



23 March 2020

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WELCOME

There is a lot happening around your club and around the world at present. At your club it is business as usual, events are still happening, the bar and bistro are operational, and the gaming room is open. Additional measures have been taken to ensure the safety of members, staff and visitors. Come down and support your club.

FROM THE HELM – Leo Rodriguez (President)

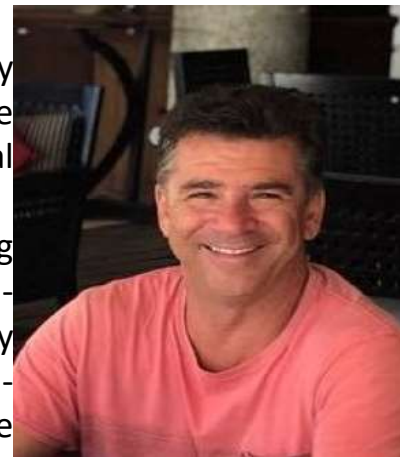
Fellow members, these are challenging times for our community and ultimately our club, I want to assure you we are doing all we can to remain open and provide our members with our normal facilities.

Australian Sailing, Clubs Queensland and the Australian Sporting Association have all issued precautions procedures and recommendations that we are following and adhering to, unfortunately this is a moving target and changes are being applied daily to comply with government health organisations and new laws that are now in place.

The board ask that you remain patient and comply with any measures the staff at the club have in place when you visit. Please practice social distancing and use the sanitizers available throughout the club.

On a brighter note, the club remains the best place in town to catch up with friends, please support the club when you can.

Our Redevelopment plans are progressing well with the maritime training centre taking shape, these are exciting times



A Message from our General Manager - Michael Carter

Dear Valued Guest,

The Whitsunday Sailing Club is open for business, fun and laughter. There is no higher priority for our Club than the health and safety of our members, guests, colleagues and their communities. We know the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is causing uncertainty around the world, and we want to assure you that we as a community club are carefully monitoring the situation.

We wish to personally reach out to all of you to provide an update on the actions we are taking to ensure continued service and operations, while also protecting the health and well-being of our people and guests.



Our service quality remains intact and we are committed to delivering the highest standard of food, beverage and gaming products to you in a beautiful ocean side venue.

Currently, we do not expect any interruption to our business; our staff members remain committed to delivering high quality service taking into consideration all health and safety requirements.

Additionally, we have created additional instructions to our people to properly clean and sanitise all areas of premises and have provided hand sanitiser in all areas for access to both our guests and our staff.

We are committed to you, our valuable guests, and our decisions and actions during this difficult time will be based on fact and guided by our values. We will continue to provide timely updates to you on this matter as necessary.

Best Wishes and Stay safe,

The Whitsunday Sailing Club Family

More than just a Sailing Club

From the Sailing Desk - Ross Chisholm (Sailing Manager)

We are endeavouring to maintain our sailing programs during this difficult time. Until further notice, all races will be non point scoring, relieving pressure from boat owners, skippers or crew. Sail Airlie Regatta is currently still going ahead, as is Airlie Beach Race Week. Some activities may need to be curtailed. We plan to proceed with our learn to sail programs, commencing on 10th May.

Warri Cup

Whitsunday Sailing Club, working in conjunction with Abell Point Yacht Club, conducted the annual APYC Warri Cup race on Sunday, in perfect 10-15 knots of breeze from South East. This event is APYC's major race of the year, racing from Airlie Beach around Langford Island and return. The "Warri" was a local boat that Airlie local residents, Celia and Chris Taylor owned. After Chris sadly passed away, Celia and the APYC decided to hold the "Chris Taylor" memorial race, a course around Langford Island and back. This course remains unchanged today. The race name has morphed to become the "Warri Cup" and the trophy, which is actually a model of the Warri, was made by Celia and Chris's friend, Bill Gleeson.

From the Sailing Desk (Continued)

A total of 14 yachts competed in this year's event, with the fleet divided into divisions, the multihull (catamarans) starting first in Division 1. Two totally different boats started in this division, with Graham and Clayton Matthews' Nacra Malice, an out and out racing boat, up against Steve Halter's cruising boat, Cheetah. Malice streaked around the 30 mile course in just under 2 hours, while Cheetah took a further 77 minutes. On corrected time that deficit reduced to 14 minutes, which was reflective of the ideal condition for the Nacra.

Division 2 was targeted at the racing boats with spinnakers, again with only two boats competing. Treasure VIII (Rob Davis) was first away; although it was not until they reached Langford Reef that a spinnaker was briefly flown. Crossbow (Mark Beale) were unable to respond, gifting the win to Treasure VIII by 6 minutes.

The non spinnaker division made up the bulk of the fleet, with 10 boats all vying to get their name on the trophy. Although the largest boat in the fleet, Celebrity (Miles Wood) was first to complete the race, the best they could do on corrected time was third. An ongoing battle between similar boats, Mick Wright's Yandeena and Dan White's Riff Raff always adds some colour to this event.



In this case, the advantage on the water went to Riff Raff by 6 minutes, slotting Riff Raff into second place, just 23 seconds ahead of Celebrity on corrected time, with Yandeena close behind. Lama, skippered by Darren Lynch, won the day, a clear 10 minutes ahead of the fleet on corrected time.

The presentation of trophies was well attended at Whitsunday Sailing Club, and, the traditions of the event, there were no losers with all competitors receiving recognition for a great day on the water.

Off Beach Sailing

We recently saw two mixed teams from the Whitsunday region competing in the preliminary heats of the North Queensland schools teams' racing event in Townsville. Although no school was able to field a full team of sailors, it was possible, through the efforts of Whitsunday Sailing Club and Port Dennison Sailing Club to each field a combined team from their local schools to compete against three teams from Townsville. Teams' racing is about ensuring that your combined team of three boats has an overall score better than your competitor in a series of short, team on team races. Both teams were made up of experienced club sailors, however none had previously been involved in teams racing, which involves a different approach to tactics. The Whitsunday team was Enzo Ardimanni; Daniel Den Elzen; Jesse Frisch; Eden Humphrey; Joshua King and Zac Sleight.



After a series of 10 races, in which each team raced against each other, the scoreboard showed that the two teams from Pimlico State High School, who are experienced in teams racing, held the lead with 4 wins and 3 wins, the Whitsunday team had two wins, Bowen had one win, while the Townsville mixed team were winless.

Moving into the semi finals, it was Whitsundays racing against the Pimlico Gannets, while the Pimlico Plovers lost out to the Bowen team. In the finals, both Pimlico teams were too good for their opponents, leaving overall results of Pimlico Gannets first, Bowen second, Pimlico Plovers third, Whitsundays fourth and the Townsville Curlews fifth.

The first three teams now move onto the North Queensland Championship against the northern region, which have been delayed until later in the year.



Offshore racing

To date there has only been one offshore event, an offshore race around Grassy Island and Armit Islands and return. This year we are conducting races as a single division, due to the number of competitors, however, this can be revised if additional boats were interested. It would be great to see some more cruising boats racing, which would enable the club to offer a non-spinnaker division.



The first races of the Lady Skippers' series have also been run and won, aimed at providing an opportunity for the fairer sex to take control of the boats, racing against their peers and demonstrating their sailing skills.

Two races were scheduled on Pioneer Bay on 16th February with an overall prize awarded based on a combined result. A fleet of 5 boats participated in the two races during the day, with the first race starting in 6 knots of south easterly breeze which soon veered to the north east. This played out well for Twister (Tanya Jarvis), who chose to start at the far end of the starting line, clearing the entire fleet to take the initial lead. By the time they arrived at the first mark of the course, Twister held a slight lead over Overdrive (Darlene Reid). These two boats remained almost tied together for much of the race, with little more than a boat length separating them. It was not until the last leg of the 9 leg course that Overdrive took the lead, crossing the finishing line 15 seconds ahead of Twister. Four minutes later saw Infarrction (Carol Roberts) crossing the finishing line, while Treasure VI (Anita Stevens) and Lama (Heather Sutton) finished soon after.

Corrected time results for race 1 were extremely close, with Treasure VI taking the win by 5 seconds from Twister, with Infarrction a further 12 seconds behind. In fact there was less than 80 seconds between first and last place.

For the second race, the race committee altered the course configuration to the new wind direction, with Infarrction taking the initiative at the start to lead the fleet away. This time, Overdrive soon took control of the fleet, establishing a substantial lead early in the race, never to be headed. Twister was unable to stay in touch, finishing a distant 5 minutes in arrears, while Infarrction was a further two minutes back. Even though Lama was the last boat to finish, her handicap result brought them back into contention to win by 2 minutes over Overdrive, with Infarrction again taking third place.

Overall results for the day saw Treasure VI take the win by a single point, having a first and a fourth (5 points), ahead of Lama with a fifth and first, Overdrive (second and fourth), Infarrction (two third places) all on 6 points.

The final two races in the Lady Skippers Series will be held in October.



Berths available on I arm at PoA

The club currently has several marina berths available for short or long term rental. If you, or anyone you know requires a berth, contact the club secretary in the first instance on 4946 6138 or secretary@whitsundaysailingclub.com.au

Club Website

Along with the club's new website, coming soon, Australian Sailing's RevSport program is being introduced to members. This platform will enable members to complete many activities on line, in so doing free up many of the administrative tasks carried out by staff. This includes self checking of personal details in the Australian Sailing database, check validity of your Australian Sailing Number (previously known as silver card number), pay membership fees, boat storage fees, enrol and pay for courses, enter races and pay race entry fees, and other items to be developed over time.

Check it out at <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/whitsundaysc/> to ensure that your details are current.

Around Your Club

Boats for Hire

Whitsunday Sailing Club has a number of off-beach sailboats available for hire to members wishing to participate in club races, sail training or just a casual sail.

Non members can participate via the club's SailPASS program, which enables non members to join the club on a daily basis. For a cost of \$10.00 (inc GST) a SailPASS member is entitled to participate in club events as a temporary member for the day, and to hire club's boats provided suitable experience can be demonstrated.

Before you start

We only hire boats to ordinary, associate, SailPASS members or junior members (subject to parent / carer signed consent) of Whitsunday Sailing Club with suitable sailing experience. You need to be able to tack and gybe and right the boat after a capsize. You will need to sign our waiver form and comply with our operating rules. Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) must be worn by all participants.

What's included

The price includes the boat ready to sail and Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) (if required). You will need to bring your own sailing gear – eg:- protective clothing, sunscreen, foot wear

Safety Regulations

If hiring a club dinghy, members must be aware of and comply with Australian Sailing's Special Regulations Part 2 Off the beach boats

Please download the new safety regulations for Off Beach boats. These rules are important and must be complied with.

Rates given are for a casual "one off" session, or for a sailing "series", which typically coincides with school terms (10 Weeks). Arrangements can be made to those wishing to compete in club regattas, such as "Sail Airlie" regatta, held over the Easter period. Note that the rates quoted are exclusive of SailPASS temporary membership.



SailPASS

SailPass is a means by which a non-member can go sailing at your Club – it's a form of introductory or short-term membership (for a day or days).



- It offers safe, quick, easy and affordable access to sailing
- It breaks down the perceived barriers to sailing
- It has potential to target new markets and offers you a marketing database
- It's a massive safety improvement
- It's compliance friendly
- It's increasingly popular and successful in clubs currently utilising it
- Mostly – it is a simple way to get more people, having fun in boats at your club

Unlike other sports, Sailing has for years allowed crew to participate in the sport for no cost. To play any other organised sport in Australia, where facilities, officials, scores, rules, insurances, maintenance and administrators are required – you need to register and pay a fee to participate. Our club membership fees currently cover some of these costs, but it is time for all participants to contribute.



For \$10.00 per day, it is still one of the cheapest sports available. As of 1st April, it will be mandatory that all persons on board during a race, including twilight races, either have an Australian Sailing number (AS Number) or are register as a SailPASS member. Among other benefits, having an AS Number provides the member with Australian Sailing's Personal Accident insurance while on the water.

Registration is easy. Either scan the QR code below or go to

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/whitsundaysc/>. Initial registration takes less than 5 minutes; subsequent registrations are even easier.

For boat owners / skippers - Membership status is mandatory if sailing & if non-members ignore the Sail Pass offer, non-compliance is now a boat / skipper / crew issue and there are penalty provisions for non-compliance..... Each boat will be required to submit a crew list to ensure compliance.



Sail Airlie 2020

Once again, the Whitsunday Sailing Club will conduct the annual Sail Airlie regatta over the Easter period, 10-13 April 2020. Last year, Airlie Beach and the Whitsunday Sailing Club was host to over 250 visiting competitors and supporters for the 2018 Sail Airlie regatta, which included 40 boats in the Australian O'pen Skiff championship. With a further 45 boats competing in six divisions, the event attracted entrants from Tinnaroo and Mission Beach down to Brisbane. Competition over 3 course areas ranged from the high performance 29'er, through to Lasers and down to a tackers fleet, with competitors ranging from as young as 7 years of age ranging up to competitors in their 60's.

Planning is already underway for Easter 2020, this year to be run in conjunction with Australian Sailing's CQ clubs challenge, the North Queensland Laser Championship, the Sabot traveller Series and a green fleet regatta. As a lead up to the regatta, Australian Sailing will be conducting a training camp at the club from 8 – 10 April 2020.

The regatta is open to all classes of Off the Beach racing dinghies and catamarans, Classes may be split into divisions, with results calculated by class yardstick, subject to entries.

Up to 7 races are scheduled for each division, with racing on Saturday, Sunday and Monday

The Location

Airlie Beach has loads to offer both sailors and non-sailors. From day trips to the Whitsunday islands and Great Barrier reef, to bars, restaurants and an enclosed swimming lagoon. The Whitsunday Sailing Club is ideally situated on the waterfront, right in the heart of Airlie Beach.

Camping

Limited camping will be available at the club for the duration of the regatta, however numbers are strictly limited. Bookings can be made through the regatta entry portal [here](#). In addition, there is a range of accommodation in the close proximity to the club, including hotels, motels, camping grounds, caravan parks, etc

Social Scene

With the current uncertainty around functions and events, it is difficult for the club to pre-plan events. However, we continue to provide live music at the club on Wednesday evenings after the weekly Twilight Race. Keep an eye on the clubs website for upcoming events.

We are currently unable to provide our usual Wednesday after race buffet dinner; however, we are providing a range of specials in addition to our normal galley menu.

Airlie Beach Race Week – Still On!

Entry for the Whitsunday Airlie Beach Festival of Sailing opened on 1 March, 2020 and can be found online, along with Notice of Race, on the Home page of the official Airlie Beach Race Week website (www.abrw.com.au).

The Whitsunday Sailing Club has announced that its hallmark regatta, now in its 32nd year, will be held from 6-13 August, again featuring some of the most scenic courses on offer in the world.

Race day one, Friday 7 August, will again involve a mass start for all participants.

According to Race Director Ross Chisholm, “Competitors really enjoy the challenge of the mass start with well over 100 yachts jostling for position on two start lines.”

The mass start also provides a breathtaking sight for locals and tourists to the beautiful Whitsundays at this popular time of year. Where else would you want to be sailing in an Australia winter?

Entry is open for IRC Passage, One Design, Performance Racing, Performance Cruising, Non-Spinnaker, Sports Boat, Trailable Yachts, OMR Multihull and Multihull Cruising divisions.

Also, by popular demand, AMS Divisions will be added this year.

Boat owners were surveyed following last year’s successful event and organisers at the Club were well pleased when 89 percent of those contacted responded.

“Feedback from competitors was really positive, confirming that regatta organisers are getting it right both onshore and on the water,” Race Week Chairman, Adrian Bram commented.

“We received some excellent suggestions and are making improvements in response,” he said.

Improvements include merging the WSC clubhouse and the Race Week central marquee under one licence to allow the portability of food and beverages between the upstairs and downstairs venues.

A wider range of food options will also be on offer, but best of all, sponsored happy hour will be added every race day evening from 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Whitsunday Sailing Club. Following the success of last years’ program, one such Happy Hour will take place on the Tuesday evening at Northerlies Beach Bar and Grill with free return transport provided by Whitsundays 2 Everywhere Airport Transfers and Charters.

Organisers are expecting around 120 boats will take part in Airlie Beach Race Week. Boat owners will bring with them more than 2,200 crew, family and friends who enjoy the onshore Festival, which entices more than 11,000 attendees.

The Whitsundays Festival of Sailing is the region’s premier sporting and entertainment event, attracting thousands of people from all over Australia and around the world.

Get your entry in early and come and join the fun, on and off the water.

Enter now at: www.abrw.com.au where you will also find the Notice of Race and all information.



COMING EVENTS

Australian Sailing Courses

9 May Equipment Auditor National Course

Offshore

29 March Challengers' Cup Races 1 & 2

18 – 19 April Interclub Challenge

26 April Offshore Race

2 – 4 May Hamilton Cup regatta

16 May Sunset Bay Race

Offbeach

29 March Sprint Series

11 – 13 April Sail Airlie Easter Regatta

18 April Discover Sailing Day

26 April Airlie Cup

1-3 May Sail Tinaroo / KBSC Regatta

Learn to Sail

10 May Tackers 1

10 May Adult - Start Sailing 1 and 2

Maritime Training

29 March Long Range Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency

8 April Provide First Aid Inc CPR; Provide CPR; Oxygen

15 April Provide First Aid Inc CPR; Provide CPR; Oxygen

16 – 17 April Shipboard Safety Skill Set

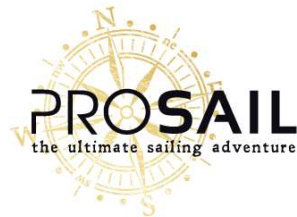
18 April Queensland Recreational Boat Licence

19 April Long Range Radio Operators Cert of Proficiency

20 Apr – 1 May Coxswain Grade 2

20 Apr – 6 May Coxswain Grade 1

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Regular Events (Back soon)

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