

# 2025-26 Balmain Sailing Club Management Committee Meeting Minutes.

**Date and time of Meeting:** 6.30pm, Wednesday 8 October 2025

**Location:** Balmain Sailing Club.

**Type of Meeting:** Management Committee

**Attendees:** Campbell Reid (CR) Chris Price (CP) Joost Bekker (JB<sup>1</sup>) Geoff Watkins (GW), Louise Blair (LB), Sharon Harvey (SH), Ermma Thomas (ET), David Stenhouse (DS) & John Blair (JB<sup>2</sup>)

**Apologies:** Emma Thomas (ET) & Colin Grove (CG)

**Secretary/Minutes:** Sharon Harvey

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- The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and finished at 8.30 pm.
  - The minutes of the BSC Management Committee Meeting of 10 September 2025 were approved without amendment.
  - Due to the approaching Regatta event (Sunday 26 October) the meeting Agenda was revised to accommodate immediate Regatta discussions to allow extra time for the inclusion of John Blair's feedback as Regatta Co-Ordinator.

## BALMAIN REGATTA PREPARATION:

### 1. AQUATIC LICENCE

- JB<sup>2</sup> opened the discussion addressing the Aquatic License requirements for the day. CR noted no further information received. All communication OK to date. The licence request was in process.
- **Action Item:** CR to call / follow up in the week ending 17 October to confirm progress.

### 2. PUB CHALLENGE

- 6 Pub entrants confirmed (per JB<sup>1</sup>) and invoiced but not yet matched to yachts. JB<sup>1</sup> will follow up with boat owners.
- **Action Items:** Pub Challenge boats to be locked in by Tuesday (14 October). JB<sup>1</sup> and JB<sup>2</sup> to follow up on Pubs and Yachts

### 3. COURSES

- CP noted big changes this year – no marks and down harbour race. This makes sense for the spinnaker run and to avoid a down-wind start up.
- CP suggested Regatta has 5 unique courses for 4 divisions. DS noted what marks were required. Div 1 Spinnaker and mark.
- Possibly one course for the Classics with all other entrants in Down Harbour racecourse.
- **Action Item:** DS to contact the Classic Boat entrants to confirm what race format they are comfortable with, noting most do not want spinnaker races.
- **Action Items:** DS to propose a range of racecourses with choices suitable to accommodate the weather conditions on the day. This would include one set for North, another for South. CP

agreed to redraft the course information and accommodate last minute entries. Races and courses to be finalised and shared with Committee.

#### 4. STARTING COURSES

- Discussion concerning Pursuit or Start Line. Agreed it's more fun and fairer by Division while Pursuit is more competitive, but handicapping is fraught.
- Classics should be last to start and shorter course.
- Races to commence at 12.00 pm.
- On the day the race Committee will decide whether to race by Division if the wind is light.
- It was agreed we do not need a full start boat. Kathy Myers has agreed to organise the Start Boat.
- **Action Item:** CP to edit, resend, examine and upload the Course information by the Saturday then upload it. Agreed not to have Pursuit race.
- **Action item:** Window to be trimmed before the Regatta to remove visual obstruction.

#### 5. PARKING FOR BOATS

- We need 3 spots at present, noting Cronulla and Newcastle boats will be attending.

#### 6. TROPHIES

- CP is charge of Trophies.
- 3 trophies are presented to and kept by the winners.

#### 7. WORKING BEE

- To be organised for Saturday 11 October. Limited response to club email to date.

#### 8. DINGHY DRIVERS

- **Action item:** DS to organise Dinghy drivers, as well as organising Conrad's boat for the photographer.

#### 9. DRONE

- **Action item:** DS suggested speaking with Rob (Drone organiser) and GW to contact him. Rob will do this as a volunteer from 11.00am - 3.00pm. No cost.

#### 10. MERCHANDISE

- Chantelle has advised that all merchandise is priced at \$30.00 per item. This includes T-shirts and hats. Stubby holders will be \$5.00 each. T-shirts separately packaged for ease of sale.
- Volunteer shirts (in stock) to be given to Volunteers to wear on the day.
- **Action Item:** LB will organise people to man the Merchandise Table. T-shirts will be hung up so potential customers can try them on. JB<sup>1</sup> will set up sale machinery.

#### 11. BAR STAFF

- It was agreed to retain skeleton bar staff in the Clubhouse (people often stay upstairs to avoid the heat).
- **Action Item:** For alcohol supply, JB<sup>1</sup> and DS to confirm alcohol and drink requirements, currently agreeing to order the same as last year.).
- Drinks to be available from midday.

- **Action item:** Volunteers to commence bar set up on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> for the 5 bars for the weekend. Saturday mini working bee to continue set up.

## 12. RAFFLE

- The raffle is set up (online) and ready to go / can be activated now. It's live on Facebook and the BSC website.
- Closing time for the raffle to be confirmed (possibly 5.00pm or 6.00pm)
- **Action item:** CR printed posters with QR code to be put up around the Club on the day and in shop fronts to enable ticket purchases before the event and on the day. LB will attend to this and collect from CR.

## 13. POSTERS AND ADVERTISING

- **Action Item:** Posters to be put up around Balmain. LB to continue her programme of attaching them to businesses that are happy to accommodate the Club.

## 14. WORKING BOAT CONVOY

- CR advised the Convoy is organised.

## 15. FOOD/BBQ

- SH to manage oversight of BBQ including liaising with Michael Petrozi due to his connection with the meat distributors.,
- **Action item:** SH to liaise with ET re the Dinghy crew to assist on the day and draw up list. SH will also liaise with DS re food & bun supplies.
- Looking to have food ready for consumption from 12.00pm. Inform volunteers to arrive between 9.00 – 10.00am to set up and cut rolls. Allocate one person for EFTPOS, 2 to serve and cook (3 people including SH).
- **Action item:** CR will make posters for the Food Area and Drink signs. Prices discussed. Prices locked into Square machines. Card preferred. One cash register at bar.

## 16. BAND & MUSIC

- Live music on the day required specific power point connections in the Club and connectivity.
- **Action item:** check with Kathy Myers for amp and power point location.
- Before the live music commences SH agreed to use playlist ("Yacht Rock") on iPhone from 10.00am - 12.00pm for background music.

Given the Regatta discussion was concluded the meeting proceeded to follow the agenda items. JB<sup>2</sup> expressed concern that we did not have sufficient volunteers – to be raised at the Twilights.

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## ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. **Regatta preparations** update: John Blair lead speaker. Topic completed (see above).
2. **Update on Dave Stenhouse Handover** and uptake by club members on additional duties: DS is meeting with others for Top Yacht training. ET has agreed to take on "Member Experience" for new sailors. Regarding communication with Members, DS confirmed emailing remains the preferred method.
3. **Action item:** DS and ET to discuss next steps.

DS also opined that the Club needs an Administrator to assist with the handover and future management, especially regarding hall hire.

**Action item:** DS to conduct Top Yacht training and handover on Friday (10 October) with proposed full handover by Friday 17 October.

4. **Grant (\$33,000) for new downstairs toilets and shower** and mandatory Grant conditions: CR raised the question of repairing the club floors (upstairs) before repairing the toilets downstairs. Due to a completion time requirement in the Grant, the bathrooms must be worked on first. CR met with the architect and builder and discussed timing and next steps. Conrad has agreed to provide architectural drawings, including a shower and bathrooms. Current shower to be expanded storage.
5. **Model Boat exhibition** review: The club assisted with the model boat event at the Dawn Fraser Pool on September 28. We received a \$1000 sponsorship in addition to profits of made by BBQ sales on the day. CR thanked SH, ET and her family for assistance on the day.
6. **Woolwich Marina Update:** Court adjourned on this matter. To be discussed (re progress) at next Committee meeting.
7. **Honour Board progress:** DS circulated information. CR suggested sending out a follow up email with information of proposed layout.

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#### FINANCES:

- Treasurer Joost Bekker provided an update on the financial position (see details attached). JB<sup>1</sup> noted membership and hall hire fees were down on last year, revenue was a little behind, but costs were similar. Race entry fees will pick up with the Twilights commencing.
- DS mentioned that as part of the handover he recommended direct to member emails.

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#### SAILING ACTIVITIES:

- All discussion focused on the coming Regatta.

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#### SAILING and SAILING SCHOOL:

- To be discussed at the next meeting.

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#### INFRASTRUCTURE:

- To be discussed after the Twilights and at the conclusion of the Summer Series because the work will be disruptive and not undertaken beforehand.
- The floor is the first and most essential item to be addressed. Estimated repair cost: \$15,000.
- After the Regatta (and updated financials) we can determine funding priorities.

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**RISK MANAGEMENT WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (WHS):**

- Children have recently been reported taking boats out (from dock storage) for a quick row and then bringing them back with no damage to date. Safety concerns have been raised. This issue will be addressed at the next meeting.

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**GENERAL BUSINESS AND CORREPENDENCE:**

- No further General Business discussed.

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**MEETING CLOSED at 8-30PM**

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**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 12 November 2025 6-30 PM in the Clubhouse**

*The BSC committee usually meets once a month on a Wednesday evening at 6.30pm to discuss and agree actions in respect of general club matters. If members would like to attend or wish to have an item raised at the meeting, please email [info@balmainsailingclub.com](mailto: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 encouraged to access and read the Committee Meeting Minutes which are posted on the Clubs website.*