

# *Zephyr Owners Association*

## **Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting**

**Date:** 6 September 2021 - 7:30 pm.

**Location:** Online Webinar Meeting.

**Attendees:**

Matt Mitchell, Brian Peet, Tony Miller, Helgard Dannhauser, Steve Pyatt, Cathryn Bridges, John Kliffen, Mark Thomas, Hansie Eichholz, Glenn Tassicker, Daniel Smith, Hamish Atkinson, John Boraston, Chris Bridges, Dennis Conway, Mike Drummond, Rob Dunne, Rob Ebert, Scott Elliott, Chris Hargraves, Murray Hay, Andy Knowles, Brett Linton, James Macrae, Rob Martin, Dan Middleton, Mark Orams, Paul Pearson, Terry Ross, Murray Sargisson, Peter Stokell, Pete Sutton and Greg Wright.

**Apologies:**

Richard Mackay, Alex Aitken and Llew Viljoen.

**Opening Meeting:**

ZOA President and meeting chairman, Matt Mitchell, welcomed members to the second Webinar ZOA AGM. Matt acknowledged the recent passing of Kim Ebert and offered Rob and his family sincere condolences on behalf of their many Zephyr friends. Matt also acknowledged Alex Aitken's stepping down as ZOA Patron and acknowledged the excellent work Alex had done to keep the class thriving over many decades.

**Minutes from 2020 AGM:**

Previously circulated in West Wind and via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor. Adoption moved Dannhauser/Ebert - approved.

**Minutes from 2021 Special General Meeting:**

Previously circulated in West Wind and via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor. Adoption moved Miller/Tassicker - approved.

**2020 AGM Reports:**

**President's Report**

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor.

**Treasurer's Report and Financial Report**

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. A discussion followed regarding mould building expenses recorded as a capital expense rather than a profit and loss entry due to the non-trading nature of this activity. It is recorded as an asset increase on the Balance Sheet

Adoption of Financial Report moved Kliffen/Tassicker – approved.

Tony Miller recommended subs remain at \$50. Moved Miller/Kliffen – Approved.

A previous, pre-nationals, Cat Bridges' initiative for a \$25 sub for under 25-year-olds was recommended by the Exec for more permanent status. Discussion was universally supportive. Moved: A \$25, under 25-year-old sub be available. Kliffen/Bridges – approved. The discount for this sub is to be deducted from the ZOA's portion.

**Secretary's Report**

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. No questions from the floor.

**Election of Officers**

The following were available for re-election. No other nominations received so the principal officers and executive members remain for the 2021-22 season.

**President** Matt Mitchell, **Secretary** Brian Peet, **Treasurer** Tony Miller.

**Executive** Steve Pyatt, Glenn Tassicker, Llew Viljoen, Cathryn Bridges and Hansie Eichholz.

**Regional Chairpersons.** After regional elections, each chairperson becomes an ex-officio member of the Executive. AZO - Helgard Dannhauser, HZO - Mark Thomas, WZO - John Kliffen and CZO - Daniel Smith.

**Chief Measurer** Graeme Robinson was available for re-election. No other nominations received, so remains for 2021-22 season.

**General Business**

**Nationals Heavy Weight Trophy**

After the 2021 nationals a complaint was lodged with the Exec that publishing sailor weights was no longer appropriate. Pre-entry weighing of all sailors was seen by many as

unnecessarily intrusive and publishing the same was a breach of personal privacy. The Heavy Weight Trophy was an initiative designed to demonstrate the band of sailor-weights able to race Zephyrs and has successfully achieved that objective. However, the Exec mindful of recent concerns, suggested that competition for this trophy be on an opt-in basis for over 95 kg sailors. Weights not to be published. Discussion followed with positive support from members anticipating being eligible for this trophy. Moved: The Heavy Weight Trophy remain on an opt-in basis, for over 95kg sailors. Conway/Hargraves – adopted.

#### **2022 Nationals Covid Interruption Options**

John Kliffen spoke to the potential challenges of running the Worser Bay nationals under Level 2 - restricted to 50 people inside and 100 people outside. No social events could be organised. If other parts of the country were L3 or greater, sailors would be unable to leave those regions to attend. The club would have to decide whether deferring staging the nationals for 12 months was preferable.

At an earlier Exec meeting these issues were discussed and alternate lockdown dates for a deferred nationals were investigated. No dates suitable - the Exec's position is if the nationals can't go ahead, they'll be rescheduled at WBBC, for a similar period in 2023. Discussion continued focussing on the challenges of cancellation-notification close to the regatta start date.

#### **Nationals Coaching Boat Exclusion**

At the Manly nationals some competitors received on the water coaching and equipment exchanges between races. Several competitors raised concerns over this never-before-seen aspect of Zephyr competition and suggested it provided an unfair advantage, undermining the egalitarian nature of the Zephyr class. The Exec assessed the complaint and took guidance from was other classes' documents, particularly the US ones that had similar issues. Additional clauses have been added into the ZOA National Contest Guidelines document. The principle being: -

*“Competitors shall have no communication with, or help from, coach or support boats from the time the first boats leave the shore until racing has been concluded for the day. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew.”*

The entire document will be placed on the ZOA Website.

Discussion focused on the health requirements of some competitors and their need for access to support boats. This aspect wasn't challenged, but the meeting consensus was supportive of banning individual coaching.

#### **Mast Supply**

Forged Fabrications have solved their technical build issues and have produced two production masts. Lockdown prevented collection, but once work restarts, Forged will produce ten more spars. When these are collected another batch of 12 will be ordered.

#### **Class Patron**

The resignation of Alex Aitkin as longstanding Patron was tabled, and the question of a replacement discussed. The position was informal and not prescribed in the ZOA Constitution. A letter is to be sent to Alex thanking him for his longstanding service as both class President and Patron.

#### **GRP Hull Measuring**

A member asked how the GRP hulls were measured and what processes were in place to ensure class rule compliance.

The laminate spec designed by Mackay Boats was approved by the Chief Measurer and class President. All boats are built to that spec and the Mackay quality control processes ensure compliance. Once boats are ready for sailing, they're measured using the Measuring Worksheet document used for the existing fleet. Items only applicable to timber hulls are exempted, instead covered under the GRP laminate schedule.

Another member asked if the GRP sub-bulkhead detail could be installed in a wood hull. The member was invited to put that question to the Secretary for referral to the Chief Measurer.

#### **Exec Meeting Minutes**

A member asked if Exec meeting minutes could be circulated to members to aide information flow. The secretary spoke against this request. Traditionally, in most

organisations minutes of committee meetings are for the use of the committee members to retain a record of their discussions and votes. A summary of those discussions can be circulated to that organisation's membership via newsletter. For the ZOA it's via West Wind, ZOA Website, Facebook and regional email reports.

If members have questions regarding current matters, the first point of contact should be with their local Exec rep.

Additional discussion revolved around record keeping. Currently the ZOA Constitution, Class Rules, West Wind, AGM, SGM and Exec meeting minutes are the class cornerstone documents. These are stored in three formats - paper based, cloud based and, on the Secretary's portable hard drive. In addition, the first five of those records are also available on the class website, openly accessible to members and non-members alike.

Meeting Closed 9:05 pm.