

# Signals from Sailability Manly

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[www.manlysailability.com.au](http://www.manlysailability.com.au)

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Warringah Council



Manly

## AGM Election Results

Our Club's new committee for this next year is

|                             |                                 |           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| President:                  | Patrick Alexander               | 9913 9848 |
| Secretary:                  | Eli Demeny                      | 9976 2747 |
| Treasurer:                  | Patrick Alexander (temporarily) |           |
| Membership Secretary:       | Peter Singer                    | 9416 8749 |
| Maintenance Officer:        | Jan Jensen                      | 9905 4869 |
| Publicity:                  | Bob Ronai                       | 9983 9057 |
| Volunteer Coordinator:      | Evelyn Shervington              | 9976 2134 |
| Commodore:                  | Peter Hamilton                  | 9975 1434 |
| Social Secretary:           | Jackie Morgan                   | 9949 7847 |
| Sailability NSW Rep:        | Deirdre Ronai                   | 9983 9057 |
|                             | Bob Ronai                       | 9983 9057 |
| Inter-Club Liaison:         | Jill Madden                     | 9948 4800 |
| MYC Sailing Club Committee: | Peter Hamilton                  | 9975 1434 |
| Committee Members:          | Cheryl Martin                   |           |
|                             | Maurine Goldston Morris         |           |
|                             | Glenice Bland                   |           |

We are without a Treasurer, so if you are an experienced Club Treasurer, an Accountant or Book-keeper, or you know someone who is, and who has a couple of hours a month spare plus the first Wednesday evening of the month available to attend our meetings to help our fantastic Club, please contact our President. In the meantime Patrick is keeping the Treasury seat warm.

## Sailability NSW Conference

Patrick Alexander, Eli Demeny, Bob & Deirdre Ronai and Judy Cole will be representing our branch at a conference being held Friday, Saturday and Sunday of next weekend at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation, Narrabeen. Most of the branches in NSW will be sending delegates to the conference which is a residential though as our delegates live locally we will attend specific sessions. The conference is being sponsored by the NSW Association of Disability Sports and the NSW Sports Federation.

Topics will include administration, grant applications and submissions, volunteering, promotion and the media, risk management, correct rigging of Access dinghies and operation of slings, strategic planning and looking towards the future. The Sailability NSW Inc (our parent organisation) AGM will also be held on the Sunday morning. The conference will be a great opportunity for our delegates to mix with the other branches and share experiences. We'll publish a report next issue.



# MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 4th JULY 2007

Present: Patrick Alexander, Jill Madden, Deirdre Ronai, Jan Jensen, Melissa Walek, Peter Hamilton, Jackie Morgan Bob Ronai, Evelyn Shervington.

Preamble: The purpose of this special meeting was to consider a range of issues as tabled by Bob Ronai and responses from Eli Demeni and Jan Jensen. The present membership of Manly Sailability is just over 100. This includes volunteers and sailors of various capabilities; this is a record membership and represents about 70 volunteers and about 30 sailors. We have found that on some Saturdays, this number of volunteers provides some spare capacity for additional sailors and these could be recruited from existing and new contacts. Wednesday sailing would need additional volunteers if the number of mid week days were to be increased.

Topic: The discussion opened with robust contributions on several possible new contact areas that may expand our range of sailors to those not presently aware of our facilities. These included doctors, therapists, people living at home or other organisations. It was the feeling of members that these contacts should be kept to people with genuine physical or other disabilities that prevented them from participating in outdoor sports or recreation and who would benefit from the wonderful freedom and exhilaration obtained from sailing, especially for rehabilitation purposes.

Decision: The Public Relations Officer, Bob Ronai, offered to follow up several of these suggestions with the view to test the viability of broadening the sailing membership. It will be a staged approach as he has limited time to spend on this promotion and results will be carefully monitored to ensure we are not swamped with a sudden increase in people wishing to sail and so overtax our current position.

Topic: Increasing the number of Wednesday sailing days. Again this had vigorous discussion. Increased Wednesday sailing is not possible with the existing number of volunteers available during the week.

Decision: It was suggested that Marjorie Janz at Warringah Council be contacted to assist with midweek volunteers. Bob Ronai will also canvas all new contacts about sailing on Wednesday to assess its popularity. The results will be brought to the next committee meeting for decision on future planning.

Topic: Consideration to be given to more "races" between our boats on sailing days or special days set aside for races. Generally it was agreed that formal races take a lot of time setting up and supervising and severely limits the number of sailors who can participate due to the number of boats.

Decision: Informal ad hoc races could be possible between 2-3 boats leaving the pontoon at the same time but would need to have specific courses that limit the amount of time to sail and are generally the ones sailed, such as around the Fairlight buoy and back to the pontoon. These would be arranged by the volunteers and sailors at the time and could be held after general sailing on Saturday morning if sufficient cooperation from volunteers were available. The new committee may consider setting special race days if interest and numbers are confirmed. A questionnaire will be prepared for all members to answer including the desire to race.

Topic: Difficulty parking small buses and larger vehicles in the vicinity of the club. Any increase in participants automatically puts pressure on the very limited parking available to all members especially vehicles outside the ordinary family type car. It was discussed that the vacant grassed area in the corner, alongside that presently used by the skiff club for rigging could be utilised for parking of special vehicles. It was agreed that this area could create problems with heavy vehicles on the grass but Council should be approached to see if a more suitable parking area could be made available to our members on sailing days.

Decision: Bob Ronai offered to approach Manly Council on behalf of the committee (to be followed up with a letter from the committee)

Topic: Assistance to be offered to Manly Yacht Club. Discussion followed around the amount of help Sailability Manly has provided to MYC. This included both financial help and physical help for working bees or other special projects where our members, especially volunteers were happy to help. Several committee members are also members of MYC.

Decision: It was agreed that there was excellent cooperation between the MYC and SM and both clubs profited from the association. The committee would decide all issues on their individual merits and all members would be notified through the "Signals" and our website, when working bees need help.

Topic: Documentation of recurring committee policy issues. There is a Secretaries Manual but it may not be a formal policy document relating to the management of various issues specific to Sailability Manly. Issues included the value of cheques able to be drawn without committee approval, number of committee members constituting a quorum and the number of committee members to be elected each AGM - and such. Sailability NSW has job specification that may be relevant to our needs. In addition Child Protection documentation should be confirmed for all new members where required by law.

- Decision:** It was decided that a brief one page document would assist new committees and confirm general procedures in conjunction with the Secretaries Manual; it would be reviewed from time to time to maintain relevance. The new committee will be asked to prepare such a document. The Sailability NSW documents should be assessed and modified or used where suitable for our purposes, including the Child Protection forms and job specifications for volunteers.
- Topic:** Items for "Signals" and the website. There was general acknowledgment on the excellent communication now achieved through "Signals" and our website since it was taken over by the Public Relations Officer, Bob Ronai and recognition of the incredible amount of work necessary in the preparation and presentation of information to our members and others in the general community. The importance of these communications was recognised as being a major factor in the increased membership numbers.
- Decision:** It was generally agreed that where specific items may be misconstrued or are of a contentious nature they should be reviewed by another committee member before publication. This in no way diminishes the role or the veracity of the editor who stated that he would welcome contributions from members where they have interesting, newsy items.

Several other topics were noted and it was decided to leave them to be considered by the new committee following the election at the AGM in August.

## Sailing Reports

**Wed. 13 June** — An uncertain morning.....the weather looks clear, but the temperature is very low, and there is a stiff breeze from the west. Three groups were booked in, so we decided to go ahead with only three boats. All the helpers arrived, well rugged up with hats and wind gear, rigged boats and get everything ready for the onslaught. Royal Far West pulled out owing to the fact that the previous few days bad weather over parts of NSW had caused some of their students to cancel, then our Fisher Rd students arrived, very warmly dressed, and very excited at the thought of sailing.

Paula, Craig and Ian were our skippers, and off they went with Craig, Thomas and Brendan. It was real sailing, with boats zooming through the water, waves sometimes washing over the side, and lots of work for the safety boat to do. Rhett and Lauchlan decided that the Safety Boat looked a drier option, so they were picked up and taken for a brisk run. Skippers and students all came back very wet, but faces shining with excitement, ready for a snack, while Peter went off with Alex and Ian went again with Conrad. It was certainly Winter sailing today, very exhilarating for both students and helpers, but at that stage, we decided to cancel our MAPS group, as the wind became too uncomfortable for both helpers and clients.

Thanks very much to all helpers who braved the cold weather today, and to the wonderful seniors from Fisher Rd School. — Eli

**Sat. 23 June** — As compensation for the last sailing day on the Wednesday , 13 June, Saturday was a perfect winter's day with bright sunshine and gentle wind. Sailors and volunteers were eager to get out on the water for an easy day's sailing, but everybody was well dressed for the occasion, which included some brand new red Sailability hats that were there to be purchased.

Ted and Steve, our father and son team, were amongst the first to get away from the pontoon, followed by Judith having a great time by herself. The rescue boat with Jill and Mark taking turns at the helm and Bob R taking his candid camera shots had a busy time chasing the happy sailors back to the pontoon where they could have coffee, tea and sausage sandwiches prepared by Shelley, Deirdre and Britta, who also looked after the radio. Hannah, Greg and Michael from Glenmore Park enjoyed themselves a lot and Greg could not stop laughing when the wind freshened and the boat tilted. They had such a great reception and good time that Hannah made a donation to show their appreciation.

Dennis and Ivan spent the time sailing and arguing about the finer points of sailing. Jonathon who was hesitating whether to jump into the water, or not, decided not to jump and followed Karen by jumping into a boat instead. Anna, Kerry, Ashley and Matthew from Mt Kuring-Gai had a happy day's sailing in the warm sunshine.

Helen, Patrick, Vlad, John and Jackie looked after the rigging, launching and changing of the boat crews under the watchful eyes of Bob H and Eli, while Paula, Ivan and Peter went out sailing. Evelyn must have got stuck in the boat as we could not count the number of sailors who were with him on the day.

To all the volunteers and helpers a great thank you for a very pleasant and successful winter's day sailing. — Peter S.

**Sat. 28 July** — This morning looked beautiful.....until we got to Manly Yacht Club and started rigging boats. Then the wind came up, and up, and up until there were white caps in the cove, and it was definitely not a good day for our little boats. We sat and waited it out until 10 o'clock, then did a slightly more complicated rigging of just 3 boats, placing them in the water before attempting to rig the main or the jib. This worked well, and we were able to take out our more hardy sailors, Paula and Wayne, Jessika and Jackie, Helene and

Mitch, Judy and Steve, then later, Paula with Tim and Denis with Judy. Thanks you so much to these sailors, you made a difficult day worthwhile, and thank you so much to all of the people who came down to Manly, then accepted gracefully the news that it was not going to be possible for them to have a sail. To those members who came from as far away as Riverwood, Hunter's Hill, Mt Kuringgai, Elanora Hts, Hornsby, we do apologise for the excessive wind and hope that next sailing day it will be a whole lot better.

Thanks also to the helpers today. We all did a marvellous job being sociable, eating lots of sausages, and looking busy most of the time. Let's all hope that our August Sailing Day, 25th August, is a much better day for sailing. — Eli

**Wed. 8 August** — How perfect can sailing be? Today was just about as good as it gets. Our eager helpers arrived at about 9.00 a.m. to put the boats out and rig, and by 9.30 all was ready to go. Our new Safety Boat Officer, Graham, checked for radio reception and was out there, followed by some of our helpers who like to have a sailing lesson before the business end of the day. The weather was unbelievable after so many cancelled days.... Light winds, warm temperatures, and a seal playing off Reef Beach, keeping everyone amused.

First bus to arrive was Arranounbai, so that Mahina, Ashleigh, Matthew, Issie, Daniel and Edward could have a sail. Way to go!!!! This is about the most relaxed we have ever seen Daniel, sitting up in his car seat, enjoying the scenery, and the other 5 all expressed their pleasure in whatever way they could.

At exactly the right moment, just when the school students had finished, our friends from MAPS arrived. And 'move ahead' they did. First off smiley Andrew went off, followed by Brad, Ben, James, and last of all, chatterbox Jenny.

I do not want to close without thanking our two new helpers; Tim, you were wonderful, and John, you did a fabulous job today. Thanks also to our regular helpers - Wayne, Judy, Corey, Helen, Senny, Ian, Vlad, Paula, Peter, Ivan, Graham and Francis. Francis, next time you throw your sunnies in the water, please make sure the water is just as delightful as it was today, I was itching for that swim. — Eli

## 2007 Sailing Dates

### Winter Saturdays:

25.8.07      Hornsby Lifestyles + General

### Summer Saturdays:

8.9.07      BIRDS + General  
22.9.07      Hornsby Lifestyles + General  
6.10.07      Hornsby Lifestyles + General  
20.10.07     BIRDS + General  
3.11.07      Hornsby Lifestyles + General  
17.11.07     BIRDS + General  
1.12.07      Hornsby Lifestyles + General  
15.12.07     Picnic and Race Day - all welcome.

### Summer Wednesdays:

12.9.07      Royal Far West + Fisher Rd  
10.10.07     Holiday program - Coachhouse  
14.11.07     Truscott St + Fisher Rd  
12.12.07     MAPS + Centacare

### Other Special Days:

4.11.07      Try Sailing Day (Sunday)

### What time we start:

Volunteers should arrive by 9am, sailors from 9:45am.

### Booking in:

Please book in at least 24 hours ahead. Visitors are always welcome to see what we do and try us out, but please call us to book in so that we can make sure you get to sail. Call Eli on 9976 2747.

### Parking permits:

We have parking permits for your car if you don't already have a disability parking permit.

### Extras to bring:

All sailors and volunteers must bring a hat that stays on and a good sunscreen. We supply bottled water and life jackets for all who sail.

### Info for Volunteers:

Please be at the Yacht Club by 9am. We will normally finish sailing around 1pm and try to get everything packed away by 2pm. If your name appears on the roster, and you are not available, please call some of the people on your list to provide a replacement, and tell Evelyn on 9976 2134 about the changes. If you are not able to get a replacement, call Evelyn and let him know.

If your name is not on the volunteer roster, and you find you have some extra time available, please turn up to Sailing, as we can always use some extra helpers.

Check our website regularly for the latest sailing schedule, reports of our sailing days plus other events: <[www.manlysailability.com.au](http://www.manlysailability.com.au)> and slideshows of our photos on:

<[picasaweb.google.com/sailabilitymanly](http://picasaweb.google.com/sailabilitymanly)> and while you're on the internet, also regularly check Sailability's website <[www.sailability.org](http://www.sailability.org)> for interesting information. You'll find the latest issue of "Freedom on the Water" magazine there plus items about other branches etc.

To check the weekend boating forecast before you come down to sailing, go to the Bureau of Meteorology on <[www.bom.gov.au/products/IDN65186.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/products/IDN65186.shtml)> and look at the West Channel Beacon section for Manly Cove's conditions.