

MPASC- General Meeting Minutes

Date: 14th February 2023

Meeting Open: 7.00 pm

Chairperson: John Skewes

1. **Present:** J. Skewes, B. McWhirter, M. Pilgrim, A. Whitbourne, J. Carr, I. Carr, J. Barns, D. Barns.
2. **Apologies:** J. LeLaen, J. Sivell, N. Parker, P. MacGregor, B. Curran, N. Hord, K. Dalton, T. Blackford.
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (General Meeting held 13th December 2022)**

Moved: A. Whitbourne

Seconded: M. Pilgrim

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Item 2 Grant Applications – Current Status:

1. Youth and Volunteer Training - \$1,795 (NSW Office of Sport – Sport Development Grant) – Successful (Remaining funds to spend - \$320). Andy (Whitbourne) to look at expending the remaining funding on training.
2. Youth and Volunteer Training - \$2,660 (NSW Dept. Social Services – 2021 Volunteers Grant) – Grant successful and funding received. Andy (Whitbourne) to look at expending these funds.
3. Gender Specific Amenities and 2nd Story Clubhouse Extension - \$650,000 (NSW Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment – Regional Development) – Stronger Country Communities Fund – grant not successful.
4. Youth and Volunteer Training - \$4640 (NSW Office of Sport – Sport Development Grant) – grant successful.

Item 18 Club Development (through Australian Sailing): A Teams meeting was held on the 4th August with Australian Sailing. A number of key points were discussed which will be further investigated by us. A follow up meeting would be held at a later date to see how the club is progressing.

Item 25 General Use of the Club's Jetty: The Meeting discussed the issue of closing off the jetty to the public when it was being used by the Club. A decision was made to have two signs made with the words “Private Jetty”, to be placed at both ends of the jetty. To stop access from the shore end of the jetty a chain barrier, with a sign “Jetty Closed” would be installed so the jetty could be closed when being used by the club. The barrier could then be removed allowing public access once the club event has finished.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) to organise signage and chain barrier.

Item 29 Sponsorship/Partnership Coordinator: Ken (Dalton) stated he would send a link of the Club's Partnership Plan to the Secretary so the club's website could be updated.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) to send a link to the Secretary.

Item 33 Taipan State Titles: The on-water incident was reported to NSW Maritime by Mick Forbes. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 38 Club Membership Cards: The Secretary (Bruce McWhirter) had previously advised the new club membership cards would have the Doylo, Trinity Point Marina, and Phillips Sails logos on the reverse side of the cards, as approved at the September meeting.

Action Item: Bruce (McWhirter) to print the Doylo, Trinity Point Marina, and Phillips Sails logos on the reverse side of the new membership cards.

Item 39 Volunteer for Support to Catamaran Racing on Saturdays: Brett (Hord) had previously advised an individual to support the catamaran racing on Saturdays was still to be identified.

Action Item: Nick (Hord) to identify an individual to take on the catamaran Saturday duties on a paid basis.

Item 41 Discover Sailing Day: Andy (Whitbourne) had previously proposed the club re-introducing the Discover Sailing Day concept following our meeting with Australian Sailing on the 4th August. After some discussion, the Meeting accepted Andy's proposal and selected the 25th February 2023 as the Discover Sailing date. Andy advised that we had received four registrations for the event.

Item 46 Housekeeping around the Clubhouse.: The Commodore advised he had sent out an email to all club members regarding the need to maintain the cleanliness of the clubhouse. The meeting discussed getting in a professional cleaning service to clean the clubhouse once a week during the sailing season and once a fortnight in the off season. The Commodore volunteered to speak with the cleaning service he uses for his business and get a quote for the service.

Action Item: The Commodore to obtain a quote for a professional cleaning service.

Item 49 Electronic Payments: Bruce (McWhirter) advised he had looked into the “Register Now” IT system for registering and electronically paying for club functions and events, club membership and race fees, as well as regattas, and found the system to be quite good and met the needs of the club to make it a lot easier for the Treasurer to reconcile payments. Danniell (Barns) recommended we also have a look at “Try Booking.com” which was widely used around sailing clubs and associations. Bruce said he would have a look at this system and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Action Item: Bruce (McWhirter) to look at the “Try Booking.com” system and make a recommendation.

Item 50 Use of the Club’s Jetty by Lake Macquarie Water Taxis: The meeting discussed the use of the jetty by Lake Macquarie water taxis as a drop off for their customers. The Commodore stated that while the use of the jetty by these water taxis was okay in principle, they still needed to know the jetty was privately owned by the club. The proposed signage should provide sufficient notification. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 51 Advertising Club Partners/Sponsors and Merchandise for sale: Ken (Dalton) proposed that we change the silver sign behind the bar/canteen to just MPASC information and remove the partners/sponsors information and instead use the TV monitor to advertise these. This would be a more cost-effective way to update partner/sponsors information without continually updating the signage when these changed. Ken also suggested using the TV to advertise merchandise for sale by the club. The Meeting accepted Ken’s proposals.

Action Item: Bruce (McWhirter) to organise updating the silver sign and to place partners/sponsors and merchandise information for display on the club’s TV.

5. **Reports**

Treasurer’s Report: The Commodore tabled the Treasurer Financial Reports for December 2022 and January 2023.

Moved: J. Skewes **Seconded:** J. Carr

Race Committee Report: No report was tabled at the meeting.

Regatta Committee Report: No report was tabled at the meeting.

6. **Correspondence In:**

- Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie (email) – Lake Macquarie books for presentation function prizes.

7. **Correspondence Out:**

- Nil

8. **General Business.**

Item 52 SharePoint: The Commodore advised Brenton Curran had volunteered to assist with data entry to bring the SharePoint membership and boat registration databases up to date. Mick (Pilgrim) asked if the membership database to allow all family members to be recorded for Family Memberships. Bruce (McWhirter) stated he would be able to do that.

Action Item: **The Commodore to enlist the support of Brenton Curran to update the SharePoint databases. Bruce (McWhirter) to modify the Family Membership database.**

Item 53 Complaint by Neighbor (16 Grace St): Ian (Carr) advised the neighbor across the road at No 16 Grace St complained about the number of vehicles being parked in the street. He was quite aggressive when confronting Ian, but later apologies for his behaviour. The Commodore stated that this particular neighbor has been complaining about the club for years and accuses the club, and its members, for every antisocial behaviour in Mannering Park. Parking in Grace St is not illegal as it is a public street and so long as we do not block access into his driveway there is nothing he can do about the parking in the street. Not all vehicles parked in Grace Street belong to club members, some belong to the general public using the reserve and walkway, and others belong to people in the caravan park next to the clubhouse.

Item 54 Problems with the Canteen Till: Janet (Carr) advised there was a problem with the canteen till not working. Bruce (McWhirter) had a look at it and stated the problem was with the modem's WiFi and he would arrange for a replacement with Exetel.

Action Item: **Bruce (McWhirter) to organise a replacement Modem with Exetel.**

Item 55 Control of Roadway/Entry Way to Property): Ian (Carr) raised concerns about the access and usage of the roadway at the clubhouse. The Commodore stated the property and the roadway belonged to Central Coast Council and the club had no authority over its use, however, he would speak to Council to see what could be done about control over the roadway and entrance way as these were shared areas with pedestrians.

Action Item: **The Commodore to speak with Council about strategies to control the roadway at the clubhouse.**

Item 56 Loan of a Rib to Speers Point Sailing Club: Andy (Whitbourne) advised he had been approached by Speers Point Sailing Club to borrow one of our ribs for the Open Skiff State Titles they were hosting over the 25th – 26th March. The Commodore stated he was comfortable with assisting Speers Point so long as it did not interfere with our club's sailing program.

Item 57 Review of Canteen and Bar Prices: Janet (Carr) recommended the club review the canteen and bar prices following the Governments liquor tax increase and the general cost-of-living increases in most grocery items. The Meeting agreed and proposed any increases be delayed until after the season in April.

Action Item: Janet (Carr) and Commodore to review canteen and bar prices in April.

Item 58 Policy for the use of the Club's Mooring: Andy (Whitbourne) recommended the Club develop a policy for the use of the Club's mooring to ensure it was available for club events. The Meeting agreed and proposed both Andy and the Commodore develop a policy to present at the next meeting.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) and the Commodore to develop a policy for the use of the Club's mooring.

Item 59 Monitoring the Club's Radios during Sailing Days: Janet (Carr) advised a medical emergency occurred on the 11th February which initially went unnoticed because the Club's radios were not being monitored. The Commodore stated this was an important safety issue and Duty Personnel needed to ensure the radios were monitored continuously during race days. The Commodore would reinforce this message to members via email.

Action Item: The Commodore to remind members of the importance of monitoring the Club's radios.

Long Term Issues.

New Child Protection Policy: The State Government has introduced a new Child Protection policy for sports clubs and other organizations to follow. Implementation of the policy would be over a 2-year period. Australian Sailing had also commenced drafting the documentation needed to comply with the new policy and these would be made available to clubs over time. Janett Mangan has volunteered to be the club's coordinator in developing the club's policy documentation and providing advice to the committee.

Disposal of the Club's Flying Ants: Port Kembla Sailing Club has expressed interest in the Club's Flying Ants fleet. After some discussion a price of \$2000 each was agreed by the meeting.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) to speak with Port Kembla Sailing Club.

Renewal of Council Lease: Council is working through the renewal of the lease, as it is with all other long-term leases within the council area. Until the lease was finalized the Club would continue a month-to-month lease arrangement.

Renewal of RSA Qualifications for Club Members: The Commodore stated any member who undertook the RSA training would be reimbursed the cost of the course by the Club. He had further advised the same offer of reimbursement would apply to any member who renewed their RSA.

Meeting Closed: 8.45 pm.