



## Australian Laser Class Association Inc

### Annual General Meeting Minutes

30<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – 9.00 am

### Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, Manly Qld

Meeting Opened: 9.00 am

#### 1. Attendance

Ken Hurling (QLD, ALCA President), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT, ALCA Secretary), Michael Wilson (QLD President), Martin Hinks (SA), Roger King (TAS President), Peter Merritt (VIC), Anne Littlewood (WA) Don Elks (WA, ALCA Youth Representative), Julie Gilham (WA), Jenny Merritt (VIC), Michael McAullay (WA), Daniel Self (QLD), Steve Bryant (NSW & ACT), Kerry Waraker (QLD), Chris Caldecoat (NSW & ACT), Paul Gilham (WA), Brady Lowe (QLD), Michael Wilson (QLD), Mark Taylor (WA), Chris Kelly (WA), Michael Blackburn (NSW), Matt Wearn (WA), Finn Alexander (NSW & ACT), Clare Alexander (NSW & ACT), Ian Alexander (NSW & ACT), Charlotte Alexander (NSW & ACT), Richard Scarr (TAS), Amanda Sargent (TAS), Luke Elliott (WA), Martyn Compton (WA), Mike Gluskie (TAS), Tom Burton (NSW & ACT), Ashley Brunning (QLD), Luke Aulich (VIC), Kath Herrmann (NSW), Rob McMillan (NSW & ACT)

2. **Apologies:** Geoff Lucas (NSW/ACT, ALCA Treasurer), Rob Lowndes (NSW/ACT, ALCA Masters Representative), John d’Helin (VIC President, ALCA Vice President), Bruce Utting (WA President), Julian Bennett (SA President) Gary Martin (NT President)

3. **District Representatives for Voting :** Michael Wilson (QLD), Martin Hinks (SA), Roger King (TAS), Peter Merritt (VIC), Anne Littlewood (WA), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT), Ken Hurling (NT)

4. **Confirmation of minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held at Adelaide Sailing Club on 30 December 2016. Moved by Daniel Self, seconded Chris Caldecoat. Accepted.

5. **Business arising:** Item 10 - Note that the ranking of sailors for World Championships other than Masters is unchanged. It remains as posted on the ALCA web site. The new Masters ranking policy introduced on 23 July 2017 is posted on the web site.

#### 6. Reports

**Treasurer:** Treasurer’s report presented by Kevin Phillips on behalf of Geoff Lucas. Report attached. Financial reports (profit and loss, balance sheet) tabled. Moved by Kevin Phillips, seconded Anne Littlewood. Accepted.

**Tasmania District:** Roger King – report attached.

**Victoria District:** Peter Merritt presented John d’Helin’s report – report attached.

**Western Australia District:** Anne Littlewood presented Bruce Utting’s report – report attached.

**NSW & ACT District:** Kevin Phillips – report attached.

**South Australia District:** – report attached.

**Queensland District:** Mike Wilson. There has been a modest growth in membership numbers. Attempts to overcome the issues of distance e.g. Brisbane to Cairns is the same distance as Brisbane to Melbourne. QLA is running Laser sailing forums for all Brisbane clubs. District has healthy financial position and is providing some funds for travel grants to sailors. QLA experience strong Youth and Masters participation but are losing many sailors to life's other interests and challenges in the mid years. Questioned how to retain?

Lots of work needed and undertaken for the Open and Masters Nationals – Mike suggested documenting the process covering the many organisational issues involved. He expressed appreciation for great effort of the District and RQYS and also for the provision of the web site and Facebook presence arranged by PSA.

**Northern Territory:** Kevin Phillips presented Gary Martin's report - report attached.

**Youth Representative:** Don Elks - report attached.

**Masters Representative:** Kevin Phillips presented Rob Lowndes' report - report attached.

**ALCA Chairman:** Ken Hurling - report attached.

#### **7. Election of Office Bearers**

President - Ken Hurling (Qld); Vice president - John d'Helin (VIC); Secretary - Kevin Phillips (NSW); Treasurer/Public Officer - Geoff Lucas (NSW). Elected unopposed.

#### **8. Sub-Committee Representatives**

Youth – Don Elks and Masters – Rob Lowndes

#### **9. Oceania & Australian Championships Rotation and Timing**

With ILCA adopting Oceania as new region and loss of World Sailing World Cup events from southern hemisphere the proposal, as put to the previous AGM in Adelaide, to incorporate the Oceania Continental (Regional) Laser Championships (a 100 points event) with the nationals has been implemented. What was seen by many as needing attention now was to review the timing and arrangements for the event.

The three main issues which had been identified are:

1. People have to travel on or before Christmas Day – a particular problem for WA and Tasmania sailors and for all other sailors when the Nationals are in those states.
2. There is a gap between the end of our Nationals and the AS Youth Championships – this year this is a full 6 days (5-10th January)
3. The event is too long (currently 2 days for measurement and registration 6 days of sailing and 1 lay day i.e. 9 days in total)

There was considerable discussion, summarised below on ideas to improve the arrangements. The decision on this is for the ALCA committee to take.

Most speakers were in favour of starting the event later so that sailors and families could spend Christmas at home even if they have to travel a long distance to the event.

The Australian Sailing Team and others were happy with the rotation arrangement but in favour of a shorter series in terms of days and races. 4-5 days and 8 to 10 races were variously suggested.

Some 44% of the sailors in the Laser Nationals stay on to sail in the AS Youth Championships so unsurprisingly there was a view that a later start to the Laser Nationals and a consequent much reduced gap between the events was a good idea and would reduce costs for families.

Changes outside ALCA's control have been rumoured for the AS Youth Championship and arrangements and timing for AS Sail Melbourne, Sail Sydney and possible a Sail Brisbane. Whatever changes ALCA makes to Laser Nationals may need to be revisited if and when these changes materialise.

Ken Hurling undertook to consult with ALCA districts and in particular Tasmania and Victoria who have upcoming events whose arrangements may not be easily varied. A decision on any event timing and length changes was targeted for announcement at the Nationals Presentation 4 January 2018 allowing good time for sailors to plan ahead for accommodation and travel – Action Ken Hurling.

#### **10. General Business**

**Third Party Insurance for Sailors in International Events:** Anne Littlewood WA initially raised the issue of the cost and the hit and miss nature of this insurance. It was resolved that Geoff Lucas would reactivate enquiries with local insurance companies and then communicate recommendations and options – Action Geoff Lucas

Meeting closed 10.55 am