

## ***Rear Commodores Report AGM 201-18***

This year saw me stand in as Rear Commodore 3 weeks after the AGM when the elected RC stepped off the committee and out of the role. I was supported by the Keelboat (KB) Captain, Grant Chipperfield and the OTB Club Captain, Bill Manning. Each of these Captains were empowered to set up their own sailing committees and handle the on water activities for their perspective groups. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of two particular individuals Di Jackson and Geoff Eldridge who contributed and shared their knowledge across both groups. Di has impeccable organization skills and Geoff's race rules and management skills have allowed us to continue to improve the standard and professionalism of our sailing.

Sail Peninsula was again a highlight of the KB calendar with it increasing numbers of competitors. With the hard work of the organizing committee, led by Mono and Roy we managed to make a small surplus this year, but more importantly host a professional, well run regatta.

KB participation had a dramatic increase in numbers throughout the year, with some Friday nights attracting over 50 boats. They mixed up their racing formats with "On Water" starts, explored mixed divisions (White sails/spinnakers), different start times, and courses. KB racing is in its infancy at the club and I'm excited to see them exploring all of these options early days so that they can work out what is best for all. It's part of continuous improvement, and has had its teething problems, but we are already seeing the benefits. We even had a few protest and Re-dress hearings this year amongst the KB fleet, which is healthy and shows us we are being challenged, complying with the RRS and the standard is improving. We also had KB members from our club represent us in Interclub and International regattas, notably Rod Smallman (Melb-Osaka) and Therapy taking out Div 2 at Hamilton Island race week.

OTB continued with great numbers with 30+ most weekends, and over 70 for the interclub regatta with Mt Martha. The plan is to incorporate this visit next year with Sail Peninsula on the Sunday to really make this the marquee event for the whole club. We hosted the Wazsp , B14, I14 and Sabre State titles, all to great acknowledgment from competitors and Australian sailing. We will continue to actively pursue State and National titles at the club, as we now have a great reputation amongst the sailing community in being able to run such events.

Ewan Campbell again led the sail training division this year and was aptly supported by some of our older Jnr's that facilitated the Sunday OTB Jnr sailing. We purchased 2 new Quest training boats that are a welcomed addition to the SBSC fleet. These boats were purchased with the funds from the sale of our 3 old Pacers and a "By one, get one free" offer through RS boats and Australian Sailing. It was decided that this opportunity to replace our aging fleet with new boats specifically designed for training, cost neutral, was too good to pass up on. They are very low on maintenance due to their roto mold construction and will serve the members for many years to come. These boats were honored with the names of our two 50yr members (Rick Potter, Andrew Stocks) on "Australia Day". Additionally the Idea of developing a Keel boat training facility has been on the Radar for a few years now. The Sailing and Training Committee along with the support of the General committee identified this as a growth area of the club that needed direction. We decided to provide a service and support to our Keelboat members. With a strict budget endorsed by committee, we managed to secure the purchase of a 2009 Delphia 24 trailable training boat. This boat allowed the club to run "learn to sail" through to "advanced racing"

courses that were accredited and certified by Australian sailing. Tim Bardon stepped up to manage not only the training courses to be offered, but the maintenance and use of the boat. This was big investment in the future of the club, that would allow us to build on our established courses “women keel boaters” etc., and offer a platform for us to provide successful courses like the ones offered at clubs like Royal Melb, and Sandy. We ran 2 courses this year and were ramping up for many more in the season to come, but sadly the boat was badly damaged in a storm (whilst on its trailer). Currently it has been assessed by the insurance company and the most likely outcome will be a “right off”. It was comprehensively covered so a decision to replace will be with the next committee.

Last year I reported that a comprehensive assets register of all of our boats and equipment was completed along with the modernization of our rescue boat fleet. The club is now in a position that we have invested wisely for the future and this is being reflected in the Maintenance and repair costs are at an all-time low and the fuel costs have reduced significantly. Our training fleet of OTB boats are predominantly fit for purpose Roto-moulded or plastic boats so maintenance costs on these will be dramatically reduced. They are all properly insured, registered and inspected along with our re accreditation as an Australian Sailing Training center. Special thanks to Sandy McPherson, Bill Mitchell, Mark Lawrence, Tim Bardon, Ewan and of course the General Committee for their support in achieving this.

We are in a great position as a “Sailing Club”, and this is reflected in the participation of our members not only in Racing, but volunteering for Duty and a small but successful training program. The KB sailing program and roster is complete for the season ahead and I would like to think by the time I am reading this at the AGM, the OTB program will be consolidated. Special thanks to my Wife Megan, and my kids Grace, Jackson and Patrick that have supported me through a pretty tough year. They have provided me with the focus and grounding into the reasons why you volunteer to fill these positions, I’m blessed to have my kids still participating with me in a sport I love and hope they continue for years ahead. Thank you for the support of the General committee and the many “quiet/ and not so quiet” members that just chip in for the betterment of the club.

Regards

Glenn Lazzar

Rear Commodore SBSC 2017-18