

Presidents Report
Victorian 29er Association AGM
22nd September 2013

2012/2013 was a successful year for 29ers in Victoria.

We achieved 7th and 10th in the open nationals, and 5th and 10th in the Youth Nationals.

The Victorian Championships held at RBYC had 16 entries which is consistent with previous years, the champions by one point, James McLennan and Tom Trotman

The national team achieved 4th, 5th, 6th in the Worlds, the high level of competition was shown with our youth representative 30th overall.

Tess Lloyd and Eliza Solly have been selected to represent the 9ers in a 49er FX as part of the Australian Sailing Team Development Squad.

Our Victorian Sailing Team representatives are;

Gemma Burns, Charlie Rae, Hayden Brown, McKenzie Bird, Nicola Armstrong, xx, James McLennan and Tom Trotman.

Liam Robinson

Tonia and I would like to thank the outgoing committee for their efforts and achievements.

Kath and Ben Solly, Tiffany Rietman, Robert Reeve, Rhonda Trotman, Mark Lloyd.

I would like to especially recognise the outstanding efforts of Tonia during her term on the committee.

Tonia asked me to thank, RBYC for their support via Paul Jenkins, head coach Bunny Warren

Tonia stepped aside at the end of the sailing season and asked me to take over as caretaker president. My focus has been to continue the great work of previous committees whilst addressing the new direction set by Yachting Victoria to increase participation in club racing via protected weekends and review our governance and marketing.

We have reviewed the constitution and it requires modification to allow parents/non members to administer the association, and controls with respect to the spending of large sums of money.

We must determine what the arrangement is regarding income to Victoria from this year's National Titles to be held at RBYC managed by 29er National body.

Marketing and promotion; we plan to carefully target groups suitable for migration to 29ers, support non youth sailors, and provide support to clubs in setting up 29er racing and coaching programs.

We will improve our focus on retention of existing sailors, including seniors/open age, and promotion to suitable clubs and classes.

We are developing a new Website in a new format, with up to date information, new URL's www.29er.com.au and www.vic29er.com.au

We expect to have Banners, Promotional boards and spare part support in partnership with Sly Boat building and repair centre.

Tryout days have been conducted with the Victorian international cadet fleets at RGYC, RYCV, and SYC. We look like having 6 boats sailing at Geelong by the state championships, 2-4 at Williamstown, and a sizable fleet at Sandringham.

The Yachting Victoria tryout day was a success with the 29er last off the water due to high demand. We have established a closer working relationship with Sly Boat Building & Repair Centre with the view to exploiting our common interests. This has resulted in a MOU with RGYC to establish a fleet and coaching program.

We currently have RGYC and SYC with coaching programs planned for this season, BYS and RBYC have programs under development. It is expected 29ers will be sailing at the following clubs BYS, McCrae, MSC, SYC, RBYC, RYCV, RGYC, and Albury Wodonga

The 29er sailing program will be mindful of sailors school and home club commitments, whilst providing access to extension programs for the VST team sailors.

We intend promote the use of past sailors as coaches providing the ability to get onto boats for one on one coaching, coaching one on one in upper wind ranges and expect to setup a coach mentoring system.

State Championships will be conducted by RGYC as part of festival of sail 22nd and 23rd February 2014

I will be standing for the office of President for the season 2013-14 and look forward to serving the 29er class if elected.

Regards

Gary McLennan
Victorian 29er Class
President