



Minutes of  
**Special General Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
*held via*  
**Teleconference (Express Virtual Meetings)**  
8:00pm AEDST (NSW, Tas, Vic), 7:30pm (SA), 7:00pm (Qld), 5:00pm (WA)

*Shaded boxes display previous decisions/notes and post SGM information*

## Attendees

Brett Morris (NSW)  
Ian Fox (VIC)  
John Rohde (SA)  
Clarence Macalister (TAS)  
Tim Brazier (WA)  
Scot Farley (QLD)

## 1. Welcome

Brett Morris (chairperson) opened the meeting at 8:02pm Sydney Time.

## 2. Apologies

None (all state reps present)

## 3. Confirm minutes of previous meeting

Confirmation of the (AGM) minutes was moved by Brett Morris and seconded by Scott Farley

[http://www.windsurfing.org/files/info/AWA\\_AGM\\_Minutes\\_2017.pdf](http://www.windsurfing.org/files/info/AWA_AGM_Minutes_2017.pdf)

## 4. General Business - General discussion;

### 4.1 Membership Numbers:

*NSW 148; WA 148; Vic 39; Qld 106; SA 18; Tas 38  
Total 497 @ 25/11/2017*

*Members @ 30/12/2016 = 524 (previous year 556)*

Numbers on schedule for time of year. Brett expected NSW numbers to be nearer 200 considering the number of events held. Ian reported that Vic had had no events so far this season so numbers low, although higher than last season.

### 4.2 Australian National Championships:

Difficult to get advance dates from the “powers-that-be” for each area/discipline of windsurfing activity. Difficult to get dates a year ahead let alone 2 years ahead. The event lead time is usually under a year, and under 6 months for some.

Ian stated that for our sport, scheduling major events, like the Raceboard Worlds in Brisbane, are hard to lock in a year in advance. Some very promising proposals fail when event planning starts. When its just a couple of enthusiastic people driving the proposal its likely to fail. A strong team is needed throughout planning and execution.

There is support for rotating events around the states, but, where an event has been successfully run in the same location (or by the same team) for many years, they run the risk of failure if the event is moved. The new team may need to prove itself, before being given the opportunity to host the event elsewhere.

Brett stated that the slalom nationals were disorganised for years until centralised at the Green Island location. No need to rotate this event while the energy remains there.

That said, Cervantes, WA has expressed interest in hosting the Slalom Nationals. A detailed submission would be needed ASAP (Tim to follow up).

Class popularity dips can also impact our ability to plan further ahead than a year. Especially planning events in a state where the class hardly exists.

Nationals need to be approved by AWA (via the hosting State Windsurfing Assoc.). Knowing confirmed dates before the AWA Annual General Meeting (Late Feb-April) is helpful – wavesailing dates are usually unknown at that time and the event may only be 6-9 months away from typical dates.

Slalom Nationals @ Green Island, Qld: 15-20 July 2018  
Foil Nationals @ Sydney, NSW: 24-25 Feb 2018

Wavesailing Nationals:

- SA asked by Wavesailing NSW to host 2019 Nationals but replied that they can help if NSW wants to run it in SA  
- WA is working on a proposal to host the 2019 event.  
2019 Nationals location not yet confirmed. 2018 dates unknown also.

#### 4.3 Lifejacket (PDF) Policy

Australian Standard AS 4758 LEVEL 50 PREFERRED

AWA Decision: Type 2 (L50) is **preferred**, and Type 3 (L50s) acceptable.

WA Govt approved ISO12402 standard as imported garments rarely display the Australian Standard labels.

The equivalent international standard for our Type 2 encompasses Type 3 as well. So, excluding the later type would send conflicting messages.

WA following AS guidelines (inflatables banned).

WA also banning inflatable lifejackets, although they are allowed under state legislation.

*"It is also strongly recommended that inflatable lifejackets not be worn on personal watercraft (PWC), as excess spray may accidentally inflate the lifejacket and startle the wearer." Although sailboards aren't the equivalent of PWC's maybe the same warning applies!*

*AS 4758 specifies the requirements for lifejackets, also known as personal flotation devices (PFDs), with buoyancy classifications of level 275, level 150, level 100, level 50, level 50S, level 25 and restricted use lifejackets suitable for use by adults and children greater than 5 kg mass.*

AS 4758 is more closely aligned with international standards and takes into account advances in PFD / Lifejacket design and manufacture.

Level 150 - which is similar to inflatable PFD Type 1 and suitable for offshore use

Level 100 - which is similar to PFD Type 1 and the minimum requirement for offshore use

Level 50 - which is similar to PFD Type 2

Level 50S - Special Purpose - has replaced PFD Type 3

**More reading:**

Lifejackets (Maritime Safety Queensland):

<https://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Safety/Life-jackets.aspx>

Australian Sailing PDF requirements

<http://www.sailing.org.au/new-australian-standard-for-lifejackets/>

Lifejacket Law NSW

<http://maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au/lifejackets/lifejacket-law/index.html>

What they look like

[http://retail.lifejacketwearit.com.au/pdf/TFNSW0746%20LIFEJACKETS%20MASTER\\_v02.pdf](http://retail.lifejacketwearit.com.au/pdf/TFNSW0746%20LIFEJACKETS%20MASTER_v02.pdf)

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/safety-rules/safety-equipment/lifejackets.html>

Extract from Proposed Queensland Risk Management Plan:

**PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICES**

Personal Floatation Device (PFD) requirements may vary between states and territories and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether their PFD is acceptable under local law.

- Competing participants must wear adequate personal floatation devices whilst competing in an on-water event with the only exception being when competing in freestyle, ~~speed sailing~~ or wave sailing events when such events are conducted in heats of short time duration and in close proximity to the shore. Notwithstanding, the event organisers reserve the right to require all participants to wear adequate personal floatation devices at an event.

The PFD used shall comply with one of the following and shall be branded with the respective standard authorities' mark of approval.

1. Australian Standard AS 4758 LEVEL 50 (Previously AS1499-1996 for PFD Type 2) - PREFERRED
2. LEVEL 50s (Previously PFD Type 3)
3. ISO 12402 or an equivalent or more stringent overseas standard
2. PFD LEVEL 100, 150 and 275 (Previously Type 1) not recommended for high speed windsurfing (such as slalom, freerace and speed sailing)
3. PFD's shall be maintained in good repair
4. PFD's shall be marked in a way that clearly identifies their ownership. These details should include the name of the individual and a contact telephone number
5. On-water race management personnel must wear or carry adequate personal floatation devices. This PFD is to be secured in a way that is recommended by the manufacturer for the device and suit the weight and age of the user.
6. NOTE: Inflatable PFD's shall NOT be used for Windsurfing

**IMPACT VESTS / HELMETS**

- For events such as freestyle ~~speed sailing~~ and wave sailing, the organizers reserve the right to enforce the wearing of safety equipment adequate to protect the head and chest from impact injuries.

#### 4.4 Australian Sailing's Insurance vs AWA's

NSW experiencing issues with Yacht Clubs coming to terms with WNSW's affiliation policy. Once explained, seems to be a non-issue. But, there's a need to see how the insurance policy can cover our members while sailing at any AS affiliated yacht club.

Kitesailing may have clause in their policy that says any events run by an AS affiliated club are events sanctioned/approved by Kitesailing Australia.

Ian commented that the "basic reason of having the AWA insurance is to be able to run events as windsurfers. It's not just to satisfy the requirements of a sailing club that wants to run a conjunction event with windsurfers"

There is concern about the loss of the member to member insurance when not in an activity covered by the policy.

Getting the agreements signed annually, reinforces knowledge of the agreement within the club, whereas longer term agreements may lead to loss of the knowledge of the terms agreed to. The document is short and simple. The club and the state windsurfing assoc sign them.

Ian asked, "how do you expect the Insurance Underwriter to cover the risk of an event that even the state windsurfing assoc doesn't know about?"

What about a member sailing at an AS affiliated sailing club? Does the AWA TPL policy cover him? What about taking part in activities run by any non AWA (State Assoc) affiliated body?

Events run under the auspices of AW are deemed by the insurer to be events under our control and responsibility. When not freesailing/training (the 24/7 cover bit), but participating in an organised event not conducted under AW's auspices then you may need additional insurance.

Would the addition of a clause covering "AS sanctioned events" help? Ian seemed to think this would be too broad a definition. And would that cover increase the premium - John

In any case, the sailors need to be AWA members to be covered.

Should there be a minimum standard requirement for AS affiliated clubs? Qld-No; NSW-need to talk with AS first; Vic-Yes, but yet to be defined; Tas-Needs to do more research before deciding anything; SA-No change from current policy; WA-Yes AS standards (but disagrees with premise of question)

WA – Is a member covered (by the AWA policy) at an AS affiliated club, regardless of the club being affiliated with AWA? And, Is a member covered by any other policy TPL policy while sailing at those clubs?

Tim- Can we simplify the question to "Do we sanction events at AS affiliated clubs Y/N?"

Do AS affiliated clubs have to agree to running events at a set "standard"? Brett to discuss with AS.

#### 4.5 Green Island expense payouts

2016 Event money has been received from WNSW, but no documentation  
2017 Event money will be forwarded soon  
Documentation coming soon too.

#### 4.6 TidyHQ presence

Annual plan to cost more due to the number of members on the contact lists. Higher plan needed for full access to site functions.

WWA fully on board with THQ as it streamlines a lot of its processes.  
Accurate membership list could be automatic if everyone was using THQ.

SA uses THQ.

AWA can't get the full benefit of THQ unless all states are there. Some affiliates of State Associations are on THQ, but without all clubs and the states there too, AWA can't see much benefit.

A child site has been created for every state to try-out. Tim to forward relevant links to each rep so they can have a look.

*Some states still rely on spreadsheets to administer their membership records.*

#### 4.7 Techno 293

Global Youth Class.

##### NSW

NSW have managed to get a Rippers series up and running. Like Tackers for sailing.

Rippers to be the entry to windsurfing (T295), like Tackers is for sailing. Trying to evolve the model so AS could endorse it as the pathway into windsurfing.

Very successful. 3 Rippers events have been held so far. We turn up at a club and conduct try-windsurfing and little-rippers events. Any equipment so long as it uses a soft sail under 4.5m<sup>2</sup>. Independently run by a team focused just on windsurfing. Heavily oriented around having fun. Already learnt that we don't want the clubs running the racing, because we want to run it independently - short races in safe locations. And lots of them. Semi-commercial model. Semi-professional team. Paid positions. Mainly because of liability, but also the volume of kids.

AS actively involved at the beginning but wanted to take over all aspects. They're now taking a back seat, being pro-active and wanting us to succeed. It's going to be an Australian Windsurfing initiative rather than an AS one.

The model is still evolving, but nothing ready to submit to AWA committee consideration/review.

It's going to succeed best in the states where good clubs are affiliated with AWA, because its custom made for them.

It's not for everyone as all the clubs are different.

NSW heavily promoting Raceboard and Windsurfer one-design as they fit more easily into the club model. Kids can store those big pieces of equipment at the club. Race in low wind.

Rippers integrated with other windsurfing classes (racing independently) so they are exposed to what progression there may be after rippers and Techno. The Youth Nationals are at The Royal Queensland YS. It's not a coincidence that the Raceboard and Formula Nationals are on the next day at the same location. It's all about exposing the kids to all the cool windsurfing that's happening around them.

Enormous potential to grow this. NSW approaching Sailing NSW for support, rather than AWA. AWA hasn't/isn't able to support states in this way, and each state should follow WNSW's example.

#### 4.8 Junior Program Funding

*As the West Australian AWA rep, I would like to request financial assistance for Windsurfing Western Australia from AWA to promote the Windsurfing WA junior windsurfing programs we have running this year. For 2017 - 2018 we will be running two program one based in Perth and the second will be the SW Junior Windsurfing School in Dunsborough. The funds we require to continue the development and promotion of our juniors are as follows:*

- \$500 - safety equipment (we are looking at high-vis rashies for participants and coaches similar to those used for nippers)
- \$750 - equipment maintenance and replacement
- \$250 - promotional and education materials
- \$500 - general running cost (fuel, trailer rego, insurance etc.)

*For the 2016-2017 season we had 35 new members (kids) join our programs and we already have 13 re-joined this season and our first session is not for another 2 weeks. This year we are forecasting a significant increase in numbers as get a better program running in Perth.*

*The model we are currently using is to run the kids sessions at minimal to participants in a drive to build numbers and get a visible number of kids on the water. Any assistance AWA can provide would be greatly appreciated ease the fund-raising burden.*

*Regards*

*Tim Brazier 20/11/2017*

A national youth program is probably worthy of AWA funds. AWA has been allocating \$500 per national titles per year. It's not always asked for.

AWA has been accumulating money so that it has a decent reserve (buffer) if expenses suddenly jump.

State windsurfing assoc.'s miss out on state grants as the state representative body for the sport is deemed to the state yachting association.

Do gambling/lottery funds distribute money differently? Qld did get a grant via that avenue.

Dunsborough model deemed a worthy model for expanding the training in WA (and beyond!).

Brett stated that the "state windsurfing assoc" should be funding it. However, a once off AWA grant may be possible for each state that submits a proposal.

Tim stated that "with all the money the AWA has accumulated, more could be put back into the sport. Not just the juniors".

Email was more about starting a discussion about how we go ahead with development and funding. AWA needs a system in place for receiving and processing request for grants. The WA request is good in that it's following up on something that's succeeded and seeking support to expand it.

A need to compare notes between each state as they start to build their programs. The challenge is to get juniors to stay in the sport beyond the early ripper/techno programs, etc.

Issues with RYA qualifications not being accepted by AS without additional requirements i.e. Aust St.Johns First Aid Certificate, Working with Children Cert., Boat Handling course, Boat licence, etc.

Brett proposed that we approve the \$2k grant to WWA, on a once off basis. Mainly because it's a functioning program, and we need to keep it going. Participants are expected to join the state assoc after the first session. – All approved the grant.

## **5. Other Business**

Suggestion made that we should all meet (physically) once a year. The (slalom) Nationals in Cairns being ideal or LOC (in WA)?

Tas also suggested that each state "Like" each other's Facebook page to share the vibe around. All the state reps should be administrators on the AWA Facebook site.

## **6. Meeting Closed**

Brett thanked John for organising the meeting.

Brett closed the meeting at 10:18pm Sydney Time