

NSW 16FT SKIFF ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF CLUB COMMODORE'S MEETING HELD 18/6/16  
AT MIDDLE HARBOUR 16FT SKIFF SAILING CLUB

Meeting opened 1.20pm

Present: Lloyd Mulholland

Riv Robson

Andrew St John

Paul Donovan

Grant Windsham

Peter Tinworth

Clint Bowen

Phil West

Mark Graham

Apologies Grant Wakefield

Mick McMahon

James Griffiths

Grahame Dingle

**Australian Association Report** (Clint Bowen)

- Clint tabled report outlining proposal for ASSA FOR 16FT Skiffs and 13ft Skiffs
- Profit and Loss and Balance Sheets attached
- ASSA now an incorporated Association and running more like a corporate entity
- Business Plan – Survey done with NSW Association for “Next Generation”
- Need assistance by Commodores to get club sailing members to register on ASSA website
- Class sponsor being looked and in discussions
- How to restructure all Associations
- How to fund the ASSA – two options as per proposal as per ASSA plan (Action: send a copy of the Report to the club sailing members for review)
- There has been discussion around direction of the class and what we want the 16ft Skiff Association to be.
- Discussion also on fund raising in the form of tax deductible donations through Australian Sports Foundation.
- YA is probably our major competition as they force kids into the Olympic pathway.
- 13ft skiff is currently the best opportunity right now to bring kids back to the Class if we do the right things.

### **Middle Harbour** (Phil West)

- Will have 29ers but will push hard again on 13s.
- Will be using Australian Sports Foundation funds for new boats for the kids.
- Last year they had 12 16ft skiffs; hoping for 14 sailing this year.
- No F11's last year due to generation rollover.
- Attracting kids from Northbridge Sailing Club and hoping for 8-10 F11's next year and 8-10 MJ's coming from learn to sail.
- Learn to Sail run by a contractor from Balmoral and worked well last year.
- Expecting good steady building of fleets.
- Hosting 16's States and MJ's States this season.
- Planning a Marathon for 16ft skiffs around the Harbour with start/finish on The Sound on the Saturday of the October long weekend.
- Club trading well compared to last 3 years due to management changes made and achieving goals.
- Had very successful old buffers day this year.
- Considering an Old Buffers series.
- Marina development that was going to hurt the Club has gone to Land and Environment Court with no decision as yet.
- Renovations to lower deck of club has contributed to club's success. Still same group working on the Club.
- The Club is using the Australian Sports Foundation quite heavily.

### **Manly** (Grant Windsham)

- 28 registered 16ft skiffs last season, with 23 sailing regularly. Prize money was \$400 start and finish but there are conditions. Same next season.
- 2 new 16s next year with a cap on fleet size of 30.
- 13 x 13ft skiffs sailed regularly last season. Next season 13s will be down a couple of boat with last year's 13 sailors moving into 16s.
- 25 MJ's last season
- 25 F11's last season
- Learn to Sail coach went back to UK and now they are referred to Manly Yacht Club.
- Larger Clubs need to help smaller Clubs grow. This issue has been discussed at Manly who are conscious of the effect on smaller clubs.
- Hosting Manly Regatta on 29 October 2016.
- There has been discussion re sprint races between Manly and MH.
- Live streaming to internet will continue with Manly purchasing all relevant equipment including a boat for photography.
- Club trading well financially.
- Some renovations to front of club.

- With 13s growing at MH, it will be considered whether Manly and MH might pool prize money for them.

#### **St George** (Paul Donovan)

- 8 registered 16's which may grow by 2 next year.
- There are a total of 28 MG's and NS's sailing.
- 6 Sailboards and 8 skates sailed.
- 6 MJ's and 4 F11 club boats sailing which is attracting kids.
- Learn to Sail program now operating.
- MJ Nationals on at St George next season.
- Still have 7 optimists.
- Trading healthy and positive.
- Daltone still involved and looking to do renovations on the Club but may be some time away from completion.

#### **Drummoyne** (Riv Robson)

- 25 sabots
- 3 FII's
- 5 Lasers
- 9 OK Dinghies and running Nationals in January.
- 16 Cherubs - Nationals in December into January.
- 6 x 16s sailed every weekend last season.
- 14 TS16's registered and 12 sail regularly.
- 64 Yachts sailed in twilight series and 44 sailed Sundays.
- Financially profit very good at \$320k last year.
- Need to consider how we get more 16s up there.
- Commitment from Club's Board is important to focus on specific class.

#### **Port Hunter** (Email from Grahame Dingle)

- Financially the club is steady but our turnover and profit was down slightly from last year, mainly due to not as many regattas as previous years.
- Membership is also down, especially in the juniors. We did struggle to form a Junior committee early on but some new parents have stepped up now.
- Still have a good ongoing relationship with Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club with some of our members sailing Saturday at Port Hunter and Sunday at NCYC.
- Coal shipping movements have decreased slightly, but other shipping has increased slightly so overall similar level.
- Flying Ants average 5 boats.
- 2 to 3 Catamarans

- 6 MG's with possibly another 2 next year.
- 4 Skiffs should be the same next year.

### **Belmont** (James Griffiths)

- 16ft Skiffs are still racing on Sundays with our other fleets racing on Saturdays.
- 16ft skiff fleet last season was 24 boats and we are expecting 24-25 for next season.
- Although none of the new Chinese built skiffs have as yet been purchased by Belmont sailors, 2 new (non-China) boats were launched last season.
- Belmont has continued its financial support of the new skiffs again for the next batch of boats.
- Our other fleets also have reasonable numbers with around 30-Pelicans, 18-Flying 11s, 4-29ers, 15-Cherubs and 30-Lasers.
- The Club is continuing to trade well.
- Belmont continues to offer financial incentives to encourage the junior sailors into the 16ft Skiff Class, with the 16ft Skiff Boat Purchase Policy. Coming into season 2016/17 we'll see three more juniors team up and pool their entitlement to get started in the Skiff class.
- Prizemoney is still generous with the top boats earning around \$12,000 for the season.

**Illawarra** – no delegate in attendance and no report provided.

**Queensland** – no delegate as Rob Wasson could not make it and no report provided.

**13ft Skiffs** – see club discussions above for Manly and Middle Harbour.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Lloyd presented Phil West with NSW Association flag and an original 16ft skiff class flag.
- Club memorabilia is important but there are not really a lot of places to maintain or store these items. What do we do with them? Consider getting the Maritime Museum involved?
- Club Programmes - Phil West suggested that club programmes should be sent around to each other with States coming through first. This will allow greater synergy of races between clubs. NSW Association to come up with a closing date for all programs from clubs.
- New boats – Phil has sourced a local boat builder to build a boat and would like to build a new boat. Phil asked if he can use one of the new China boats to use to create a mould and can he build his own boat? It was believed that the rules had not been changed and that this was OK. The boat must fit in the jig.
- Lloyd thanked MH for their hospitality. Lloyd asked if we could have the meeting at MH again next year and Phil West and Peter Tinworth readily agreed.

Meeting closed 3.25pm

Next meeting Saturday **17 June 2017** at Middle Harbour 16ft Sailing Club commencing 12.30pm.