



MINUTES OF SYDNEY 38 ASSOCIATION AGM

7.15 PM MONDAY DAY 17th NOVEMBER, 2014

INTERSTATE CONFERENCE CALL

1. Attendees :-
 - i) SYC (Vic) Greg Clinnick & Paul Holden (Audacious) John Chatham & Kate Mitchell (38 Degrees South) Andrew Robinson (Playground) Stephane Howarth (Mille Sabords) Andrew Mollison (Sierra Chainsaw) Ian Beer (Adrenalin) Chris Mrakas (Challenge) Rowan Simpson Secretary
 - ii) RGYC (Vic) Brenton and Jennifer Carnell (Phoenix)
 - iii) CYCA (NSW) Geoff Bonus & Richard Williams (Calibre) Tony Levett (Eleni) Peter Byford (Conspiracy) Bruce Ferguson (Whisper) Peter Taylor (Fast Forward), Daniel Fitzgibbons (Another Challenge), David Hudson (Conspiracy).
2. Apologies:- Bruce Taylor (Chutzpah38), Mark Griffiths (Old School)
3. Minutes of Last Meeting:- The Chairman referred to the minutes of the last AGM held on 15th October, 2013 and there being no outstanding business, it was moved that they were an accurate record of that meeting and approved.
4. Presidents Report (see copy attached):- Greg Clinnick acknowledged the work of the Executive during the year and in particular the contribution of the retiring member and past President, Geoff Bonus.
Greg's highlights during the past year included:-
 - i) The enthusiasm of the organizing committee of the 2015 National Championship at RPAYC. He felt their efforts had rejuvenated interest in the class in NSW and the championship.
He felt the re engagement of older boats was also a positive and in particular the growth of the South Australian fleet. The participation of Geoff Boettcher Commodore CYCSA was a bonus.
 - ii) The class was trying to accommodate Daniel Fitzgibbon, a gold medalist and world champion paraplegic sailor in class racing as well.

- iii) The class also boasts the involvement of three Club Commodores in Ian Murray from RGYC, Kate Mitchell from SYC. And Geoff Boettcher Commodore CYCSA
- iv) The Association Facebook and Website had also been a popular initiative.
- v) Sponsorships and promotions had also been successful and great for the Class.
- vi) The Association's finances were also healthy.
- vii) He also acknowledged the sad passing of class stalwart and successful participant since the inception of the class, Lou Abrahams. Challenge has been sold to a SYC member and will remain at the club.

5. Financial Statements :- The Treasurer, Andrew Robinson presented the attached Financial report. Andrew noted that the financial membership had increased to 26 owners and that bad debts from the NSW States were written off. The report was accepted by the members.

6. Election Of Executive Committee :- As there were more vacancies than nominations, there was no election required. Accordingly, the following nominees were elected unopposed.

President:- Greg Clinnick

Treasurer:- Andrew Robinson

Measurer:- John Chatham

Committee:- Bruce Ferguson, Peter Byford, Mark Griffiths, Anthony Wilson (non-voting)

Secretary:- Rowan Simpson (non-voting)

The President noted that the Sydney Harbour fleet was not represented on the committee and appealed to Harbour owners to consider taking up a position.

7. Chief Measurer's Report :- John Chatham reported that with help of the President and Treasurer, he had been busy separating the Constitution from the Rules and that the outcome was to be presented for a vote of members later in the meeting.

There were no new technical issues to report but the rudder required a new design. He has had trouble getting information from Andy Dovell but expects this to be forthcoming when a new rudder is next constructed. He felt that a carbon stock with corrector weights was a potential long-term solution. He also pointed out that some of the perennial issues such as the length of sheets, blocks etc could be resolved by the Executive now under the restructured rules. Further to the President's comment about the harbor fleet, John advised that he had trouble recruiting a measurer for that fleet.

He was also working with Daniel Fitzgibbons to assess the safety aspects and conformance for Another Challenge. He would catch up with Daniel in Melbourne at the ISAF regatta. Note that the Executive Committee will have the ability to allow Daniel to sail in the Nationals on the basis that they are

satisfied that the modifications do not enhance performance and the boat can be handled safely. Approve will be on a regatta by regatta basis.

8. State Chapter Reports

NSW:- Bruce Ferguson updated the meeting on the 2015 Nationals preparations. The committee had been meeting weekly, healthy sponsorship had been found and he expected between 15 or 17 entries. There were currently 9 entries. Good support from the Sydney 36 fleet would keep costs down. 12 races were scheduled in the offshore basin. He had hoped to provide a fun regatta with good social environment. Up to 5 Victorian boats plan to participate. Support from Sydney is growing among the newer owners as they get more comfortable with the association.

David Hudson provided information about chartering developments. At this stage it may be possible to charter boats without sails for \$3,000 plus insurance of \$300. With sails would be approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500 dearer. A standard charter profile would be provided. A damage deposit would also be necessary. The feedback was that this provided a very reasonable opportunity.

The NSW State Championships were planned to held at Port Stephens in April.

- i) South Australia:- Greg provided a report on the SA fleet. There were now 6 boats in the fleet. Hold On (The Black-boat) is being sailed by Geoff Boettcher of Secret Men's Business fame which is good for the class. Andrew Wilson the sailing master of Slipknot had assumed responsibility for representing the fleet and was in contact with the Executive. Greg had replied to the Port Lincoln Yacht club regarding hosting a national series. He advised the South Australian fleet needed to get some runs on the board by holding a State Championship Series and One design events. The earliest time frame for a National championship would be 2017. Nevertheless, it was encouraging to have a growing fleet.
- ii) Victoria:- Rowan reported that his report was on the class website. In summary, the Victorian Chapter enjoyed another very successful 2013 / 2014 season. However, the passing of Lou Abrahams, past committeeman, passionate Sydney 38 One Design supporter and four time winner of the Sydney 38 National Championships was a sad occasion. Local racing is close and well supported. Phoenix (Brenton & Jen Carnell) continue to improve as did Playground (Andrew Robinson) and Audacious (Greg Clinnick & Paul Holden) It was also great to see the Commodore of Sandringham Yacht Club, Kate Mitchell, buy into John Chatham's 38 Degrees South. Mille Sabords' (Stephane Howarth) performance in the 2014 Sydney to Hobart and her enthusiasm to the Sydney 38 class was also great to see. Many

thanks to the Commodore of the Royal Geelong Yacht Club and owner of Cinquante, Ian Murray for his continued sponsorship of the class. Challenge, after her win in the 2014 Nationals at Geelong won the State Championship in a very close series. Regattas during the season attracted up to 10 Sydney 38's. The loss of Clockwork to South Australia was disappointing but there are a number of potential owners looking to join the class. It was flattering for the class to be invited to participate in various regattas on Port Phillip Bay as a One Design Class.

9. Conversion Of Another Challenge For Disabled Sailing:- Daniel Fitzgibbons, a disabled sailor from the RPAYC, reported on his progress developing equipment which would enable him to participate in class races. He is a reigning gold medalist and world champion in his class. He had developed a canting seat and joy stick arrangement which enabled him to steer the yacht. He had a very responsible attitude acknowledging he had work to do to ensure his involvement would be safe. Daniel thanked the members for giving him the opportunity to discuss his plans. The Association are very supportive of Daniel's ambitions. The Chief Measurer has agreed to meet with Daniel to assess the modifications. The Executive had the power to grant dispensation to Daniel for competition if satisfied the risks were manageable.

10. Notice Of Motions

- i) Separation of the Constitution from the Class Rules :- The President explained the reasons for separating the Constitution and the Class Rules indicating that as the class was incorporated in NSW, there were legal ties to Incorporations Act effecting the Constitution. The Class Rules however, were controlled by the members. Greg noted that no fundamental rules had been changed but the exercise had clarified a number of anomalies and duplications regarding the wording of previous documentation.
He also noted that one proxy had been lodged against the change. However, he recommended to members that the motion be approved. The motion was passed with one vote against.
- ii) Adoption of the Masthead Spinnaker:- The President reported that he had received 16 yes votes and 6 no votes , a ratio that exceeded the 2/3rds threshold as specified in the rules and declared the resolution passed .
The interpretation was challenged by a number of members who believed that this ratio applies to all members not just voting members. After some debate including a proposed amendment by Geoff Bonus and Bruce Ferguson, the President chose to defer the final decision on the vote until a further assessment of the relevant rules could be made. Independent legal advice may be required.

Note: Post the meeting legal opinion was obtained which confirmed that the resolution had been passed and the class will change to mast head kites from 1st September 2015.

11. General Business

Greg spoke to a promotional suggestion to promote the class in the 2015 Sydney to Hobart. He had received a suggestion from Chris Lewin, the previous owner of Another Challenge, to attract get a large fleet of Sydney 38's crewed by past participants such as the Challenge crew, Bruce Taylor's crew, Jessica Watson, sailors with disabilities, a USA team and X Cubed from New Caledonia. Food for thought!

12. With no further business the meeting was closed at 8.45pm

Rowan Simpson
Secretary