



Australian Laser Class Association Inc

Annual General Meeting Minutes

6 January 2019 – 8.30 am

Royal Mersey Yacht Club Devonport, Tasmania

Meeting Opened: 8.30 am

1. Attendance

Ken Hurling (QLD, ALCA President), John D’Helin (VIC, ALCA Vice President), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT Chair, ALCA Secretary), Michael Wilson (QLD President), Roger King (TAS President), Peter Merritt (VIC), Don Elks (WA, ALCA Youth Representative), Michael McAullay (President WA), Daniel Self (QLD), Chris Caldecoat (NSW & ACT), Finn Alexander (NSW & ACT), Ian Alexander (NSW & ACT), Mike Gluskie (TAS), Luke Aulich (VIC), Rob McMillan (NSW & ACT), Chris Stannage (NSW), John Jagger (VIC), Lyndall Patterson (QLD), Richard Dreverman (NSW & ACT), Juha Vanhakartano (SA), Campbell Rose (VIC), Rob Moreton (TAS), Nev Beeson (VIC).

2. Apologies: Geoff Lucas (NSW/ACT, ALCA Treasurer), Rob Lowndes (NSW/ACT, ALCA Masters Representative), Gary Martin (NT President)

3. District Representatives for Voting : Michael Wilson (QLD), Juha Vanhakartano (SA), Roger King (TAS), John D’Helin (VIC), Michael McAullay (WA), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT), Ken Hurling for Gary Martin (NT)

4. Confirmation of minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron on 30 December 2017. Moved by Daniel Self, seconded Chris Caldecoat. Minutes accepted.

5. Business arising from Minutes:

Item 9 – Timing of Oceania and Australian Championships

Following discussion and negotiation the timing of this (2019 Tasmanian) and future championships will be 1st to 8th January.

The later date being popular with the majority of sailors and families as it allows those who have to travel a long way to have Christmas at home. Also it reduces the gap between the conclusion of these Championships and the start of the Australian Sailing run National Youth Championships which is helpful for the approximately 40% of families who compete in the Australian Championships and then the Youths.

Item 10 3rd Party Insurance Cover for Australian Sailors competing in international events – Raised by Anne Littlewood in General Business in Brisbane

As requested at the meeting our Treasurer and Public Officer Geoff Lucas has followed up insurance possibilities with insurance brokers and with Australian Sailing who have an insurance arrangement with Network Steadfast to cover their own Australian Sailing Team (AST).

The outcome was that none of the brokers were prepared to write the insurance. They claim that each

policy would have to be individually assessed due to the otherwise unknown risk due to the events being run in many countries with differing laws and legal systems. For the typical premium expected for this insurance the insurers claimed it was not financially viable to accept this business due to the cost of individual risk assessment.

Australian Sailing were unable to include non AST sailors in their existing insurance cover and were unwilling to help to work with their insurer to extend the policy to cover sailors from our (and other) classes outside of the AST.

Policies for this cover are offered at moderate cost by Laser charter companies and sailors can continue to take up these insurance offers.

6. Reports

ALCA Chairman: Ken Hurling - report attached.

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 Ken Hurling, seconded Lyndall Patterson. Accepted.

Tasmania District: Roger King – report attached.

Victoria District: John d'Helin - report attached.

Western Australia District: Michael McAullay – reported the following;

- 25 sailors from WA attending these Championships – great participation rate
- New WALA web site
- Strong state based coaching scheme – WALA have three coaches present at the Nationals
- Sailing numbers are steady
- 2021 Nationals in WA - hosting club negotiations underway – stay tuned.

NSW & ACT District: Kevin Phillips – report attached.

South Australia District: – Juha Vanhakartano - report attached.

Queensland District: Mike Wilson – report attached

Northern Territory: Ken Hurling reported for Gary Martin.

- 10 Lasers sailing
- Paris van den Herik representing NT in Devonport

Youth Representative: Don Elks - report attached.

Masters Representative: Kevin Phillips presented Rob Lowndes' report - 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 were re-appointed.

9. Oceania & Australian Championships Rotation and Timing

It was noted that the new timing of Oceania and Australian Championships will be ongoing except for the special circumstances of the 2020 in Victoria where the Australian Championships will be to the new timing (1-8 January 2020) but the Oceania Championships will be held with Sail Melbourne (17-21 January 2020).

The timing for all of the 2020 major events is;

- 2020 Australian Laser Championships – Standard, Radial and 4.7 (Jan 1-8)
- 2020 Oceania Laser Championships (Sail Melbourne International) – Standard, Radial and 4.7 (Jan 17-21)
- 2020 ILCA Standard Men's World Championship (Feb 9-16)
- 2020 ILCA Laser Radial Women's World Championships (Feb 21-28)
- 2020 ILCA Laser Radial Men's World Championships (Feb 21-28)
- Royal Geelong Yacht Club

10. General Business

Carbon Radial Bottom Section: Concern has been expressed about the bending of Radial mast bottom sections for some time. The meeting requested Chris Caldecoat (MD of PSA) to address the meeting on the subject. Chris reported;

- The manufacturing of the aluminium Radial bottom mast section is in control which has, as with all Laser production in Australia, been audited by ILCA.
- The issue is not new and not due to manufacturing defect.
- With the strong vang and sailing techniques around very heavy vang tension in strong conditions we will continue to see these mast sections bend.
- Performance Sailcraft Australia (PSA) have pioneered the solution which is a tapered carbon Radial bottom section.
- The proposed new section would have a stainless steel sleeve to eliminate wear at the deck.
- The cost of the new section would be around \$1,000 – current aluminium section is \$440.
- The change to the equipment requires the agreement of the three Laser builders. Two of the three, PSA and Asia builder Performance Sailcraft Japan agree to the change. European and Americas builder Laser Performance (Europe) Ltd for various commercial reasons does not.
- Chris suggest that ALCA write to ILCA requesting they expedite the adoption of the carbon Radial bottom mast section solution to the class.

Nationals Boat Measurement: Finn Alexander raised the issue of queueing and delay in measurement for this (Devonport) Championship.

Vic Beeson from VLA greatly assisted TDLA with the measurement at Devonport and offered to update the recommendations and process which is included in the Guide for Running Australian Laser Championships (posted on the ALCA web site at <http://www.lasersdownunder.com/wp-content/uploads/Guidelines-for-Australian-Laser-Championships-30-Sept-2018.pdf>).

With 14 volunteers involved in measurement at Devonport there was capacity to complete the task in the two days allocated and it was. The main issue was queueing.

It was acknowledged that with 150 to 200 boats to check it is essential to have a booking system which schedules measurement in line with the capacity of the measurement production line. This is seen to work where used at other Nationals and always is employed at World Championships where up to 400 boats have to be checked.

Re-introduce Reaching to Championship Courses – Chris Caldecoat suggested that the straight

windward leeward courses in these Championship were boring for some and that we should re-introduce reaching legs either through trapezoid or combination of windward/leeward and triangle courses.

PRO Peter Merritt explained the difficulty and time delays in re-setting courses with reaching legs.

This suggestion is recommended for consideration by the RO and Race Committees for future events.

Prototype C5 Laser – Ken Hurling and Chris Caldecoat gave the following update;

- The C5 prototype which had a demonstration sail at Devonport last week is best described by the ILCA video at <https://vimeo.com/282617100>.
- ILCA has agreed to soft launch the C5 in Oceania and Asia.
- Some issues with the demonstration prototypes have been identified and are being fixed.
- A small production run of the new rigs will be distributed for demonstration in Japan and some Australian Districts in the first half of 2019.
- While, as ILCA President Tracy Usher has said, change to the Laser rig is inevitable and the C5 may show the way there is no plan to rapidly update the current Radial or Standard rig Laser.

Meeting closed 10.30 am

Kevin Phillips
Secretary ALCA



Australian Laser Class Association Inc

Annual General Meeting Minutes

30th 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



ALCA President's Report - ALCA AGM 2018/19

2018 Australian & Oceania Championships

The combination of the Oceania and Australian Championships is working well.

Congratulations and thank you Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and Maroochydhore Sailing Club for hosting the 2018 Australian Laser Championships.

The 2018 event was one in which we split the Masters away from the Open Nationals. The decision to split the Championships when they are run in the larger states was made by the ALCA Committee some years ago and has been a great success for our Class Australia wide.

2019 Australian & Oceania Championships

This year we are in Tasmania on the North Coast sailing in Bass Strait. This could be a most challenging venue not just for the sailors but for our event management teams.

The TDLA under the guidance of their chair Roger King and in partnership with the ALCA have assembled a great team of Judges and Race officers. We are planning to make this combined Nationals one to remember.

Sail Melbourne National & World Laser Events in Victoria 2020

Due to the Worlds in Victoria in 2020 the Oceania Championships have moved to be run with and in support of Sail Melbourne in 2020.

Sail Melbourne will be held in January next year to work with the major Laser events to be held in Victoria. Sail Melbourne thus moves back to the old timing which worked well in an era when we typically had 600 to 700 international and local sailors in attendance.

This Sail Melbourne event along with the four ILCA World Championships will spread our cube events throughout January to March 2020.

The Oceania Championships carries 100 points from World Sailing and thanks must go to ILCA for this.

2020 Summer of Sailing is going to be exciting for all so please look for the NOR when it comes out in the New Year and enter as early as possible. Ranking for World Championships will be as per the ALCA policy.

Perth Championships 2021

The combination of the Oceania and Australian Championships is working well and will happen again in 2021 in Perth.

ALCA District Membership

ALCA Membership has come down from a high of 685 in 2014 to 618 in 2018 down almost 70 members. Some would say "that's not too bad" - but can we do more.

Can Districts around Australia become more active and we as individual Laser sailors encourage more sailors to join the Laser Class.

New C5 Rig

The introduction of the C5 Laser rig is going to be exciting. For the first time Laser has focused on lower weight male and female sailors who will never be big enough for the Laser Radial or Standard rigs.

For more information on the new C5 go to vimeo.com and search C5 sailing to see the C5 promotion video – there is also a link to the video in a post on the ACLA web site lasersdownunder.com.

The new carbon Radial bottom section will be available later this year thanks to the work of Chris Caldecoat and PSA.

In closing, all the best for our premiere event in Tasmania and best wishes for all members of the ALCA Committee for 2019.



Ken Hurling OAM
President ALCA

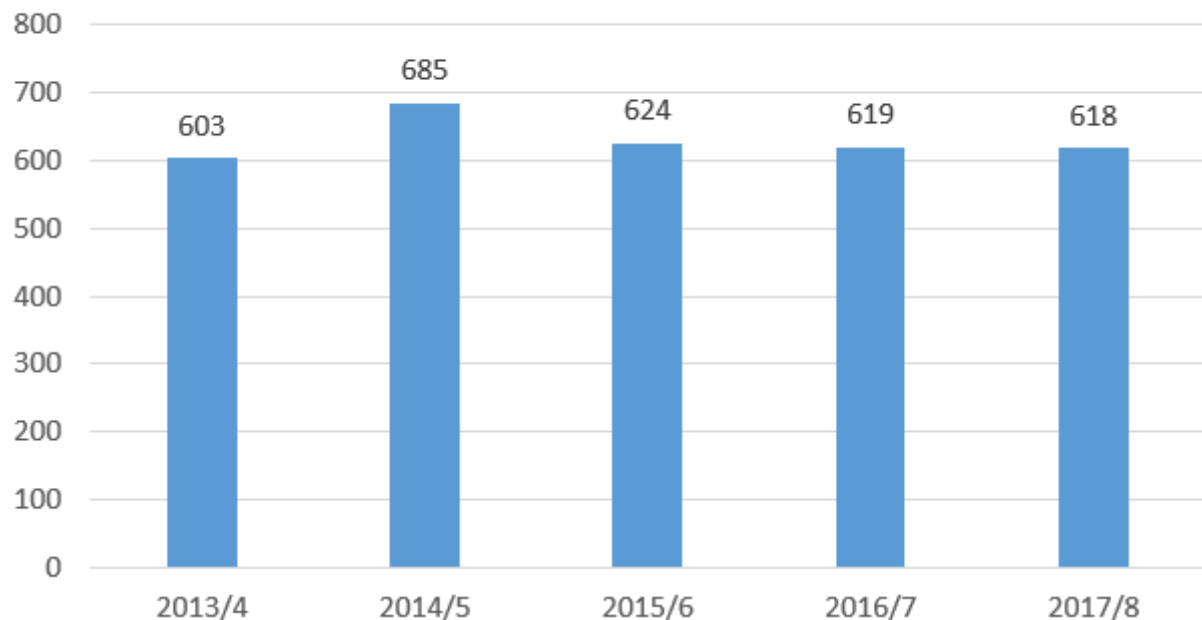


Treasurer's Report Year Ended 30 June 2018

My apologies for not being able to attend this year's AGM.

You will note from the Income & Expenditure Account, total income from district levies of \$4,788.00 was just \$78 up on the previous year's figure reflecting essentially unchanged affiliation numbers for the year.

ALCA Total District Affiliations



The expenses were up from previous years due to;

- Prepayment of hosting fee (\$2,000) for 2019 Australian Championships to Tasmanian DLA.
- Prepayment of \$2,000 hosting fee to Victorian LA towards costs of World Championship 2020 bid.
- Payment of \$1347.50 for Third Party Insurance which policy now covers all Australian Laser Districts.
- Payment of \$220 to Australian Sailing for affiliation which fee now covers all Australian Laser Districts.

As a result the net loss for the year was \$4,558.94.

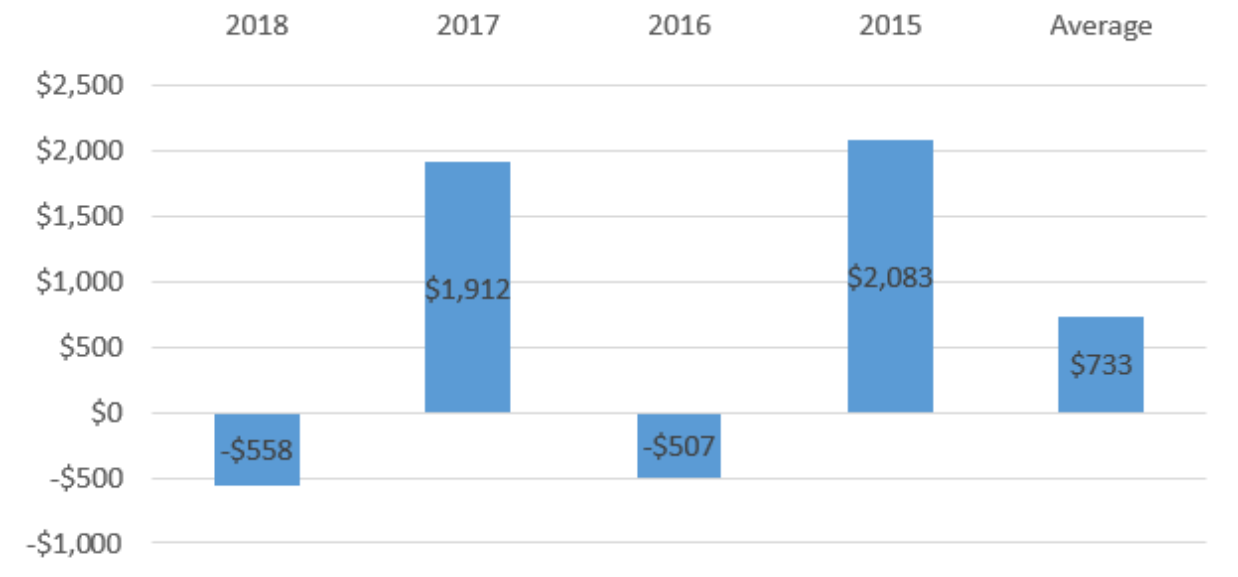
In the Balance Sheet, the Westpac current account balance at 30 June 2018 of \$28,406.98 also includes the trust funds held on behalf of U21 Worlds and 4.7 Youth Worlds contestants. Therefore the Net Assets figure of \$16,049.14 represents the actual funds owned by the Association.

The ALCA acts as a “banker” for the contributions paid by the above youth contestants. From those contributions and subsidies (if any) received from Australian Sailing ALCA pays for the costs of RIB hire, fuel, coaches’ air fares, coaches’ accommodation costs and other small expense items. The budgets for those events are prepared by Don Elks and I wish to thank Don for his meticulous work in that regard.

Projecting forward we expect that without the hosting pre-payments outlined above and with continued constraint on expenditure ALCA will meet our objective of a balanced budget. This despite ALCA now covering third party insurance and Australian Sailing affiliation costs for all Districts.

Looking over the past four years and excluding the hosting prepayments in 2017/18 then our ALCA average budget position has been a modest (\$733) surplus.

ALCA Year Earnings to 30 June



Thank you

Geoff Lucas
Hon. Treasurer
2 December 2018



Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30th June 2018

<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>
	<u>Income</u>	
	Membership Subscriptions	
1,935.00	NSW & ACT	1,759.25
885.00	Victoria	999.75
562.50	Queensland	697.50
165.00	South Australia	201.50
795.00	Western Australia	806.00
285.00	Tasmania	277.50
82.50	Northern Territory	46.50
<u>4,710.00</u>		<u>4,788.00</u>
	<u>Other Income</u>	
22.95	Interest Received	23.40
<u>4,732.95</u>	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>4,811.40</u>
	<u>Expenses</u>	
2,000.00	Nationals Hosting Grant	4,000.00
-	World Hosting Grant	2,000.00
70.00	Australian Sailing-Affiliation Fee	220.00
-	Website Hosting	424.85
706.02	Travelling Expenses-President	1,240.09
44.00	Filing Fees-Annual Return	45.00
-	Laser Measuring Templates	92.90
-	3rd Party Liability Insurance	1,347.50
<u>2,820.02</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>9,370.34</u>
<u>\$1,912.93</u>	<u>Net Loss for the Year (2017 Profit)</u>	<u>-4,558.94</u>

Australian Laser Class Association



Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2018

ABN 47 884 970 979

<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>
	<u>Current Asset</u>	
45,949.93	Westpac -Current Account	28,406.98
<u>45,949.93</u>	<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>28,406.98</u>
	<u>Less Liabilities</u>	
10,910.16	Trust Funds-Radial Youth Worlds	-
-	Trust Fund -U21 Worlds	900.00
<u>14,431.69</u>	Trust Funds 4.7 Youth Worlds	<u>11,457.84</u>
<u>25,341.85</u>	<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>12,357.84</u>
<u>20,608.08</u>	<u>Net Assets</u>	<u>16,049.14</u>
	<u>Represented by Members' Funds</u>	
18,695.15	Retained Earnings as at 1st July 2017	20,608.08
<u>1,912.93</u>	Less Current Year Loss (Profit 2017)	<u>-4,558.94</u>
<u>\$ 20,608.08</u>	<u>Total Equity</u>	<u>\$ 16,049.14</u>



Tasmanian District Laser Association

13 January, 2019

2018 Presidents Report

The 2018 Sailing season has seen the TDLA continue the sailing program of coaching and support that had its genesis when many of our sailors were in the training classes of Sabots and Optimists. It became apparent then, as it is now, that the sailors across Australia were the same, the water and air is connected and the boats were of one design. The major difference identified between all the programs run by clubs and associations and states was their level of organisation and training.

In the past 6 years, the TDLA has gained impetus and knowledge as its members, coaches and supporters train and race locally, interstate and overseas. There is a direct correlation between coaching, sailing competence, enjoyment and ultimately results. We thank Sean Bly and Rohan Langford's for their coaching efforts.

The TDLA now has over 40 members. Sam King and Adele Autcherlonie hold full scholarships to the Tasmanian Institute of Sport. We had 2 sailors attend world championships in 2018.

One of the future challenges for the association is attracting new members transitioning out of the training classes and maintaining the popularity of the laser class. In the coming season we aim to place more emphasis on women's coaching to keep and attract women to the class.

The TDLA took delivery of its own 5.5 Zodiac RIB this year. This vessel will enhance the flexibility of the TDLA to operate at training sessions and regattas as well as providing a safe and capable support craft. Three lasers were revived courtesy of PSA, NB Sail sports and Sail 27 and were supplied to the FIJI team for the 2019 nationals.

The MYC and TDLA have worked together to run the 2019 National and Oceania Championship with the MYC hosting the off water events and the TDLA the on water side. This has taken the event to a regional center of Devonport on the Cradle Coast. The Australian Laser Class association and Yachting Australia have assisted with documents and process. Local MP Adam Brooks supported a joint event

funding proposal to the State Government which resulted in a significant monetary grant. In addition the Devonport City Council (DCC) has helped the MYC with infrastructure upgrades. The following gold sponsors provided in kind or monetary support, MUSTO, UTAS-AMC, TT line and Tamar Marine. Bronze sponsors included Qantas, TMC Marine, Marine and Safety Tasmania, Promain Engineering and Peter Johnston Ship Chandlers. All these supporters and sponsors have ensured a successful regatta as well as a significant capability boost in way of new and improved infrastructure and resources. Running this event will also upskill those involved for the future.

It has been a very productive year for the TDLA. We look forward to building upon our recent achievements in the future years so as to maintain the laser as the boat of choice for those wishing to sail for life. Unfortunately, Tasmania has still to have a high performance coach appointed by Australian Sailing. This is impacting our ability to get the best out of our athletes and supporting “coaching the coaches” to the highest level.

Roger C King
President
Tasmanian District Laser Association

Victorian Laser association 2018 ALCA AGM report.

Membership & participation.

VLA membership for the 2017/2018 season was 116 which is disappointing. In 2014/15, the year we hosted the Nationals, membership peaked at 150. Given that we will again be hosting the Nationals in 2020, I expect to report solid membership growth.

There are currently 15 clubs in Victoria with active club laser fleets. It is particularly pleasing to see growth in the Standard rig at Port Melbourne & Royal Geelong.

International participation- A strong contingent of VLA Laser masters attended the worlds in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland. Unfortunately, this representation was not matched in the Laser standard, Radials & 4.7's. Since the introduction of the 'One Sailing' model, there has been a total breakdown of the Australian Sailing high performance pathways in Victoria. There are currently no active Laser sailors in the VIS. Urgent action is required by AS.

2020 Worlds Events

James Mitchell, chair of the 2020 world championship organising committee has prepared a brief update which I will include with this report. Some highlights are:

Organisation

- The VLA set up a Laser 2020 Organising Committee in early 2018 to handle the two Oceania / Australian events and the 4 world championships.
- This committee is working with Sandringham Yacht Club and Royal Geelong Yacht Club.
- Committee members include James Mitchell, Peter Merritt, Jack Graves, Joby Graves, Steve Gunther, Stuart Wallace, Chris Mitchell and Maria Racovalis.

Events

- All dates have been published to www.laser2020.com and advertised at major regattas in Europe and Japan in 2018.
- All World event dates have been posted to the ILCA events web site and host event web sites will go live in early 2019.
- Note the open Oceania Cube event with 100 WS points will be held separately from the Australian Championships in 2020. It will be held in conjunction with Sail Melbourne in the 3rd week of January with the Lasers launching from Sandringham. Sailors doing both Nationals & SM regattas can leave their Lasers at Sandringham between these events.
- The VLA have negotiated with the ILCA and achieved an increase in the Men's Radial Worlds competitor cap to 130. This event will be run on a separate course during the same dates as the Women's Radial Worlds.
- A significant redevelopment of the marina berths and the off-the-beach club / training facilities is underway at Geelong which will be available for our use in March 2020.
- The ALCA selection policy for all the Worlds has been published to lasersdownunder.com.

Funding

- We have received the promise of some funding from the State of Victoria (no actual money yet!) but other Sponsors are needed and are being pursued. All ideas welcomed.

If you would like to help

- We are seeking volunteers of all kinds to support our host clubs and deliver professionally run events for all competitors and their associates.
- Enquires can be directed to info@laser2020.com
- Examples include:
 - On shore administration and race management support
 - On water safety and race management
 - Web site management (word press)
 - Media office administration
 - Jury support
 - Boat yard assistance
 - Journalists
 - Overseas sailor support- let us know if you can provide accommodation for an overseas sailor.
 - Trophy coordination
 - Sponsor liaison
- Offers welcomed for one or all events.

Thankyou's-

I take this opportunity to thank the VLA committee for their support this year & those VLA members who have volunteered for the 2020 organising committee. I would like to mention Nev Beeson who volunteered to come here to Devonport to assist the TLA in the measurement process & also our PRO Peter Merritt who helped the OLCA run the Fiji Masters event in October.

I move that this report be accepted.

John d'Helin

President- Victorian Laser Association.



Laser



NSW/ACT District

Chairman's Report ALCA 5th January 2019

NSW/ACT Lasers have had a successful 2018 year.

NSW/ACT District Sailing

We run four major District regattas throughout the year. Our States and States Masters are our cube regattas while the Metropolitan and Coast Championships are normally run in Sydney and outside respectively.

We typically attract 80 to 90 entries in the events which run with six races over a weekend – more in the Masters. We had 80 entries for our recent States in Canberra at the CYC. Atypically on Saturday it would have been blowing oysters off the rocks – if they had any – then more typically and frustratingly no sailable wind on Sunday.

We had 83 entries for our event at Vaucluse YC in October. For these harbour events many boats sail over from their clubs. They enter online and can sign on/off from their home clubs using SMS.

We attempt to share regatta venues around. Our State Masters will be held at ever popular South Lake Macquarie ASC and our Metropolitan Championships at Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club Pittwater in March 2019.

Double Bay SC ran a great Women's Laser Regatta in September. 50 sailors enjoyed two days of sailing and coaching. Well done Clare Alexander and her team of helpers and the top line coaches who made this event work so well.

Thanks to the host clubs for putting on a great show for us. Though we pay \$1,000 per event per day to the clubs to cover their running costs. The on the water and in the club house teams make the events work. They do it just for the love of the sport and we thank them one and all.

International Sailing

Congratulations to our top NSW & ACT sailors who competed in various Laser World Championship events. In the Laser World Championships in Aarhus, Denmark Tom Burton was 7th and Finn Alexander 13th in the fleet comprising 160 of the World's best Laser sailors.

Paige Caldecoat competed in the Women's Radials in Aarhus as well as the World Under 21's and the World Radial Youth Championships. Jeff Loosemore and Zac West did well in the World Radial Championship in Kiel. This event was won by Australian Zac Littlewood.

Zac West, Mark Louis and Nathan Bryant sailed in the Radial Youth Worlds. Sylvie Stannage, Brooke Wilson, Mina Ferguson, Daniel Costandi and Rohan Stannage all competed in the 4.7 Youth Worlds in Gdynia, Poland.

15 NSW/ACT Laser Masters Sailors competed in the World Masters in Dun Laoghaire Ireland in September. There were 23 Australian entries in the 300 boat event. Brett Beyer retained his Standard Rig Masters crown at the event.

NSW/ACT Membership

Overall our District membership for the year was steady at 220. We like to keep our membership numbers healthy not so much for revenue as we pass around half our collected membership fees onto ALCA and ILCA to help to support their activities. The greater the number of Australian Laser sailors we have as members the larger our allocation of places in limited entry international events.

Administration

Hopefully we are keeping sailors informed on sailing, events, results and Laser sailing happenings through laser.asn.au. We try not to barrage members and others on our email list with endless messages. We have a very large list (currently 482) on our email distribution list which shows the strength of interest in Laser Sailing in NSW and ACT.

A special thank you to our own small team of helpers in particular RO's Col Chidgey, Adam South and Andrew McLachlan, our treasurer Geoff Lucas, membership secretary Sue Phillips, regatta helpers David & Elaine Edmiston, VC and measurer John Sprague, Youth representative Finn Alexander, Women's representative Lauren Crossman and advisor and Masters Representative Rob Lowndes for their work and support.

Thanks to the many people who helped out with administration and on the water for our events. Without people just stepping up as required we could never have managed the tasks involved in staging these events.

Cheers

Kevin Phillips
Chair NSW/ACT Laser Association



Report to ALCA AGM
Mersey Yacht Club Tasmania
6 January 2019

Preseason SALA engaged Kystal Weir from Victoria to run a coaching weekend for sailors of all categories.

Fourteen enthusiastic sailors from youth through to a Great Grand Master attended. In conjunction with Australian Sailing SA coach Alex Zimmerman the two day clinic was well received.

With the season under way, two legs of state championships were held at Adelaide Sailing club over two weekends.

Numbers unfortunately were down and for the first time we did not have a Standard rig division

The Radials and 4.7s however had a well fought out series

Returning to a one weekend format next season is the way to go.

With such a large number of Optimists in the state, we plan to align with their events to capitalise on sailors making the transition to Lasers.

Four sailors competed at Sail Melbourne with three 4.7s (Lachy Roe and Ben Newman (Adelaide Sailing Club), Ruben Gustavsson (Rivoli Bay Sailing Club) which is near Mt Gambier

One senior sailor attended in Great Grand Master Sean Homan

Our three young sailors finished top ten which was pleasing given the high quality of the fleet.

Lachy Roe had a great final day finishing fourth overall and picked up a silver medal as second boy.

Restructuring of the way SALA operates in such a small sailing community may go a long way to improving our numbers

All the best to TLA with Oceania and Australian Nationals at Devonport and Youths in Hobart

Steve Sampson
SA Laser Association

Queensland Laser Association

Chairpersons Report 2017-2018

QLA have made progress this year in a number of areas.

1. **Communications:** We have appointed a Communications Officer to create a more dynamic communications environment. This has resulted in more email and Facebook notices to keep members informed and up to date with events and activities.
2. **Travel Grants:** We have updated our Travel Grants policy and added a third type of grant being a Regional Travel grant to incentivize our members in regional areas who have to travel further to our regattas and other events than those of us in the south east corner. This Travel Grant is in addition to the Grants on offer for travel and attendance at the Australian Laser Championships and significant international regattas. In the past year we have awarded five International travel grants to QLA members.
3. **States Race brief:** Following last year States we have upgraded our Race brief to include more information and details on what the QLA expects from the organizing club in relation to holding our State Championships. This covers everything from entry, registration, racing and scoring and results. This should help both the host clubs, the QLA and competitors in future.
4. **Laser Promotion Activities:** In September we held a four hour workshop with the Executive Committee and a number of other invited people from clubs and elsewhere to gather ideas on how we can promote the Laser class in Queensland. Many ideas were floated and we settle on five areas to move forward on immediately.
 - a. **Women's Regatta:** The QLA is preparing to hold a two day Women's Regatta in February at DPSS. This event will include coaching, morning yoga, guest speaker and racing. Annie Watson is leading our team in pulling this together.
 - b. **Transition to Laser:** We are making progress in holding a number of "Sail a Laser" days in conjunction with junior classes to assist junior sailors move up from their class to a Laser. We plan to hold these day for the Optimist and Sabots where young sailors who are ready to move up can take out a 4.7 Laser and their parents can talk to us about buying or trying a Laser. Once we have held this we will also look at other junior and development classes.
 - c. **Laser Camaraderie:** We are looking to build a stronger camaraderie between all Laser sailors, to assist with retention of sailors. To date this has been left to individuals at clubs and at the four QLA organized regattas. As a first step we are implementing a buddy system for new Laser sailors. A QLA committee member has asked a representative at eleven sailing clubs in SEQ to take on the onus of being or appointing a Laser Buddy to help any new Laser sailors. They will take a proactive role in making the new sailor welcome and comfortable with the world of Lasers. We will be instigating further initiatives over the coming seasons to strengthen the camaraderie between Laser sailors at different clubs.
 - d. **Web Site and promotional material:** We have made some changes to our web site to make it more attractive and alluring with video links from the recent Open Nationals and Australian Masters and a summary of the advantages of owning and sailing a Laser. Additionally, we are planning to put advertisements in the RQYS newsletter to entice potential sailors to use the Club Lasers. These Lasers were purchased recently by RQYS following lobbying by QLA members at the club.

- e. **Assistance to clubs:** A number of clubs have nominated the provision of 4.7 equipment as something that will help them get juniors and lighter sailors into Lasers. We have sources mast bottom sections for three clubs to help them get junior members into Lasers.

QLA regattas

Our regattas for this season are:

- River Titles: Held at BSS on 11 November 2018.
- Metropolitan Championships at Southport Yacht Club on 2nd and 3rd February 2019
- Womens Regatta, Darling Point Sailing Squadron, 9th and 10th March 2019
- State championships at Lake Cootharaba on 30th and 31st March
- South Pacific Laser Masters Regatta at RQYS July (date TBA.)

Coaching

Over the past years we have sponsored coaching clinics at numerous clubs. This year we have held clinics at HYC and at RQYS. Subject to sufficient entry numbers QLA will pay for a coach and their expenses for coaching at any Club in Queensland.

Membership

We have seen a modest increase again this year and while membership numbers peak at around 125 around March coinciding with our State Championships. We currently have just over 100 QLA members.

Financial

Our strong financial situation has strengthened this year as a result of profits from the two National championships

Michael Wilson

QLA Chairperson

15/12/2018

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2018 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Attraction and retention for the Laser class continues support for the development pathway for aspirational sailors including; Youth Midwinters at RQYS, Australian Laser Championship and ILCA Youth and u21 Worlds. This approach is intended to provide active support for State and National HP programs.

Support for sailors at key ILCA Worlds events has involved fund raising through sailing families and through State & National bodies since 2009. ALCA sees fundraising by multiple parties for coaches at ILCA Worlds events as cost effective for underpinning and coach development. AS has traditionally provided funds to assist families to raise funds for a coach which is quite often not adequate to support increasing numbers of sailors or the importance of an event.

State funding contributions have in recent years been instrumental in providing support for a second coach which makes coaching more equitable for girls and u21's. State funding is used as a coach development initiative where a second coach may not be viable. QAS was able to substantially contribute to Danny Fuller to work with Luke Elliott and 8 Radial Youth sailors at Kiel, Germany. WAIS contributed to Ben Walkemeyer and Ryan Palk to support 7 4.7's boys, 7 4.7 girls and 3 regatta days with 4 u21's at Gdynia, Poland. States have an opportunity to build experience of developing coaches at the 2019 ILCA Youth and u21 events.

I draw attention to an ALCA Youth Development Statement issued 15th May 2018 which provides a more detailed view of Youth Development. Don Elks and Mike McAullay worked together in Youth Development in 2018, thanks to Mike. Congratulations to sailors, good sailing for 2019.

Yours sincerely

Don Elks
Youth Development
0418116179



The Australian Laser Class Association - Youth Development Statement

ALCA Youth - Laser 4.7, Radial Youth & u21 Laser

ALCA is the peak Laser Association affiliated with State Laser Associations provide support for girls from 4.7 to Radial Olympic class, for boys from laser 4.7 via radial to standard Olympic class. ALCA as the peak organising committee rotates the Australian National Championship through 6 states in a 6 year cycle.

In 2009 ALCA renewed its focus on youth as an attraction and retention initiative by creating a Youth Development role. Its first initiative was to define a youth development pathway to guide sailors and broadening accessibility to foster competitive fleets in each state, now part of an underpinning strategy to the Australian Sailing Squad and state programs (now State HP) that we have today.

An performance pathway for aspiring sailors

Creating an awareness of a performance pathway that had not been there involved building relationships with Australian Sailing, the coaching community and individuals in State HP programs. Most importantly the pathway had to serve the needs of sailors, clubs and Associations.

Aspiring youth sailors at the Australian National championship were encouraged to compete in a more structured way, at the Australian Youth Championship, Australian Midwinter Regatta at RQYS and ILCA Worlds. At the same time ALCA broadened interest and participation in ILCA Worlds by raising funds for coaches at the event through families and Australian Sailing.

ILCA Youth Worlds and coaching support – has become a key strategy

Coaches and Youth sailors, clubs and Associations were encouraged to join the performance pathway which ultimately leads to ILCA Worlds. For families with aspiring sailors ILCA Worlds provides a unique challenge in life for their child that they can commit resources to. For State HP and AS the event ILCA Worlds provides a talent pool and is key to underpinning.

By 2015 ILCA Youth Worlds had become increasingly popular to the point that it needed additional for a second coach. But grant allocations did not provide for a second coach in funding raised. The second coach could only be made viable with alternative funding sources such as state HP who saw the event as a training ground for aspiring coaches.

ALCA holds the view that both coaches and sailors continuously improve and families are bit players in subsidizing coach development in this situation.

Gender Equity

The popularity of the Laser class for boys exposed the challenge to improve participation for girls in Lasers. ALCA spoke to the gender equity question, attraction and retention rates of girls in Lasers at its AGM at Mandurah in WA in December 2014. Physiological and sociological transformation of adolescent sailors in girls and boys was presented, interest in the subject required extra time. Representatives from affiliated member associations, PSA

and others shared concerns of the broader Laser sailing community and urged a cohesive response to address this issue.

Gender Representation

ALCA and State Laser Associations experimented with state and national championships over the from 2015 to move away from mixed gender events to separate events by gender where numbers allowed. Smaller events continued with mixed competition but the scoring systems were changed to separate results and prizes by gender.

In 2015 ALCA began working with AS to fund a second coach with a priority on the girls, this initiative was acknowledged as a contributing factor in Zoe Thompson winning the 2016 Radial Youth World Championship in Ireland.

Today ALCA and ILCA have diversified competition prizes by gender and age, today we have prizes for u16, u17, u18, u19 and u21.

Inclusivity

ALCA record show sailors travelling to ILCA Worlds events show gender balance has a tendency to bounce around. The change with coaching support for girls since 2015 has implication for better performance and retention, underpinning and outcomes in the girls program which is fed back through ALCA's performance pathway system to build participation.

Gender participation 2009 - 2018 ILCA Youth Worlds		
event	Girls	Boys
1	3	10
2	1	1
3	2	5
4	6	10
5	1	5
6	4	11
7	6	11
8	13	35
9	1	6
10	1	4
11	1	5
12	4	10
13	2	8
14	4	13
15	2	8
16	2	16
17	3	10
18	3	15
19	2	6
20	7	7
Total	68	196
	Ratio avge	35%

The Laser provides for an active Youth Class with a large ALCA membership base in Australia. ALCA's large total membership base entitles Australia to a larger allocation of entries than many other countries.

The 2017 4.7 team travelling to Nieuwpoort Belgium was the first Australian Youth team on record as having a late application rejected and no available placements.

Communications inform States of the need for sailors to get ILCA applications in early is to assure Australia maximises its target placements. State HP coaches and Youth sailors are advised at the Australian Laser Championship. Target placements for Australia:

- 2018 Target placements for 4.7 Girls is 10, boys 16
- 2018 Target placements for Radial Girls is 9, boys 15
- 2018 Target placements for u21 Girls is 7, boys 11

ALCA continues to argue the case that a lack of coaching support at u21 ILCA events is affecting retention rates after u19 events and that coach support would improve participation & retention.

ILCA Coaches Training Program

ILCA does impose on Coaches as much as it can the role and responsibility while away:

- A focus on regatta program similar to ASS, team unity and behaviour;
- 5 days pre-regatta training, lay day, 6 day regatta support;
- Detailed coaching program and schedule;
- Regatta coaching; the team is informed that they can expect support in the early stage of the regatta but sailors with results will gain priority as the regatta develops. Coaches are asked to rebalance that at debrief sessions to avoid sailors who may have missed out. The gender balance dictates time a coach has on a course, a second coach has been used to prioritise girls;
- Coaches are expected to provide a report to sailors and AS;
- Coaches are schooled on what went well and what can be improved in a debrief with feedback from parents.

Selection of Sailors

Selection of sailors for ILCA Worlds involves 2 parties:

- ALCA publish policy <http://www.lasersdownunder.com/worlds/> for sailor selection for ILCA Worlds which ranks sailors on results at the Australian National Championship.
- ILCA publish policy https://sailing.laserinternational.org/regattauploads/Info/ILCA_Application_Status_Explanation.pdf for sailor selection for ILCA Worlds which uses ALCA ranking to offer places

ALCA Masters Report AGM 2019 Devonport

From ALCA Laser Masters Representative Rob Lowndes

Australian Ranking for World Masters

The new Australian ranking for Laser Masters Worlds introduced in July 2017 and used for the first time for the 2018 Worlds work well. As in previous World Masters in the end all the Australian applications were offered a place so no one was excluded through ranking – though some sailors towards the bottom of the performance based ranking did have to wait for the place allocations process to play out before they could make firm plans.

In future, more through the availability of charter boats than actual event capacity some Australian applicants may miss a start in the event. As such the performance based ranking is far preferable to the old “first in first served” method.

National Masters Mooloolaba

The great roll up as well as a terrific event at the Mooloolaba National Masters showed yet again that the current Masters Nationals policy is working very well. 164 entries some great racing and comradery at a scenic seaside venue – what’s not to like. Well done QLA and Maroochy Sailing Club.



World Masters Dun Laoghaire Ireland

A big roll up from Australia for the World Masters Championships is Dun Laoghaire Dublin Ireland saw our 23 entries in the 300 boat event achieve three podium places including 1st and 3rd in the Standard Masters. Well done Brett Beyer and David Whit.

The 2019 World Masters will be held AT Port Zélande Netherlands between 5-14 September 2019.

Fiji Oceania Masters Championship

The other international Masters event with good Australian representation was the Fiji Oceania Masters at Dunarau Island. The event was preceded by a coaching clinic by Brett Beyer which was well received.



World Championship Events Melbourne and Geelong 2020

Great news from ILCA and VLA on the 2020 Worlds Events including the World Masters which will be run from Sandringham Yacht Club and Royal Geelong Yacht Clubs in 2020 as follows.

Sandringham Yacht Club

- 2020 Australian Laser Championships – Standard, Radial and 4.7 (Jan 1-8)
- 2020 Oceania Laser Championships (Sail Melbourne International) – Standard, Radial and 4.7 (Jan 17-21)
- 2020 ILCA Standard Men’s World Championship (Feb 9-16)
- 2020 ILCA Laser Radial Women’s World Championships (Feb 21-28)
- 2020 ILCA Laser Radial Men’s World Championships (Feb 21-28)

Royal Geelong Yacht Club

- 2020 Oceania & Australian Laser Masters Championship – Standard, Radial and 4.7 (March 13-18)
- 2020 ILCA Laser Masters World Championships – Standard and Radial (March 19-28)

Robert Lowndes

ALCA Masters Representative