

2020/2021 Balmain Sailing Club Management Committee Minutes

Date: 16 February 2021 | Time: 6.30 pm | Location: Balmain Sailing Club

Type of meeting	Management Committee
Secretary/Minutes	Colin Grove

Attendees: Campbell Reid (CR) Alan Gregory (AG) Ed Tacey (ET) Mike West (MW) Ray Mill (RM) Chantelle Hodgson (CH) Colin Grove (CG), David Stenhouse (DS)

- The Meeting commenced 6-30 pm.
- Apologies were received from Conrad Johnston
- The Minutes of the BSC Management Committee of 16 December 2020 were approved without amendment.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- DS advised that the work on the deck which commenced on 11 November 2020 is now complete. Set out in the infrastructure section below are further approved urgent works approved by the committee. . (see infrastructure section below)
- The Committee thanked BSC Manager David Stenhouse for managing the completion of the works in such a timely and cost-effective manner.
- In respect of Club members mooring vessels overnight and for prolonged use of the pontoon, contrary to RMS rules, there was agreement that the Club was properly monitoring the use of the pontoons and that club members were now generally following the rules in respect of the use of the relevant areas., however regrettably three club members have recently been issued with reminder notices in respect of continued breaches.
- The committee resolved to submit the development applications for any new works as soon as they were ready for lodgement.

MANAGERS REPORT:

- We were scheduled run our final 2020 Pre-Christmas Twilight Race and Christmas Party on Friday the 18th of December. However, as the day transpired, the forecast indicated thunderstorms and winds of between 25 and 30 knots. In addition, the 'Northern Beaches COVID outbreak was on the cusp of resulting in intensified 'COVID safe' strategies being implemented
- On this basis we cancelled the final race and the party. As it turned out, the weather would not have caused any major issues, however, like the BSC, all other clubs that planned racing on the day also cancelled their racing and on the following day (Saturday) most club racing in Sydney was cancelled in due to COVID-19 restriction's.
- The Post-Christmas Twilight Race was to be held on the 5th of February 2021. Although there was no Gale Warnings issued, the wind in front of the clubhouse was consistently 25 knot and gusting at times to 33 knots however earlier the regular Friday Afternoon race

went ahead and, those competitors who compete in both the afternoon and the evening races had already decided not to sail again in the twilight race due to the wind strength. The club remained open and food & beverage sales were respectable

Membership:

- We currently have 224 financial club members, plus sailing school students. A considerable improvement on last year also revenue from membership and storage is at its highest ever, despite not having increased fees over the past year.

Sailing: (see *Sailing Section below*)

Australia Day Function;

- The BSC again played host to its annual Australia Day BBQ. The event was scaled down so as to ensure that safe social distancing practices could be observed. The BBQ was held onsite in the rear courtyard.
- A COVID Marshall was employed to ensure that guests signed in (either manually or by using the Service NSW QR Code) and limited to 50 persons. The BSC promoted the RSYS's Australia Day Regatta and we had the largest club representation from outside the RSYS. Competitors returned to the BSC after their race

Infrastructure: (See *infrastructure section below*)

Hall Hire:

- The number of hall bookings has increased steadily this calendar year with 2 weddings, several birthday parties, drama classes, corporate offsites and I am in discussions with a person who would like to book the club regularly for yoga classes (trialled yesterday

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

SAILPASS:

- The Sailing Australia Rule 46 and its future implementation has been reviewed by Committee members Alan Gregory, Ed Tacey and Mike West and the full review is attached. Set out below are the main points from the paper that were reviewed by the committee to assist it in its decision making.

Background:

- Under the new RRS 2021-24, Rule 46 changes commence Jan 1, 2022 (deferred for one year from previous AS advice). This requires that in any race, all crew must be members of an AS affiliated club. Boats who breach this rule are potentially open to protest.
- It is recognised that there are significant ongoing infrastructure and operating costs incurred by the BSC (i.e., its members) to enable racing to be conducted safely and efficiently. It is only fair that all participants, including non-members, make some financial contribution to support the cost to race at BSC. members).

- BSC Sail PASS: Pricing recommendations of the BSC -Sail Pass pricing Sub -Committee

The basic objectives of BSC adopting Sail PASS include:

- Ensure that casual sailors contribute to the cost of racing
- Encourage casual sailors to register and become Rule 46 compliant • Increase BSC membership
- Encourage conversion of casual sailors to full membership in reviewing the pricing of other Sail PASS clubs, there is a mixture of how it has been adopted, some using free passes initially, some using tiered pricing, flat pricing, and annual limits to Sail PASS issues.

Obviously, this requires more sophisticated on-line income management systems.

Suggested Sail Pass Pricing – new & casual sailors

- Limit Sail Pass issues per person to 12 per season (equivalent of one twilight series)
- Passes 1-6 @ \$15 = \$90 • Passes 7-12 @ \$30 = \$180 • Total = \$270
- Sail pass fees offset against cost of full membership

Rationale

- Low initial cost to participate.
- Slightly less cost than full membership, but there is an incentive to join if you wish to sail more than one twilight series.
- Safety - participants will be insured, if injured, and the club will know who to contact if serious.
- If sailors wish to keep sailing, their Sail Pass costs are offset against full membership.

Suggested Sail PASS Offer to Sailing School Graduates.

Currently, BSC offers membership to graduates of the sailing school valid for the remainder of the sailing year. The value of this membership is dependent on at what time of the sailing year graduation occurs.

The intention of the offer has been to encourage graduates to continue their membership as regular sailors and / or to undertake further BSS courses.

- Sail PASS provides an opportunity for a more consistent casual membership offer to graduates.
- Limit Sail Pass issues per graduate to 12 per season (equivalent of one twilight series)
- Passes 1-6 are free as part of any course completion.
- Passes must be used within 6 months of course completion • Passes 7-12 @ \$30 = \$180 Any Sail PASS

Rationale

- No cost to participate in racing for first 6 races.
- Graduates who are racing are registered and insured.
- Incentive to continue further training.

The Management Committee resolved to accept the recommendations of the sub - committee and further agreed that an implementation date for Sail Pass would be set at the next meeting of the Management Committee.

Future Clubhouse development proposals.

It was agreed that the committee would at its next meeting examine suggestions for the optimum utilisation of the renovated deck which may include lodging a DA for a future deck extending from level one of the clubhouses and a review of how the deck space uses are currently prioritised.

FINANCES:

(Please see attached P&L spreadsheets.)

SAILING ACTIVITIES

- There are 6 regular competitors participating in the new Friday Afternoon Series'. There are 41 keelboat competitors in the current twilight series and the West Harbour Summer Series has been well attended with 45 yachts participating.
- Due to the reconstruction of the clubs' deck, our dinghy fleet have been unable to sail since mid-November 2020 in an attempt to keep them engaged, I have made the Magic 25 'Kookaburra' available for the past few races – which seems to have had a positive impact.

RISK MANAGEMENT WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY: (WHS)

- With the temporary removal of decking all members must not enter the clearly marked works areas in front of the boatshed.
- All members are to become familiar with the WHS document and as well a copy has been placed on the website and all members strongly encouraged to read it and adhere to it at all times.
- An Incident Management Plan, which all members should be familiar with is to be kept in the clubhouse at all times, as well the race starters are to keep a permanent copy at the starting desk.

General Business/Correspondence:

(Nil)

Meeting Closed at 7.30 pm

Next meeting: Time: 6.30 pm |Location: BSC |Date: 15 March 2021

The BSC committee meets once a month on a Wednesday/ or Monday evening(630pm) to discuss and agree actions on general club matters. If members would like to attend, or have an item they would like raised at the meeting, please email info@balmainsailingclub.com at least a week before. 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.