



Name: Kalpana Merrett

Year first nominated for Membership of RBYC: 2012

Membership Term: 9 years

Membership Status: Senior Member

Professional Background:

Director of an education consulting company specialising in organisational strategy, program design, change management, accreditation, and quality and compliance.

PhD Candidate, researching digital health and workforce development.

Master's Degrees: Human Resource Management, International Development, and Education.

Bachelors' Degrees: Sociology and Nursing.

Diplomas of Business Management and Community Development.

Monash University Business School Industry Mentor for students and Alumni.

Australian College of Nursing past Deputy Chairperson Melbourne Region and Leadership Program mentor.

Sailing and boating experience:

- 2021 *Club Race Official*: Australian Sailing.
- 2021 BLISS Regatta aboard Carvalo.
- Regular volunteer for local, national, and international level regattas hosted at RBYC.
- Crewing on Bavaria 44 Caledonia and sailing International Dragon Class.
- Cruising the Whitsunday Islands with my husband on a Seawind 1160, social sailing and charter cruising on Gippsland lakes.
- Victorian Power Boat licence current.
- 2011 *Yachtmaster Competent Crew* course and *Yachtmaster Preparing to Charter* course.
- 2008 to 2011- member of the organising team for 2011 World International Dragon Class Championships held at RBYC.

RBYC Committee Experience:

Current RBYC General Committee member

- As a General Committee member, I have been deeply involved in the management of the Club during the COVID pandemic and pier closures.
- General Committee representative for Auxiliary Sub-committee and General Committee representative for Inclusion and Diversity Advisory Group.
- Convenor for a new sub-committee *Cleaner Sailing* at RBYC to address environmental impact and sustainable practices at the Club reflecting broader community initiatives and expectations to ensure RBYC leads in taking steps to address ongoing concerns in this area.
- Interviewed more than 30 new RBYC members in the past six months and continue to welcome and engage new members joining the Club.
- Prepared qualitative data analysis and report for the General Committee for RBYC Membership Survey.
- Australian Sailing webinars and forums related to Club activities.

Chairperson, RBYC Inclusion and Diversity Advisory Group (2018- 2020)

- As the inaugural Chairperson, I was tasked with establishing our Group's terms of reference.
- Contributed to design and development of RBYC Membership survey.
- Expanded the Group's membership structure to ensure greater representation of Club's membership, and youth representatives.

RBYC Auxiliary Sub Committee Member (2018- 2021)

- Organise Auxiliary functions and fund-raising activities.
- Regatta registration office for Junior Sailing regattas.

Australian Sailing Club Conference (2020) represented RBYC, facilitated online webinar. Topic: Innovation in Inclusion, Speaker Dr Bridie O'Donnell, Director, Office of women in sport and recreation, Victoria.

PERSONAL OBJECTIVES:

Club infrastructure

- Within the General Committee to work towards improving the maintenance of key infrastructure focusing on the pier restoration, marina dredging and improvement of the hardstand and dinghy facilities.

Sailing participation

- Promote sailing pathways for all levels of experience and sailing as an inclusive and enjoyable activity.
- Introduce sailing to a wider audience and encourage more local community members to participate in our great sport.
- Ensure current and new sailing programs meet the needs and expectations of our member sailors.
- Promote RBYC as a destination club for local, national, and international regattas and sailing events on Port Phillip.

General water sports

- Promote and encourage swimming and fitness.
- Promote paddle sports including stand-up paddle boards, surf skis and ocean kayaking which are already enthusiastically established at RBYC.

Membership and engagement

- Promote diversity, improve access and opportunities for people new to sailing and those returning to sailing.
- Attract new members and retain our current membership, both are central to our long-term success.
- Continue to strengthen new member onboarding process- welcome, orientation, and connecting.
- Reach out and increase participation of any isolated or disengaged members.
- Support the needs and interests of all membership categories within the club.

Club Life

- Increase social activities essential to club life for social cohesion and source of funds for the Club.
- Promote Cruising Group forum dinners, comedy and music nights, and special interest functions.