

2024-25 Balmain Sailing Club Management Committee Meeting Minutes.

Date and time of Meeting: 6-30 pm Wednesday 12 February 2025.

Location : Balmain Sailing Club:

Type of Meeting : Management Committee.

Attendees: Campbell Reid (CR), Chris Price (CP) Joost Bekker (JB), Sharon Harvey (SH), Colin Grove (CG) Geoff Watkins (GW Louise Blair (LB) Ray Miller (RM) David Stenhouse(DS))

Apologies: Nil

Secretary/Minutes: Colin Grove

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- The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm.
 - The minutes of the BSC Management Committee Meetings of 14 November 2024 were approved without amendment.

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

CG provided an update on the wall that was leaning over near the sailing school entrance and advised that the repairs and the stabilisation of the area were completed by Inner West Council 22 November 2024. The Committee thanked the Inner West Council for their prompt assistance in having this area repaired and restored for use .

Further to a meeting that **CG** attended on 7 November 2024 on Cockatoo Island with the Harbour Trusts Planning Director in respect of the ferry wharf that has been proposed in the recently released final master plan for Cockatoo Island ,**CG** advised that the Planning Director has now written to the Club confirming that further consultation will be undertaken .(see extract below)

"It was good to meet with you recently. Thanks for your email, and for raising the concerns held by BSC, GFS and DSC about the proposed new ferry wharf at the Ruby Steps. I note that Hunters Hill Sailing Club has also raised similar concerns.

The Harbour Trust has noted those concerns. Please be assured that any further investigation into this proposal would involve consultation with relevant stakeholders including the abovementioned sailing clubs and Transport for NSW."

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION :

PRESENTATION EVENING:

The committee via circular email agreed that the 2024-25 season presentation night will be held on Saturday the 3rd of May 2025.

The DIKADATA REGATTA:

The Committee noted the successful sailing regatta sponsored by DIKADATA and thanked Vice Commodore Chris Price for initiating this event which generated ~\$20k and netted a profit of \$8100the regatta was co-ordinated and managed by **DS** 15k, utilising volunteer efforts of bar staff, kitchen (, volunteer skippers & crew and yacht owners who donated made their boats available for the regatta).

CLUB MANAGERS REPORT :

RACING :

Since the club's last management meeting on the 14th of November there have been 30 individual races held.

A BSC Protest Committee meeting was convened to consider a protest that was lodged following the 13 December 2024 sailing races, the protest was subsequently dismissed by the committee. There have also been two other protest hearings in the past months.

YTD race fees (~\$37k) are well above the previous year (~\$28k).

MEMBERSHIP

We have had 321 people register for Membership this year to date, 67 of whom are temporary members (36 relating to the Dikadata Regatta). This compares to 274 last year.

This year also saw the largest number of new members (156) since 2017 when we started using RevSport. The average age of our members as derived from Rev Sport data is 53 years the gender breakup is 89 female members and 232 male members (28/72%).

INCOME

The Club is showing its largest nett profit to date. Our trading income is up by ~\$6k, our cost of sales

is down by ~\$35k and our operating expenses are down by ~\$70k. Income from Membership & Storage (~\$82k) is above last years' (~\$72k), attributed to an increase in fees, more dinghies paying storage fees and a greater number of members.

BAR

There here have been 16 individual hall hire functions, and YTD Bar Sales (~\$70k) are lower than the previous year (~\$76k), however, the profit margins are higher. This is because we did not keep the club open for 27 Friday evening dinners, which is revenue neutral at best when accounting for staff costs.

FOOD

The YTD Food Sales (~\$36k) are lower than the previous year (~\$45k), however, the profit margins are higher. (refer above). the club wrapped up its Pre-Christmas Twilight Series with a well-attended Christmas Party on Friday the

HALL HIRE

The YTD Hall Hire income (~\$46k) is well over than the previous year (~\$30k), which has been subsidised by \$8500 from the DIKADATA Regatta

RAFFLES

The YTD Raffle income (~\$7.7k) is well over than the previous year (~\$700.00), with ~\$5k coming from the Balmain Regatta raffle initiative, and the balance from Friday Twilight raffles (~\$2,700).

SAILING SCHOOL

The YTD Sailing School income (~\$19k) is over than the previous year (~\$15k), and there 3 fully subscribed courses in the pipeline for the remainder of the club's financial year which will generate an additional \$6k. All \$ figures exclude GST

OTHER:

Friday 31/1/25 the club joined in celebrating our volunteer starters for their significant birthdays and their service to the club for over a decade. A new perpetual trophy the 'Timekeepers Trophy' was awarded to Oliver Cashman for the smallest winning margin on the night 31st of January the club joined in celebrating our volunteer starts for their significant birthdays,

FUTURE DIRECTIONS DISCUSSION :

Following the recent completion of several comprehensive discussion papers generated from last year's excellent committee workshops which were centred around the theme of 'Future Directions' four (4) key areas have been chosen for further analysis and review ,as set out below.

The committee agreed that the committee members allocated each of the areas below would report back to the committee at its March meeting with some preliminary recommendations to be fully discussed at the April committee meeting.

The BSC Directors nominated under each of the four key areas are as follows:

- **Sailing School:**
Chris Price and Ray Miller
- **Regatta:**
Geoff Watkins and Louise Blair
- **Venue and hall hire:**
Sharon Harvey
- **Membership and retention of members:**
Joost Bekker Ray Miller and Colin Grove

The committee was asked by **CR** to provide details as to what each member felt were the main areas to address in respect of funding or applications for funding and what projects should be prioritised .

The committees suggestions are set out below:

1. Replace floor in main area of the club
2. New bathroom and toilet facilities
3. Improved access from street level*.
4. Double glazing of windows facing Hopetoun Quays
5. Lift access to the club from deck level.
6. Rebuilt kitchen and foyer entrance to club (links to 3)
7. Balcony to extend and replace existing sliding doors at front of the club facing the harbour.

Agreed actions:

DS and **RM** to apply for a grant this week to begin funding downstairs shower and toilet project.

CG to review and update (and prioritise) the list of repair and maintenance projects

DS to contact Conrad Johnston to obtain and discuss plans for "stage 2" of the renovation project which is to replace the existing foyer and kitchen.

CG to review what DAs we have applied for or obtained in recent times

DS to discuss with club member who are architects about assisting with new DA and plans for larger projects which are:

- New balcony
- Lift access from deck (this would have to be planned and constructed in coordination with downstairs bathroom project)
- New kitchen and foyer
- Improved access from the street to the club

Item for further discussion:

Consideration be given approaching the Inner West Council about the state of the main access stairs from Water St with a view to having the council take on the task of improving/replacing the access.

FINANCES

JB provided an update on finances and , he also advised that he had been seeking quotes for the auditing of accounts prior to them being included in a statutory report to Fair Trading , he received several quotes ,the Committee discussed in detail and approved a quote of \$7000 to finalise the matter.

AS well **JB** has completed and submitted a new reporting requirement of the ATO for Non-For-Profit organizations

INFRASTRUCTURE

- See report above re wall repair.
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SAILING SCHOOL:

Nil Report (see BSC Managers Report above)

SAILING:

Nil Report (BSC Managers Report above)

REGATTA:

Nil Report

RISK MANAGEMENT WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (WHS):

- Risk management plan, policy, incident plan & forms have all been reviewed with controls updated
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GENERAL BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- An email was received from the Harbour Trust re the ferry wharf proposal on Cockatoo Island. **CG** actioned the matter
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MEETING CLOSED at 7-30 pm

NEXT MEETING : 12 March 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 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 encouraged to access and read the Committee Meeting Minutes which are posted on the Clubs website