

MPASC- General Meeting Minutes

Date: 10th September 2024

Meeting Open: 7.00 pm

Chairperson: John Skewes

1. **Present:** J. Skewes, B. McWhirter, B. Curran, J. Lonsdale, M. Pilgrim, A. Whitbourne, J. Elwes (Sailability).
2. **Apologies:** T. Peters, J. LeLaen, J. Carr, K. Dalton, E. Henderson, C. Tzaidas.
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (General Meeting held 13th August 2024)**

Moved: A. Whitbourne

Seconded: J. Lonsdale

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

Item 1 (Previous Item 2) Grant Applications – Current Status:

1. Office of Sport – Level the Playing Field Grant - \$973,731 (Accessible Upgrade and 2nd Story Clubhouse Extension) – submitted awaiting decision.
2. Office of Sport – Small Infrastructure, Refit, and Sporting Equipment Grant - \$37,180 (Solar System Upgrade, including a solar battery) – being drafted.

Item 2 (Previous Item 72) Water leak in the Storeroom: The Meeting decided we would not pursue Council to put the water line to the foreshore tap underground but leave it running along the fence line from the front main. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 3 (Previous Item 75) Erosion issue along the foreshore and beneath the Club's Boat Ramp: Andy (Whitborne) stated he was still working on a solution to this issue.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to look at alternative solutions to address the erosion issue.

Item 19 Sea Scout Group Sailing Day – Sunday 8th September 2024: Brenton (Curran) stated the event was very successful and all the kids enjoyed the experience. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 26 Website Modernisation: Bruce (McWhirter) advised the new club website was up and running. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 27 ILCA (Laser) Coast Championship Regatta – October 2024: The Commodore advised Kevin Phillips (ILCA Association) had accepted MPASC proposal to host this regatta on 12th – 13th October 2024. The Regatta Committee could now start the planning for this event.

Action Item: Regatta Committee to start planning for the ILCA (Laser) regatta on 12th – 13th October 2024.

Item 32 Dolphin Chaser Regatta: Ken (Dalton) had previously stated he would get together with Bruce (McWhirter) to work through changes to the Dolphin Chaser Regatta TryBooking registration format.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) and Bruce (McWhirter) to work on the Dolphin Chaser Regatta TryBooking registration.

Item 34 New Twilight Handicap System: Mick (Pilgrim) advised the new Twilight handicap system has been incorporated into the Sailing Instructions. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 37 Paper Tiger Catamaran 2026 Australian Championships Regatta 2nd – 7th January 2026: The Commodore advised he had sent an EOI to the Paper Tiger Association and was waiting on a response.

Item 38 Red Rib Outboard: Jim (Lonsdale) advised he was still waiting on a condition report for the Red Rib outboard to determine its life expectancy. Jim had previously advised he would obtain a few quotes so we could start looking for a suitable grant to fund a replacement outboard, if required.

Action Item: Jim (Lonsdale) to get quotes for a replacement outboard.

Item 39 Mannering Park Fishing Club use of the Clubhouse: Previously the Meeting had discussed the use of the clubhouse, on a regular basis, by the Mannering Park Fishing Club and proposed a formal agreement be put in place to formalize this ongoing arrangement. The Commodore stated he had drafted an agreement however the Mannering Park Fishing Club was not a legal entity so a formal agreement would not be possible. The Commodore stated he would discuss the matter with Jim McCulloch when he returned from holidays.

Action Item: The Commodore to discuss the matter with Jim McCulloch.

Item 44 Honor Board Update: Jim (Lonsdale) advised Nicky (Henderson), a professional signwriter, would be able to update the club's Honor Board. The Secretary to provide Jim (Lonsdale) with details of what needs to be updated.

Action Item: Bruce (McWhirter) to provide Jim (Lonsdale) details for updating the Club's Honor Board.

Item 46 Disposal of the Club's Flying Ants: One of the Flying Ants has been sold for \$2,000. Ken (Dalton) will continue to work on selling the remaining three (3) boats.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) to continue working on selling the remaining boats.

Item 47 First Aid Kits Audit and Defibrillator Battery Replacement: Janet (Carr) had previously advised the club's first aid kits were due for audit and the defibrillator battery needed replacing. The Meeting authorised Janet to arrange for the audit and replacement of the battery.

Action Item: Janet (Carr) to organise the audit of the club's first aid kits and replace the defibrillator battery.

Item 48 Catamaran Program for 2024 - 2025: The proposed sailing program for the catamaran fleet has been incorporated into the Sailing Instructions. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 49 Photo of our new World Champions (Emily and James Henderson) to be displayed at the Club: Jim (Lonsdale) stated some suitable pictures of Emily and James (Henderson) had been selected and would be displayed in the clubhouse in the near future. Bruce (McWhirter) stated if Jim could provide these photos in digital format, we could also upload them to the club's website and FaceBook sites.

Action Item: Jim (Lonsdale) to provide digital photos to Bruce (McWhirter).

Item 51 Canteen and Bar Price Review: The Commodore stated review of the canteen and bar prices has been completed. Only minor adjustments were necessary due to purchase price increases. **ITEM CLOSED.**

Item 52 EOI for a Foil Clinic on Lake Macquarie: Andy (Whitbourne) advised he had spoken with Tom (Squires), from Australian Sailing, who would be interested in running a clinic at MPASC for the Foil class boats. Andy stated we could possibly use one of the "Fun Day" Saturdays to run the clinic with Tom.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to review the Sailing Calendar and select one of the "Fun Day" Saturdays to run a Foil class clinic.

Item 53 Taipan and Hobbie Regatta 2025 – 2026 Titles Regatta: Emily (Henderson) had previously advised she has been approached to see if MPASC would be interested in hosting a regatta for the Taipans and the Hobbie Association's 2025 – 2026 Titles over 27th – 31st December 2025. Emily would seek more details for the Committee to consider.

Action Item: Emily (Henderson) to seek more details for the regatta.

5. **Reports**

Treasurer's Report: The Commodore tabled the financial report for August.

Moved: J. Skewes **Seconded:** B. Curran **Report:** Accepted

Race Committee Report: Nil Report.

Regatta Committee Report: Nil Report.

6. **Correspondence In:**

- Nil.

7. **Correspondence Out:**

- Nil.

8. **General Business.**

Item 54 Renewal of Membership for Past Members: Brenton (Current) suggested that we contact past members, via email, to see if they were interested in re-joining the club.

Action Item: Brenton (Curran), Bruce (McWhirter), and the Commodore to create a “mail Merge” list to email to past members who have not renewed their memberships.

Item 55 Sailability: Jason (Elwes) from Sailability thanked the club and its members for their support for the Sailability “Try Sailing Day” held at the club recently. Jason also asked if any club sailing members would be interested in helping out for one of their sailing dates when both he and Neil (Anderson) will be away. The Commodore asked Jason if he could email him the details and he would canvas the members.

Action Item: Jason (Elwes) to email the Commodore the details so he could canvas members.

Item 56 Loss of Grassed Rigging Area: Andy (Whitbourne) advised Council had recently blocked access to our grassed rigging area when they upgraded the shared pathway along the foreshore. Andy stated he has been in touch with both Council and Crown Lands to have our rigging area restored as a matter of urgency. Andy also stated he has been in contact with Yasmin Catley’s office to see if she could bring pressure onto Council so the issue can be resolved quickly.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to follow up with Council/Crown Lands to restore our grassed rigging area.

Item 57 Learn to Sail Program: Andy (Whitbourne) advised the first of the Learn to Sail classes for this season will be held in October.

Item 58 Club Insurances: The Commodore advised the Club insurances were in the process of being renewed through Tudor Insurance Brokers. The club’s boat insurances (rescue boats and training fleets) would remain with QBE but our buildings, contents, and Public Liability will be with Sports Underwriting Australia, at half the cost of the previous QBE policy.

Item 59 Not For Profit (NFP) Self-Review Tax Return: The Commodore advised the ATO has introduced a Not For Profit (NFP) Self-Review Tax Return, which would determine an organisation suitability to be exempt from income tax under new legislation. The return is to be completed annually. For this year’s return we have been assessed as exempt from income tax.

Long Term Issues.

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 by Council the Club would continue a month-to-month lease arrangement.

Renewal of RSA Qualifications for Club Members: Any club member undertaking the RSA training or renewing their RSA would be reimbursed the cost of the course by the Club.

Future NSW Youth Regattas: The Commodore advised he had written to Australian Sailing stating the club would be interested in hosting a future NSW Youth Regatta, but we needed to have a number of key infrastructure projects completed before we would be in a position to host this event.

Timing of future AGMs: Future AGMs be delayed to 12 (midday) instead of 11am to allow members to attend other commitments.

Recognition for Volunteers: Ken (Dalton) and Sheere (Dalton) would draft a process proposal for the recognition of volunteers for implementation in season 2025 – 2026.

Pricing for Hosting Regattas at MPASC: At our August monthly meeting the Meeting discussed the pros and cons of a \$ per boat vs \$ per day arrangement and decided a mixture of both would be required. As a guideline we would use \$1200 - \$1500 for a daily fee formula and \$100 per boat for a two-man boat/catamaran, and \$70 per boat for a single crewed boat/catamaran. As a way to validate the value of the \$ per boat arrangements we would use our 2024 14ft Cat and Big Cat regattas to analyze our costs/income over the regattas.

Meeting Closed: 8.14 pm.