

HERON

National Newsletter June 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

- President's message
- Queensland News and Jack Holt Regatta
- Tasmanian News
- South Australian News
- 2024 Racing Calendar
- Minutes of AGM



SAIL A HERON!

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secretary@heronsailing.com.au

Registrar - Chris Denman

Newsletter Editor - Kate Carey

Immediate past president - John Nobbs



Hérons at the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club for the Jack Holt Regatta. Photo Mardi Smith

Well, we've finally made it through to the off season and now have some time to reflect on what Heron sailing is all about.

The season came to a close with two successful events being held over consecutive weekends at the end of April and the beginning of May. The Coffs Harbour Sprint Series is a relatively new event which attracts larger numbers of Herons each year. This season's event saw nearly twenty Herons, including many visitors from as far away as Noosa and Sydney, competing on the sometimes-challenging waters of Coffs Harbour. I say challenging because I've become soft in my old age and spoilt by the conditions of my new home territory of Lake Cootharaba! Flat water, gentle breezes and warm water are now the accepted norm. Only a few years ago, Coffs Harbour Yacht Club had virtually given up on dinghy sailing, being more

focused on its commercial activities. However, this has changed largely as a result of the enthusiasm and dedication of the local Heron sailors led by class stalwarts Peter and Kylie Vaiciurgis. Although the Coffs Harbour Sprint Series is a multi-class event, this year the largest contingent by far was the Heron fleet which gives testimony to the enduring appeal of our class.

By contrast, the Qld State Titles, which were run one week later at Lake Cootharaba has been a tradition on the Heron calendar for many, many years. This year saw over 40 entries enjoy a mixed weekend of sailing weatherwise but the off-water activities more than compensated for any disappointment felt by those sailors yet to perfect the art of sailing in no wind. Shame on all those who said that luck came to the fore as the wind dropped out in the final race! I have only been attending this event for a few years and had assumed it had always been well supported. However, that is not the case. It wasn't that long ago when a fleet of only three Herons turned up at Boreen Point and it looked like the Herons in Qld had come to the end of the road like so many other traditional classes. However, Qld Heroners don't give up that easily and efforts were made to reinvigorate interest in the class in general and attendance at the Qld States in particular. As a result, this event now attracts the largest entry for any dinghy state titles in Qld with the only exception being the Lasers. Even the Lasers have three separate fleets with the full-size rig only attracting 19 entries at their Qld titles this year.

As the recently appointed commodore of the host club for the Qld States, I had the benefit of a new perspective on Heron sailing. Not only was I a



On the start line at the Queensland State Championship and Jack Holt Regatta. Photo by Russell Witt



Ned Ross and Ryan Savage in 10289 Flo finished 4th overall in the Qld State Championship.



Aidan Nosworthy skippering 10251 A Power with dad Rohan. Photo by Russell Witt



Justin Carey with the Queensland Heron trailer.



Luis Pedro and Anna Teresa Coelho in 9690 Floating Dollar and Alexandra Glauerdt and skipper in 9643 Robertson



A great fleet of 40 Herons at the 2024 Jack Holt regatta and Queensland State Titles (Photos by Russel Witt)

competitor in the event, I was also involved in its organisation. I was blown away by the comments of fellow members of Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club. Everyone spoke warmly of the camaraderie and joy that was associated with the visit of the Heron sailors and almost all commented on the number of children participating as crews and skippers. Many also mentioned the close competition within the fleet and the complete (well nearly complete) lack of aggression on the water (they must have missed my little episode with an interfering 29'er close to the finish line in one heat for which I will be forever ashamed).

On the subject of aggression on the water, it's interesting to know that sailors from other classes see its absence in the Heron class as being unusual and attractive. Now, we all know Heron sailors are not perfect in this regard, but generally we take the lack of aggro and angry words on the water as a given. However, I urge you all to think about how important it is to bite our tongues when we might be tempted to let rip with some choice advice to other competitors or, worse, to our own crews. This is especially important with so many kids sailing amongst us. Just think about the effect on others in boats close by, when you next feel the urge to provide some urgent instructions to your crew and/or commentary on their heritage/intelligence in a voice that may be a little louder than necessary to be heard by the intended recipient who is only a matter of inches away.

Good sailing

Paul Armstrong

President

Jack Holt Regatta & Queensland State Titles

Lake Cootharaba May 2024



QLD State Champions David Johnson and Maddison Alexander in 10365 Chicken Dinner (Photo Russell Witt)

Another year and another great regatta at the Lake Cootharaba Heron State Championships. This was an amazing weekend of family fun, the obligatory Peter Carey toad races, and of course the toughest Heron racing you will find. Heading into the last race, 4 of the top 5 competitors all had the chance to win and it was our current National Champions in David Johnson and Maddison Alexander who kept their heads in the light final race to take out the big prize. You will see later in the newsletter just how close it was. Well done to David and Maddie who this year took the clean sweep of Australian, NSW and QLD championships!!

The National Heron Sailing Association of Australia engaged professional photographer, Russell Witt, to cover the two days of racing at the recently held Old State Titles and provide photographs in a form that can be downloaded.

Russell's photos are now available at <https://adobe.ly/4b1YwO7>

They can be downloaded by clicking on the three dots at the top of the pages. They download as relatively small files, but the quality is good enough for displaying on screens and use on websites, social media etc. Russell also sells high res files suitable for printing if anybody is interested. He can be contacted by email at russell.w.witt@gmail.com.



Coming in a very close second in the Qld titles were local hopefuls Nick and Hannah Billett. They sailed so consistently and came oh so close to taking home the trophy... And right on their tails in third place was the first of our junior skippers in Aidan Nosworthy with Dad Rohan trimming the jib. (*Ignore the official scoresheet - it was definitely Aidan skippering and Dad Rohan up front*) - Great work Aidan, fabulous to see you snatching that tiller and showing us all how it's done. And continuing the growing trend of parents crewing for their kids, Jake Sturwohld grabbed the tiller from Mum Kate and promptly made it look oh so easy. Well done Aidan and Jake!

In the female skipper stakes there were 7 boats closely fighting it out, with Nicole Carey (*Breadsell*) just pipping Liz Gough who was up from Sydney, and Chelsey Clifford sailing the beautifully restored Woodpecker. (*Nice work Clifford family in presenting the boat so beautifully!*).

And final special mention should go to Robert Preston and the South Brisbane Sailing club sailing school for getting all the club boats up to the lake and creating such a wonderful opportunity for the various families to experience the wonderful thing that is sailing at Lake Cootharaba with your family and friends. It is truly magical - and thank you Robert for all that you do in making this possible for so many people!!

Justin Carey
Little Aussie



3rd overall Aidan Nosworthy skippering 10251 A Power with dad Rohan



10th over all Jake Sturwohld skippering 10220 Light Fury with mum Kate.



6th over all Adam and Max Ross in 10350 Hooray for Birds

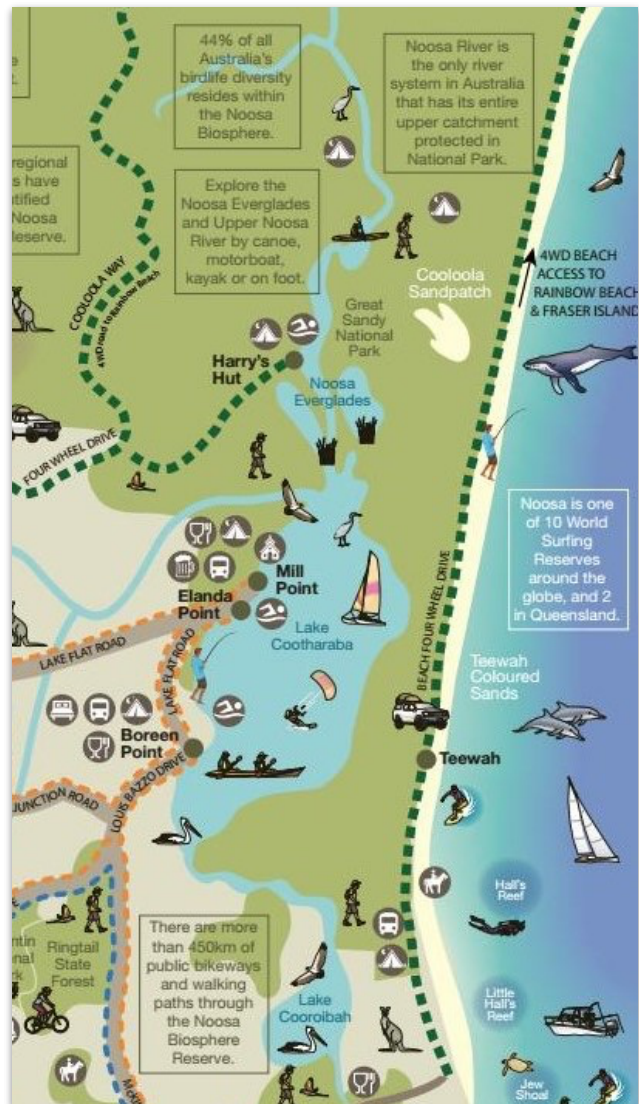


Hérons at Lake Cootharaba ready for the 2024 Jack Holt Regatta (Photo Mardi Smith)

Did you know?

Lake Cootharaba is on Gubbi Gubbi country and is part of one of only two everglades systems on earth, one in Florida and the other here in Queensland is the Noosa Everglade. An unparalleled ecosystem home to over 40% of Australia's bird species, its intricate network of waterways provides an important sanctuary for some of our most iconic creatures. Lake Cootharaba is 10km long and 5km wide with an average depth of 1.5m.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which we walk and waters on which we sail. We recognise their continuing connection to the land, water, culture and community. We pay tribute to all of those who have nurtured the sea, rivers, lakes and streams over many thousand of years. May we sail gently and respectfully upon these waters. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



From Tourism Noosa

Queensland State Titles

Lake Cootharaba May 2024

Sailed: 5, Discards: 1, To count: 4, Rating system: VY, Entries: 40, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	HelmAge	Gender	HelmName	CrewName	Boat	Class	SailNo	Rating	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total	Nett
1st		M	johnson, david	Maddison Alexander	Chicken Dinner	Heron	10365	100	(4.0)	4.0	1.0	3.0	4.0	16.0	12.0
2nd		M	Billett, Nick	Hannah Billett	The Hopeful Heron	Heron	10169	100	3.0	(41.0 DNC)	5.0	2.0	3.0	54.0	13.0
3rd	J	M	Nosworthy, Rohan	Aidan & Rohan Nosworthy	A-Power	Heron	10251	100	(12.0)	1.0	2.0	10.0	2.0	27.0	15.0
4th		M	Savage, Ryan	Ned Ross	Flo	Heron	10289	100	2.0	6.0	3.0	4.0	(7.0)	22.0	15.0
5th		M	Armstrong, Paul	Scarlett Sturwohld	Forever Young	Heron	10366	100	(15.0)	8.0	7.0	8.0	1.0	39.0	24.0
6th		M	Ross,Adam	Max Ross	Hooray for Birds	Heron	10359	100	8.0	5.0	(18.0)	1.0	11.0	43.0	25.0
7th		M	Carey, Justin	Sarah and Anna Coelho	Little Aussie	Heron	9671	100	11.0	7.0	4.0	9.0	(41.0 DNC)	72.0	31.0
8th		M	Takacs, Allan	Zaliah Pickles	The Blue Pearl	Heron	10270	100	9.0	3.0	11.0	(12.0)	10.0	45.0	33.0
9th		M	Buckley, Brett	Amanda Kennedy	Nan	Heron	10194	100	14.0	9.0	(15.0)	7.0	5.0	50.0	35.0
10th	J	M	Sturwohld, Jake	Kate Sturwohld	Light Fury	Heron	10220	100	7.0	14.0	8.0	(19.0)	8.0	56.0	37.0
11th		M	Jamieson, Scott	Robert Jamieson	BlueSteel	Heron	10119	100	6.0	10.0	9.0	14.0	(16.0)	55.0	39.0
12th		M	Harrison, Jonny	Courtney Harrison	Pearl	Heron	10355	100	(20.0)	2.0	19.0	6.0	13.0	60.0	40.0
13th		M	Carey, Christopher	Feb Browne	sCarey	Heron	10275	100	5.0	12.0	10.0	(22.0)	18.0	67.0	45.0
14th		F	Breadsell, Nicole	Rosie breadsell	Carew	Heron	9506	100	16.0	11.0	6.0	13.0	(29.0)	75.0	46.0
15th		M	Guymer, Ben	Lucy Guymer	Minkie	Heron	5756	100	13.0	(15.0)	13.0	11.0	14.0	66.0	51.0
16th		F	Liz Gough	Samantha Gough	Waffies	Heron	10120	100	19.0	13.0	17.0	(20.0)	6.0	75.0	55.0
17th		F	Clifford,Chelsea	Declan Clifford	Woodpecker	Heron	10165	100	(23.0)	17.0	14.0	16.0	15.0	85.0	62.0
18th		M	Armstrong, Michael		Patchwork	Heron	10363	100	18.0	16.0	(22.0)	21.0	9.0	86.0	64.0
19th		M	Nobbs, John	Ophelia Simpson	Sobraon	Heron	7814	100	17.0	(41.0 OCS)	12.0	15.0	20.0	105.0	64.0
20th		M	Stannard, John	Libby Dane	Chain Valley Bay	Heron	7472	100	10.0	19.0	20.0	17.0	(23.0)	89.0	66.0
21st		M	Gough, James	Rebecca Gough	Murra Ngura	Heron	10163	100	1.0	(41.0 RET)	41.0 DNC	5.0	21.0	109.0	68.0
22nd		M	Hughes, Mark	Declan Hughes	The Devil Made Me Do It	Heron	9988	100	27.0	21.0	21.0	(29.0)	12.0	110.0	81.0
23rd		F	Carey, Jemima	Amelia Barbers	Hazardous Jam	Heron	5805	100	22.0	23.0	16.0	(30.0)	22.0	113.0	83.0
24th		F	Carey, Kate	Laura Parker	Little Miss Magic	Heron	10280	100	(28.0)	18.0	23.0	24.0	19.0	112.0	84.0
25th		M	Winks, Isabella	Isabella Winks	Ard-Ri	Heron	10131	100	21.0	22.0	24.0	23.0	(31.0)	121.0	90.0
26th		M	McKeown, John	Christine McKeown	JAWS	Heron	9700	100	26.0	24.0	25.0	18.0	(27.0)	120.0	93.0
27th		M	Preston, Robert	Thomas Shorter	Popeye	Heron	10127	100	24.0	20.0	(26.0)	25.0	24.0	119.0	93.0
28th		M	Guymer, Timothy	Karen Guymer	Gone Bananas	Heron	9932	100	(31.0)	25.0	28.0	27.0	25.0	136.0	105.0
29th	J	M	Sturwohld, Oliver	Molly	Little Pickle	Heron	9197	100	25.0	27.0	(33.0)	26.0	28.0	139.0	106.0
30th		M	LeMass, Isaac	Bill LeMass	Pinto	Heron	10167	100	35.0	32.0	31.0	(41.0 DNS)	17.0	156.0	115.0
31st		M	Hamilton, Benjamin	Robyn Hamilton	Lake Heron	Heron	9676	100	30.0	26.0	29.0	(41.0 DNF)	32.0	158.0	117.0
32nd		M	Grove, Daniel	David Grove	Dooney's Fiddle	Heron	SBSC2	100	32.0	28.0	(41.0 DNS)	32.0	26.0	159.0	118.0
33rd		M	Brown, Terry	Jeremy	Radar	Heron	10252	100	(34.0)	30.0	27.0	28.0	34.0	153.0	119.0
34th	J	M	Henry Johnson	Thomas Johnson	She Said Yes!	Heron	10288	100	29.0	29.0	30.0	31.0	(41.0 DNF)	160.0	119.0
35th		M	d'Abbs, Peter	ROSIE D'ABBS	BULLFROG	Heron	9535	100	36.0	31.0	32.0	(41.0 RET)	33.0	173.0	132.0
36th		F	Glauerd, Alexandra	Alexandra Glauerd	Robertson	Heron	9643	100	(41.0 DNC)	34.0	34.0	41.0 DNF	35.0	185.0	144.0
37th		M	Coelho, Luis Pedro	Anna Teresa Coelho	Floating Dollar	Heron	9690	100	(41.0 DNC)	33.0	35.0	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNF	191.0	150.0
38th		M	Walsh, Anthony	Carys Walsh	Maximum Mischief	Heron	9799	100	(41.0 DNC)	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNC	41.0 DSQ	30.0	194.0	153.0
39th		M	Goding, Chris	Nikita Goding	Jawani	Heron	10291	100	33.0	(41.0 DNC)	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNF	41.0 DNC	197.0	156.0
40th		F	Parnell, Rebecca	Adrienne Kennedy	Zen	Heron	9712	100	(41.0 DNC)	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNC	41.0 DNC	205.0	164.0





Here's a photo taken just before the finish of the fifth and final race of the Heron Qld State Titles held at Lake Cootharaba last weekend. The wind had dropped out almost entirely and one boat managed to creep past and pip the others to the line. Then followed a bunch of Herons, all within centimetres of each other, with a sole 29'er thrown in for good measure.

The skipper of the winning boat remains highly offended at the accusations that his win was purely as a result of random luck!

I believe there may be some drone footage of the finish on the way which will hopefully reveal the true level of skill involved.



Justin Carey and crew Sarah Coelho in 9671 Little Aussie

All the crafty crews at the 2024 Jack Holt Regatta - thanks to Mardi Smith and Officeworks for donating all the goodies...



Vale

Des Quinn

Heron sailor Des Quinn passed away in May 2024. Des loved Heron sailing especially in the last Heron he built, 9517 Terri-Lou. Sailing in this picture, below right, with son Andrew Quinn.

Des taught all of his children to sail and was heavily involved in the North Queensland branch of the Heron Association for several years.

Des created a Heron legacy, passing on his passion and talent for Heron sailing to his children and grandchildren. His daughter, Kate Sturwohld, is the current National Women's Champion and his grandchildren Scarlett, Oliver and Jake are sailing with great success at State and National championships.



The Quinn family



Des Quinn and Andrew Quinn in 9517 Terri-Lou



Hobart Heron Revival

Many Heroners over the years have made their way to Lindisfarne Sailing Club to participate in one of the six National Championships that have been held there. As the home of the Herons in the state, the class has been a traditional mainstay of the club since the early 1960's. Sadly, the future of the Lindisfarne Sailing Club is currently in considerable doubt, due to structural issues with the clubhouse building resulting in a loss of insurance cover for all activities. While the club committee is working feverishly to resolve this issue, it is becoming increasingly unlikely that the club will be hosting activities in season 2024-25.

At this stage, it is unclear what this will mean for our attempts to rebuild the Heron class in Hobart, but we are committed to continuing in some format.

On a more positive note though, two of our boats have been undergoing upgrading and repairs in the 'Hobart Heron Hospital.'

Dean Riches has been busily working on repairs to his daughters' boat 'Sarie' to repair a leak in the forward buoyancy tank. The Association trainer, 'This Is The Life' has also been undergoing some repairs and revarnishing.

What appeared to be minor damage from small collisions proved to be more



Dean Richards working on repairs to 5723 Sarie

extensive than first thought. However, with those repairs now complete, revarnishing will return the boat to the impeccable condition that many Heroners will remember it for when it was owned by Tony Pearce.

The rebuilt 9753 Dynamite Jack is booked on the ship to attend the next Nationals in Victoria in early January 2025. She will be the first Tasmanian participant for many years.

Anthony Morgan

9753 Dynamite Jack

SA State Championship

The 59th SA State Championships was held at Largs Bay Sailing Club in February 2024, with the biggest fleet in many years. Eleven boats took to the water, completing 5 races over two days in light to moderate conditions.

Neil Burford and Lachlan Whitton proved to be almost unbeatable in 7801 Eos, taking out 4 of 5 races, ahead of Stuart and Jack Emery in 10187 Firsty and Rick Stockley and Enid Phillips in 8292 Silent But Deadly. Angela Petts and Sam Whitton took out the Ladies Trophy in 8531 Back To The Future.

Trophies were presented at our end-of-season celebration at Somerton Yacht Club in May. As well as the grand perpetual trophies, some great prizes were awarded thanks to our sponsor Ryan Kelly of Tabu Soro Boating.



Ryan Kelly (centre) presenting Lachlan Whitton and Neil Burford with the SA Championship trophies.



Ryan Kelly (centre) presenting Angela Petty and Sam Whitton SA Ladies Championship trophies.

The 2024/25 season marks the 60th South Australian State Championships and we have a big year planned.

First up, we're planning a special 60th Anniversary celebration dinner and reunion in Adelaide on 2nd November. We invite all Heron Sailors, past and present to celebrate the success of the class. There'll also be some special guests as we acknowledge the "Heron Legends" of South Australia.

Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.trybooking.com/CSVSV>

The season will conclude with the 60th SA Heron State Championships on 12-13 April 2025 at Coffin Bay Yacht Club. This will be held in conjunction with the Coffin Bay Yacht Club's 50 year celebrations, so is sure to be a very special occasion. We're expecting the biggest fleet in at least the last 10 years. Book your accommodation now!

South Australia Super at 60

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From Heron beginnings to the Paris Olympics

Good Luck to our Australian Olympic Sailors!

Especially Nia J!

Ex-Heroner Nia Jerwood and her crew Conor Nicholas will be part of the Australian Sailing Team at the Paris Olympics, competing in the mixed 470 fleet.

Nia and her family (Mum and Dad Janet and Nick, brother Matthew and sister Enfys) were keen Heroners in the mid 2000s, competing at Nationals in Sydney and Perth. I was lucky enough to sail with Nia as crew in the 48th Nationals in Perth. She was an absolute delight. Bring back the gold!



Richard Gibson and Nia Jerwood in 10232 Flaw Show in 48th National Championships in Perth 2006/2007

Richard Gibson



To Richard
Thank you for letting me sail with you I had lots of fun.

from Nia.



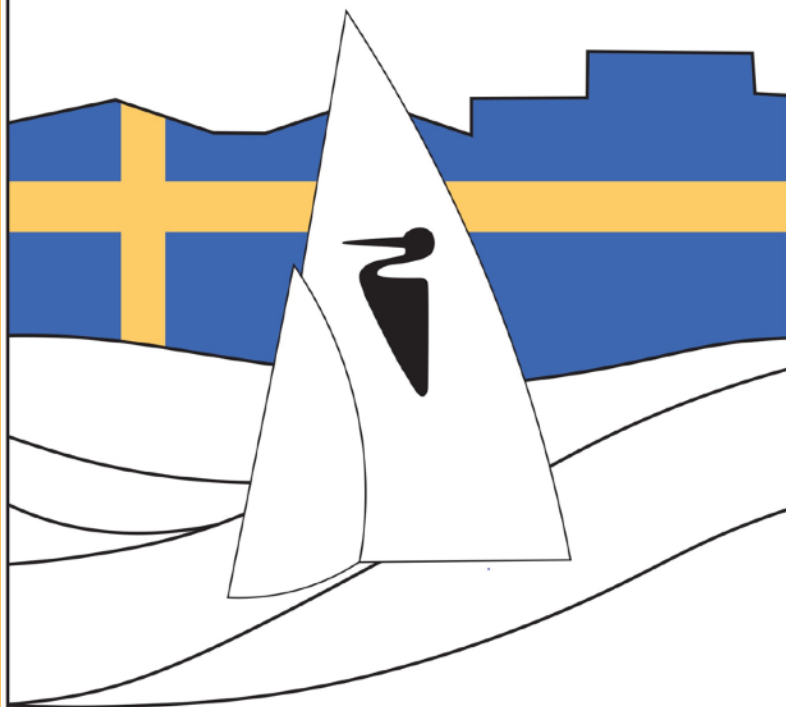
2024 Regattas

To keep us all aware of racing opportunities and to assist with planning sailing holidays here is a national calendar of upcoming events. Please send any dates or even tentative dates for regattas in your area and we can let the wider Heron sailing community know. Send dates and regatta details to the newsletter editor katedcarey@gmail.com.

Heron Sailing National Calendar

Jan 4-10 2025	National Championships Victoria	St Leonards Yacht Club and Motor Squadron, Victoria
May 3-5 2025	Jack Holt Regatta & Qld State Titles	Lake Cootharaba, Queensland

64th Heron Nationals 2025



St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron Victoria

The St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron in conjunction with the National Heron Sailing Association of Australia (NHSAA) is proud to be running the 2025 Heron National Championships.

- Great rigging area close to water
- Excellent facilities with café and bar
- Grassed area with views of race course
- Wide accommodation options from camping to short rentals close by
- All the best the Bellarine Peninsula has to offer within a short drive

More information to follow please follow us on Facebook for updates <https://www.facebook.com/stleonardsycms/> and <https://www.facebook.com/HeronSailingAUS>



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



Date	Tuesday 14 May 2024
Time	8.03pm AEST
Venue	By Zoom Meeting
Chairperson	Paul Armstrong (Qld)
Present	
On Line	Chris Denman, Chris Sant, Paul Armstrong (NSW), Jeremy Brown, Wayne Spencer, Neil Burford, Nick Billett, Michael Hitchens, Rohan Nosworthy, Michael Armstrong, Russell Sullivan, Anthony Morgan, Ryan Kelly, Zoe Sant, Mark Hughes
Apologies	

Ref.	Item	Responsible	Due
1	Minutes from 2022 AGM		
1.1	Motion: That the 2023 AGM meeting minutes be accepted as correct. Moved: Paul Armstrong (NSW) Seconded: Chris Denman	Note	
2	Business arising from 2023 AGM		
2.1	"A" class registration <u>requirements</u> . Not actioned so far by the management committee. Pushed back to Management comm Coaching, management committee open to proposals.		
3	President's report		
3.1	Continued growth, particularly ACT, regatta numbers have been healthy. 1 st Nationals in ACT for 50 years, top of fleet boats covered a range of materials and ages, crew ages were diverse and the top 10 included a <u>numbers of boats</u> with both Genoa and Jib. Junior and female skippers well represented. By-laws amended to allow for a new aluminium section. Contribution to the class of <u>long term</u> stalwart Richard Gibson acknowledged. Success of class based on the contribution of members and volunteers. Accepted WS Second PA (NSW) Motion: That the President's Report presented by Paul Armstrong (Qld), refer attached, be accepted.	Note	



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Ref.	Item	Responsible	Due
	Moved: Chris Denman Seconded: Jeremy Brown		
4	Treasurer's report		
4.1	<p>Finances in good shape. Revenue steady, expenses up slightly due to one-off expenses in replacing some non-compliant masts and purchase of promotional t-shirts. Balance of approximately \$27k and two herons owned by the association, one trailer. Discussion on Heron</p> <p>Motion: That the Treasurer's Report prepared by Chris Sant, refer attached, be accepted.</p> <p>Moved: Jeremy Brown Seconded: Chris Denman</p>	Note	
5	Measurement		
5.1	<p>Report attached. Quiet season, two new herons and five old ones re-measured. Bill Pedersen has retired from the MC and his contribution acknowledged. MA is the new member, Ben Bristow and Michael Hitchens new measurers. <u>Twenty three</u> mast tips in stock with Dinghy Sports. Work being started on new measurer's manual. Plans are being requested about 1-2 per month. Discussion on whether all the measurers are financial members. Passed back to the management committee to investigate.</p> <p>Motion: That the Measurement Report prepared and presented by Paul Armstrong (NSW) be accepted</p> <p>Moved: Zoe Sant Seconded: Jeremy Brown</p>		
6	Registrar's report		
6.1	<p>Chris Denman presented the attached report. Steady increase in membership base. 163 paid members – up from last year, 37 new paid members. RevSports platform worked well for the ACT Nationals and also NSW States. One new boat number issued. We have 27 crew members, 11 life members. ACT Nationals led to a big increase in numbers.</p> <p>Motion: That the registrar's report attached and presented by Chris Denman be accepted.</p>		



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Ref.	Item	Responsible	Due
	Moved: Paul Armstrong (NSW) Seconded: Michael Hitchens		
7	Newsletter		
7.1	Report provided by Kate Carey read out by Wayne Spencer. Paul Armstrong (Qld) congratulated Kate and the team on the high quality of the Newsletter. Motion: That the Newsletter Report by Kate Carey be accepted. Moved: Chris Denman Seconded: Jeremy Brown	Note	
8	Website		
8.1	No report. Richard Gibson continuing for the moment. Facebook Group has generated a lot of interest in the class.	Note	
9	Election of Officers for 2023/24		
9.1	Paul Armstrong (Qld) declared all positions vacant nominations received before the meeting. Wayne Spencer presiding. President, <u>Nominated</u> : Jeremy Brown, Seconded: Paul Armstrong (NSW) Paul Armstrong (Qld) presiding. Vice President (NSW): Chris Sacre continuing Vice President (SA): Ryan Kelly put forward by SA Association Vice President (QLD): Nick Billett continuing Treasurer: Chris Sant Proposed Paul Armstrong (Qld) Seconded: Chris Denman Secretary: Wayne Spencer (Nominated by Chris Gildersleeve and John Burwood before meeting) Registrar: Chris Denman Nominated: Chris Sant Seconded: Jeremy Brown Newsletter Editor: Kate Carey Nominated: Chris Denman, Seconded: Paul Armstrong (Qld)		
10	Confirmation of Public Officer		
	Wayne Spencer. Proposed Paul Armstrong (QLD) Seconded: Paul Armstrong (NSW)		
11	Appointment of Auditor		
	Michael Hitchens volunteered. Proposed: Chris Denman, Seconded: Ryan Kelly		
12	Motions put to the AGM		



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Ref.	Item	Responsible	Due
		Note	
13	General business		
	<p>Discussion of ABN. Marty Stott contacted the Association to inform that he had been contacted by the ATO regarding new return requirements for <u>not for profit</u> organisations holding an ABN. PHOSC also contacted by the tax office regarding their ABN. Michael Armstrong relayed that the Heron Association took out the ABN at the time (around 2000) when GST was coming in.</p> <p>Paul Armstrong (NSW): noted passing and funeral of Ken Lenton a long term NLSC heron sailor, many present and past Heron sailors attended. The contribution of Ken to the class over a long period was noted.</p>		
14	Meeting closed		
14.1	The meeting was closed at 9:24 PM AEST.	Note	
15	Next meeting		
13.1	Next AGM: 8.00pm AEST , 13 th May 2025	Note	



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Attachment 1: Presidents Report 23-24

Dear fellow members,

I am pleased to report that our class has enjoyed another successful year. As I reported last year, fleets in some states remain relatively low, however there has been a continuing growth of interest in our class especially in NSW, Qld and the ACT. The latter is most pleasing as the increase in numbers was a direct result of us holding the 63rd national titles on Lake Burley Griffin.

Only last weekend the Queensland State Titles was held at Lake Cootharaba SC and 41 Herons of all ages turned up to race. The week before, 19 Herons competed at the Sprint event at Coffs Harbour which is a significant increase over the previous year.

Some notable developments during the past year include:

1. For the first time in 50 years the national titles were held in Canberra. The event was won by David Johnson and Maddie Alexander in Chicken Dinner. This was David's 3rd national title.
2. Some interesting statistics from the Nationals:
 - a. The top 10 positions comprised a combination of 5 timber and 5 GRP boats ranging in age from brand new (new this season) to over 50 years old.
 - b. The winning boat was a new timber hull with the second being a recent GRP model.
 - c. The top 10 crews included male and female skippers ranging in age from 30 something to 70+. Sheet hands in these boats were all youngsters (4 female, 6 male, with the oldest being 16).
 - d. 4 of the top ten boats were sailing with genoas (crew weight over 135kg) and 6 with jibs.
 - e. Except for WA, every state that was represented at this event had a boat in the top 10.
3. These statistics are testament to the widespread appeal and inclusiveness of our class and the durability of older boats as competitive options.
4. The number of female and junior crews participating in regattas continues to increase.
5. The Association boat, Boolong, was put to good use in Canberra where it spent most of the season. The fleet size in the ACT has increased from two to seven regular competitors. Boolong will have a clean rip and then be sent to St Leonards where it has already been allocated to a keen sailor in preparation for the next nationals.
6. The Association By-Laws were amended to allow a different aluminum section to be used. The intention is to make the supply of mast less precarious and possibly cheaper.
7. On a more sombre note, long time stalwart of the class, Richard Gibson, has hung up the



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Heron sailing gear for the time being. Hopefully he'll be back one day as he is much too young to retire!

At this AGM there will be few, if any, changes to the Management Committee and I think this stability is one of the reasons why the class continues to make progress without losing its unique culture.

Finally, I'd like to also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of all of you that have contributed to the success of our class over the past year. Whether it be helping out at your local club or organizing a big regatta, you have all done your bit. Ultimately the ongoing success of our class is directly linked to the dedication and commitment of these people.

Paul
Armstrong



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Attachment 2: Treasurer's Report 23-24

I am pleased to report that the Association's finances remain in good shape.

Ordinary revenue was steady this year, while there was an increase in expenditure. This increase was largely made up of the purchase of Sail a Heron t-shirts that were used for promotional purposes, one-off part replacements and transport, maintenance and insurance costs relating to the Association's Herons.

During the year, the Association purchased a second Heron (10185 - This is the Life). This boat is located in Tasmania and is used to promote the class in that State. This is in addition to the Heron (10194 – Boolong), purchased some years ago for promotion around the country. These assets are shown at cost in the accounts.

Overall, there was a net deficit for 2023-24 of \$1901.26, and a closing bank balance of \$27219.26, together with other assets valued at \$19,500. We continue to have the capacity to undertake initiatives to promote the class.

Income and expenses relating to the running of the 63rd Nationals were processed through the Association accounts, involving a negligible deficit.

Chris Sant

Treasurer



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Attachment 3: Registrar's Report 23-24

The past 12 months have seen a steady increase in the membership base of the heron Association.

At year end we have 163 paid members out of a total of 237, We have had 37 new members that have joined the heron Association in the past 12 months. The current state breakdown is listed below with paid members versus total membership base for each state which shows in some cases there is a good member growth or also room for states to drive to get their paid membership base.

WA 3 / 6

VIC 11/19

TAS 4/4

SA 18/29

QLD 48 / 72

ACT 10/10

NSW 70/95

This year we have had 1 new boat Registration being for a GRP Boat.

Also, this year as an Association we have been able to use the ~~Revsport~~ Platform that we use for not only membership base information but also been used for both the National titles and also the NSW state titles with has help to make it a seamless process for the member base to be able to enter events and also pay online and book social events from these titles.

It has shown by the major increase in members from the ACT that bringing back the National titles this year has made a great uptake of their membership base.

Also, this year we ran an offer for Paid members that paid before the Middle of August to be able to take part in a free online rules night which was greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all your hard work in your clubs with building the membership base and looking forward to another great year in 2024/25 and racing you all on the water somewhere.

Chris Denman

National Heron Register

Lava Girl 10356



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Attachment 4: Newsletter Editor's Report 23-24

This sailing season we produced four newsletters. The general format for each newsletter is as follows:

June 2023- Report on AGM including minutes of meeting with detail of resolutions, announcements of election results

Sept 2023 - Details for next Nationals, NOR, nomination forms

Dec 2023 - Proposed amendments to the Bylaws, calling of nomination for election of Officers

March 2024 - Report on National Championships, Notice of AGM, notice of proposed amendments to constitution, election of officers

We encourage Heron members who have an interesting idea or story to contact me at katedcarey@gmail.com.

We endeavour to provide a newsletter that is an informative guide to upcoming events and an accurate and aesthetically pleasing record of past events. We hope you enjoy the newsletters and please send content and feedback, either via the Heron forum or directly to me.

kind regards

Kate Carey



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Attachment 5: Measurement Committee Report 23-24

The previous season has been a quiet one for the measurement Committee with the below items a summary of the previous seasons matters. There was the usual influx of old herons being re measured 6 in total, 2 new herons.

Agenda items.

1. As per the constitution, the longest serving member of the committee is to stand down, this is **Bill Peterson NSW**. Bill has decided to retire from the committee and we wish to thank him for his many years of service to the class.
2. Michael Armstrong has been nominated by the Measurement Committee to replace Bill and this was ratified at the April NHSAA Committee meeting
3. 2 new measurers have been nominated this season, Ben Bristow SA and Michael Hitchens ACT
4. The standard section mast was approved by the members and is now in use
5. Current mast and tip sections sit at approximately 23
6. There has been some concern communicated to the committee as to the different interpretation measurers have regarding how to measure items like centeboards, masts and sails. It has been discussed that a new measurers manual be developed to assist measurers so there are no anomalies at regattas, hopefully we will get to this shortly
7. **Heron Plans** continue to be requested and are mailed out regularly
8. **Measurers** – all State Associations are to provide a list of current measurers in their states to the Committee. Please note measurers are like boats, they need to stay members of the association otherwise their "A" classification will lapse. According to our records the following are the measurers for each state so we need updates from VIC, TAS and WA

NSW

Paul Armstrong
Bill Peterson
James Gough
Rhys Llewellyn
Ray Brown
Chris Gildersleeve
Jason Groves
Peter V
Don Jamieson
Michael Armstrong



National Heron Sailing Association of Australia

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

ACT

Michael Hitchens

Chris Sant

QLD

John Deshon

John Nobbs

Peter Robinson

Chris Carey

Brett Buckley

SA

Richard Gibson

Neil Burford

Phil Kelly

Ben Bristow

VIC

Laurie Minogue

Ralph Brown

Paul Wedding

TAS

Tony Pearce

WA