

## **Victorian 9er Association Welcome Pack**

Welcome! We hope as either new or returning members to the 9er class, that this booklet will aid your understanding of the operation of the Victorian 9er Association and how we aim to develop sailors in both sailing and life skills.

The Victorian 9er Association comprises all interested parties who are financial members of the Victorian 9er Association. The Victorian 9er Association membership year is the same as the sailing season which is a financial year, beginning on the 1st of July each year and concluding on the 30th of June the following year. The Victorian 9er Association grew out of the Victorian 29er Association so it now encompasses all of the 9er classes, and giving a regatta program for those sailing a FX 49er or 49er skiff, whilst providing a clear pathway for those sailing in the 29er class if they wish to progress into a larger, faster, high performance boat.

The Victorian 9er Association membership renewals are sent in May/July each year. The membership fee is noted on the renewal notice and is due and payable upon the receipt of the renewal.

### ***Who makes up the Victorian 9er Association committee?***

The Victorian 9er Association committee comprises interested parents and sailing club representatives who manage and administer the association on behalf of the financial members. Many of these committee members - both past and present – are regular or past sailors, some with a substantial sailing pedigree. Equally, and very importantly some have never sailed or been exposed to sailing and have other skills and interests which are equally valued in the operation of the Victorian 9er Association both at a committee level and in general organisation. As you will appreciate the Victorian 9er Association is a volunteer association and requires effort, input and money to operate effectively. Therefore, unfinancial members are unable to participate in any aspect of Association activities until they become financial. There is no requirement for a committee member to be from a sailing background.

### ***What does the Victorian 9er Association provide?***

The Victorian 9er Association provides the organizational frame work and financial management to facilitate operations. Some of the operational management the Victorian 9er Association organises, is a class sail coaching program for different levels, various sail racing regattas, the Victorian 9er teams, liaison with Australian Sailing (Vic) and class and club liaison.

### ***The Victorian 9er Association Coaching Program***

The Victorian 29er Association coaching program is administered by a committee nominated person. Our 9er clubs currently run hub coaching for our beginner sailors. These hubs are based at RYC, SYC, RGYC, SSCBC, RBYC, RYCV, and GLYC.

Our high performance 29er program is currently run by Australian Sailing (Vic) and sailors are coached by Adrian Finglass. These sailors are either members of the Victorian Sailing Team or are campaigning sailors for Nationals or world events.

We have also introduced a number of Class Development Days (CDD's) to be run at nominated clubs in conjunction with class training days. A class approved coach will be at these events.

### ***FX and 49er Coaching***

Coaching is available on enquiry at 49er clubs RGYC, SYC, SSCBC, and RBYC. Many of our 49ers are supported by both the VIS and VST working closely with VIS coach Johnny Rogers. For further information contact us via the website.

## **QUESTIONS**

You may have a number of questions regarding the various activities hopefully the following will answer most of them. The program is coordinated by a member of the 9er committee and a

professional sailing coach who contracts to the Victorian 9er Association and arranges the appropriate resources and logistics to deliver the program.

*This program should not be confused with the AS coaching programs, various racing regattas that the Victorian 9er Association or various sailing clubs may organise, etc. All programs and racing are paid for separately unless otherwise confirmed by the Victorian 9er Association.*

The Victorian head coach is charged with grading the sailors to maximize their development opportunities and this grading occurs on a considered basis. (See Australian Sailing Vic. website). You should remember that whilst a sailor may stand out in their own club as one of the better sailors, they are making the transition to a class program and may need support and encouragement from you, in addition to, the Victorian 9er Association coaches as they may find their skills at class level may not place them in a group they, or perhaps you, believe they should be in.

The program is structured to travel to various home clubs of the program participants in order, amongst other reasons, to experience different conditions, to retain a core number of sailors to enable the participants to leverage off each other and to manage the cost of the program delivery. The home clubs provide safety boat coverage, whilst the Victorian 9er Association coaching manager arranges for both sessional and regular coaches to attend, organising the logistics to enable the coaching staff to present the program.

It is normal for morning coaching to be followed by afternoon racing to allow the sailors to consolidate the previous training. The Victorian 9er Association will arrange for coaching staff to be present during this racing to observe the sailors and to modify the next sessional program as necessary.

From time to time the coaching staff may ask a sailor to move groups on a sessional basis. We, as an association, have found that often our desire as parents for our children to perform better relative to their peers, conflicts with the development needs of the sailor.

The Victorian 9er Association calendar can be found on the facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vic9erssailing/>

### ***9er Regattas***

The various 9er regattas will be listed on the website and Facebook page as they are notified along with the NORs and SI's as appropriate.

### ***What do I need to be a part of the Victorian 9er Association coaching program and racing series?***

Be a financial member of the Victorian Association, have a seaworthy 9er in good repair and be prepared to do some traveling if wanting to be in the class organised training and coaching. If you are a single sailor looking for a boat to either crew or skipper please contact or Chris Dare (Class President) [chris@waypointgrp.com.au](mailto:chris@waypointgrp.com.au) or Martyn Sly (local 9er agent) via email [jlsly@bigpond.com](mailto:jlsly@bigpond.com)