



Annual Report 2016/2017

& Notice of Annual General Meeting



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Audi Alto Central Coast



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Graeme Sheldon

VICE PRESIDENT: David Slingsby

TREASURER: Brent Connor

COMMODORE: Paul Gulliksen

CLUB CAPTAIN: Geoff Jollow

DIRECTOR: Richard Bridge

DIRECTOR: Mark Robson

DIRECTOR: Andrew Grimwood

DIRECTOR: Chris Radford

GENERAL MANAGER

Richard Croker

AUDITOR

Bishop Collins Chartered Accountants

BANKERS

Bendigo Bank

LIFE MEMBERS

Robyn Denton

Bris Doyle

Phil Gribble

Joy Law

Neil McDonald

John McDougall

Terry Pike

Bob Ranson

John Rigg

Peter Robson

John Sprague

PATRON

Peter Robson

Notice of Annual Meeting

You are hereby notified that the Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held on Sunday 6th August 2017 at 9.00am at the Clubhouse, Masons Parade Gosford.

AGENDA

1. Vale – Minutes silence for members who have passed
2. Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 7th August 2016
3. Apologies (only written recorded):
4. Annual Report of the committee
 - (1) President's Report
5. Income and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2016-2017
 - (1) Treasurer's Report
6. Report of Auditors
7. Written Questions received
8. Questions from the floor in relation to financials. (Please hold your questions until this time)
9. Presentation of Trophies
10. Appoint Returning Officer and Scrutineers
11. Election of General Committee as per Triennial Rule. To elect in the following order,
 - (1) President
 - (2) Vice President
 - (3) Commodore
 - (4) Two Committee Members
12. Motion to destroy ballot papers
13. Appointment of Auditors
14. Consideration of Ordinary Resolutions
15. Other Business (such as may be transacted at a General Meeting).

By order of the General Committee.

Richard Croker
General Manager

FIRST ORDINARY RESOLUTION

That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act:

(a) The Members hereby approve and agree to expenditure by the Club of a sum not exceeding \$2,500.00 in total for the following expenditure and benefits for Directors:

- (1) The reasonable cost of a meal and beverage for each Director immediately after a Board Meeting, on the day of that meeting, provided that the meeting corresponds with a normal meal time:
- (2) Reasonable expenses incurred by Directors in travelling to and from other duly constituted committee meetings (other than monthly Board Meetings) as approved by the Board from time to time on production of invoices, receipts or other proper documentary evidence of such expenses.
- (3) Reasonable expenses incurred by Directors in relation to such duties including entertainment of special guests to the Club and other promotional activities and expenses therefore are approved by the Board before payment is made on production of receipts, invoices or other proper documentary evidence of such expenditure.

(b) The Members acknowledge that the benefits in paragraph (a) above are not available to members generally but only for those who are Directors of the Club.

SECOND ORDINARY RESOLUTION

That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act

(a) The Members hereby approve and agree to expenditure by the Club in a sum not exceeding \$5,000.00 in total for the professional development and education of Directors and being:

- (1) The reasonable cost of Directors attending the CLUBS NSW Annual General Meeting.
- (2) The reasonable cost of Directors attending seminars, lectures, trade displays, invitational functions and other similar events as may be determined by the Board from time to time.

NOTES TO MEMBERS

These notes are to be read in conjunction with the proposed Resolutions

1. The first Resolution is to have the Members at this General Meeting approve an amount no greater than \$2,500.00 in total for expenditure by the Club in relation to duties performed by the Club's Directors.
2. The Second Resolution is to have the Members at the General Meeting approve an amount no greater than \$5,000.00 in total for the expenditure by the Club for Directors to attend seminars, lectures, trade displays and other similar events including the Registered Club's Association Annual General Meeting and to visit other Clubs to enable the Club's governing body to be kept abreast of the current trends and developments, which may have a significant bearing on the nature and way in which the Club conducts its business.
3. Each of these Ordinary Resolutions must be passed as a whole and cannot be amended from motions from the floor of the meeting or divided into two or more separate resolutions.
4. To be passed each Ordinary resolution must receive votes in its favour from not less than a simple majority of those members, who being entitled to do so, vote in person at the meeting.
5. The Ordinary Resolutions you are being asked to approve have become necessary as a result of a number of decisions of the licensing court of NSW and also because of the amendment of the Registered Clubs Act in 1994
6. It is a legal obligation of Members to provide adequate training and supervision of its Manager, Directors and staff to ensure compliance with all relevant laws relating to the Club Industry (Section B, parts 22 and 24(f) of the CLUBS NSW Code of Practice)

A new section 10(6A) has been added to the ACT, which provides for the authorisation of different benefits for different classes of members by a general meeting.

As a result, it has now become common practice for registered clubs to set out all the costs and benefits associated with the directors in a notice to the members so that they can be approved at a general meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's that time of the year. The sailing season is finished, presentations are over, financial year is complete and it's Winter. It's been a very successful year, which is a result of your Club spirit, our volunteers, excellent staff, lots of sailing and boating activities, great results, new caterers and the changes and upgrades around our Club.

Without Club spirit, our Club would not exist. So many people make it all happen, spending time, effort and in many cases contributing dollars and goods. People from all parts of our Club, from Sailing Members, Sailability volunteers, Cruising Members, and Game Fishing Members. There are also those who are not participating in these activities directly, but contribute their time to make sailing and other activities a reality; people like Dave Burrows, Dick Bridge, Chas Young, Liz Ross and Peter Leslie as examples to name just a few. Altogether, there are too many volunteers to name here, which is just fantastic. We cannot thank you all enough.

Our staff are also very much key to the success of our Club. The leadership from Richard Croker and the team he has fostered, has given us a focused, happy and dedicated crew. Richard has been continuously very innovative with good ideas to improve business at our Club and his ideas are certainly showing very positive results. Richard is a consummate and professional Club CEO and Manager and he is a pleasure to work with. He is also keen to get out sailing again next season and he was quick to ask if he can crew on my new boat. Peter Walsh is so tireless and always around our Club. He is continually thinking of ways to develop and improve our sailing programs, including conducting evening training programs and information sessions such as those to introduce parents of new juniors to our Club etc. There is so much that he does, and often so quietly and after normal hours that I am sure many don't realise all that he takes on and contributes. My sincere thanks to Richard, Peter and all our staff.

There are two others I would like to make special mention of. These guys are dedicated and tireless. Our Commodore Paul Gulliksen, who never lets the Club and sailing slip from the very front of his mind. With a lot on his plate, his drive for our Club is amazing. Paul, I cannot thank you enough. Neil McDonald...what can I say! We all know of his efforts with the Magics and for getting sailing beginners on to these boats and building their enthusiasm, leading to new Sailing Members. He is seen on the marina area every week maintaining and improving these boats, from rig repairs, keels, antifouling etc. Thanks Paul and Neil, we are lucky to have you both.

Lastly, before I move on to other topics, I would like to sincerely thank all the Directors. You have been a pleasure work with. Every one of you contributes and we share the same goals and directions for our Club, trying to promote sailing and provide the best sailing facilities we can, all the while improving the Club facilities for member enjoyment and maintaining financial stability and growth to ensure a strong future for our Club. Brent Connor has been an outstanding Treasurer. Geoff Jollow has been an excellent Club Captain. Dave Slingsby has taken on the role of VP and is so thoughtful, focused and supportive. Our Committee members are also always there to help, get involved, and contribute wisely. I sincerely hope those on the current board whose positions are up for election at the AGM will stand again and be elected.

I stepped into the role of President after Darren Casey was overcome by workloads in his conveyancing business (as you know real estate sales have increased dramatically in the last few years, and I expect this certainly increased Darren's workloads). He left big shoes to fill when he resigned as President in November. He did a fantastic job as President and set the direction of the Club to where it is now, and we have continued to build on this and will into the future. Thanks Darren.

Our Club continues to go forward. Overall memberships have increased by 20% over the last two years. Although mainly social memberships, these people are the ones who boost our trading figures the most and keep our Club financially viable, allowing us to maintain and improve the Club facilities and contribute funds to sailing. Sailing memberships tend to fluctuate year by year. Compared to last year, sailing membership is up by around 13%.

Revenue and profits have increased dramatically. This is a reflection of the management, Clubhouse improvements and customer incentives, bringing more custom and sales, including a large increase in function bookings.

Throughout the year we have:

- a new caterer. Spinnakers Brasserie had a tough start just before Christmas, however they have improved their kitchen equipment and are now producing great meals in a timely way. They are a pleasure to deal with, and they are keen to continue to develop a meal service that our members want.
- removed the fine dining, opening the old restaurant area up for general member usage. There is a lot more to be done in this area to improve the ambience, and open the area up to allow it to flow onto the Terrace (with bi-fold doors).
- completed more work on the Boatshed Bar, with flooring, lights, fans, some sound attenuation (much more to be installed soon) and beer on tap.
- completed design of the proposed deck over the water. We have received approvals from Maritime (RMS) and Fisheries, and at the time I write this we are still waiting on approval from our landlord (Department of Lands).

- been in positive discussions with our landlord for an extension of our lease over the parkland mainly to the south and a little to the north, which would secure more areas for permanent boat storage and rigging areas and potentially allowing us to increase the beach for launching. However, recently our landlord advised that a Native Title land claim has been placed on this area, and they cannot help us until it is settled. So unfortunately, that is now on the back burner until the Native Title is resolved. We are working with Lands to provide historical information that demonstrates the areas near us were not originally land, and is fill/reclaimed.
- Installed, or currently installing, covers for the RIB pontoons, and biminis for the rescue boats. Helso is away for a much-needed refurbishment. We have also purchased 2 new mains, 2 jibs and 4 spinnakers for the Magics throughout the year.
- started a fund for the replacement of Elsie Ross, to give our Race Committee some basic conveniences when on the water and a better platform to manage our racing. The Black Tie Ball contributes to this fund, so I appeal for your support. Peter Walsh and I have been actively travelling and looking at several possible boats over the last 6 months.
- won a NSW Government grant of \$5000 to go towards our fund raising for a new start boat. The fund is now at around \$41k, with \$15k from Club funds, \$15k from the last Black Tie Ball, and \$6k from members' donations from their own pockets. We are still approximately \$20k to \$30k short of our target.
- negotiated for reciprocal club membership privileges with other sailing clubs in our general vicinity (Sydney to Newcastle) as well as some overseas. We will continue to add new clubs over time. Details are included on our website or from the office.
- commenced repayment of member loans.
- not forgotten the marina extension. However, considering it's 5 years since the original extension plans were produced, and with the opening of the Koolewong marina, the apartment developments around Gosford, and where we are as a Club at the moment, I believe it's critical that we re-evaluate the project in light of these changes. We must get it right, and that means financially as well as ensuring it's the right fit for our Club and will not interfere or hinder sailing activities, particularly the "off the beach" boats. Our re-evaluation is underway.

We have more plans and ideas being developed specifically to provide better facilities for sailing and sailors, and these will be announced as the plans are finalised in the near future.

We continue to be careful and mindful of our cash situation. We have had an excellent trading year, and as best we can, we predict future trading will also be buoyant. The installation of our deck, finishing the fit out in the Boatshed Bar, and finalising the improvements to our old restaurant area should all benefit trading and member enjoyment.

These ongoing planned improvements will need to be paid for, as well as continuing with the repayment of the member loans on time. Then there is the roof that is badly in need of replacement.

Hence, with all these costs we do not have a surplus of funds, but we are trading well and, with the prioritising and timing of projects we see a very positive future for our Club and sailing facilities. With our Club's excellent and improving facilities, combined with our Club spirit, we will all enjoy the water, boating and the friendship and competition that comes from being a member of our wonderful Sailing Club.

Graeme Sheldon
President

TREASURER'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure in presenting the financial reports for Gosford Sailing Club Limited for the financial year ended 30 April 2017.

This report should be read together with the audited 2017 Annual Report.

The Operating profit for the year (including depreciation) amount to \$242,020 for the financial year, which is an increase of 166% based on the prior period.

Revenue for the year has increased to \$2,506,928, which is an increase on the prior year of \$295,628 or 13.37%. This growth in revenue can be attributed to consistently more steady patronage throughout the year.

The club has spent the following amounts on the different areas of the club:

- \$24,582 has been spent on capital items in the Marina. The monies spent in the marina was minimal as we finalised the insurance claim due to the storms of April 2015.
- \$314,663 has been spent on capital items on the upstairs area of the club. The majority of this was spent enclosing the deck area of the club, creation of the outdoor area and general upgrading of facilities upstairs.
- \$220,699 has been spent on capital items relating to sailing and also the sailors bar downstairs. In addition to this amount, a further \$180,000 has been expensed through the profit and loss directly on sailing activities.

The club has managed to reduce its liabilities throughout the financial year by \$255,074. These payments were made to members to reduce loans and also to marina berth holders, reducing the debt owed by the club to the berth holders.

Cash on hand at the end of the financial year amounted to \$220,824, this is lower than the prior period due to liabilities of \$255,074 being paid back and over \$559,000 worth of capital improvements being paid for out of cash reserves.

Through the past year, we have experienced steady growth on prior years and we hope this is attributed to the new look of the club along with the friendly staff members. We aim to keep these standards in order to grow the club's patronage ongoing.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Richard, Anne, Lee, Peter and all the staff and volunteers of the club for all their help and knowledge throughout the year.

Brent Connor
Treasurer

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I can present the General Manager's Report for the Gosford Sailing Club's 2016/2017 year.

The Club has built on its success from last year with a reported **Net Profit of \$242,020** which was an increase of \$151,194 or 166% on the previous year.

The Club's cash reserves have decreased by approximately \$258,000 to \$221,000 due to \$559,000 being spent on clubhouse improvements, and by reducing its liabilities by \$255,000, which included repayment of some member loan amounts.

The main contributor to the increase in profit was the increase in the overall revenue of \$295,459, mainly from our two core areas of trading being gaming and beverage.

Poker machine net takings were up around 22.4% or \$123,000. The current trends on the Central Coast are reflecting continued decreases in the small clubs whilst the larger clubs are experiencing average increases in net gaming of 3% - 4%. The club is currently positioned in the top 10% of clubs in NSW with poker machine installations of 30 and less. These results help contribute to the ongoing financial stability of the club; especially considering how many small clubs are currently in financial stress or have had to close or amalgamate over the past few years.

Our bar sales were also up around 7% or \$76,000.00. Once again, the current trends with bar sales on the Central Coast are reflecting an average increase in sales of 2.5%, so this result is once again above average.

The club set about putting in place a strategic plan for continued growth three years ago which included undertaking much needed improvements to the aging clubhouse. These plans are certainly paying off for the club with membership growth of over 20%, increase of bar sales of over 18%, increase in gaming revenue of 52%, increase in sailing revenue of 18%, and an overall increase of 26% in total revenue over this three-year period.

These fantastic results would not have been possible without the contributions of a cohesive, dedicated, and consistent Board who have set the direction and allowed the manager to manage.

All Board Members have worked harmoniously in their designated roles to help achieve the end result of a profitable, happy, and safe environment for all members, visitors, contractors, and employees to enjoy.

We have welcomed new caterers to the club last November. With Head Chef Grant Goldsmith and Front of House Manager Amber Drew, Spinnakers Brasserie have set new benchmarks in quality and service not seen by the club for a number of years. The club looks forward to working closely with Grant and Amber to maintain these high standards and to grow our function capabilities so that our members can utilise our great facilities to stage their special events. Both Grant and Amber are extremely approachable and welcome your feedback and enquires.

There are still a number of big ticket goals to be achieved over the coming 12 months and beyond including; completion of works in the new Boatshed Bar, construction of a new deck flowing out from the Boatshed Bar, refurbishment of the old dining room area, replacement of the club's roof and creation of a new training / briefing / meeting room for its sailing activities. These planned works make up part of our strategic plan for continued growth of both our commercial operations and sailing activities.

It is anticipated that with the residential growth that is currently being played out on our doorstep, along with the improvements the club has put in place over the past three years, that the club will continue to prosper well into the future. The club will not become complacent though, and will continually strive for new and innovative ways to continue to grow, diversify, and improve.

The most important ingredient in the club's recent success is the dedicated and hardworking staff who make me look good every single day! I believe the club has the best staff culture that I have experienced in my 20 plus years in the industry. All the money spent on improvements would amount to nothing if we didn't have the right crew on board helping steer the ship in the right direction (pardon the pun).

Although all staff should be acknowledged for their contributions over the past year, I would like to make special mention of our administrative team being Anne Morrison and Lee Clarke. Both these ladies, who have contributed so much over a number of years, have supported me in my role to allow me to focus on the big picture issues.

Additionally, our Assistant Manager Peter Puch, who has also provided the club with a number of years of dedicated service, has been an absolute pillar of support and his efforts week in week out go over and above. There is nothing like the feeling of having 100% confidence in your right-hand man and knowing that he has the utmost respect from all the staff.

Finally, our Sailing & Marina Manager Peter Walsh has been instrumental in continuing to grow and foster the sport of sailing for the club. Peter has had fully booked learn to sail programs along with other courses happening throughout the year which has both contributed to increased sailing revenue as well as introduced new people to sailing, which at the end of the day, is what we are all about!

The club has invested into the continued growth of its employees by offering Certificate IV in Hospitality training to all employees. We currently have four of our crew who are soon to complete this training being Peter, Shanin, Jocelyn, and Jessica. I am sure both the staff and the club will benefit greatly from this training.

The final thanks must go out to all Club members who have enjoyed the Club's facilities over the past twelve months. It's only with your continued support and patronage that the Club can continue to grow and enjoy our reputation as being the premiere sailing and entertainment destination on the Central Coast.

Richard Croker
General Manager

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Participation!

Participation can be measured in many ways. A key focus for the club has been to increase sailing activity for children, youth, women and families, outside of the normal weekend club racing. I was pleased to see the number of women and girls taking the leap from crew to skipper this season. It was great to note we've had several junior girl skippers steering on the weekends and at major regattas this season. I have also noticed an increase in the number of women crewing on yachts on the weekends. It was also encouraging to see how many more women had joined our fleet at Port Stephens. We have had several women skippers compete throughout the Twilight season and one notable achievement was Penny Dilworth, winning the Pointscore series in Division One. Penny has been a mentor to a lot of women who have sailed with her over the years and is an intrinsic member of the Yacht Fleet

As I mentioned at the various presentation nights, we are a family at GSC. This is keenly demonstrated by the number of husbands and wives, fathers and sons, fathers and daughters, mothers and daughters, siblings, and partners, sailing together this year at a club level and travelling to regattas to compete together.

This year has seen great participation at all levels. There have been good fleet sizes across all club fleets, with many members having campaigned intrastate, interstate and internationally.

Congratulations to those members who have had the opportunity to travel and represent our Club (more information will be in the fleet representative reports).

Some of the highlights this season include:

- Our junior fleet members represented the club at State and National level, in Sabots, Optis, Flying 11s and NS14s. There were some great results for all our crews and a huge thank you must go to all the Juniors shore crews for getting them to the events, organising accommodation, and making sure they were well prepared. A special mention must go to Bridget Conrad. This season she has spent more time away from the club, following her passion, sailing at as many Opti events as possible. Congratulation must also go to Kurt Hansen and Sophie Macintosh for making the Australian Sailing squads.
- Another highlight was the number of boats and crews that attended some of the major sailing regattas this season. The 2016-17 season saw our NS14 fleet come home with the NSW teams' trophy from their State titles.
- Our Juniors also had some great results at the Combined High School regatta, notably the boys from St Edward's College coming second in the Schools' Team Trophy Pointscore.
- Our Yacht fleet brought home the inaugural Teams Trophy from the Port Stephens regatta.
- Our Laser sailors were well represented both here and abroad.
- The Etchells fleet too had a good representation at their major regattas.
- The Fireballs and A Class also represented us well.

Our Sailing Academy is running once again. We have a group of talented young sailors who work hard each week, being rewarded with the opportunity to join other up and coming talented sailors at CYCA academy for more advanced training courses. Sailing as a sport is for life, and our Sailing Academy hopes to create dreams on the water for young sailors who may wish to compete, or simply enjoy the sport that we value so much.

Windsurfing has now also come to GSC, with a small band of enthusiasts competing on the weekends.

Thanks

Once again, I'd like to thank each individual member of the Sailing Committee for their ongoing commitment and valued input during a year of many changes, which has been of great support to me when implementing changes: Brian Baker, Mark Greenwood, Rod Hookway, Steve McPhee, John Humphries Jr and Ross Hansen.

A special thanks to Mo Goodship, who again took on additional duties during the year.

I would personally like to thank Peter Walsh for the huge amount of time and effort he has put in throughout the season. He has again somehow managed the multitude of small, and not so small, details to run sailing activities throughout the season.

Our Volunteers

The support from club members, especially ones who give generously of their time throughout the year, is the lifeblood of our Club. Whether it's participation on one of our sub-committees, as members of our social functions organising committees, raising funds for the various charities we support, being a member of our on-water race management, or slaving over a hot grill making us an after race sausage sandwich during the season, every hour of support volunteered is priceless.

Please encourage your friends and family to lend a hand, as we need a sustainable pool of resources to ensure we don't over-burden our existing volunteers.

In Conclusion

Real growth will only be achieved in our club through the fleets taking some responsibility for building their numbers, through championing their own events and promoting internally. Also, owners and crew need to instigate and encourage higher participation across the board.

Change is inevitable, and there is more change to come – it's how we adjust to change and work with it which defines us.

There is still much to be done, but I believe the Gosford Sailing Club is on the path to an exciting future, with the right resources in place to achieve our goals.

Paul Gulliksen
Commodore

SAILING AND MARINA MANAGER'S REPORT

Congratulations to all sailors for making the 2016/17 season such great success. This was a season of consolidation and fun with good and fair competition across all fleets resulting in good fellowship and high spirits amongst our sailors. Fleets sizes consolidated on last year's numbers as well as the introduction of the 16 foot skiffs thanks mainly due to Steve Akhurst and Grant Robson with Paul Turner supporting the fleet by donating a boat which meant by the end of the season we had 3 of these three-man senior centreboard class boats sailing at the Club. I look forward to the growth of the 16s here. The consolidation of the sailing side of our Club this season was due to the vision and commitment of past present Darren Casey. With the completion of the boatshed bar, Darren's vision of one club was really evident with all members enjoying the fun and fellowship after sailing. This is a space where we are not competing with the public and where our junior and senior sailors all mix in a sailing atmosphere. This spirit also flowed over to the twilight competition where sailors enjoyed the after sailing fellowship and all this was great to see as the Club is the people.

Once again, we hosted a number of regattas this season including the Sabot state Opti travellers trophy (125 boats), J24s MG14 states and the Sports Boat States where three Life Members competed in our Magic 25s with Neil McDonald coming second on scratch and Phil Gribble and John Sprague coming second on Handicap.

Of course, all this could not happen without the help and support of sailing committee delegates and our on-water volunteers. Their dedication to you and the Club is fantastic so please accept my sincere thanks to the whole team including Peter Robson, Geoff Jollow, Dave Burrows, Robin Denton, Bris Doyle, Paul Murray and Life Member Phil Gribble who did a great job filling in to give the guys a break now and then on Saturdays, and to the yacht race committee members of Alan Read, Liz Ross, Peter Leslie and Chas Young for all your on-water efforts.

Sailing Academy

This year we conducted a number of different courses or learning experiences including first aid, VHF radio operators' course, junior instructors' courses, powerboat courses, YA Race officers' courses and Club Judges' course. We also ran rules nights and sail trim seminars. All were well attended and will go a long way in improving our sailing standards and general sailing information.

Junior training remains strong with 120 children going through the Learn to Sail program and two school sport programs being run. We have a great staff of AS Junior Instructors who make this possible throughout the season, capably led by a dedicated and tirelessly working Caitlyn McIntosh for the first half of the season and then by Sophie McIntosh who picked up from Caitlyn who is now enjoying her teaching career. Thanks to all our Instructors for your work over the past season.

The Clubs Magics are now involved with the delivery of four programs, including six successful corporate sailing day events, Wednesday twilight discovery sailing program, the Adult LTS with 47 students, and again we are able to offer our Youth Academy program.

The successes of the above programs are due to the involvement of or volunteer Magic Skippers mainly including Brent Connor, Justin Gurdol and Brian Zemanek in the Adult program - Andrew McDougall, John Sprague and Roy Leslie in the Corporate Events - Brian Baker, Don Wilson and Brian Mitchell in the twilights with a big thanks to all.

Overseeing all this and the Magic maintenance program is Neil McDonald who provides endless time in making sure all boats are ready for all our events so a big thanks Neil.

Marina

Finally, the repairs to the Marina have been completed, and we now have the benefit of marina improvements which the Board have overseen since the storm damage.

These include

- New Marina entry gate with electronic fob access lock
- New waste recycling centre
- New signage
- New Etchells launching wharf

We have also replaced the crane with a new 2-ton unit costing \$7,800 and free installation thanks to Greg Bell who over the years has maintained our crane.

The Club has now purchased back 3 of the Original 29 Marina berths making a total of 12 berths which is good news as this reduces the overall marina liability to the Club by around 40%.

Conclusion

The success of this season is a combination of the support of our sailors, the committees and parents who back them up, as well as the many volunteers both on and off the water. Our bar staff also do great job catering to our needs all capably led by Piotr Puch. Thanks to all.

My thanks also to Richard Croker, our GM who supports sailing and my office. He has made a great contribution to the Club this season. Finally, Lee and Anne, thanks for all the tireless efforts as well as Mo Goodship who is always there when needed to help with the new online set up.

Our Commodore, Paul Gulliksen who works tirelessly behind the scenes overseeing all sailing activities. Paul does a great job, and backing all this up is an extremely supportive and well managed Board now led by President, Graeme Sheldon. help and support throughout the year it really makes a difference.

Peter Walsh
Sailing and Marina Manager

YACHT REPORT

The 2016-17 sailing season has seen the continued rebuilding of the club fleet since the storm in 2015. Sixteen different series and events were competed for in some close fought and tight point finishes. Division II Inshore Summer was practically close.

New crew members have been trickling through from the very successful keelboat courses taking up new positions across the club fleets but particularly in the yacht fleet.

The highlight for the fleet was the Sail Port Stephens Regattas' inaugural Club Teams Trophy award. In which the club had ten boats representing in various categories. This regatta makes a great end to the sailing season for those can who take part. This year the regatta was moved outside of the school holidays which caused a little havoc with crewing, marina and accommodation bookings. However, all obstacles were overcome and a successful and fun regatta was had by all.

The BBIC (Broken Bay Interclub Challenge) had an exciting and close finish with Gosford leading into the last event but sadly losing on the day. Devils' Lair achieved the best individual result in the competition (first overall).

Gosford was the host of the first BBIC race of the season and this allowed fifteen Gosford boats to enter the race. We hope to do this again next season and tempt some of these boats to take part in the other three races in across Broken Bay.

Boats taking part in the offshore and BBIC events have faced an ever narrowing channel passage past Halftide Rocks this year as the sand slowly moved in reducing the channel width to about 10 metres in places. It is hoped that work will start to remove some of the sand from the channel before the races restart next season.

Club Yacht of the Year was Devils' Lair achieving the best score in a mixture of inshore, sprint and one day offshore events. Congratulations to the Commodore and crew for their success.

Online race entry through Top Yacht was used this year and was considered successful and will be used again next season.

Club championship races were decided using the AMS rating system, while the season series results were calculated on a personal handicap system. This balance of a rating systems and a personal handicap system will continue as it is well received and supported.

The personal handicaps calculated resulted in some close point finishes and we thank the handicappers for their work and as always, all of the sailors for their suggestions and comments.

Presentation Night went very well this year with good food and good company in the refurbished club including the Terrace. The event was started with drinks in the Boatshed Bar, and then moved up to the Terrace for dinner and presentations.

The Boatshed Bar was used for various training sessions including sailing theory as part of the keelboat courses, a VHF radio training weekend and a Racing Rules and Race Judge training weekend. The club now has several new club and state level judges within its ranks. The Sailing Manager Peter Walsh also held three open sail trim and sailing theory nights that were very well received and attended over the winter period. All of these activities were successes and it is hoped will be repeated in future seasons.

The yacht fleet committee thanks and acknowledges all of the skippers and boat owners who took the time to invest in our fleet by taking new crew on board and increasing their experience and welcoming them to the club.

Maurice Goodship.
Yacht Fleet Captain

ETCHELLS' REPORT

What an interesting & exciting season we have just had. There were many different race winners recorded throughout the season with an average of 8 boats facing the starter each weekend. The racing was close & fiercely competitive with most crews taking advantage of the well-appointed Boat Shed Bar at the end of a hard days sailing. This makes the Etchells so unique & an enjoyable class to sail.

Special thanks must go to the on course personnel headed by Peter Walsh for their professionalism & dedication to their task which made the seasons racing most enjoyable.

The season point score & the club championship result were nail biting right up to the final races. Congratulations goes to The Don for winning the season Point score & the Crew trophy, sailed by Don Wilson, Graham Murray & Peter McIntosh. The Club Championship was won by Pointless for the 10th time, after a few years absence from winning the top prize. Congratulations to John McDougall, Dave Slingsby & Mark Robson. Pointless also recorded the most fastest times.

The three point score series winners were:

Spring....Ivy, John Denton.
Summer....Huh, Michael Law.
Autumn....Ht0 Rat, Geoff Dilworth.

The Sprint series was won by Curved Air....George Johnstone.

The Splash Trophy (Harry's & back) was won by Ivy....John Denton & Velsheda won the Bill Bowry series sailed by Greg Humphries.

Special thanks must go to John McDougall & Greg Eddy for their contribution towards the extension to the Etchells launching deck.

Next season promises to be as good as ever with the anticipation of all boats again sailing.

Greg Humphries
Etchells Fleet Captain

LASER REPORT

This season gave us some unsettled weather conditions for our sailing on the beautiful Brisbane Waters. This resulted in a couple point score races being cancelled.

Our sail on Australia Day was contested by 6 boats in moderate North-East breeze with Paddy's Channel again sorting out the pack against the tide but as always it was most enjoyable. Revellers along Woy Woy channel cheered us on as some of us found the mud banks slowed us down. Congratulations to Elyse Guevara for winning this regatta.

We had a very successful season in 2016/17 with very active club racing and good participation in Laser Association events.

At the club level, we had around 13 to 21 boats racing on most Saturdays. We completed 19 points score races and 6 club championship heats.

Congratulations to Club Champions Adam French (Standard), Kevin Phillips (Radial), Jane Humphris (4.7 Rig) and to the Season point score winners Bruce Chappell. We could not award a Junior Club Champion as no juniors completed the required number of races. Congratulation have to also go to Bob Partridge for being the best sailor in our Ron Thompson Sprint Series for the season and also for taking out the Charlie Clark trophy for the most handicap winner during the Club Championship series.

Championship runners up were David Edmiston (Standard) and Chris Meech (Radial).

Another major trophy winner was Kevin Phillips (John Rigg Trophy). Unfortunately, we did not have an offshore regatta this season and we did not run an Au-gust Series due to lack of interest.

Special mention must go to some of our newer sailors.

Brianna Sparre who was awarded the Wally Cook Memorial Trophy for Most Improved Sailor.

Teresa Michell and Bethwyn Caller who were awarded the Highlight Consulting Trophy for Women on the Water. Well done ladies, keep the good sailing up next season.

In the Nationals, held at Adelaide Sailing Club, Kevin Phillips placed 4th in the Silver radial fleet but first as a Great Grand Master. David Edmiston placed 8th and 3rd GGM.

In Masters Sailing, John Sprague placed 1st in the Radial Great Grand Masters in the States held at Great Lakes Sailing Club, Kevin Phillips was 5th and the 80 year old Barry Pownall taking out a very respectful 12th place.

David and Kevin will be represented the Club in the World Masters in Split, Croatia in September and I am sure you all will join me in wishing them fair winds in this event.

At the Coasts Champions held at South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club John Sprague took out 10th in the Radial rig and 1st Great Grand master, David Edmiston 16th, Kevin Phillips 18th and Chris Meech 25th. GSC took out all the podium places in the Great Grand Masters division.

In the Metro's held at Double Bay Sailing Club Sailing Club Kevin Phillips placed 14th in Radial and David Edmiston 17th.

Our Board of Directors are thanked for providing us with a revamped Club House this season with new furniture, carpet and Boat Shed Bar.

Thanks to Peter Walsh making the difficult decisions throughout the season as our P.R.O. and our dedicated club race officials for their work during this season.

Thanks also to our scorer Kevin Phillips for untiring efforts. Great job collating all the results whilst under time pressure.

A vote of thanks to all our committee members for their tireless input, making sailing and other events possible for all of us.

Yours in Sailing

Brian Baker

Laser Fleet Delegate.

MIXED FLEET REPORTS

Fireball Report

After another fantastic season of sailing, it's time to reflect, but before I do that, I would like to personally thank our starters & course management. Our sport depends on you.

The Season Point Score results are as follows;

1. Viper Rod Hookway & Grant Ireland Ireland
2. Storm Michael La Rose & Dianne Green
3. Temeritous Robert Hughes & Anthony Wilkins
4. Mondo Richard Mc Culloch & Glenn Stewart

The Club Championship results are as follows;

1. Viper Rod Hookway & Grant Ireland
2. Temeritous Robert Hughes & Anthony Wilkins
3. Storm Michael La Rose & Dianne Green
4. Mondo Richard McCulloch & Glenn Stewart

The Fireball Nationals were held at Rivoli Bay in South Australia in January. Mondo & Viper represented the club in this event, but failed to bring home the trophy. The experience was our reward.

Yours in sailing,
Rod Hookway.

NS14 Fleet Report

Our NS14's 7th season started & finished strong. Most weeks 7 boats sailed & up to 13 boats.

8 boats represented GSC at the Wangi State Titles over Easter 'Nemesis', 'Captain Risky', 'Pocket Rocket', 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'Max Power', 'Upbeat', 'Shameless' & 'Dark Side'.

Gosford won the Club trophy for the first time. This was a tremendous effort, as five of the boats were skipper by Juniors.

12 of our Junior sailors sailed in the 51st CHS regatta at Belmont in light conditions getting some very good results. Although we've lost a few boats 4 new Juniors have bought boats joining the fleet for 2017/18 & looking forward to another strong season.

This year also saw the presentation of the Junior NS14 Female and Male sailors of the Year went to Talia Wallace and Hayden Hansen.

Overall PointScore Series

1 Points North - Mark Murray, Rory Parsons

2 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - Peter Rivers, Will Rivers

3 Pocket Rocket - Jess Rivers, Annika Hansen

Club Champions

1 Captain Risky - Ross Hansen, Stephanie Hansen

2 Max Power - Nathan Gulliksen, Thomas Molin

3 Pocket Rocket - Jess Rivers, Annika Hansen

Regards

Ross Hansen

A CLASS REPORT

The members of the GSC A-Class division mostly continued the development of the hydrofoils that are transforming the class in general. Both Scott Anderson and Darren Bundock have been constantly swapping, modifying and refining their centreboard and rudder setups to the point where the boats are now sometimes out of the water both upwind and down. The members hope this will lead to an eventual plateau in the pace of change and we can adopt the designs on a more general basis.

Withstanding this temporary instability, class numbers have remained relatively static, and on several occasions, we've had some sailors join us on a casual racing status. The division has the efforts of our serious skippers and their regular training to thank for the interest in our club from catamarans outside the area, and we hope this will grow as the A-Class design settles.

Steve McPhee

GAME FISHING CLUB REPORT

It's hard to believe we are the end of another season, even harder to believe this will be my last President's report.

This season, whilst one of the slower on record, our club has once again proven its dominance within the sport. Our membership numbers are at an all-time high and attendance at our tournaments also breaking records. It is really a great honour to receive such tremendous support from the membership and neighbouring clubs, as well all our terrific sponsors that allow us to promote CCGFC during our events throughout the year.

Coming to the end of my third and last term as our club's President and 10th year as an executive committee member I feel such a true sense of pride in what our club has been able to achieve within that time. As a young club, both in age and experience we have evolved quickly and this wouldn't be possible without the volunteered time of our committee and members both past and present. It has been amazing to watch people join the club as newbies with little to no experience only to quickly become competitive and well respected within the fishing community. We harbour a nurturing culture within CCGFC and again this is something I am proud of and hope we can retain in the years ahead.

Whilst I am looking forward to being a face in the crowd, rather than the voice from the front I would be lying if I was to say I won't miss being at the steering end of the ship. I would like to think I'm handing to reins over to the newly elected President Michael Vincent with the club in the best position it has been in and have all the confidence the incoming committee will continue to build and strengthen the club in the coming years. Please show your support for them in the coming months and years in the same way you have supported me.

I can't close out without thanking some key people. A huge thanks to the CCGFC executive and general committee over the past three years. Also, a big thanks to the team at the Gosford Sailing Club. Together we have made some terrific improvements of which I'm certain both clubs will reap the rewards of in the coming years. Last but not least, I must thank my girls, Amanda and Chloe for whom too many times have played second and sometimes third fiddle to our club and my responsibilities within it. I can't thank you enough for supporting me throughout the past 10 years and especially the last 3.

Well if you think with this you have seen the last of me, sorry to disappoint, we still have lots to achieve and I hope to in some way be able to continue working within the club. Out on the water, well that's an area I hope we get to spend more time enjoying, I know for certain my little family still has lots to achieve out over the edge, and I look forward to the next time we pass each other out at sea.

Thanks once again, it has been an absolute pleasure and honour to serve as your Secretary, Vice President and President. Remember, when you get the chance, for the sake of our sport, take a kid fishing.

Regards, Nathan Bajada
PRESIDENT (OUTGOING)

GOLF SECTION REPORT

Our AGM was held last September and I would like to thank the Committee for their work this season.

Linda Rankin as Secretary (until her move to Sawtell) who took the minutes at each Committee meeting and who has done an excellent job of booking courses for our upcoming season. **Kim Cardiff** has very professionally taken over our Secretary position from Linda. Thanks to both ladies.

Terry Connor as Treasurer for his skill in handling our funds. Terry has firm hands on our purse strings and "always" provides an up to date report at each Committee meeting. Onya, Terry.

Sue Waugh AND Phil Wilson as Co-Captains keeping events fair and fast, and reminding some fellow golfers of the "generally accepted" rules of golf, and organising and presenting our trophies to winners. Thanks again.

Wal Loschi as Handicapper. Thanks for keeping the burglars honest. Almost. I don't know how you do it. Neither do most golfing members.....☺

And, Committee members **Rob Parry, Phil Palmer & Michael Roberts**. Many thanks guys. As usual.

Al Hutchinson, our butcher, for supplying meat trays for our raffle. Coastwide Meats – Meat To Please You!

Lee Clarke in the office for assisting the golfers by placing ads on the in-house video system.

Richard Croker, GSC General Manager, for assistance with raffles and keeping lines of communication open. A great man to have on board our club. A huge thanks from the golfers.

Since the Golf Section Prezo night was held in the club dining area on July 8th, before this report was printed, an early thanks goes to **Grant & Amber and the Spinnakers Brasserie** team. A very professional team.

Extra Thanks:

To bread butterers and BBQ cooks, party organisers, nearest the pin stickers, and the "socialisers" who keep supporting our great club. **Keep it up guys. The more the merrier. Especially for the next 12 months!**

Trophy Winners:

A Grade Scratch - Garry Fitch – **AGAIN!!!!**

A Grade Nett – Wal Loschi

B Grade Scratch – Sue Waugh

B Grade Nett – Terry Smith

C Grade Scratch – Joe Kennedy – He's back!!!

C Grade Nett – Michael Roberts

The Bob Ranson Encouragement Award Buddha – **Nathalie Adams**

If you would like to join our small band of keen golfers, call me on 0402 708701 or email dickbridge@bigpond.com for more info. We play about every 2nd Sunday morning on 8 different courses on the Central Coast and Hunter areas, but mostly at Gosford GC. The more, the merrier.

Dick Bridge

Golf Section President.