 season). Our seven year average membership is 232.



We pass more than half of our collected membership fees onto ALCA and ILCA through affiliations (\$23 per member to be exact) 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 World Championship events.

District 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 over 500 people on our email distribution list.

Thanks to VLA all Australian Laser Districts have access to a District and Regatta app – Australian Laser app. We hope that this will help with communication of information and at regattas for notifications and access to entry, documents and results. More information is in a post on our web site [Here](#).

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 and VC Frank Walsh. Dave wears the Measurers hat as well. Thanks also to Youth representative Finn Alexander, Women's representative Clare 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



NSW & ACT Laser Association

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Treasurer: Geoffrey Lucas
Email: geoffrey@krlucas.com.au

Treasurer's Report for AGM 10th December 2020

Our Association continues to remain financially buoyant with total funds on hand as at 30th September 2020 of \$89,733.61.

The interest bearing term deposit of \$68,000.00 was recently renewed for a further period of twelve months to October 2021 and like all funds at present, is only enjoying a low rate of return of 0.60%.

The four association regattas held during the sailing season 2019-2020, together with membership subscriptions and interest received, provided a net surplus of \$6,809.46 compared with a surplus from these sources for the previous season of \$4,821.69.

It should be noted receipts from the Masters' regatta were down from \$10,470.00 (127 entrants) in 2019 to \$5,250.00 (66 entrants) this year. This decline was due mainly to the more remote location of Jindabyne, the bushfires and COVID-19.

After taking into account Other Expenses of \$5,647.85 as detailed in the Income & Expenditure Statement, operations for the year ended with a surplus of \$1,161.61 as compared with the previous year's deficit of \$3,181.55.

Thank you
Geoff Lucas
Hon. Treasurer
17th November 2020

