



WHITSUNDAY SAILING CLUB

Notes from the GM's desk

In spite of all the rumours you may have heard, nothing of significance, has changed at the moment with Stage 2 of the COVID-19 relaxation regulations. We are still planning to open your Club in early July when Stage 3 begins..... although given the recurrence of cases in Victoria the situation remains fluid. There is no plan to relax social distancing in the short term so please understand that when we do open we will only be allowed to seat the number that fits in with whatever the social distancing allows at the time. For the moment we are allowed to have 20 in the club, 20 on the deck and 8 in the bar all patrons must be seated and only table service is allowed.

That aside there are wonderful things happening with your Club.... the toilets, kitchen and bar have been fully refurbished, internally the venue and the deck have been fully repainted. We have new furniture on the way and new floor coverings. There is new menus, wine lists and a brand new name for your bar and restaurant. There is a planned upgrade to gaming, a new front door, air conditioning and so much more. Whilst it has been a difficult period for all of us I hope the we come out of the other side with a better Club for you to enjoy.

General Meeting 5 July

A reminder to members that there is a General Meeting of club members on Sunday 5th July 2020 at 9:00am.

Please see notification below. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, attendance is restricted to 40 full (voting) members, so it is essential that the secretary is notified of your attendance. To check if you are eligible to attend or vote, please contact the club secretary on 4946 6138.

Whitsunday Sailing Club Limited

Notice of General Meeting

will be held in the clubhouse on

Sunday 5th July at 9am

Business:

1. Information session on current Whitsunday Sailing Club operations and proposed redevelopment plans for Whitsunday Maritime Training Centre and Whitsunday Sailing Club
2. Show of confidence with the direction the Executive Committee is taking with the redevelopment of WSC.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, attendees must notify the club secretary by email secretary@whitsundaysailingclub.com.au as numbers could be limited. The meeting may be postponed or rescheduled in order to comply with Covid legislation. If necessary a second meeting may be organized on the same day.

This notice will apply to both meetings if required.

Proxy forms are available on request from the club secretary and must be received 48 hours before the General Meeting.

New membership fee structure

CLUB MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES MOVING INTO THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR

Introduction

During the Covid-19 shutdown of the Whitsunday Sailing Club (WSC), we established a project to compare our membership fee structures and member benefits of similar sized sailing clubs around Australia. Given that Australian Sailing (AS) has established a banding process to equalise club affiliation fees across each state, this was used as a basis for comparison of like sized clubs. WSC has been assessed by AS, as being Band 12. For this project, comparisons between clubs graded around Band 12 was used as a basis for this comparison, with a total of 22 clubs considered.

Currently our Sailing Club Adult membership includes an AS number, AS personal accident insurance, discounted meals and drinks, voting rights, the ability to sit on committees and have a say in the running of the club, sailing rights, ability to join in sailing events, member only access for boat storage, (Moorings, Hardstand, Marina, including dinghy and off beach storage) access to club facilities, including boat ramp access, showers, toilets, power and water to clean boats, etc.

It is our intention over the coming months to add to our member benefits

- Discounted entry to races (additional charge for non-members)
- Ability to book and hire club sailboats (Quests, Hobie Waves, etc)
- Entitlement to one complementary Adult learn to sail course or similar
- Discounted Maritime Training Courses
- Full laundry facilities,
- Gas Swap facilities
- Discount agreements with other venues and with festival holders
- Car Parking (we are currently working on an agreement with council along with the creation of our own facility into the future)
- Monthly sailing and boating information nights (rules, maintenance, sail shapes, etc)
- And other items that we consider as needed by our membership.

To be eligible to vote, members will be required to be actively involved in sailing/volunteering at the Club and be included on an "active sailors" list which is publicly available. This list will be maintained by the Sailing Committee under the leadership of the Commodore. Family membership entitles 1 vote per adult family member. Members who have been with the club for more than twelve months, should apply to the Executive Committee to be awarded the right to become a voting member. Current long-term prepaid members (3 year and 10 year) will still be accounted for Australian Sailing Affiliation as this was not included in their original agreement.

This year will see the introduction of a compulsory Club house support scheme, whereby members (other than long term pre-paid, junior, pensioner or disabled) are required to purchase Club House Support Points which are credited onto their membership account and accessed via their membership card. These can be redeemed against merchandise, food, and beverages at the Club. Unused points expire at the end of the membership year if not redeemed.

This year will see also a credit of \$75 against renewed member's accounts for food and beverage to cover the disappointment of our having to be closed for three months during the Pandemic. So along with the Club House Support Levy members will have \$150 credited against their account to spend in the Club

New Membership Categories

	Membership Type	Description	Registered with Australian Sailing under Rules 48 and 56	Voting Rights	Sailing Rights	May Apply for Boat Storage	Club House Support Scheme \$75	Annual Fee with Club House Support fee included
	SAILING CATAGORIES							
1	WSC Honorary Life Member	Active sailor and club member to whom Life Membership has been awarded sailing or non-sailing for services to the Club	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	\$0
2	Adult Membership	Adult who is an active member of the club – Full Rights (includes those living aboard their boats)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$375
3	Associate Adult Membership	Adult who is an active member of the club – no voting rights - (includes those living aboard their boats)	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	\$375
4	Family Membership	One or two adult active sailors and can include junior active sailors all residing at the same address (Juniors are classified as under the age of 18 years at the start of the season)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$650
5	Pensioner/Disabled Membership	Senior Member eligible for a Government provided age pension or a member with a disability (proof to be supplied)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	\$250
6	Pensioner/Disabled Associate Adult Membership	Partner of a Senior Member eligible for a Government provided age pension or a member with a disability (Proof To be supplied)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	\$200
7	Intermediate Membership	Member between the ages of 18 and 25, or full-time student / apprentice (proof required) wishing to participate in sailing activities (designed to attract new full members)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$250
8	Junior Membership	Member under the age of 18 years wishing to participate in sailing activities including training.	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	\$75
9	Club Volunteer	Member who assists as a volunteer but does not participate in sailing events	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	\$75
10	Sail Pass (day membership)	Day visitors to the area wanting to use members facilities for a short-term period.	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	\$10
11	Social Member	Member who wishes to enjoy the Clubhouse, food, beverage gaming and social event area of our sailing club and the benefits we provide to ensure their enjoyment of our facilities	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	\$25

Social members are generally members who enjoy the social side of the club, have discounted meals and drinks and access to the club's hospitality resources only

Return to sailing – Offshore

Having lost much of this year's sailing season, the program for the rest of the year has been reworked to ensure that many of your club's events have been retained. The sailing program is due to recommence on Saturday 11th July (Covid-19 rules permitting) with one of the club's signature events, the "Round the



Whitsundays" race. This 70 mile trip, sponsored by Great Northern Brewery, takes competitors around South Mole Island, Hamilton Island, Whitsunday Island, Hook Island and Hayman Island to finish off Airlie Beach. The race is the first of three races which make up the club's Great Northern series, with the rest of the regatta continuing the following weekend. These events are also part of the 2020 club championship series.

The first twilight race is planned for Wednesday 15th July.

The revised program can be viewed at <https://whitsundaysailingclub.com.au/racing-calendar/>.

Whitsunday Sailing Club is also taking this opportunity to trial some changes, including introduction of SailSys, a new race management package. This system will run in parallel with the existing TopYacht through the balance of the season.

Return to sailing – Off Beach

Off Beach racing is scheduled to resume after the school holidays, with the first races of the spring series planned on 19th July. This is in line with the original program, with the only changes being the cancellation of races during April – June. The Off Beach program can be viewed at <https://whitsundaysailingclub.com.au/off-beach-racing-calendar/>.

Learn to Sail programs remain on hold until a clear path can be established in conjunction with Government guidelines.



Airlie Beach Race Week

While it is still unclear what will or will not be allowed on shore, it is clear that Airlie Beach Race Week is definitely happening this year, with the current entry list standing at 67 boats, including over 40 Queensland entrants. What is known at this stage is that the on water racing will be "business as usual", while the on shore festivities will be substantially limited by Covid-19 regulations around social distancing.

Should the borders remain closed, Regatta Chairman Adrian Bram says the event will nevertheless go ahead: "In that case, Airlie Beach Race Week will return to its roots," he said, meaning it will be an all- Queensland regatta.

Airlie Beach Race Week Race Director, Ross Chisholm, said that racing will be "Business as usual," but with a possibility of a diminished fleet, some rearrangement of divisions may be necessary.

"However, the Whitsunday islands are still there, providing a fantastic backdrop for racing," said Chisholm, who advises courses will be reviewed and set to provide great competition for entrants.

If you haven't already, enter now at: www.abrw.com.au where you will also find the Notice of Race and other information.

New Race Committee Boat

Thanks to the combined generosity of Westpac Bank, through their Smartygrants program, and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, we are now the proud owners of a new race committee vessel to replace the ageing Safety 10. The new boat, officially known as Safety 3, is currently being fitted out to meet operational requirements, and will be in full operation by the time that racing resumes next month.