
FORECAST

Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

WELCOME

SWANSEA CHANNEL UPDATE, NEW SAILING MANAGER APPOINTED

Annual General Meeting - Our Annual General meeting was held Tuesday evening 28 May and was well attended by Sailing Members. Nick Nancarrow from our Club Auditors Cutcher and Neil gave the annual financial report and Michael McCluskey from Pigott Stinson Lawyers explained the proposed changes to the constitution.

A few questions were asked of Nick and Michael and explanation given. Of note was a request for more detail relating to the timing of posting of nominees for board. Those details will be covered under club by-laws. The board will attend to this over the next few months and notice will be given to all. All proposed resolutions were passed.

Swansea Channel update - An announcement recently from NSW Government regarding Swansea Channel. Stage 2 Dredging is currently underway in Swansea Channel as promised with the commitment that a ten year plan is being developed with commitment from the current government to keep the channel navigable. The news is welcomed with plans underway by our Cruising Division for more coastal cruises. Discussions are also underway with our counterparts at NCYC for more combined racing both offshore and within the lake.

Finally, welcome to our Sailing Manager Simon Turpin. Simon comes with a wealth of experience in sailing management. Please introduce yourself, if you haven't already, to Simon.

Geoff Edman, Commodore
Email Commodore@lmyc.com.au



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO - 20 MAY 2024

SETTING SAIL

AN UPDATE FROM SAILING COMMITTEE

With the 2023/24 season closing, the Sailing Committee continues to work hard on the upcoming 2024/25 season.

The results of the Boat Owners, Skippers and Crew survey were shared at a meeting on Monday 13 May at the club. We had a great turn out of about 40 people. As well as sharing the results of the survey, it was an opportunity for our sailors to have their say and for the Sailing Committee to discuss some ideas for the upcoming 2024/25 Season.

Overall, there was continued strong support from the people at the meeting and there were some particularly pleasing comments about the survey and the meeting. There are also some great ideas and suggestions on how we can improve racing and importantly attract more people to sail at LMYC.

Following the meeting, the Sailing Committee met to discuss the survey, the meeting and the 2024/25 Season. While the program for 2024/25 is still being drafted, we have made progress on the following:

- **Divisional Structure on Saturdays** – Subject to the entries we receive for next season, there was in-principle agreement to move to two divisions in the 2024/25 Season. While we understand that some boats in Division 2 are opposed to this, with the sale of several boats in Division 1 and 3, the issues are not going away and doing nothing is not an option.

The changes have some pros and cons but in the main should be possible. Two divisions allows us to align with RMYC and Wangi for the Interclub races. It also allows for bigger fleets and more interesting racing both Interclub and LMYC home series. This change will mean the Lake Mac Open Div 1 series, which didn't attract the Super 30 yachts we needed to bolster the racing at the top end, will not continue.

- **Offshore Racing** – Subject to final sign off by the Sailing Committees of LMYC and NCYC, we have some dates for a 5 race offshore series in conjunction with NCYC. The series is expected to include races to Port Stephens and return in November, races to and from Pittwater in early March and the Newcastle to Port Stephens Race in late March, which is a lead in race for Sail Port Stephens in April 2025. With the addition of the the offshore Series, the annual pointscore will be reduced to 24 races and Sweepstake races will be held by LMYC on the Offshore weekends.



- **Courses** – all courses for the Bay, Pulbah and RKR courses have been reworked. Thank you to Noel Jenkins, Bruce Dobinson and Ross Ahrens for their hard work on this. This rework has improved the courses and made each of the Divisional Courses a more consistent length. The current Division 4 Courses have all been set at around 8.5 to 9 NM and the current Division 2/3 courses at around 11-12 NM.
- **Interclub Racing** – dates for the RKR and Windward/Leeward series have been sent to Wangi and Toronto for inclusion in their programs.
- **Sprint Racing** – there was in principle agreement to run a series of short (20-30 minute) races during the season and we are looking at the gaps in the program to facilitate this. These races will be in addition to our Annual Point Score Races and will be a great opportunity to hone racing and regatta skills.

- **Racing Calendar** – While there are still plenty of moving parts, when we finalise the program, it will be distributed to our sailors.
- **IRC Handicap Racing** – From 1st June 2024, Australian Sailing (AS) has made a significant change in their policy to IRC rating rules. AS will now be offering a “Standard” certificate as well as the “Endorsed” certificate. Standard certificates are based on owner-declared data, Endorsed certificates are based on verified data by an AS Measurer. RORC are offering a 25% discount on IRC standard certificates for new boats or last rated >7 years ago. This will reduce the cost of acquiring and maintaining an IRC certificate. Both certificate types are fully compatible and may be raced alongside each other with the approval of the organising race club. This may be an option for LMYC to include IRC scoring results in certain series to grow its racing fleets (ie some Divisional Races, Super 30 Series, Offshore Series etc).

Thanks very much to everyone who has responded to the survey, attended the meeting or provided comments separately. We value your input and be assured the Sailing Committee does listen and wants to improve yacht racing at LMYC year on year.

BY STEVEN FORD, REAR COMMODORE
rearcommodore@lmyc.com.au

WIND WARRIORS - END OF SEASON WRAP UP

We finished our 2023/2024 season at the end of May and had our annual presentation yesterday, after the conclusion of racing.

Dave Anstey won the Scratch Trophy, Gun Boat Trophy and the Orrell Cup.

Eric Law won the Handicap Trophy.

Congratulations to Eric (R) who has won the trophy in his second year of competition and to Dave (L) a long time competitor and winner.

BY MARSHALL HARPER



SAILING RESULTS

WINTER POINTSCORE

Sunday series results - as at 16 June 2024

1. Flying Colours - Derek Reed
2. She's The Culprit - Glen Picasso
3. Spellcaster 111 - Scott Fergusson

[Race results link here](#)

WINTER POINTSCORE

Wednesday series results - as at 12 June 2024

Division 1

1. 2xcess - Steve McCloy
2. Optimum - Hines/Laybut Macleod
3. Squid4woody - Steve Liddell

Division 2

1. Scaramouche - John Skillicorn
2. Arc - Cummings/May/Dorman
3. Mirage - David Kelty

2023/2024 SAILING SEASON WINNERS

ANNUAL POINTSCORE DIVISIONAL WINNERS

- Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris
Div 2: Beat to Quarters, Eddie O'Donnell
Div 3: Excessive, David Nichols
Div 4: Wedgewood, Roger Geary

SUNDAY WINTER SERIES (BELLA GROUP SERVICES)

First place - Wedgewood, Roger Geary

SPRING DIVISIONAL WINNERS

- Div 1: Road Runner, Paul Heyes
Div 2: Excess, Bruce Dobinson
Div 3: Pugsley, Len Lavers
Div 4: Wedgewood, Roger Geary

SUMMER SERIES DIVISIONAL WINNERS

- Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris
Div 2: Echo Beach, Philip Matthews
Div 3: Excessive, David Nichols
Div 4: Mirage, David Kelty

BAY SERIES DIVISIONAL WINNERS (BUY A BOAT)

- Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris
Div 2: Tenacity, David Young
Div 3: Pugsley, Len Lavers
Div 4: Mirage, Dave Kelty

COMBINED CLUB PULBAH SERIES (JR MARINE & R.A MACKAY YACHT BROKERS)

- Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris
Div 2: Beat to Quarters, Eddie O'Donnell
Div 3: Morticia, Geoff Gardner
Div 4: Mirage, Dave Kelty



2023/2024 SAILING SEASON WINNERS CONT'D

PURSUIT SERIES (CRUSOE'S ON THE LAKE)

Div 2: Anarchie, Paul Hannan

Div 3: Ross Street, Noel Jenkins

Div 4: Mirage, David Kelty

LAKE MAC OPEN DIV 1 (LAKE MACQUARIE MOORINGS & MARINE SERVICES)

First place - Road Runner, Paul Heyes

COMBINED WINDWARD/LEEWARD SERIES (GERRY WUBBELLS AUTO, PIRTEK NTL AND AUSTEDAN FABRICATION, MARINE OUTLET)

Div 1: Bling, Peter Horne (WASC)

Div 2: Beat to Quarters, Eddie O'Donnell

Div 3: Morticia, Geoff Gardner

Div 4: The Apple, Warren Hodgkins

R K ROBERTSON INDIVIDUAL POINT SCORE (WHITWORTHS MARINE & LEISURE, ON POINT SHIPWRIGHT GROUP)

Div 1: Road Runner, Paul Heyes

Div 2: Misguided, Warwick Thatches (WASC)

Div 3: Morticia, Geoff Gardner

Div 4: Agent 88, Rod Carter

BEST PERFORMED BOAT - RKR SHIELD

Bling, Peter Horne (WASC)

LMYC LAKEFEST REGATTA (ASAHI BEVERAGES)

Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris

Div 2: So Farr, Dale Sharp

Div 3: Morticia, Geoff Gardner

Div 4: Mirage, David Kelty

LAKEFEST SHESAILS TRI-SERIES REGATTA

Best performed boat

1st - Misguided, Emily Fatches (WASC)

FRIDAY TWILIGHT LADY SKIPPER SERIES

1st - Ignition, Lateisha Bower

LADY SAILOR OF THE YEAR

Antonia Patterson

SYDNEY TO HOBART WAL RUSSELL MEMORIAL TROPHY

She's the Culprit

SYDNEY TO HOBART BOSUNS TROPHY - HANDICAP 2023

She's the Culprit



WEDNESDAY SERIES (EMPIRE MARINA)

Wednesday Winter Series

Div 1: Pugsley, Len Lavers & David Brown

Div 2: Scaramouche, John Skillicorne

Wednesday Summer 1 Series

Div 1: Dirty Deeds, Ian Humphris

Div 2 Spellcaster 111, Scott Fergusson

Wednesday Summer 2 Series

Div 1: Mirage, David Kelty

Div 2: Dee One, Chris Wilson



INTRODUCING LMYC SAILING MANAGER, SIMON TURPIN

Simon joined LMYC on 13 May 2024 as the new Sailing Manager.

Let's find out a bit more about Simon.

When was your first sailing experience?

My first sailing experience was when I was 5 and my Dad would take me down to Palm Beach and hire a Hobie 16 for a few hours at a time. I have very fond memories reaching down Pittwater in a Nor'easter, almost out of control with him on the helm. My older brother had a little Fairy Penguin however he would never allow me to sail with him as I was his annoying little brother all the time.

What was your previous job and what did it entail?

For over ten years, I was proudly employed with Southport Yacht Club (SYC) as the Sailing Operations Manager. SYC has nearly 4000 members and has four locations across the Gold Coast with its main Clubhouse & 300 berth Marina at Main Beach, Sailing Squadrons & Academies at Hollywell & Oxenford and its Dux Anchorage located on South Stradbroke Island.

As the Sailing Operations Manager, I was accountable for all of SYC's on water operations and management of their Sailing activities. SYC is an accredited Australian Sailing Discover Sailing Centre (DSC) which offers all the syllabus programs, including Tackers, Dinghy, Keelboat, SheSails, Powerboats, Windsurfer and Safety & Sea Survival courses.

In 2023, SYC was Australia's top performing DSC and I received the Queensland Sports Professional of the Year for Australian Sailing in 2021. Each year, SYC also conducts more than 430 yacht races across its five yachting divisions (Offshore, Inshore, Thursday Twilight, Off the Beach Dinghy's & Off the Beach Catamaran's) together with additional SYC Special Events (such as Sail Paradise & the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race) and also hosts numerous State, National and World Sailing Regatta's.

SYC's active Youth Training Programs & Sailing Development Foundation has developed, assisted and supported many talented individuals producing many Australian, World and Olympian champions of Sailing. In 2023 there were 141 members (ages 7-17) in its Academy Performance Programs.

Working at SYC was not a job, it was an awesome lifestyle and I am extremely proud that I played a major role in developing the sailing & culture at SYC, which now has a reputation of being one of the most respected and professional Yacht Clubs in Australia.

What did you like about your previous job?

The diversification of my position and challenges at SYC continued to inspire me. From governance to developing strategic plans, to being on water and bringing our Sport of Sailing to so many people. The members and the entire team at SYC became my extended family and their support and life long memories will always be in my heart. This chapter of my life was an absolute honour and privilege.

What brought you to the Lake?

My wife and I grew up in Rathmines and I used to race Dinghy's, Catamarans and Yachts out of Wangi Amateur Sailing Club. Due to family commitments, my wife and I decided it was time to relocate our family back to Lake Macquarie in order to spend more time with her aging parents in their final years and also for my daughter to start her Year 7 in High School. My other three daughters are still on the Gold Coast as they have now grown up and have their own lives. We were very lucky to be able to purchase a home in Rathmines and we relocated here back to our grassroots in December 2023.

This time next year, what do you hope to have achieved?

With the support of our LMYC's members, Committee's and our Board, we are looking to achieve clear pathways for new & existing members into keel boat racing with additional development & training programs. This will be achieved by introducing several strategies that will include:

- Implementing LMYC's accredited Discover Sailing Centre (DSC).
- DSC Programs will include accredited national & specific tailored keelboat programs including Discover Sailing Experiences, OutThere Sailing Courses for Youth, Start Crewing, Start Helming, Start Skippering and SheSails Programs.
- Developing a Youth Sailing pathway into Keelboats which will include some of the above programs, Secondary School holiday keelboat experiences with development courses and eventually Combined High School keelboat racing.
- Purchasing of assets & resources for the DSC including suitable keelboat training yachts, support boats, safety equipment including life jackets, VHF radio's, First Aid kits, fire extinguishers etc.
- Implementing an Asset Ongoing & Preventative Maintenance Program to ensure the DSC assets & resources are maintained and are in good working order at all times.
- Designing & implementing a Development Fund to support our members in representing LMYC at interclub Regatta's and Championship's. This to include assistance with Race Management support, on-water support, promotions, funding incentives etc.
- Foster and harness interclub relationships and events with other local clubs such as NCYC, RPAYC, B16's, WASC, RMYCT, SPASC, TASC, MPSC, TASC, SLMASC, MPASC, TBSC, PSYC.
- Develop and implement LMYC's traineeship program which will provide quality trained and accredited personnel for LMYC DSC, Development & Race Management excellence programs.
- Grant Applications process to ensure that LMYC receives funds from Local, State & Federal Government funding opportunities.

These strategies will not only harness LMYC's culture but they will further enhance our membership & increase our participation in our Sport of Sailing at LMYC for future generations.

It has been a pleasure meeting some of you and thank you for your warm welcome to your LMYC family.

Please remember that my door is always open for you in the Racing Office.

Looking forward to seeing you either in the Club or out on the water, enjoying our wonderful Sport of Sailing on the best waters of Australia, Lake Macquarie.

Sincerely,
Simon Turpin
Sailing Manager

SKILLS SESSIONS

Many thanks to Phil Cunningham for presenting Week 1 of our Sunday Skills Sessions on 26 May, 'Knots You Need' and to Antonia Patterson on 16 June for Week 2 on 'Winching techniques.'

We have some more sessions lined up -see below.

Sessions start at 9am & are **free**.

Please register at LMYC to secure your spot.

All welcome. See you in The Bridgedeck room.

23 June

- Headsail trimming, Simon Turpin

7 July

- Mainsail trimming, Morgan Frew

21 July

- Understanding wind on the water, Dale Sharp



FIRST EVER WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP

Sarah Hoffman will represent Australia at the Puig Women's America's Cup in Barcelona this year

You are invited to an Information Afternoon

June 30th
3pm – 5pm

Belmont 16s
Sailing Club

Join Sarah and Team Australia Challenge to hear about the campaign for the watershed moment that is the Women's America's Cup
Your chance to be part of history

RSVP June 26, 2024



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