



Victorian Laser Association

Committee Meeting

Date: 1 September 2010

Place: 8 Wood Street, Sandringham, Victoria 3191

Meeting commenced at ~19:40

Present:

James Mitchell (Chair), John d'Helin, Mark Gray, Peter Merritt, Peter Stow (Treasurer and Secretary)

Apologies:

Jenny Parsons, Mark Bulka

1. Masters

John d'Helin had attended the ALCA AGM at Glenelg, SA, where there was a proposal to enable a separate Masters National Championships, at the discretion of the hosting State or Territory. WA objected to the proposal and a resolution was not met at the meeting. WA subsequently requested an EGM and James Mitchell expected to attend an imminent meeting in Sydney.

NSW unanimously support the proposal and will run two events in 2011, the Nationals at George River and a Masters event at Salamander Bay, Port Stephens (11-14 February). There is an expectation that the combined events will attract over 400 entrants.

Queensland have also proposed two events in 2012, at the Royal Queensland YC and Moreton Bay. These will be combined with the South Pacific Championships in July 2012.

Subsequent championships will be held in Tasmania (2013) and Victoria (2014). There was some discussion around venues for 2014 with Metung and Paynesville both having merits.

It was noted that the ISAF Worlds are to be held in Perth from 3-18 December 2011, and that the 2011 World Masters will be held in San Francisco. The 2012 World Masters will be held at a European venue.

2. VLA Sailing Calendar

- a. The Port Phillip's Championships will be held at Mordialloc from 13-14 November 2010. These will be held in conjunction with the Victorian Dinghy Championships, with separate starts on trapezoid courses. It was noted that attendance at recent Port Phillip's has been low.



- b. The Masters/Youths will again be held at Mount Martha over the weekend 5-6 February 2011.
- c. The Victorian State Championships will be held at McCrae Yacht Club over the weekend 19-20 March 2011.
- d. It was agreed that James Mitchell will help coordinate the Port Phillip's, John d'Helin the Masters/Youths and Peter Merritt the States.

3. ILCA

- a. VLA has recently paid ILCA membership fees of ~\$1100.00
- b. There is a link on the ILCA website for a free download of 'LaserWorld' (http://www.laserinternational.org/sites/default/files/img/September_2010_low_res.pdf)
- c. Some minor modifications to rules are being developed – these are mainly technical changes.

4. 2010 Masters/Youths

There was a tie in the 4.7 fleet, with a prize being awarded to the wrong individual. This was to be rectified as soon as possible (Mark Bulka).

5. Coaching Report

A report from the Coaching Committee was tabled from Jenny Parsons.

- a. Turn out at the Laser Traveller Series has been disappointing. The Committee commented that there are generally few people sailing in general at present, which is probably a reflection of the prevailing weather.
- b. Turn out at training events has also been patchy, despite participants having paid up-front fees. Those individuals that do participate are getting high-class training.
- c. An email has been received from Port Melbourne offering training services.

6. Membership Report

There are currently 130 members.

- a. There was discussion around the merits of web based membership management. Mark Gray commented that there would need to be a large effort to create a new website, perhaps with limited benefit. Mark instead proposed a focus on email marketing. Whilst there would be an associated cost, this was likely to be only an initial fee of ~\$500, with a



fee per email dispatched. The Committee agreed that Mark should investigate further.

- b. There is an occasional need for a structure to enable members to be refunded credit card payments. It was felt that this could be best managed by direct internet transfer.

7. Club Representative List

Peter Stow will circulate to members of the Committee for updating.

8. Treasurer's Report

At 1 September 2010 the VLA had assets of \$60,507 (cheque account \$22,507 and term deposit \$38,000). Peter Stow proposed, and the Committee supported, the transfer of a further \$12,000 into a term deposit.

9. Committee Office Bearers

- a. James Mitchell expressed a desire to step down as Chairman of the Committee, but would continue for one more year.
- b. Peter Stow had previously notified James Mitchell that he is no longer an active Laser sailor, and that he was happy to be replaced both as Secretary and as Treasurer. However, in the absence of a volunteer he was prepared to continue in these roles with an understanding that he would have a low profile at VLA events.

10. Any other business

It was noted that there were upcoming Yachting Victoria events – a Club Conference at Albert Park on 4 September 2010 and an AGM on 27 September 2010.

The meeting closed at ~21:55.

Peter Stow
19 October 2010