

# **Windsurfing NSW General Meeting Minutes**

## **7:00pm 19/10/20**

### **By video conference**

#### Present

Lissa McMillan, Richie Reynolds, Tom Plodr, Kevin Wadham, Glenn Morrell, Richard Lacey, Keith Single, Geoff Kitchen, Peter Doolan & Geoff Kitchen.

#### Apologies

Neil McKinlay, Byron McIlveen, Mel Webb, Greg McInnes

#### 1. President's Report

Items from the last meeting were

- a) The Constitution amendment process has started. The Secretary reported that the existing constitution's members are the affiliated windsurfing clubs and the two associations (the WCAA and NSW Wave Association.) The clubs & associations have 3 votes each at the AGM and nominate the executive and the committee. This doesn't reflect how WNSW currently operates and a discussion took place on how we got here. More reflective of the current position and an alternative to member clubs is for WNSW to have individual members. If this membership model is chosen, the constitution needs to reflect that change.
- b) All club & association affiliation agreements have been countersigned and forwarded to the AWA. A number of club member lists are outstanding. If a club member's name is not forwarded to the AWA, then they are not insured under the AWA third party public liability policy (TPPL).
- c) Conversations with Maritime for Sydney harbour access for windsurfers has started. Maritime's "The Review on Harbour Safety" is scheduled to start in November 2021. In the meantime, Maritime has indicated Harbour sailing clubs can seek SENS approval to schedule wind foil races that cross into current windsurfer no go zones. In this way, they will be treated like any other sailing class. SENS approval is yet to be sought by the Harbour clubs.

2. The Secretary reported that the current process of club & association affiliation and collection of member details needs to be rethought. It has been an onerous exercise over the past four months and is not yet complete. The process needs streamlining & simplifying. A lot of the complexity results from the great outcome that windsurfing is growing in NSW. There used to be 6 affiliated clubs and classes. This season, there are 16 clubs & classes.

3. In Summary, the Secretary is proposing that with respect to club affiliation agreements & membership;

1. Australian Sailing affiliated clubs don't have to sign affiliation agreements or pay a fee.
2. Non-AS clubs & classes will still sign affiliation agreements & pay the fee.
3. WNSW membership is changed from club & classes to individual membership.

4. Most clubs are very good at the affiliation & membership process. Certain clubs (RPAYC & WSC) have member privacy and access issues and individual members would join WNSW electronically to access third party public liability, sail numbers and the ability to race at WNSW sanctioned events. As club numbers have expanded, there are a number of clubs that don't know or record which members windsurf. If other windsurfing clubs experience the same issues or want to opt out of supplying member details to WNSW, they could ask their members to join WNSW as individuals.
5. WNSW membership is complementary to club membership. It doesn't replace it & isn't an alternative. WNSW isn't going to run events or racing. Racing and events happen through classes (WCAA, GPS, Foiling etc) and clubs.
6. There would be no change to the Wave Sailing & WCAA WNSW relationship with the exception that WCAA & Wave members would now be members of WNSW.

Attachment 1 presents some arguments for changes to the current process to a hybrid membership model. For most clubs, the current process won't change unless they want it to. In many ways, the recommended membership process reflects the current WCAA position, where members are required to join their club (eg BSC) and the WCAA to access WCAA regattas & TPPL insurance.

4. Return from Covid. The consensus was that club sailing has proceeded well and there have been 4 regattas & events since inter region mixing restrictions were dropped (wave, LT, foil, & raceboard).
5. PBSC. Richard L reported that 45 LTs turned up for the long weekend racing. It was a great event with an outstanding turn out. Al H & Peter D were commended for an excellent job. There were 1,482 regatta photos taken.
6. Kevin W reported from Balmoral. LT sailing is very active.
7. Last Wednesday, DAC had 22 twilight racers and another 8 learn to sail sailors on the bay.
8. KBSC held the foiling first round in a 25kn westerly at Lake Illawarra and it was a success with Grae Morris winning. GPS racing is this weekend. Wingfoiling will join wind foilers at Marmong next weekend, given the broadening of AWA insurance coverage. The wing racing format is tba.
9. IYC have 22 members with 10 to 12 racing.
10. Peter D reported on TASC. Al H is training 10 youth sailors.
11. Keith S reported. The Raceboard regatta held at Georges river skiff club was held last Sunday. There were 19 entries, 3 races in good winds (NE 20kn at top mark, 12kn at the bottom.) Grae Morris was the winner. The series is supported by Severne & Starboard and WSS Boards.
12. AWA report from Richie. Wingfoiling is now included in the AWA third party public liability insurance policy. The AWA voted for Nathan Outteridge as Australia's IQ Foil

class representative on the IQFoil committee. Glen M reported that unfortunately none of the local reps - Nathan, Aaron McIntosh Antonio Cozzolino - were elected to the Committee. <https://www.iqfoilclass.org/Archive0017v01news29.htm>

13. The WNSW payment and entry system has been used by foilers & raceboard worked okay. It's a major improvement over past systems.
14. RPAYC foilers are racing with Waszps and LTs are sailing every weekend.
15. The President proposed November 30 at 7pm for the next committee meeting.
16. The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

### **Attachment 1. Discussion of WNSW Club Affiliation and Membership of WNSW**

The current model is that WNSW invites sailing clubs that offer windsurfing to affiliate to WNSW for the year July 1 to June 30. In essence, the fee is \$100 per club plus \$20 per member, which goes to WNSW. The agreement outlines the minimum conditions required to conduct windsurfing at that club.

These clubs then collect 1. monies and 2. member details from club sailing windsurfers which are forwarded to WNSW. Most of the \$20 fee goes to the AWA to pay for their costs in providing third party public liability insurance and other services.

1. Every year, the reason for WNSW club affiliation must be presented again to many clubs. Some clubs are great at the affiliation and member process. Other clubs are not. There have been blank refusals to sign or many iterations of the affiliation agreement. In 2020, some clubs aren't returning affiliation agreements on a timely basis and not all members details have been sent to WNSW. Polite reminder emails have a mixed impact. Talking to past committee members, it was easier when WNSW had 6 member clubs. WNSW now has 16.
2. Clubs have to collect extra money over and above the club membership fee for windsurfers and forward them to the WNSW treasurer. In many cases, this and the provision of membership detail is cited by a number of clubs as a significant hassle. Some clubs don't know who their windsurfers are and others view it as a privacy issue and can't access their database for this reason.
3. Where the system is working best, there is a "champion" at the club who manages the membership, including collecting fees and delivering monies and sailor details to WNSW, usually outside of the official club management structure.
4. Australian Sailing (AS) affiliated clubs have a higher standard of care than WNSW risk management plan requires and the WNSW affiliation document is unnecessary.
5. WNSW is reliant on Clubs to maintain an accurate membership list and advise the WNSW secretary. Currently, the WNSW members are the affiliated Clubs who have three votes each at AGMs. It is proposed that Clubs no longer be members and membership is offered to individuals.
6. Individual NSW windsurfers can't access well priced third party public liability insurance unless they join a sailing club. (the AWA third party public liability insurance is priced well below AS affiliated products)

The Committee should consider ways to improve this.

It is proposed to offer individual membership to WNSW and alter the relationship with sailing clubs that offer windsurfing.

1. It is recommended to have a hybrid member model. Most members will join WNSW through their club as in past years. Members that aren't WCAA or Wave members of certain AS clubs such as RPAYC & WSC or any other club that opts out of the current system will be required to individually join WNSW.
2. Individual members can join directly to WNSW and pay a fee. It is recommended that the current Club member fee of \$20 remains and the WNSW individual fee be set at \$35 per annum.
3. Australian Sailing affiliated clubs that offer windsurfing would get a letter in June from WNSW offering support and help from WNSW on windsurfing policy related issues and be asked to coordinate racing calendars. The club names would be sent to the AWA as being windsurfing clubs that meet or exceed the WNSW risk management plan.
4. Non-AS sailing clubs that offer windsurfing would be asked to sign the current affiliation agreement outlining a minimum duty of care to hold windsurfing racing. The fee would remain at \$100.

#### Pros

- AS clubs don't have to execute an agreement with WNSW
- WNSW should get a more accurate membership register and can readily contact members when required
- Joining WNSW as an individual member should be a 5 minute online process, similar to entering a regatta online.
- The WNSW membership data will not be publicly available. Member name, post code and email address will be forwarded to the AWA. The AWA discloses the member name, post code and AUS sail number on their website.
- There are likely to be a number of non-racing members that will join to get third party public liability insurance. This may include wingfoilers.
- After year 1, an automated email would be sent in June notifying individual WNSW members that they need to renew. Some will renew then, others before the sailing season starts. Others could join WNSW or purchase insurance at WNSW sanctioned regattas. (the AWA insurance envisages this)

#### Issues

- Racing members will have to join their Club and WNSW. This is exactly the position as the WCAA. There will be sailing club members that won't join WNSW, notwithstanding third party public liability insurance is required to sail at Australian Sailing affiliated club racing or WNSW sanctioned events.
- Club affiliation is currently approximately \$1600 of WNSW annual income. This would drop by \$900 if AS Clubs are excluded. See table 1 for club list.

Table 1.

<b>Class/Association</b>	<b>AS-affiliated Club</b>	<b>Non-AS Club</b>	<b>Individuals</b>
NSW Wavesailing Association	Balmoral SC	Illawarra Yacht Club – skiffs are AS, but for windsurfers it's optional	Wind, wingfoilers & windsurfers who want 3 <sup>rd</sup> party public liability insurance but don't want to race or join a club
Windsurfer One Design Class Association of Australia WCAA	Dobroyd Aquatic Club	Marmong Point SC	
	Hunters Hill	Merimbula SC	
	Koonawarra Bay Sailing Club	Saratoga Sailing Club	
	Palm Beach SC	Stormriders	
	Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club		
	St George SC		
	Toronto ASC		
	Woollahra Sailing Club		