

Balmain Sailing Club 2022/23 Management Committee Meeting Minutes.

Date of meeting: Wednesday 8 February 2023
Time: 6.30pm,
Location: Balmain Sailing Club.

Type of Meeting: Management Committee
Secretary/Minutes: Colin Grove
Attendees: Campbell Reid (CR), Alan Gregory (AG), Ed Tacey (ET) Ray Miller (RM)
Chantelle Hodgson (CH) Sharon Harvey (SH) Geoff Watkins (GW) Colin
Grove (CG) David Stenhouse (DS)

Apologies: Nil

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm

The minutes of the BSC Management Committee Meetings of 9 November 2022 were approved without amendment.

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Dinghy Launching Facilities and licence with Transport NSW and new lease with Council.

The Committee noted that the new dock and pontoon will be installed in mid-February 2023. CR confirmed that the Inner West Council (IWC) had now approved a grant of up to \$50,000 to assist in the cost of the new dock .CR and CG are working with the IWC to finalise these arrangements. CG advised that a new 5-year Licence will be finalised with Transport in the next week and that he has commenced discussions with the IWC for a new lease .

- Western Harbour Tunnel :

At the last meeting the Committee discussed the recent changes to the Western Harbour Tunnel design and route and resolved to write to NSW Ministers outlining its support for a proposed deep tunnel which CG confirmed were sent in November 2022 .The NSW Government has now advised that the harbour crossing would now be by way of a deep tunnel and only minor dredging will be needed .

- Bunnings sausage sizzle :
Over the past 6 weeks the Club has run 3 sausage sizzles at Bunnings Balmain, the Committee thanked the volunteers who ran the stall and Geoff Watson for organising them.
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MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Sailing School replacement of lasers

- Dingy Captain Oliver Cashman was in attendance and was invited to address the committee on the latest developments in respect of the sailing school and dingy fleet development .
- Both Jeremy Sharp and he are of the opinion that the old lasers are a bit too battered to handle the abuse of beginner sailors and too technical/physical to offer a good experience for new sailors. Oliver advised that he got the boats through the YA inspection, but something breaks virtually every session (ancient timber tillers, hull fitting screws that have been replaced multiple times and worn out the threads etc)
- Oliver is keen to facilitate more courses once the new dinghy ramp is completed but feels realistically that the club needs a new boat ,or boats to instruct in that are less technical/physical and are less prone to breakages ,he believes that the current club lasers can still be a valuable resource and that we could rent them to sailors who complete the learn to sail courses.
- Oliver then outlined some cost and income projections he had put together to support the purchase of a new sailing school boats for dingy lessons .
- The committee thanked Oliver for his report and agreed that his suggestions definitely needed further consideration once the new pontoon is installed and the costs are met ,however in the interim we should look at borrowing or leasing suitable boats from another source if the cost was reasonable , it was agreed that we would approach Hunters Hill Sailing Club to ascertain whether they can assist.

Use of Hopetoun Quays Wharf :

- CG advised that we had received a note from a member of the Hopetoun Quays Community Association Committee regarding the use of small area of the wharf for the Australia Day function . The Committee noted the many years of cooperation between the Club and Hopetoun Quays, and it was agreed that we should have sought permission to have the band play on the wharf , however noting that as a designated Public Use facility the persons using it that day had every right to be on it .

The Club Secretary we will liaise with Hopetoun Quays in respect of any proposal for live music to take place on the wharf.

- Written complaint from a local resident regarding late night noise from a Hall Hire.

The Committee discussed a written complaint that the Club Manager had received from a local resident regarding noise and behaviour following a recent function at the club by a hall hirer .

The Committee noted the genuine concerns of the resident .It was resolved that a revised hire agreement be urgently completed and implemented ,and that we would now require a substantial deposit from hirers (*subject to the Managers discretion on the nature and type of hire required*) CH will provide a draft for consideration at the next meeting.

Club Managers Report:

Membership

We currently have 252 Members and revenue from membership & storage fees is currently slightly higher than FY2020-2021 which was our previous best.

Racing and Sailing School

Since the November meeting we have conducted 24 races as follows: 2 West Harbour Spring Series races, 10 Friday Afternoon Series Races, 10 Friday Twilight Series Races and 2 West Harbour Summer Series race.

Since the November Committee meeting 7 course participants completed a course and 9 students are registered for upcoming courses. Lyn Evans undertook one-on-one sailing lessons (\$240 to the club) and 'Hit N Run' has been chartered for the WH Summer Series (\$500). Income and profits relating to the Sailing School remain their highest since 2017

Bar Food Sales Hall Hire and Function Income

Income and profits from bar sales compared to previous years, are at their highest ever. Post Twilight race Food Sales have constantly been returning steady profits throughout the twilight series. Likewise with post-Sunday race BBQ sales.

Profits have been bolstered by around \$1,800 due to the Bunnings BBQs. We have had 19 individual hall hires (excludes yoga classes) since the last meeting and income from hall hire for the year is at its highest compared to previous years The BSC will receive \$1,000 per boat that participated in last week's filming(\$12,000)

(The Committee thanked DS for this initiative in arranging this valuable income stream and also thanked the participants from the various vessels who took part.)

Garden Maintenance

The maintenance and gardening casual has cleaned the stairs, trimmed the hedges, weeded, cleaned the roofing and gutters. The rotten timbers on the ramp at the rear of the club house and to repair timber support structure around the inclinor have been completed.

(The committee was pleased with this initiative , however ET felt that we need to closely monitor all expenditure and it was agreed that for the future any works would need to be prioritised in respect of urgent repairs and maintenance only)

FINANCES:

- ET advised that we needed to monitor any discretionary spending very closely and that our current financial position is sound but will be stretched initially to meet the final payment in respect of the new dock however this will be only temporary as the Council grant of \$50k will be remitted to the Club once we receive an Occupancy Certificate for the completion of the dock.
 - The Club at its last meeting approved the rollover the current \$65,000 "Small Scale Offer" firstly by offering it to existing holders then to other Club Members if not taken up by them .
 - See attached P& L .
 - See Managers Report above.
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INFRASTRUCTURE:

- It was agreed that a priority item was to strengthen the chains between the dock and the wharf and also a new improved lighting layout for the dingy shed .DS advised that he has asked Andy Duncan for a quote.
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SAILING SCHOOL:

- Several courses are currently being undertaken. See reports above.
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SAILING:

- See Club Managers Report.
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REGATTA:

- Nil Report.
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RISK MANAGEMENT WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (WHS):

- The pontoon area has been frequented by person's congregating on the pontoons and using it as a platform to enter the water for swimming. The Club has strict responsibilities under the pontoon lease in respect to WHS and obligations under our insurance policies.
 - The Committee agreed that in circumstances where the wind on the harbour side is/or is anticipated to exceed 20 knots per hour, no sailing school course must be undertaken
 - All members are to become familiar with the WHS document. A copy has been placed on the website and all members should be familiar with the contents and adhere to it.
 - An Incident Management Plan, that all members should be familiar with is to be kept in the clubhouse. In addition, the race starters are to keep a permanent copy at the starting desk.
 - **Correspondence / General Business** Email received from Transport for NSW re the vandalism of Hopetoun Quay's wharf . No further action needed by BSC as it referred to Hopetoun Quays.
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Meeting Closed at 8-pm

Next Meeting:

- The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be held on 8 March 2023 and any emergent issues would be resolved by circular email resolutions or by video/ telephone hook ups.
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The BSC committee usually meets once a month on a Wednesday or Monday evening at 6.30pm to discuss and agree actions on general club matters. If members would like to attend or have an item raised at the meeting, please email info@balmainsailingclub.com at least one week prior.

A question or concern may be dealt with before the meeting, if not, it can be added to the agenda if time permits, or to the following month if the current agenda is already full. All members are welcome to read the Committee Meeting Minutes. These are posted on the notice board in the club house usually on the next race day following a meeting and on the Balmain Sailing Club website.