



Minutes of the Elections General Meeting held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at The Clubhouse, Davey's Bay Yacht Club which commenced @ 11:00am.

## ATTENDEES

*Peter Manger, Matthew Barry, Nic Peasley, Susan Thompson, Tony Nash, Leigh Cummin, Cameron Taylor, Bill Ferme, Peter Danks, Jenny Danks, Jo Manger, Andrew Meldrum, Tom Seymour, Dale Collings, Chris Menage, Max Jones, Richard Bath, George Barnak, Marites Barnak, Michael Clark, Geoff Eldridge, Victor Nosiara, Kate Harper, Sally Radnell, John Radnell, Tony Eustace, Nicola Eustace, Julie Lidgett, Athol Lidgett, Glenn Kerkhof, Mick Swales, Adam Stafford*

## APOLOGIES

*Dave Streader, Jo Streader, Ed Brewis, Glenys Hitchen, Scott and Kate Lidgett, Patricia Peck, Bill Forrest, Jane Meldrum, Michael O'Connor, Chip Lidgett, Chris Harper, Kevin Buschert, Katie Stafford*

***Annual General Meeting Minutes (held 29/10/17) approved. Proposed: Bill Ferme, Seconded: Glenn Kerkhof. Passed by a majority show of hands.***

## **COMMODORE'S REPORT**

### **Sailing**

Tackers again was well supported and many continued sailing on Sunday mornings once the Tackers program had finished. The 4-day intensive was a magnificent event and blessed with good weather. In addition to the Optis we had 8 420's sailing with a total participation of over 75. The junior dinners and film screenings were again a highlight. Many thanks to Sally Radnell and her coaches.

I was most impressed this year with the 420's, Pacers and Optis that sailed on Sunday afternoons. The skill level really increased as the year progressed.

The adults learn to sail was also well supported.

The Pacer Association visited one Sunday and all enjoyed the combined sailing.

We had 3 new boats sailing with the Flying Fifteens and clearly have the largest fleet on Port Phillip Bay so Cam Taylor is to be congratulated. Due to algae blooms the State FF15 championships were transferred from Cairn Curran to DBYC with just one weeks' notice. Fortunately 4 races were run on the Saturday as sailing was not possible on the Sunday. The Cairn Curran crew helped as race officials but we can be proud putting on a good regatta at such short notice.

School sailing ably led by Kate Harper and Richard Starkins was also well supported whilst Girlsail again was an outstanding success.

Thanks to the race management crew of Richard Starkins, Glenys Hitchen and Bill Ferme, course layers and Tower crew. They as usual are the unsung heroes without which the Club could not operate.

We are indebted to Club Captain Sue Thompson for ensuring sailing ran so well.

### **Boats**

It has been commented that we have the best maintained fleet of Pacers on the Bay so Tony Nash again must take a bow. They were heavily utilised during the week with School sailing and on Sundays. We also lent 5 to Ranelagh for their learn to sail week.

Power boats were again serviced at the Club by West Reynolds and organised by David Streader.

### **Functions**

Commodore's and Australia Day cocktail parties were well attended and many commented the Australia Day function was one of the best held in recent years. The silent and live auctions constitute our major fundraising for the year and were most successful. Tackers enjoyed their lunches as did attendees at other events. Many thanks to the tirelessly working kitchen and BBQ helpers who provide such good service.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

The big item was installation of roof top solar collectors. Our power bills have noticeably decreased. We also replaced the entrance path pine decking with much thicker cypress decking. General maintenance has been undertaken to keep the premises and grounds in excellent order. After a long delay we placed a board in the Club house recognising the generous donors for the 2009 rebuild.

We undertook a risk assessment on our cranes leading to signage being erected and testing and registration of users. 3 retractable hose reels were provided to the yard. When tides permit we will be carrying out repairs to supports for the dock fenders. Dredging was not required this year.

The FF15 yard fence needs replacing and because of the cost is coming up later for approval. The recent storm has done considerable damage to our assets. The dock platform and stairs were swept away. We are getting a quote to replace them with aluminium sections. Timber doesn't like the inter tidal range. Examination of the concrete ramp from Rob's Way shows large rocks have been pushed aside and undermining of the concrete is evident. We will have to reposition some rocks and pump concrete under the slab.

### **Thorry Gunnerson**

We acknowledge the passing of our long-term member, significant yachtsman, and generous supporter.

### **Strategy**

As I have previously said we have magnificent facilities which are greatly underutilised. Membership was stable. We had 2 twilight sails this year and one Friday night dinner. A successful first aid presentation was held, indicative of events we can hold. We gained one new sponsor. We did place an advertisement and commentary in the Mornington Peninsula Magazine and signage at the Club which is now beginning to pay off as the rate of enquiries is increasing leading to improvement in bookings for next year. We held 5 member functions and 1 external function this year, but we need to do much better. The Committee and indeed the whole Club needs to put continuing effort into making the Club a more desirable destination. But thanks to Nic Peasley for his tireless effort.

### **Sailor App**

It has been a goal of mine for some 8 years to have a membership list published. At last we have found a suitable method with Sailor App. Currently mobile numbers are given but we are talking with the developer to include email addresses also. And it does much more. It gives weather for our site. It supports a results module. The Club Program is available and duty names and duty lists will be available.

### **Communications**

Vice Commodore Matt Barry has again done a superb job in continually publishing on time an extremely readable and informative Newsletter. There are some possible synergies with the Sailor App to lessen the load which are being explored. We are conscious that the web site has not always been kept up to date and old material removed and we are working to rectify that.

## Finance

David Streader is not able to be with us today but I will shortly read his report which states 'that DBYC remains in sound financial shape'. Treasurer is a constant job which David has handled well. I'm pleased to report that we are now claiming sailing related expenditure from the Australian Sports Foundation funds on a regular basis.

## Summing Up

I have been fortunate in being well supported by all those mentioned above and other Committee members Ed Brewis, Leigh Cummin and Chris Harper, and all Club members, and know the club will be in good shape going forward. In finishing I'd like to refer to my final Commodore's message in the newsletter:

What a wonderful 2 years I have had. It has been great to have a front row seat seeing so many people enjoying their sailing. I have had the pleasure and privilege of leading this fantastic Club. I have got to know so many people and their children that I feel most blessed. What a tremendous support team I have had, who would know that I spent over 25% of the time outside Victoria, and the show just kept rolling on. This just shows being Commodore isn't a life sentence and when asked the excuse that I haven't the time will no longer be accepted! So please support the new Commodore and team, they will do a great job.

Peter Manger  
Commodore  
DBYC

***Commodore's Report accepted. Proposed: Peter Manger, Seconded: Nic Peasley Passed by a majority show of hands.***

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Following another successful sailing season, I'm pleased to report that DBYC remains in sound financial shape.

Detailed below are some financial highlights/comments:

- Although 2 months from financial year end, we currently expect to report a breakeven underlying result (before capital fund income and donations but with no charge for depreciation).
- Club capital reserves (cash and shares) are up from \$600K at 1/7/2017 to approx. \$618K but will likely reduce over the next 2 months to 30/6/18 due to low expected income but some ongoing expenses
- Repairs & maintenance costs have been relatively low YTD and it should be noted that the solar electricity panels were capitalised rather than expensed. Future significant expenses are likely to include replacement fencing in several areas and repairs required to the lower platform at the dock. Given a growing wait list, we will again review the construction of additional lawn lockers.
- Some shares were sold in August 2017 to quarantine and protect grant funds received some years ago from the Australian Sports Foundation
- We have experienced higher venue hire income and bookings

- With few new memberships, only one new sponsor and a small membership base, we continue to seek new members and/or sponsors - so please promote DBYC at every opportunity!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any specific queries.

David Streader  
Treasurer

Question: Is there fee income from the downstairs lockers, what is it and what is the current usage rate?

Fees are: Per year – Lawn Locker = \$225, Full height Inside Locker = \$110, Half-height Inside Locker = \$55. Current records show there are 7 downstairs lockers being charged out, although this will need to be verified by a physical check to ensure we are charging the correct fees.

Question: How many current DBYC members and is that rising or falling?

Answer: Estimate of 168 members with numbers relatively stable – we had approximately 4 or 5 new memberships approved this season with about the same number of resignations.

**NOTE: Current membership data:**

|                   |           |  |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| 57 Family Members | 114       | Assumes couples and not including kids |
| 11 Life Members   | 11        |  |
| 3 Junior Members  | 3         |  |
| 25 Senior Members | 25        |  |
| 26 Social Members | <u>26</u> | Assumes individual only                |
| Total             | 179       |  |

Discussion continued around how we can lift numbers with comments that there should be a target of 250 members, and that the club could cater for three times the current level.

Then discussion moved to the question of whether DBYC could cater for encouraging new members who are focused on kayaking and Stand-up Paddle-boarding (without the need to be sailing members). Other clubs have successfully followed this path, notably Mt Martha YC. Committee encouraged to consult the Commodore of Mt Martha as they can advise on their learnings and will be willing to assist as they are formerly a DBYC member.

Question: Has the club been involved in winter sailing? Is it contemplating doing so?

Comment that in previous seasons (5+ years ago) there were a series of Winter "Soup and Sailing Sundays" organized – approx. 4 to 5 across the non-season months. This was cold, and there were the odd "no-sails" but at times this morphed into most enjoyable Sunday lunches too.

Question: What is the predominant wind direction in the winter months as at Mordialloc it is northerly which would present a problem at DBYC. Answer was that its generally a westerly wind.

***Treasurer's Report accepted. Proposed: Peter Manger, Seconded: Richard Bath Passed by a majority show of hands.***

## **CONFIRMATION OF CLUB AUDITOR**

Highlighted that although “confirmation of club auditor” was listed as an agenda item, this was an error as the decision was already taken at the AGM in October

## **MOTION – MEMBER APPROVAL OF \$35K BUDGET FOR BOAT YARD FENCING REPAIR/REPLACEMENT**

Peter Manger spoke in favour of the motion. As noted in the Commodores report the club’s fencing is in need of repair. It is anticipated that the cost of fully repairing the fencing will be close to exceeding 5% of the future fund and therefore we need EGM approval for funds expenditure. 1 quote has been received to date and it is acknowledged that more planning will need to occur before any spending decisions are made. We will aim to utilise the Australian Sports Foundation fund as there is has been a challenge in being able to justify use of those funds.

Peter noted that this was the most urgent of a long list of required spending including:

- Eastern concrete ramp repair/maintenance
- Exterior painting for club house (need to use a commercial painter)
- Dredging & rock removal
- Refurbishing and development of the Kayak sheds
- New Lawn Lockers
- Updating RIBs (last done in 2012)
- Mechanical equipment updates (e.g. air con, fridges)
- Robs Way update / maintenance
- Pacer Fleet update/replacement
- Crane maintenance and future replacement

Peter Danks noted that Nigel Peck – who has provided much of the capital for the facilities we now use – was very concerned that the “Future Fund” was kept protected and repairs and maintenance was delivered via operating revenue. An example of needing a large future fund is for potential cliff collapse or other unplanned challenges that are expensive.

Peter Manger highlighted the urgency of the repairs now needed including dangerous condition of the gates, cliff movement leaving the yard open (and related security risks) and storm conditions over winter will make it significantly worse.

Various considerations presented including building a retaining wall and weld a fence onto it, using existing concrete as a base for stability. There is currently a window of no major expenditure so the committee believes that we need to act during the off-season, including allowing for potential extension to the yard if the current circular stairs can be removed (which needs Council lobbying).

Question: Is there a list which includes expected timings and costs of future capital repairs?  
Response: The process, has started and the new committee will be addressing that issue.

Comment: We should be cautious with \$35K as it is the equivalent of 10 sponsorships and would ask that we stretch out the spending and fence life as long as possible.

Question: What are the projects that could generate income (e.g. Kayak shed refurbishment) and can we prioritise these?

Question: Can we research the level of interest from kayakers and SUP participants to see what that could generate as income?

Comment: With more members this is a simple discussion so need to ensure prioritisation of increasing membership numbers.

Question: What elements of the yard are an urgent problem? Answer that the western end is critical with storm surges pushing rocks in and this has happened twice already this season.

Question: Can we get more quotes? Answer: There has only been one quote and more are definitely being sourced before any decisions on spending are made.

Comment: Our share investments should be returning 8-12 percent so covering much of the proposed cost and that should encourage people to support the motion.

During discussion Peter Danks said he and Scott Lidgett would provide support to assist with the management of any repairs to the fence and gates

***Motion – A budget of \$35K is approved for the committee to use on boat yard fencing repairs and replacement. Proposed: Peter Manger, Seconded: Kate Harper  
Passed: Count of 17 in favour and 8 against.***

Additional comment: Was clarified that this motion just creates the budget, no decisions on spending have yet been made.

Additional comment: Adam Stafford offered to assist the Club in marketing the Club to drive further revenue. The Commodore stated that Adam and Brett of Hocking Stuart should join Nic's subcommittee on Strategy.

## **CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT**

Lots of volunteer hours are needed to run this club and happily we have managed this season to spread these across more members including all the Flying15 sailors and the Committee – thanks to everyone who contributed. Highlights of the sailing season has been coaching for the Flying 15 Fleet, Adult Learn-To-Sail with 15 participants and both of the Tackers programs with 48 participants pre-Christmas and 75 in the 4-day intensive.

For the Junior fleet, more participation in afternoon racing led to much improved results at the Victorian Optimist titles, with thanks to Sally Radnell for her efforts.

Our Schools programs definitely need more support to assist Kate Harper and Richard Starkins. The schools employ the coaches however more volunteer support is needed from members so please consider assisting where you can.

Girlsail – big thanks to Kate Harper and her team and also need to recognise Tony Nash's sterling efforts with our Pacer fleet

Thanks to the efforts of Cam Taylor we now have 18 active boats, and with 5 crew stepping in to skipper at different times it meant we had a total of 23 skippers. DBYC had 13 boats compete at the National titles and we are clearly the biggest fleet on the east coast and rivalling the West Australian fleets.

After racing, the “Tips and Dips” on the deck were well received – friendly with plenty of banter and I feel that we are definitely now a more cohesive and inclusive club.

We intend to host and support members in radio, and powerboat training and licencing plus sailing instructor courses to ensure members are involved and contributing and confident to step in to new roles.

For the first time in 11 years we had a season with no iSail Lidgett Trophy– and although that was a difficult decision the legacy of that event was on show when DBYC needed to host the Flying 15 State Titles at late notice and so many people pitched in – DBYC Members – Congratulations!

## **SAIL PROGRAMS UPDATE (KATE HARPER)**

The season was ‘huge’ for those involved with schools sailing mid-week at DBYC. We have near doubled our numbers on Monday nights for Toorak College Learn-To-Sail & Learn-To-Race (23 students) and most pleasingly we saw girls who started with us in the LTS programs being selected into the Toorak College racing team. Peninsula were very regular in their Sailing Team training sessions on Tuesday nights and on Wednesday nights we either hosted four schools for the John Middleton Series, or had the Toorak College Sailing Team training. Under Richards guidance, Peninsula Grammar also commenced offering Learn To Sail sessions in Term 1 for middle school students in school time on Wednesday afternoons (before the after-school sailing!). For those not able to see this side of Club life, we are a very active and profitable Club mid-week. All these program are great for the club from a revenue perspective with the schools paying for use of the Pacers and that funds the costs of maintenance and upkeep.

We also hosted the 13th year of Girlsail in conjunction with Toorak College. We welcomed 102 female secondary school students from around the State, along with school staff and parents. It was wonderful to welcome a new era of DBYC volunteers into key roles on this day, and we are very much hoping we will see you all back again next year!

All of these events happen with the support of a few wonderful DBYC volunteers. Thanks to Tony Nash for running ‘the best kept Pacer fleet on the Bay’. Thanks to Richard for his never-ending positivity and passion to keep plugging away at our ever-growing midweek programs. Thanks also to the small, wonderful DBYC team who help on Wednesday nights. If you are available to assist on any of these nights or get to the Club by 5.45pm to retrieve power boats etc. then we would love to hear from you.

Kate then announced that she and Richard Starkins had a bet over Toorak versus Peninsula, with RCS winning a crown lager for the PGS victory. Kate then highlighted that Toorak beat PGS at the State Titles.

Richard noted the enormous amount of work done by Kate and marvelled at Kates ability to manage the students and their needs.

Susan Thompson

Club Captain  
Davey's Bay Yacht Club

## **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR SEASON 2017/18:-**

- Sue Thompson– Commodore
- Matthew Barry– Vice Commodore
- Nic Peasley – Rear Commodore
- Ed Brewis – Secretary
- David Streader – Treasurer
- Tony Nash – Club Captain
- Cameron Taylor – General Committee
- Nicola Eustace – General Committee
- Glennys Hitchen – General Committee
- Leigh Cummin – General Committee

***Proposed: Peter Manger, Seconded: Michael Swales***  
***These were the only nominations received for 2018/19 Committee positions so the Commodore declared them duly appointed.***

Peter Manger gave an overview of our new Commodore's background:

- Sue was 11 when her dad built a Mirror dinghy in their garage which started the families' love for sailing. Soon after, they moved to Australia and the family sailed Fireballs at regattas all over the country.
- Sponsored by the Victorian Fireball Association, Sue established herself as a volunteer sailing coach and combined sailing, coaching and committee duties at Frankston Yacht Club, the Fireball Association and the Victorian Yachting Council's Coaching Committee.
- It was at Davey's Bay Yacht Club in the early 80s that Sue and her sister, Judy, finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to Jeni Lidgett and Nicki Bethwaite and gained selection to the Women's World Championships in Mexico.
- Professionally Sue undertook a Broadcast Engineering traineeship with the ABC working at the TV studios at Ripponlea as well as Radio Australia and 3LO.
- After finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at consecutive Fireball World Championships Sue moved into the new single handed Olympic Class the "Europe dinghy" . She travelled and competed in Sweden and Europe in the lead up to the Barcelona Olympics, but finished second in the Olympic team selection trials.
- On moving to Perth with Rob, Sue started coaching professionally as well as starting a family (Sally and John). When they returned to Melbourne, Sue was appointed as the Coaching Director at Yachting Victoria conducting squad programs, regional coaching clinics and organising events.
- The Australian Yachting Federation nominated Sue to the International Sailing Federation where she sat on the Youth World Championship committee and Centreboard committee for 8 years.
- During that time Sue was also appointed as the High Performance Manager at the Australian Yachting Federation and the family moved to Sydney. Working alongside Victor Kovalenko, and following his lead, Sally and John sailed Optimist Dinghies, these years were a highlight of her career.

- Returning to Melbourne in 2006, the family joined Davey's Bay Yacht Club and Sue put her career on the back burner, working locally when Sally and John started high school. Sue was on the Davey's Bay Committee when Jeni was Commodore but did not start sailing again until 2011 when Cameron Taylor asked her to skipper the Flying Fifteen. She has spent 5 years as the Flying Fifteen Victoria Secretary and the last 2 years as the Club Captain at Davey's Bay Yacht Club.

On a final note - all Commodores come with different attributes and contributions to make. Of the past 6 Commodores, 3 including Sue are comfortably in the elite sailing category.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nic Peasley – on behalf of DBYC and the Committee – recognised the efforts of Peter Manger in providing a strong direction for the club and leaving the role with the club in good shape. He observed that of the 75% of Peter's time that he was in Victoria, 95% of it Peter would have been at the club. Nic presented Peter with a thankyou gift.

**Meeting was closed at 12:29pm.**

Minutes Accepted

Commodore: Susan Thompson  
Date: Day Month 2018