



COUTA BOAT ASSOCIATION INC
Registered Number A0000225D
P.O.Box 258 Blairgowrie VIC 3942

MINUTES OF 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at the Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club, Point Nepean Road Sorrento on Sunday
12th November at 10.30 am

1. Present: James & Mighell, Bill Davis, Andrew Skinner, Tim & Sally Phillips, Howard Critchley, Rob Tucker, Sunday Gibson, Colin & Aline Mitchell, Sally Law, Peter Hannah, Peter Wischusen, Richard Hodgkinson, Peter & Jane Burke, David Murphy, Liz Gibson, James & Helene Gibson, Bruce Griffiths, Tricia O'Brien, Tony Kinsman, Rhys Tucker, Andrew Plympton, John McNamara, Kerry McNamara, Faye Burton, Graham Burton, Rod Martin, Ralph Wilson, Sue Owen, Ken Owen, Richard Brearley, Graham Cunningham, Christopher Sinn, Grant Smith, Chris Johnson, Mark Waterworth, Kate Hannah, Georgina Oakley, Leigh Hitchcock, Ken Vaughan, Rhys Tucker, Milton Green, Cameron Dorrough (representing the Classic Yacht Association), Michael Paynter, Tim & Sally Phillips, Will Phillips, Emma Phillips, Richard McRae
2. Apologies: Robbie Hiam, Fred Haig, David Hendy, Chris Malkin, Peter Ferrier, James George, Alison Mighell, Nick Williams, Scott Llewelyn, Wayne Parr
3. It was noted that the Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting held on 27th November 2022 had been published on the Association website for 12 months. The President chose not to read them but they were approved.
Moved James Gibson, Seconded Howard Critchley
4. The President tabled his report – see below and he spoke to the Report

The 2022/23 season saw the end of COVID disrupting our sailing. The same could not be said for the weather. We had a mixed bag of weather, however we managed to get a reasonable season of sailing.

I would like to again thank Georgie Silverwood and all the staff at the Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club including Club Captain Tim Collett, Sailing Manager Ben Fels and Julia Mackinnon for running all of our racing. Tim has recently stood down as Club Captain. He has done a wonderful job over his tenure – thankyou.

Harry Mighell has recently been appointed Club Captain and has promised to try and revitalise the sailing calendar. We look forward to seeing more boats on the water in the forthcoming season due to an enhanced sailing program.

Over the years I have acknowledged Ben Fels' involvement in our fleet and yet again I acknowledge his professional dedication to our racing. Thank you Ben.

I would also like to thank our race volunteers Peter Osbourne, John Philpot and Mark Lloyd and their teams again over the last season. The volunteers were again led by Deb Kwasnicki who co-ordinated an enthusiastic and professional team of volunteers. Thankyou to all.

The CBA technical committee comprising Ben Fels, Drew Marget and Bill Davis has again worked to ensure the integrity of our fleet is maintained. We are also welcoming Wayne Johnstone onto the committee who will add a wealth of experience.

Participation over the Club's main events being the Carsales.com.au Portsea Cup, the CBA Nationals (held in Pittwater) and the TLC Healthcare State Titles was very good.

Congratulations to the winners of the following major events:

Portsea Cup

Div 1	1 st place	Mal Hart	<i>Jocelyn</i>
Div2	1 st place	G. Mee	<i>Gisella</i>

Merthon Trophy

Div 1	1 st place	Mal Hart	<i>Jocelyn</i>
Div 2	1 st place	S. Gibson	<i>Jessamine</i>

CBA Nationals (held on Pittwater)

Div 1	1 st place	A. McMillan	<i>Couta Tah</i>
Div 2	1 st place	P. Hannah	<i>Tarni</i>

TLC Healthcare

Div 1	1 st place	P. McKeand	<i>Sally</i>
Div 2	1 st place	M. Golding	<i>Lucy</i>

The Next Gen Couta Boat Regatta and the general involvement of the Next Gen in our fleet continues to grow. Sam and Will Philips have been selected as Division 1 captains. We hope that they will assist the fleet in getting on the water and providing some practical tips where needed. Will is also on the SSCBC Sailing Committee so can be a point of reference for feedback on the racing.

Sally Law, Kate Hannah, Grace Cockman and Emma Philips have championed the She Sails taskforce which has increased the number of women sailing our beautiful boats. I hope that within the not too distant future we see women making up 50% of the crew members on our fleet.

Looking to this year, it is very pleasing to see that the Clubhouse has been completed. It is also very pleasing to work alongside Club Manager Gavin Wall who has a strong sailing background and is very supportive of the fleet.

On Friday 5th January, 2024, the CBA will be conducting a Portsea Cup Eve Function and Calcutta at the Wooden Boatshop shed. This is again being championed by a number of younger participants in the fleet including Georgina Oakley, Jess Hansen and Kate Hannah. The Portsea Cup Picnic and a number of other events are going to get a makeover with some youth involvement which I hope will enhance the events.

I would like to thank the Committee and in particular, Andrew Skinner, for his hard work and dedication which too often goes unrecognised.

James Mighell

President

It was moved by Grant Smith that the President's report be received and seconded by Rod Martin. Carried

5. Accounts of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the Treasurer's Report. These Accounts remain on public record at www.coutaboat.com.au

Bill Davis presented the Financial Statements for the period ending 30/6/2023 and gave some explanations. There were no questions and it was moved by James Gibson and seconded by Howard Critchley that the Report be adopted. Carried

6. Pursuant to clause 28.2 the following committee members retire by rotation and re-nominate for a further term:

- President James Mighell
- Ordinary Member Rod Martin
- Ordinary Member Rob Tucker
- Ordinary Member Colin Mitchell

There being no other nominations they are automatically re-elected

The following committee members retain office until the 2024 AGM:

- Hon Secretary Andrew Skinner
- Vice President Sally Law
- Ordinary Member Sunday Gibson
- Ordinary Member Howard Critchley
- Ordinary Member Tim Phillips
- Hon Treasurer (ex-Officio) Bill Davis

7. Bill Davis advised that he did not believe it necessary to appoint an Auditor for the financial year ending 30 June 2024. Tim Phillips proposed that no Auditor be appointed. .Seconded by Howard Critchley. Carried

8. "The Marcus" Trophy Tim Phillips presented the members with the new perpetual Marcus Burke Trophy. The trophy was first awarded at the 2022 AGM to Larry Eastwood form the NSW Couta Boat Association. The recipients for the Trophy this year have been dubbed "The Historians" for their work on the production of the coffee table Couta Boat register "The Tradition Lives On" Those awarded are Ralph Wilson, Peter Hannah, Rod Martin, Tricia O'Brien. The Members warmly congratulated them .

The trophy was constructed from Huon Pine by Chris Johnson at The Wooden Boatshop where it will remain displayed.

8. General Discussion

Ralph Wilson wished it be noted that in 1884 in the inaugural racing of the Sorrento Cup, the racing was conducted in 4 divisions

No further discussion took place.

The meeting closed at 11.10am and was followed by an interesting and humorous interview of Andrew Plympton AM by Club President James Mighell

Andrew Skinner
Honorary Secretary
12/11/23