



NSW & ACT Laser Association

NSW/ACT District Laser Association Annual General Meeting 5th December 2021 at Georges River Sailing Club

Meeting opened at 9.10 am

Present

Kevin Phillips (Gosford SC), Geoff Lucas (MHASC), Ben Byford (RPAYC), Hans, Sue Phillips (GSC), Rob Lowndes (MHASC), David Edmiston (MHASC/GSC), Elaine Edmiston, Bruce Murphy (GRSC), Rod Nairn (PKSC)

Apologies Nil

Minutes from 2020 Annual General Meeting

Minutes from the AGM held online on 10th December 2020. Moved and seconded that the minutes be accepted – approved.

Business arising from the Minutes

Nil.

Chairman's Report

Report presented by Kevin Phillips as attached.

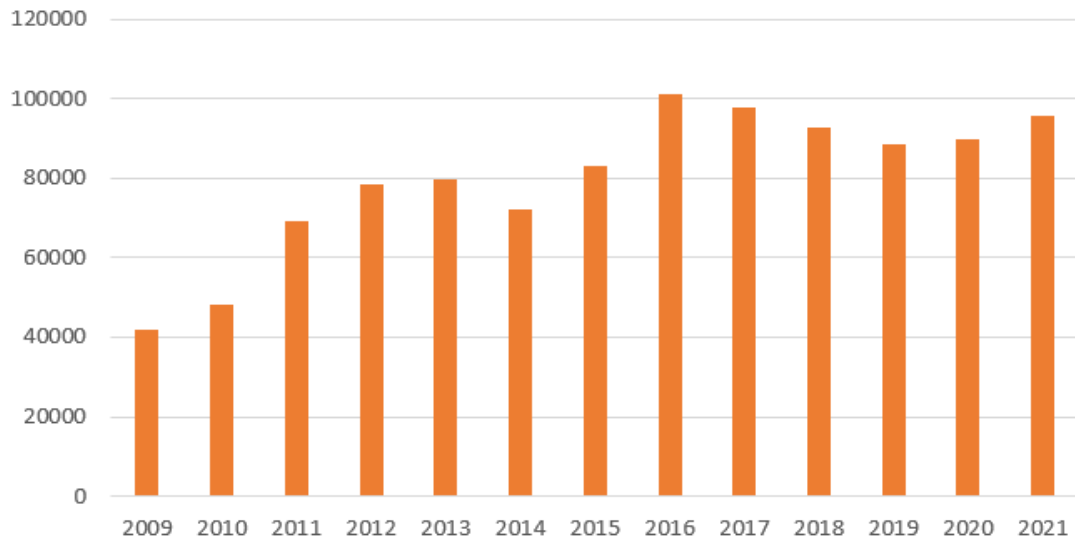
Financial Report

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

At the bottom line there was a \$6,032.26 surplus in 2020/21 giving a balance of funds of \$95,765.87 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 shows the total equity at 30th September each year for the past 13 years.

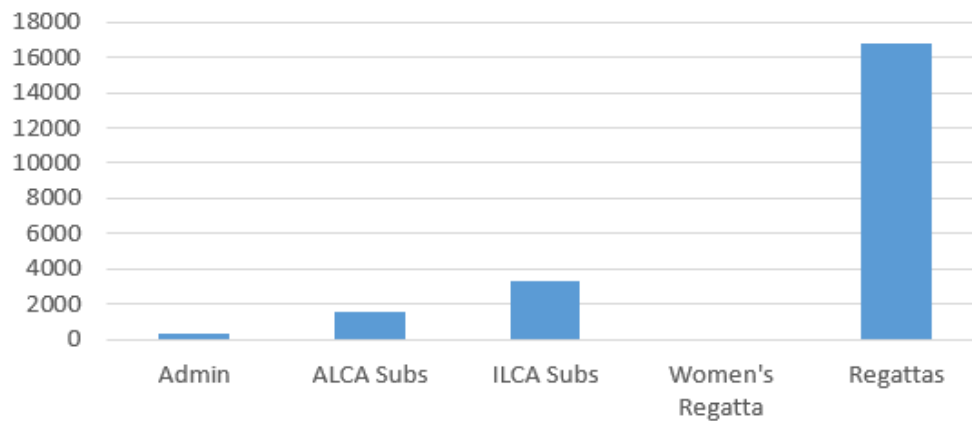
NSW & ACT Laser Equity at 30 September



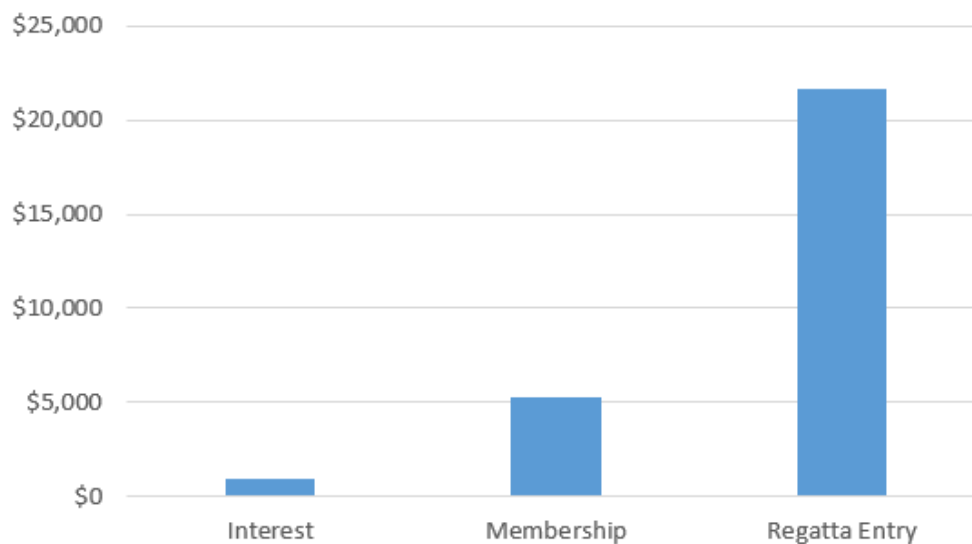
It was explained that most of the funding relates to the running of regattas as our main activity. As Geoff explained this can vary from year to year as events are held in more or less popular venues. Our endeavour is to share the events around rather than always selecting the venue which will attract the largest number of entries. The split of revenue and expenses for FY 2020/21 is shown below.

NSW & ACT Laser 2021

Expenses



NSW & ACT Laser 2021 Revenue



With the cancellation of the DBSC Women's Regatta again in 2021 due to COVID our expenses are reduced by around \$2,000. We normally contribute this sum to assist DBSC with running this event.

Moved Kevin Phillips seconded David Edmiston 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 Ben Byford
- Treasurer
Elected Geoff Lucas
- Race Secretary
Elected Sue Phillips
- Measurer
Elected David Edmiston
- Masters Representative
Elected Rob Lowndes
- Youth Representative
Open Finn Alexander
- Women's Representative
Elected Clare Alexander

General Business

Event Venues for 2021/22

- Dates and venues for 2022/23 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.

Planning for 2023 Australian Championships

- ALCA and WA Laser Association were forced to cancel the 2022 National Championships originally scheduled for 1-8 January 2022 at Fremantle SC. Our Nationals will be 1-8 January 2023. The separate National Masters was scheduled for 10-13 February 2023 however ILCA has recently scheduled the World Masters in Thailand in February 2023 so our National Masters will have to be rescheduled to 13-16 January 2023.
- The two events are now so close and the originally selected Masters venue Port Stephens is very difficult to obtain accommodation in peak holiday season. Thus, running both events at Georges River is the preferred fallback plan which is being progressed.
- 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.
- Discussion on making the 4.7 more attractive to older sailors. Beyond having Masters categories for 4.7s ideas on this would be appreciated.
- The current trend is for Opti sailors to move to 29'ers was discussed as was how to make the Laser 4.7 – Radial – Standard path more attractive. Victoria has had success with a program – details will be sought from them.

Meeting Closed 9.46 am



NSW & ACT Laser Association

Chairman's Report NSW & ACT Laser Association AGM 5th December 2021

NSW/ACT District Sailing

NSW/ACT Lasers had a successful 2020/21 season despite having to cancel the Coast Championships in both 2020 and 2021. Fortunately we have been able to run our other events with strong participation.

There were 120 competitors (the maximum number of competitors allowed by host club Belmont 16s' COVID Plan) for the State Championships in December. We had the Australian Sailing Team and some international Olympic level sailors competing in good conditions on one of the best sailing event tracks in Australia. Olympic Champion Matt Wearn had a narrow win in the Standards from New Zealand's Olympic representative Sam Meech with fellow Kiwi George Gautrey close behind. Finn Alexander Brett Beyer and Jan Scholten were not far off the pace behind the Olympic sailors.

It was an all-star cast in the Radials with WA's Zoe Thompson winning by a narrow margin from Belgium's Olympic representative Emma Plasschaert narrowly ahead of our Olympic representative Mara Stransky. While it was great to see the stars competing our own Daniel Costandi, Brooke Wilson and Paige Caldecoat were very competitive in the following three places.

In February we had a great State Masters event at Jervis Bay Sailing Club with 140 competitors. The folks there turned on a fabulous event and conditions were ideal. Apprentice Master Victorian Matt Blakey was first in the 64 boat Standard fleet just ahead of Masters Brett Beyer and Victorian Matthew Faddy. In the Radials Double Bay Apprentices James Tudball and Gavin Blake finished first and third respectively with Georges River Grand Master David Early second.

We had 80 boats for the Metropolitan Championships at Hunters Hill SC in March. It is a fabulous club and host for the event. The sailors and RO Andrew Mc Lachlan were kept on their toes with some variable conditions. On Sunday only two races could be run as the sea breeze took a while to fill in. Mina Ferguson sailed very well to win in the Radials ahead of Zoe Thompson, Daniel Costandi and Mara Stransky. Brett Beyer was a clear winner with five bullets in the Standards and Hamish Gilsean from Avalon SC won in the 4.7s.

Great work and promotion by Double Bay SC saw a fleet of 110 boats celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Laser Regatta on Sunday 20th June. The sailors enjoyed the 10-18 knots of breeze to complete the course from Farm Cove in front of the Opera House to Watsons Bay. A number of interstate sailors who planned to participate were deterred by the mini COVID outbreak some others by the early start and the cold and rain. Those who did brave the conditions had a great time on the water and enjoyed the festivities, BBQ and prize draw back at Double Bay Sailing Club afterwards. Thanks to Rob McMillan NB Sailports for donation of two sails and Ian Douglas for donation of a gold Laser hull as prize draws for this event.



The DBSC's very popular Women's Regatta was again victim of COVID health orders. The Women's Regatta will be back larger and better than ever next season.

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 attempt to share regatta venues around. Our program for season 2022/23 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 cancel the 2022 National Championships scheduled for 1-8 January 2022. The 2022 National Masters event will be proceeding 25-28 February at Westernport YC Victoria as will our State Masters and Metropolitan Championships in February and March 2022. The venues and dates for the 2023 Nationals 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 have started planning the arrangements for the two nationals events which will need a range of volunteers both on the water and for measurement and event management ashore to make them the best ever.

International Sailing

Great result with Mat Wearn winning in the Tokyo Olympics and Mara Stansky finishing a creditable 14th including a first and third on the final fleet racing day.

After all the ILCA 2020 World Championships except the Radials in Melbourne had to be cancelled the ILCA did a great job moving venues and timing to make all the 2021 World Championships happen despite COVID restrictions. Unfortunately Australian participation in these events was largely limited to Australian Sailing funded and supported sailors.

Laser/ILCA Changes

The intensity of debate on Laser/ILCA changes has diminished. Six new builders have been selected, evaluated and supplied with class moulds and are now up and running. These added to long term builders PSA and PSJ (the Japanese builder) make eight ILCA/Lasers builders

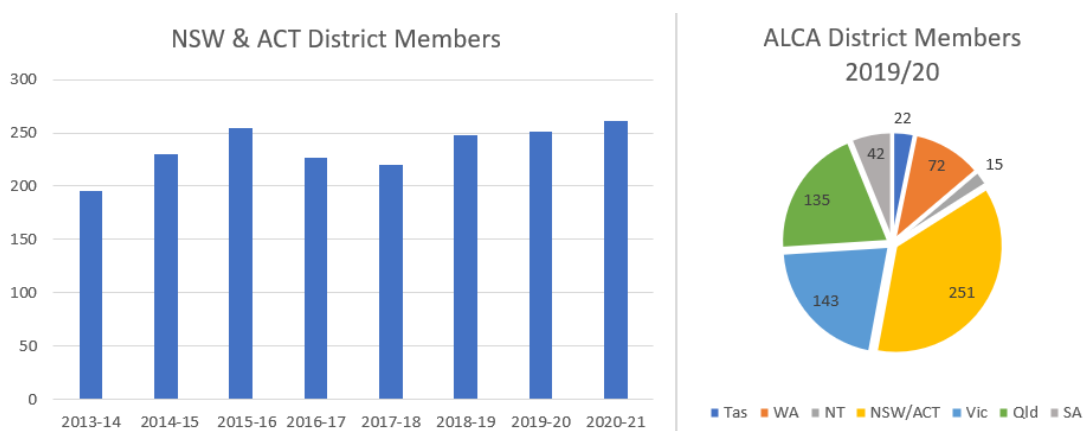
Worldwide. As a result of this the supply of boats and parts in many countries has improved markedly. We are fortunate to have PSA continuing to supply quality boats and equipment.

Due to Laser trademark issues explained in a ILCA post at <https://www.laserinternational.org/blog/2020/06/12/progress-report-on-new-class-builders/> the class is compelled to use the ILCA brand and logo going forward. As well, to avoid costly legal defence threatened by ex UK builder Laser Performance, the terms Radial and 4.7 are no longer used instead the boats are termed ILCA 7, ILCA 6 and ILCA 4. All equipment and documents will reflect the new naming going forward.

The almost 50 year old class constitution is being modified to reflect the new arrangements and naming. The constitutional change, which requires a 2/3rds yes vote, will be put to the to the ILCA membership shortly.

NSW/ACT Membership

Our District membership for the year increased slightly to 261 (from 251 in 2019/20 season). Our eight year average membership is 236.



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 550 people on our email distribution list.

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

ABN 59 719 560 723

Treasurer: Geoffrey Lucas

Email: geoffrey@krlucas.com.au

Treasurer's Report for Year Ended 30th September 2021

Our Association continues to remain financially buoyant with total funds on hand as at 30th September 2021 of \$95,765.87.

The three association regattas held during the sailing season 2020-2021, together with membership subscriptions and interest received, provided a net surplus of \$11,130.50 compared with a surplus from four regattas held the previous season of \$6,809.46. Despite the fact the Coasts had to be cancelled due to COVID, the Masters and States regattas were well supported resulting in an overall net surplus from the regatta entries of \$4,543.00.

After taking into account Other Expenses of \$5,098.24 as detailed in the Income & Expenditure Statement, operations for the year ended with a surplus of \$6,032.26 as compared with the previous year's surplus of \$1,161.61.

Thank you

Geoff Lucas
Hon. Treasurer
11th October 2021