



ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INCORPORATED
253 ESPLANADE, MIDDLE BRIGHTON 3186
ABN 24768210467
INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION A0018674M
146th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2021, 7.00PM
HELD ONLINE.

AGM MINUTES

1. Opening of Meeting

Attendees

Brett Bowden, Geoff Adams, Peter Austin, Keith Badger, Phil Bedlington, David Bingham, Tony Bond, Susan Cassidy, Murray Cowdell, Peter Demura, Grant Dunoon, Delma Dunoon, Campbell Ewart, Jodie Ewart, Steven Fahey, Tony Fenton, Jan Ferguson, Glenn Ferguson, Peter Forbes, Terry Frankham, Ramon Garcia-Quintela, Martha Garkel, Peter Gebhardt, Terence Grundy, Allan Haddow, Jack Hawkins, Brett Heath, Niesje Hees, Ashley Horne, Chad Humphrey, Catherine Hurley, Marnie Irving, Paul Jenkins, Paul Jenkins, Karen Johns, Jim Leckey, Wendy Luck, Kim Luck, Jock MacAdie, Darren MacKay, Andrew McBriar, Bronwyn McIlveen, Philip McLean, Andrew Merrett, Kalpana Merrett, Will Merritt, Malcolm Mitchell, John Mooney, Marg Neeson, Andrew Neeson, Peter Osbourne, Jennifer Pascoe, Paul Pascoe, Andrew Perkins, Andrew Poulton, Patrick Purcell, Andrew Quinn, Darren Reid, Mark Seager, Kenneth Skov-Christensen, Ray Smith, Brenton Smith, Robina Smith, Dorota Sosnowski, John Spencer, Charles Stanton, Susie Strain, Peter Strain, Peter Stubbings, Simon Tedstone, Vanessa Twigg, Kerry Watson, Andrew White, Alan Woodward

A quorum of more than 20 Senior Members was declared.

2. Apologies

Peter Coleman
Campbell Rose
David Dyring
Mary-Alice Tedstone

3. Acknowledgment of Proxy Votes

Peter Demura (2)
Murray Cowdell (1)

4. Obituaries - (since Half Yearly General meeting 22 March 2021)

John Akhurst
Murray Smitheram
Warwick Andrews

5. Minutes

(a) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Half Yearly General Meeting held 22nd March 2021.

MOVED: Peter Strain **SECONDED:** Murray Cowdell **CARRIED**

(b) Business arising.

NIL

6. Commodore's Report.

Taken as read. In summary

- Commodore thanked Members for the loyalty that has been shown to the club and acknowledged the financial support that members have contributed.
- Commended the Treasurer and the Finance Sub-Committee for the financial results.
- Updated the membership on the closure of the Middle Brighton Pier and associated works
- Confirmed that the dredging of the eastern channel is scheduled for mid November.
- On going works to develop a Strategic Asset management plan for the club.
- The solar panels installed at the club was now fully operational and have save more than 130 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- Confirmed that the Committee support the vaccination program and will work with all Health Department directives.
- Commodore thanked the staff and volunteers for their work

Member Alan Woodward congratulated Peter Strain for the wonderful job that the Committee were undertaking on behalf of all members.

MOVED: Peter Strain **SECONDED:** Paul Jenkins **CARRIED**

7. Receive and Adopt the Accounts, Balance Sheet and Honorary Treasurers' Report for the Year ended 30th June 2021.

MOVED: Peter Demura **SECONDED:** Murray Cowdell **CARRIED**

Honorary Treasurer Peter Demura asked that his report be taken as read.

Main Features

- Despite the Club facing one type of COVID or another for everyday last year, it is pleasing to see the Club record a strong operating performance, reduce debt and increase cash holdings.
- The financial outcomes are due to the continued support of members, the dedication of the staff and the the ongoing support of all three levels of government.
- In an environment of considerable uncertainty surrounding the severity and duration of the lockdowns and the additional impost of the pier closure, the General Committee's response was one of cash preservation.
- The Operating Surplus for the year was \$1,112,749, while the Net Deficit after depreciation, amortisation and net interest paid was \$59,462.

Challenges

- Restarting the Club in a COVID consistent environment
- Increased reliance on catering income
- Increasing marina occupancy and improving utilisation of other assets are a key pillar towards improving financial outcomes
- Capital commitments going forward including dredging and marina
- Managing the seabed lease and marina pen contract renewals

Peter Demura would like to thank members of the Financial Sub-Committee.

8. Receive and Adopt the Sub-Committee Reports for the year ended 30th June 2020

(a) Sailing & OTB

Club Captain Brett Heath asked that his report be taken as read.

MOVED: Brett Heath **SECONDED:** Terry Frankham **CARRIED**

Highlights

- Sailing calendar was severely impacted due to COVID.
- As restrictions are being lifted participation numbers have been strong
- Thank you to the Staff & Volunteers who have delivered the program.

(b) Rescue & Support Boat Working Group

Murray Cowdell asked that his report be taken as read.

MOVED: Murray Cowdell **SECONDED:** Peter Strain **CARRIED**

Highlights

- The Chairman would like to thank the members of the working group.
- Two of the smaller ribs have been disposed of

(c) Assets

John Mooney asked that the report be taken as read.

MOVED: John Mooney **SECONDED:** Paul Jenkins **CARRIED**

Highlights

- Marina seabed lease has been given the approval to move to a direct negotiation between Parks Vic and the club.
- Sailing Office has been moved to the beachfront to enable visual monitoring of the water.
- Marina Attenuator – structural engineers have been engaged to recommend the maintenance required.
- Marina re-configuration is being assessed as there is a larger demand for bigger pens.
- Solar installation is complete and providing savings to the club's power bills.

Question: Tony Fenton – when is the expiry of the sea bed lease?

23rd April 2023

(d) Membership

Cath Hurley asked that her report be taken as read.

MOVED: Cath Hurley **SECONDED:** Peter Strain **CARRIED**

Highlights

- Would like to thank the membership subcommittee.
- New member interviews were particularly successful. The benefit of joining as a member were detailed in these meetings.
- It is so pleasing that membership numbers are growing despite COVID impacting operations. There has been a small decline in Crew & Youth membership categories.
- The membership survey had a 38% response rate. Which forms the basis of worthwhile information.
- A Social sub committee has recently been formed and Cath Hurley is the GC representative, Feedback & ideas are welcomed.

Question: Simon Tedstone – what is the age demographic of the club? How has it changed in recent years?

CH - The figures are not to hand but will be sourced.

PD – added he had been conducting recent interviews and many new members were in the 30-50yo age bracket.

Question: Vanessa Twigg – are most of the new members joining as singles or families?

CH – There are quite a few families joining.

PD – Many are new to sailing and are keen to have their children learn to sail.

(e) Cruising Group

Rear Commodore Paul Jenkins asked that his report be taken as read.

MOVED: Paul Jenkins **SECONDED:** Peter Strain **CARRIED**

Highlights

- The group is optimistic despite COVID cancellations.
- Titanic Night has been postponed with a new date TBA.
- Thanks to Cruising sub-committee members.

(f) Iceberger

Jack Hawkins asked that his report be taken as read.

MOVED: Jack Hawkins **SECONDED:** Peter Strain **CARRIED**

Highlights

- Jack mentioned that the hot water showers during lockdown were very much appreciated.
- Covid has seen many activities cancelled.
- Winter Solstice event worked well with money being raised for Beyond Blue.
- Peter expressed his thanks to the sub-committee.

(g) Inclusion & Diversity Advisory Group

Niesje Hees asked that her report be taken as read.

MOVED: Niesje Hees **SECONDED:** John Mooney **CARRIED**

Highlights

- Niesje thanked outgoing members of the sub-committee Roger Jepson & Wayne Seaward also wished to thank the ongoing members.
- The Notice of Motion to broaden the eligibility criteria for General Committee has been postponed until further consultation with the membership can be undertaken.

(h) Yachting Foundation

Commodore Peter Strain asked that his report be taken as read.

MOVED: Peter Strain **SECONDED:** John Mooney **CARRIED**

- Foundation supports Youth sailing internationally.
- A fundraising event to support Tess Lloyd and her Olympic campaign had to be cancelled due to Covid.

9. Presentation of 40, 50, 60,70 Year Membership Medallions –

(Full fee-paying Senior Membership for 40 continuous years or Membership for 50 continuous years)

| 40 Year | 50 Year | 60 Year | 70 Year |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Geoffrey Adams | James Mort | James Ruddle | John Pound |
| | Gregory Mellody | Bruce McBriar | John Needham |
| | | Ross Aitken | |

Members were recognised during the meeting, and will be presented with their medallions at an appropriate time in the future when the club has re-opened.

10. Recommendation from Committee under Rule 8(3)(a)(i) That Senior Member Peter Austin having rendered valuable service to the Club be Elected to Honorary Life Membership of the Club.

Commodore Peter Strain invited Past Commodore John Spencer to speak to the motion. JS outlined the large contribution as a volunteer that Peter Austin had given to the club. This motion was put to the membership and passed unanimously.

Peter Austin was invited back to the meeting where he humbly accepted the Life Membership and stated that he had received a lot from the club and that what you put into the club you get out of the club.

11. Receive Any Notice of Motion - As the Annual General Meeting was held online voting was held electronically. The results were verified by the club scrutineers.

Notice of Motion - Niesje Hees – This motion has been withdrawn from the 2021 Annual General Meeting and deferred to the 2022 Half Yearly General Meeting. The reason for this is to enable greater member consultation and feedback before the motion is put. - Noted

Notice of Motion - Vice Commodore John Mooney

Current

Rule 12. (3) Members who fall into any of the categories set out below are entitled to full or partial remission of their requirement to pay Subscriptions.

(a) 40 and 50 year Members

A Member who has held full fee-paying Senior Membership for 40 continuous years or Membership for 50 continuous years, whichever is the sooner, shall thereafter be free of liability to pay any Subscription.

Proposed Replacement

Rule 12. (3) Members who fall into any of the categories set out below are entitled to full or partial remission of their requirement to pay Subscriptions.

(a) 40 and 50 year Members

A Member who has held full fee-paying Senior Membership for 40 years or Membership for 50, whichever is the sooner, shall thereafter be free of liability to pay any Subscription.

John Mooney explained the intention of the original rule. This amendment removes the requirement for the 50 years to be continuous to capture those members who may have been absent for a small amount of time in this period.

A discussion was held where the following points were made:

Simon Tedstone & Tony Fenton spoke in favour of the motion. Peter Demura asked if it applied retrospectively, Answer Yes – but it only applied to a small number of members. Paul Jenkins asked if the motion disadvantages other members. Andrew Merrett asked what category of membership is granted to members who are not Senior Members. They would retain the rights of Senior members. Vanessa Twigg noted the motion cannot be changed during the meeting. The motion was put to the vote.

MOTION PASSED

Notice of Motion – Club Captain Brett Heath

Current

18. Who is eligible to be a member

(3) Other Categories of Membership

(b) Iceberger Members

(i) An Iceberger Member is a person who has joined the Club to participate in the activities of the Brighton Icebergers.

(ii) Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, Iceberger Members shall:

(A) not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee

(B) not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.

9. Application for membership

(3) Candidates for admission to the Club as Iceberger Members, must have their membership application proposed and seconded by a Senior Member of the Club who is recognised by the Brighton Icebergers as a Brighton Iceberger.

Proposed Replacement

8. Who is eligible to be a member

(3) Other Categories of Membership

(b) Aquatic Members

(i) An Aquatic Member is a person who has joined the Club to participate in the swimming recreational activities of the Club.

(ii) Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, Aquatic Members shall:

(A) not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee

(B) not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.

9. Application for membership

(3) (Rule dropped – as requirements met in 9.1)

A discussion was held where the following points were made:

This is a definition change to substitute the membership category from Iceberger to Aquatic. Icebergers will continue as a subset of Aquatic Membership. By Laws which are set by the committee will continue to address all safety aspects of all club activities.

The motion was put to the vote.

MOTION PASSED

Current

8. Who is eligible to be a member

(2) The Club has the following classes of Ordinary Membership:

(f) Senior Family Members

(i) Senior Family Membership consists of either two Senior Members who are lawfully married to each other or are domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic) and the children of either of them who are under the age of 21 years, or a single Senior Member and his or her children who are under the age of 21 years.

(ii) Each parent in the Family Membership has the rights of a Senior Member, and the child Members have the rights of Youth Members.

Proposed Replacement

8. Who is eligible to be a member

(2) The Club has the following classes of Ordinary Membership:

(f) Senior Family Members

(i) Senior Family Membership consists of either two Senior Members who are lawfully married to each other or are domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic) and the children of either of them who are under the age of 21 years, or a single Senior Member and his or her children who are under the age of 21 years.

(ii) Each parent in the Family Membership has the rights of a Senior Member.

Each child in the Family Membership aged under 18 years old has the rights of a Youth Member.

Each child in the Family Membership aged between 18 years and under 21 years old has the rights of an Intermediate Member.

A discussion was held where the following points were made:

Tony Fenton: logical change which will attract younger families to the club to continue their membership through youth age groups. Andrew Poulton: It has been proved that Junior Members progress and become lifelong senior members.

12. Ex-Officio list

The following are proposed as Ex-Officio members of the club.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RAN | Club Patron |
| Commodore Doug Shields | Royal Yacht Club of Victoria |
| Commodore Greg Marino | Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron |
| Commodore Stuart Dickson | Royal Geelong Yacht Club |
| Commodore Garry Anderson | Sandringham Yacht Club |
| Commodore Colin Orchard | Hobsons Bay Yacht Club |
| Commodore John Sammons | Black Rock Yacht Club |
| Commodore Adrian Mulcahy | Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron |
| Commodore Greg Martin | Mornington Yacht Club |
| Commodore Grant Dunoon | Ocean Racing Club of Victoria |
| Commodore Chris Laker | Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club |
| Commodore Georgie Silverwood | Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club |
| Daniel Belcher | President Australian Sailing |
| The Honourable Daniel Andrews MP | Premier |
| The Honourable James Merlino MP | Deputy Premier |
| The Honourable Tim Pallas MP | Treasurer |
| The Honourable Lily D'Ambrosio MP | Environment |
| The Honourable Martin Pakula MP | Sport & Recreation |
| The Honourable Melissa Horne MP | Fishing & Boating, Ports & Freight |
| Tim Wilson MP | Member for Goldstein |
| The Honourable Nina Taylor | Member Legislative Council |
| James Newbury MP | Member for Brighton |
| The Mayor – Laurence Evans OAM | Bayside City Council |
| Mick Cummins | CEO Bayside Council |
| Jo Richards | Parks Vic Regional Director Marine & Maritime |
| Graeme Davis | Parks Vic District Manager Port Phillip Western Port |

MOVED: Murray Cowdell

SECONDED: Tony Fenton

CARRIED

13. Receive the Declaration of the pole for General Committee for the 2021-2022 Season from the Returning Officer, Past Commodore Wendy Luck.
179 votes, 17 invalid.

Flag Officers all unopposed

Commodore Peter Strain
Vice Commodore John Mooney
Rear Commodore Paul Jenkins
Club Captain Brett Heath
Honorary Treasurer Peter Demura

General Committee

Murray Cowdell
Peter Gebhardt
Niesje Hees
Catherine Hurley
Marnie Irving
Kalpana Merrett

14. General Business

- Commodore Peter Strain thanked Wendy Luck & Peter Austin for acting as scrutineers. He also thanked the outgoing Committee members for their contribution to the club.
- Andrew Merrett asked if the current dredging project addresses that area to the east of the hard stand against the pier. PS will take this question on notice.

By Order of the General Committee.

Meeting Closed: 8.42PM