



ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INCORPORATED
253 ESPLANADE, MIDDLE BRIGHTON 3186
147th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2022, 7.00PM
ABN 24768210467 INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION A0018674M

Annual General Meeting of Members was held on Tuesday 20th September 2022 at 7.00pm in the Clubhouse, 253 Esplanade, Brighton, 3186

MINUTES

1. Attendees

Peter Strain, John Mooney, Paul Jenkins (Kathleen B), Brett Heath, Peter Demura, Niesje Hees, Marnie Irving, Cath Hurley, Kalpana Merrett, Murray Cowdell, Peter Gebhardt, Niesje Hees, Neil Sargeant, Nick Barber, Peter Coleman, Bill Westerbeek, Peter Frith, Ron Davies, Grant Dunoon, Charles Stanton, Glenn Ferguson, Mary-Alice Tedstone, Andrew Merrett, Andrew Poulton, Pam Merritt, Will Merritt, John Wertheimer, Geoff Brewster, Barbara Burns, Steve Etches, Andrew Witty, Brett Bowden, Bruce Fairlie, David Bingham, Simon Tedstone, Peter Austin, Bryan Humphrey, Gabriela Ammendola, Andrew McBriar, Wendy Luck, Marg Neeson, Cassie Dixon, Rod McKenna, Patrick Purcell, Roger Jepson, Peter Kane, Tom Thompson, Susan Strain.

A quorum of more than 20 Senior Members was declared

2. Apologies

Paul Pascoe, John Spencer, Peter Johns, Karen Johns, Jock MacAdie, Angus McBriar, Andrew Plympton, Sue Leaper, John Michaelis, Jim Leckey, David Dyring, Kim Luck, Andrew Neeson.

3. Obituaries

Brian Boston
Peter Harvie
Terrance Hill
Sally-Ann Tilley
Piero Vasconi
Lachlan Wilson

4. Acknowledgement of Proxy Votes

Niesje Hees (1)
Peter Gebhardt (1)
Neil Sargeant (1)
Glenn Ferguson (1)

5. Minutes

(a) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Half Yearly General Meeting held 22nd March 2022.

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

(b) Business arising. - Nil

6. Commodore's Report.

Commodore Peter Strain submitted his written report as read. In Summary:-

- He acknowledged the work of the numerous Sub-Committees and Members of the General Committee.
- He highlighted the financial resilience that RBYC has shown during Covid shutdowns.
- Indicated that the Sailing Office now has the resources to deliver great programs.
- Shared with the membership the Capital Improvements under consideration for the Marina and front entrance to the club.
- He thanked the Volunteers and Staff for their contributions.

MOVED: Peter Strain

SECONDED: Peter Gebhardt

CARRIED

7. Honorary Treasurers' Report

Receive and Adopt the Accounts, Balance Sheet and Honorary Treasurers' Report for the Year ended 30th June 2022.

MOVED: John Mooney

SECONDED: Peter Strain

CARRIED

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

Main Features

- Despite the disruptions from COVID, it is pleasing to see the Club record a strong operating performance, reduced debt, significant increase in repairs and maintenance and increased cash holdings.
- The year was one of two halves, with significant improvement in the second half of the year.
- The Operating Surplus for the year was \$1,077,235, while the Net Deficit after depreciation, amortisation and net interest paid was \$4,830.

Challenges

- Rising costs and wages and pressures on discretionary income
- Increasing marina occupancy and improving utilisation of other assets are key pillars towards improving financial outcomes
- Capital commitments going forward including dredging and marina
- Managing the seabed lease and marina pen contract renewals
- The uncertainty surrounding the course of COVID

Conclusion

- Our Club, due to the support of members, employees and Government assistance has managed to return to a more normal operating mode
- Adapting to this "living with COVID" environment, in particular for sailing, hospitality and the gym, and improving asset utilisation are crucially important to enable the Club to continue to generate future surpluses that are necessary if the Club is to continually develop services for members and undertake the necessary maintenance and capital expenditure
- There remain significant headwinds including rising costs and wages, economic uncertainty and the omnipresent threat from COVID
- Thank you to the General Committee, Finance Sub-Committee, our accountants and auditors for their support and guidance.

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

8. Sub-Committee Reports

Receive and Adopt the Sub-Committee Reports for the year ended 30th June 2022

MOVED: Peter Strain

SECONDED: Murray Cowdell

CARRIED

All reports were taken as read.

The presenter of each report presented highlights from the report and invited questions.

- Sailing & Rescue /Support Boat (Brett Heath)
- Assets/ Marina & Attenuator Advisory group (Niesje Hees)
- Membership (Cath Hurley)
- Cruising Group (Paul Jenkins)
- Aquatic/Iceberger (Peter Strain)
- Inclusion & Diversity Advisory Group (Niesje Hees)
- Cleaner Sailing (Andrew Merrett)
- Social (Cath Hurley)
- Yachting Foundation (Peter Strain)

Andrew and Kalpana Merrett presented the burgee of the Royal Madras Yacht Club. During their recent visit to that club there was an exchange of burgees between Royal Brighton Yacht Club and Royal Madras Yacht Club.

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

Commodore Peter Strain presented the following medallions:

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

40 Year	50 Year	60 Year	70 Year
Jock MacAdie	Peter Austin HLM	Roger Jepson	Past Commodore Ron Davies
John Michaelis	Bill Westerbeek	Peter Kane	
Bruce Fairlie	Andrew Witty	Angus McBriar	
Andrew Witty	Brett Bowden	Andrew Plympton AM	
Brett Bowden			

Ron Davies responded to the award of his 70 year membership medallion, emphasising the benefits of setting up a future fund for capital works.

10. Election of Ex-Officio list

It was proposed that the following members be elected as Ex-Officio members.

MOVED: Paul Jenkins **SECONDED:** Cath Hurley **CARRIED**

Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RAN	Club Patron
Commodore Tim Olding	Royal Yacht Club of Victoria
Commodore Ian Lodewyckx	Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron
Commodore Roger Bennett	Royal Geelong Yacht Club
Commodore Sue Bowes	Sandringham Yacht Club
Commodore Paul Neilson	Hobsons Bay Yacht Club
Commodore John Sammons	Black Rock Yacht Club
Commodore Matthew McCarthy	Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron
Commodore Andrew Young	Mornington Yacht Club
Commodore Grant Dunoon	Ocean Racing Club of Victoria
Commodore Lee Renfree	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 Jacinta Allan 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
Zoe Daniel MP	Member for Goldstein

James Newbury MP	Member for Brighton
The Mayor – Alex del Porto	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

11. Declaration of Committee

The meeting received from Past Commodore/Returning Officer Wendy Luck the declaration of the unopposed nominations for Flag Officers and the declaration of the unopposed nominations for General Committee for the 2022/2023 Season. As follows:

COMMODORE - Niesje HEES

VICE COMMODORE – Peter DEMURA

REAR COMMODORE – Peter GEBHARDT

CLUB CAPTAIN – Brett HEATH

HONORARY TREASURER – Murray COWDEL

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE - Nick BARBER, Peter COLEMAN, Catherine HURLEY, Marnie IRVING, Neil SARGEANT

12. General Business

Niesje Hees addressed the members outlining some of her priorities for the forthcoming year, with key points being;

- Thanks to the outgoing committee, General Manager and Staff
- Acknowledgement that the club is on a firm foundation, and the importance of further progressing our Strategic Plan
- The intention to celebrate our upcoming 150th anniversary
- Reinforcing our key purpose of sailing, yacht racing, and volunteering (just getting out on the water), while understanding there are many ways to enjoy our waterfront location
- The importance of fostering a vibrant and inclusive club with strong links to the community

Simon Tedstone expressed his concern for the club and addressed these to the incoming committee. He thanked the outgoing committee for their service and noted that the General Committee were well represented on the sub-committees. His concerns include the level of participation at all levels of racing including Cruising and OTB. Niesje Hees responded that his points were well made, and that the committee will be working hard to increase the participation at all levels of sailing.

Gabriela Ammendola expressed that we do more to attract the 30 to 40 year age group, including improved social media advertising.

By Order of the General Committee

Meeting Closed 8:25pm