



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date	Tuesday 18th September 2024
Time	8.10 pm AEDT
Venue	Zoom
Chairperson	Paul Armstrong (PA Qld)
Present	Wayne Spencer (WS), Chris Denman (CD), Ryan Kelly (RK), Chris Sant (CS ACT), Jeremy Brown (JB)
Apologies	John Nobbs (JN), Chris Sacre (CS NSW), Nick Billett (NBi), Paul Armstrong (PA NSW), Kate Carey (KC), Anthony Morgan (AM), Glenn Wilson (GW)

Ref.	Item	Responsible	Due
1	Minutes from previous meeting		
1.1	July minutes accepted unanimously.		
1.2			
2	Correspondence in		
2.1	16/7 Colin White Mordiallic Sailing Club Winter Series 18/6 Australian Sailing renewal \$300 paid by PA. Anthony Morgan (TAS) – maintenance costs on “This is the Life” paid. 19/3 WS nomination for Secretary role. CRSC potential interest in carbon tip masts. Chris Sant nomination Michael Hitchens as a measurer. 20/02 Sailing Australia fees due. Agreed to pay.		
3	Correspondence out		
3.1	16/7 Reply to Mordiallic sailing club, forward invitation to Glenn Wilson. 16/04 Draft MOU for St Leonards Nationals sent to the host club. Still waiting for reply from SLSC. 19/3 Nil.		



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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

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	20/2 Nil		
4	Treasurer's report		
4.2	<p>18/9 Tracking well, slightly in the red YTD. Dinghy sports reimbursed (Boolong refurbishment). New jib on order for Boolong also boom cover.</p> <p>16/7 No report, need to confirm insurance for This is the Life paid. Reimbursement required for repair work on Boolong for Dinghy Sports, plans and postage for PA (NSW).</p> <p>18/6 Little change since AGM, only reimbursements for T-shirts. Trailer rego, Australian Sailing and Tasmanian boat maintenance still owing.</p> <p>16/4 Little change from March meeting. Receipt of grant from \$2k Yachting ACT to support the Nationals. Sitting at -\$493 for the year with approximately \$1k for insurance due after excluding regatta transactions.</p> <p>19/3 Tracking a little below break even YTD. Still \$2k to come in from Yachting ACT which will bring the Nationals close to break even. A couple of unusual expenses this year.</p> <p>20/2 Statement of accounts circulated. Currently includes entries for NSW States. One invoice outstanding from YMCA sailing club to cover regatta and catering costs. Some income outstanding from Yachting ACT. Overall position is sound, forecast is that Nationals will finish as slightly positive for the association.</p>		
5	Registrar's report		
5.1	<p>18/9 107 out of 235 on books are financial. One new boat number issued (Dinghy sports boat).</p> <p>16/7 Fairly quiet, invoices have gone out for the new season.</p>		



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	<p>18/6 Some new members, mainly from Lake Cootharaba Regatta.</p> <p>Paul Jenkins James Brigden Rebecca Parnell Alexandra Glaverdt Luis Pedro Coelho Chris Goding Bronwen Kipper Isaac Lemass Ryan Kelly</p> <p>Accepted unanimously.</p> <p>Otherwise pretty quiet.</p> <p>Fees for next year Proposed to keep the same Proposed CD, Seconded WS, unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Membership will roll over at start of July for 24/25. Agreed to give State Reps access in Revsports to contact their members via e-mail.</p> <p>16/4 One new member Tim Guymer, accepted unanimously as a new member.</p> <p>19/3 Quiet this month. 27 new members for the season. 75 from last season haven't renewed. Qld States may result in a few more renewals.</p>		
6	Measurement		
	<p>18/9 No report.</p> <p>16/7 Nothing to report. Committee trying to agree meeting schedule that works for everyone. Michael Armstrong will be working on updates to the measurement form.</p> <p>16/4 Measurement meeting held at NSW states weekend. Bill Pedersen, long standing member, has decided to stand down and not re-stand. Mick Armstrong proposed as new member for the Measurement</p>		



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	<p>committee, along with Neil Burford who nominated previously, Mick accepted six votes to one. New sets of plans printed. Chris Denman will set up groups in Revsports for Measurers and Measurement Committee, PA NSW to send details of members.</p> <p>19/3 No report.</p> <p>20/2 NBu discussed nominating two people, one from ACT and one from SA to position of measurer. PA (NSW) process is the state committee would propose their nomination to the National Measurement Committee. ACT and SA to progress the nomination.</p> <p>PA (Qld) raised the digitisation of the measurement form to reflect the most recent rule changes, also discussed correction of anomalies in the form.</p>		
7	Newsletter		
	<p>18/9 September newsletter is open for contributions.</p> <p>18/6 Contributions due. PA has written his article.</p> <p>16/4 Next newsletter due out in June. Covers Jack Holt regatta and minutes of AGM.</p> <p>19/3 Newsletter coming together. Close to the point of publishing the March Newsletter.</p> <p>20/2 E-mail from Kate Carey; Please send any stories for March newsletter asap. Nationals racing and social report needed. WS to write up notes from the gathering of members at the Nationals.</p>		
9	Nationals organisation		
9.8	<p>24/25 18/9 Draft NoR ready. Another meeting next Tuesday and combined committee is working well together. Entry portal will be open next month. Vic states 21/22nd Dec '24 also at SLSC.</p> <p>16/7 Progressing well. Flyer will go out in the next week. Next meeting with SLSC 30th July. Shirts approved and handmade trophies being commissioned, looking for</p>		



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	<p>funding from local council. The \$1500 offered by the Association as is</p> <p>18/6 Regular meetings with SLSC and Victoria Heron Association progressing well. MOU signed by both parties. Information about accommodation options due out next week.</p> <p>16/4 Meeting with SLSC scheduled for next week. Two meetings held so far. Draft MOU with SLSC.</p> <p>19/3 Meeting scheduled for next week (27th) with SLSC. All working documents from Canberra Nationals have been sent to SLSC to provide a template starting point. Discussed benefit of setting up an MoU between the Association and the host club. PA will send a draft of one he has prepared for Qld States. CD mentioned need to get some more information out via e-mail and social media.</p> <p>20/2 Have not had a meeting with SLSC since last meeting. CS (ACT) will send a document regarding race management to guide organisation with SLSC. PA (Qld) will organise a meeting with SLSC.</p> <p>25/26 18/9 NSW nationals proposed venue is Wangi Sailing Club, Jan 5th-10th 2026. Would just have one day registration and objective to finish on the Saturday for the presentation on Saturday Night at Wangi RSL. Would need 50 boats to break even. NSW states would likely be at the same venue in Nov '25.</p> <p>16/7 Should have a venue decided in the next two months. Voting on the short list is in progress. Looking to keep the regatta affordable.</p> <p>18/6 Shortlist of nine clubs determined. Will cull to shortlist top four clubs (from nine) with expression of interest.</p> <p>16/4 Host club still under consideration with NSW Association. Selection criteria determined, looking at options.</p>		



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10	State reports		
10.1	<p>18/9 SA Interested in Nationals rotation. Likely nationals would be offered to Tas and WA in normal rotation but they are likely not ready to host. So most probable rotation going forward is Vic, NSW, Qld, then SA. A possible future venue would be Adelaide SC.</p> <p>One spare mould available in Qld but condition is only fair. Commercial viability of creating a new plug/mould is low.</p> <p>NSW – Calendar finalised; except state titles proposed to be at Queens Lake on Australia Day long weekend – aiming to be more family friendly. Aiming to increase the level of promotion this season.</p> <p>ACT – Season just started, a couple of boats off the water for the early part of the season. ACT dinghy championships mid-November at YMCA SC (considering allowing single handed herons to compete).</p> <p>WA – one boat has changed hands over Winter. WA has a mould stored at a private property South of Perth, condition uncertain.</p> <p>Qld – pretty quiet, SBSC has started their season. DPSS no news.</p> <p>16/7 Vic – just held a measurement day. Season scheduled to start first weekend in October. The date for Victorian states is not confirmed yet.</p> <p>Tas – Repairing some damage on timber Heron – Sari. The future of LSC is still in jeopardy due to the integrity of the clubhouse. Potentially looking to redevelop in conjunction with a ferry terminal to offset costs but not approved yet.</p> <p>SA – state committee is progressing well and re-working their constitution. 60th Anniversary dinner is available to book on try booking website. Details for the dinner being arranged. Junior States is being re-invigorated after a ten-year break. Just held a training weekend at Coffin Bay.</p>		



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	<p>NBU would like to know location of the plug that was used for the Dinghy Sports mould. PA (NSW) - his understanding was the plug was destroyed as it was damaged. NBU the plug was straightened in SA and then sent to NSW. PA (NSW) will ask a few questions on the plug location.</p> <p>NSW – Chris Sacre working on the new season calendar and the National Calendar. The States regatta will be after Christmas, late Jan or early Feb. Canberra Dinghy Champs and Harwood Regatta being promoted via the calendar.</p> <p>Qld – pretty quiet. PA (Qld) attended the Australian Sailing summit in Brisbane. Qld events forwarded for National Calendar.</p> <p>18/6 SA 60th Anniversary State titles 12/13th April 2025 at Coffins Bay, 60th anniversary dinner in Adelaide 2nd November 2024, tickets from facebook via Try Booking. Some interest from Boat Builder in Adelaide (Yachtlab) to access Heron moulds. PA (Qld) will consult with PA (NSW) about potential to license a new builder in SA and relocate the mould.</p> <p>TAS: Lindisfarne SC may suspend sailing due to ongoing issues with insurance. CS (ACT) to investigate NHSAA insurance cover for off the beach sailing.</p> <p>NSW: Nineteen herons at Coffs Harbour in April Planning 24/25 season, looking to avoid clashes with other states. Looking at venues for 25/26 Nationals.</p> <p>QLD: State titles held in May with forty-two boats. Perception of the class by the host club was excellent.</p> <p>16/4 Coffs Harbour regatta coming up on Anzac Day weekend. 6-8 boats from Sydney and 5 from Coffs, total around 13, heading North for the Qld states.</p> <p>ACT – season finished. Separate three race series in April supporting research into rare cancers.</p> <p>WA – “Development” day held on 6th April. A couple of herons active and locked in for next season.</p>		



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	<p>TAS –Lindisfarne SC has suspended sailing due to difficulty in accessing insurance for the club house.</p> <p>QLD – preparing for states in early May (4th-5th).</p> <p>19/3 NSW: Received e-mail report from CS (NSW). NSW states had 24 boats, a little down. The conditions on the Saturday were at the top end, boats hitting 14-15 Kn. Sunday wind strength was much lower. Costs were around break even. Junior states held 16-17 Mar, about 17 boats. A good collection of photos from both events. Coffs Harbour on the Anzac Day weekend is the next event.</p> <p>ACT – fleet growing with six boats on the weekend. Should have seven boats registered for next season. Discussed Boolong the Association Heron. Forward corner of centreboard needs to be rounded to comply with rules. Also discussed polishing and condition of sails.</p> <p>WA – have a heron “development” day coming up for potential buyers to try a heron.</p> <p>Qld – Qld states coming up 4-5th May at Lake Cootharaba. Hoping for 40 boats.</p>		
11	General business		
11.1	<p>18/9 CD would like to send a form to members to track down boats with a view to creating a boat register. Using google doc/sheet.</p> <p>PA (Qld) and RK together with Richard Gibson from SA have put in significant effort in tracking down the location of various heron mould in existence. PA (Qld) provided the report below on their findings;</p> <p><i>After much work the following has been established:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>o A mould and plug owned by the NHSAA were sent from SA to NSW when the builder in SA decided to discontinue building Herons.</i> <i>o The mould ended up with Freddy (Dinghy Sports) and the plug was taken to Qld for storage at John Nobbs’ property.</i> 	State Reps	16 th July



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	<p>o John was already in possession of a mould.</p> <p>o Some time ago, the plug was disposed of after being damaged by flood water.</p> <p>o John Nobbs still has possession of a mould but says the deck mould is damaged (apparently the hull mould is OK).</p> <p>o John is keen to get rid of the mould in his possession.</p> <p>o To our knowledge, no other plugs are in existence.</p> <p><i>There has been some commentary about the constitution requiring the association to maintain possession of a master plug. I have researched this and found that the constitution is silent on moulds and plugs. The By Laws however do mention a master plug (at Cl. 26) as follows:</i></p> <p><i>“ 26 A GRP Heron yacht may be of a single skin and/or sandwich construction, and only GRP and GRP/Composite Heron yachts constructed by licensed builders from moulds taken from the Association Master Plugs or other recognised moulds will be eligible for registration. In addition to deviations from the Official Plans and permitted modifications possibly rendering a boat ineligible for "A" Classification, deviations in hull construction specifications for GRP and GRP/Composite yachts may also render a GRP or GRP/Composite yacht ineligible for "A" Classification.” My emphasis added.</i></p> <p><i>I think it is clear from this reference that there is no requirement for the NHSAA to maintain a master plug. In fact, the wording makes it clear that new moulds can be taken from a master plug OR any other recognised moulds. Clearly the authors of this particular clause envisaged the possibility that a master plug might not be available when it came to making a new mould.</i></p>		



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	<p><i>Let's minute this so that any future enquiries along these lines can be made expeditiously.</i></p> <p>16/7 Boolong head sails are due for a refit. Main sail is in reasonable condition. Committee approved purchase of a new jib via Goughy. Discussed transport of Boolong and trailer to Victoria.</p> <p>CD gathering event dates for the "National" calendar.</p> <p>CD potential for sharing the venue for Vic nationals with Minnows. The option was dismissed by SLSC.</p> <p>NBu SA was looking to use the moulds in the context that the moulds were not wanted by Dinghy Sports.</p> <p>Discussed importance of maintaining a professional builder in the class into the future.</p> <p>18/6 Boolong going to Sydney on the weekend for its refit. Will go to SLSC for next season. Both carbon tipped masts going up also.</p> <p>CD would like to make a National calendar for the 24/25 season available to the membership. State reps to forward their calendars to CD as they become available – target next meeting (16th July).</p> <p>Website, CS (ACT) raised whether Richard Gibson wanted to retain the role as webmaster. CS (ACT) has access to update.</p> <p>16/4 Carbon masts, looking at keeping one for testing and re-fit the tip on the other with a complying tip.</p> <p>Request from SLSC to use Boolong for Nationals and club racing. Cameron Lloyd to contact Chris Sant regarding transport. Paul Armstrong NSW will detail the boat before it is transported to Victoria.</p> <p>19/3 Carbon tipped masts. One was on Boolong and the other was on Chris Sant's boat. Discussed potential for use on the two training Herons currently with gaff rig at CRSC. WS to approach the club.</p>		



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	<p>Discussed ACT request for Michael Hitchens to be appointed as a measurer. PA (Qld) will speak with PA (NSW) to seek measurement committee endorsement.</p> <p>20/2 Discussed association boat currently in ACT. Discussed the cost for replacement mast for the association boat (original mast had non-regulation carbon tip). NBU to submit invoice. Discussed the storage of the Association mould currently held by Dinghy Sports. PA (NSW) will arrange pickup and storage at his factory unit. Also discussed if Peter V would want the Dinghy Sports mould in preference to the current one he holds, PA (NSW) to confirm.</p>		
12	Meeting closed		
12.1	The meeting was closed at 9.15 pm (AEST).	Note	
13	Next meeting		
13.1	Next Meeting: Wed 16 th Oct 2024 8.00pm (AEDT)	Note	