



Australian Laser Class Association

ABN 47 884 970 979
PO Box 5242
Greenwich NSW 2065
Australia

Notice of 2021/22 Annual General Meeting to be held via Zoom teleconference
Wednesday 15th December 2021 at 11.00am AEDT (Vic, NSW, ACT, Tas) 10.30am ACDT
(SA) 10.00am AEST (Qld), 9.30am ACST (NT) 8.00am AWST (WA)

Meeting ID 706 776 2418

PC or Mobile <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7067762418>

By phone 08 7150 1149, 02 8015 6011 or 03 7018 2005

AGENDA

1. Attendance
2. Apologies
3. Identification and confirmation of voting District Representatives
4. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM held by Zoom Teleconference 15th December 2021
5. Business arising from the minutes
6. Reports
 - a. Chairman – ALCA / ILCA
 - b. Treasurer – Financial report
 - c. Districts
 - o New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory
 - o South Australia
 - o Queensland
 - o Northern Territory
 - o Tasmania
 - o Victoria
 - o Western Australia
 - d. Youth
 - e. Masters
7. Election of Office Bearers
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-president
 - c. Treasurer & Public Officer
 - d. Secretary
8. Nomination of Sub-committee representatives
 - a. Youth
 - b. Masters
9. ILCA World Championship events Update – Ken Hurling
10. Use of ILCA naming in place of Laser – Kevin Phillips
11. Archiving of class history documents – John d’Helin Rob Lowndes
11. General Business

Kevin Phillips ALCA Secretary



**Australian
Laser Class
Association**

Australian Laser Class Association
Chairman's Report for ALCA 2021/22 Annual General Meeting.

International Sailing

Great result with Mat Wearn winning in the Tokyo Olympics and Mara Stansky finishing a creditable 14th including a first and third on the final fleet racing day.



Another great result was Zac Littlewood's win in the ILCA Under 21 World Champion. Zac was the only Australian in the 140 boat Men's event which he won convincingly. Zac also finished 5th in the 2022 ILCA 7 World Championships. Both WA sailors Matt and Zac put on great displays of their sailing abilities.

After all the ILCA 2020 World Championships except the Radials in Melbourne had to be cancelled the ILCA did a great job moving venues and timing to make all the 2021 World Championships happen despite COVID restrictions. Unfortunately Australian participation in these events was largely limited to Australian Sailing funded and supported sailors.

Laser/ILCA Changes

The intensity of debate on Laser/ILCA changes has diminished. Six new builders have been selected, evaluated, and supplied with class moulds and are now up and running. These added to long term builders PSA and PSJ (the Japanese builder) make eight ILCA builders worldwide. As a result of this the supply of boats and parts in many countries has improved markedly. We are fortunate to have PSA continuing to supply quality boats and equipment in our Region.

Due to Laser trademark issues explained in a ILCA post at <https://www.laserinternational.org/blog/2020/06/12/progress-report-on-new-class-builders/> the class is compelled to use the ILCA brand and logo going forward. As well, to avoid costly legal defence threatened by ex UK builder Laser Performance, the terms Radial and 4.7 are no longer used instead the boats are termed ILCA 7, ILCA 6 and ILCA 4. All equipment and documents will reflect the new naming from now on.

The almost 50 year old class constitution is being modified to reflect the new arrangements and naming. The constitutional change, which requires a 2/3rds yes vote, has been put to the to the ILCA membership for a vote. The voting will be open for six months. This is a non controversial change and a yes vote is recommended.

Australian Sailing

COVID-19 border restrictions prevented us having our already postponed 2022 National Championships at Fremantle Sailing Club. Regrettably, the decision needed to be made early to ensure that competitors would not be penalised financially. As it is unfolding, with WA borders unlikely to open until late January or February 2022, I feel that the decision to cancel and its timing were correct. It is unfortunate that Western Australian sailors will miss out on their rotation.

Sailing around the country has continued in each district when possible. The states that remained open held District Championships and celebrated the 50th Laser birthday.

An outstanding event held on Sydney Harbour organised by Double Bay Sailing Club was a 50th birthday one day regatta. PSA donated a gold Laser with the lucky ticket holder taking home a new boat. Thank you to all involved especially PSA.



2022 is going to be a long year with no Open and Youth Nationals. The Masters will fare much better with the Australian Masters being held in Victoria 25-28 February. This event will be hosted by the Western Port Yacht Club which will provide great sailing and accommodation options including onsite camping. After a long period of no events this is going to be a lot of fun.

Regards

Ken Hurling OAM
Chairman ALCA



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Treasurer's Report Year Ended 30 June 2021

I have pleasure in presenting the financial statements for the above financial year.

The Income & Expenditure Statement shows a surplus for the year of \$149.17 as compared with a surplus for the previous year of \$4,685.12.

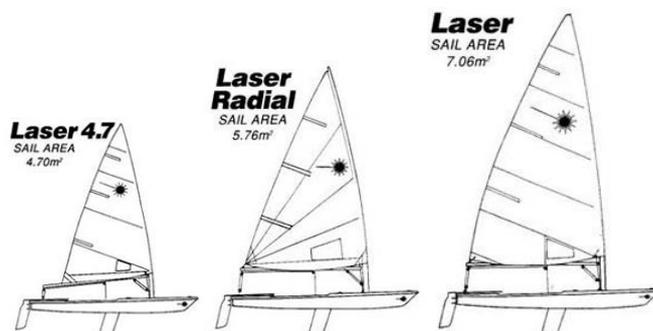
The income from membership subscriptions of the various Australian districts was down by \$1,312.00. This reduction was due mainly to a reduction in the annual fee levied per member from \$8.00 in 2018/2019 to \$6.00 for the 2019/2020 season. This reduced rate was adopted in order to recognise the effect of COVID restrictions on districts' activities and resultant income. Membership numbers remained virtually unchanged at 680 in total for all districts.

Expenses for the year were up by \$1,642.64. The increase was mainly due to a contribution by ALCA of \$1,500.00 to Double Bay Sailing Club in Sydney towards the costs of organising and conducting the special Laser 50th Anniversary Regatta held on Sydney Harbour on 20th June 2021. NSW/ACT District also contributed \$1,500.00 towards the cost of this regatta.

The 3rd Party Liability Insurance premium of \$1,286.38 covers all state and territory districts in Australia for that liability.

The Balance Sheet shows the only asset of the Association which is the funds at Westpac of \$23,165.07. The Association does not have any liabilities.

Thank you
Geoff Lucas
Hon. Treasurer





NSW & ACT Laser Association

NSW & ACT Laser District Report for ALCA AGM December 2021

NSW/ACT District Sailing

NSW/ACT Lasers had a successful 2020/21 season despite having to cancel our Coast Championships in both 2020 and 2021. Fortunately, we have been able to run our other events with strong participation.

There were 120 competitors (the maximum number of competitors allowed by host club Belmont 16s' COVID Plan) for the State Championships in December 2020. We had the Australian Sailing Team and some international Olympic level sailors competing in good conditions on one of the best sailing event tracks in Australia. Olympic Champion Matt Wearn had a narrow win in the Standards from New Zealand's Olympic representative Sam Meech with fellow Kiwi George Gautrey close behind. Finn Alexander Brett Beyer and Jan Scholten were not far off the pace behind the Olympic sailors.

It was an all-star cast in the Radials with WA's Zoe Thompson winning by a narrow margin from Belgium's Olympic representative Emma Plasschaert narrowly ahead of our Olympic representative Mara Stransky. While it was great to see the stars competing our own Daniel Costandi, Brooke Wilson and Paige Caldecoat were very competitive in the following three places.

In February we had a great State Masters event at Jervis Bay Sailing Club with 140 competitors. The folks there turned on a fabulous event and conditions were ideal. Apprentice Master Victorian Matt Blakey was first in the 64 boat Standard fleet just ahead of Masters Brett Beyer and Victorian Matthew Faddy. In the Radials Double Bay Apprentices James Tudball and Gavin Blake finished first and third respectively with Georges River Grand Master David Early second.

We had 80 boats for the Metropolitan Championships at Hunters Hill SC in March. It is a fabulous club and host for the event. Sydney local star Mina Ferguson sailed very well to win in the Radials ahead of Zoe Thompson, Daniel Costandi and Mara Stransky. Brett Beyer was a clear winner with five bullets in the Standards and Hamish Gilson from Avalon SC won in the 4.7s.

Great work and promotion by Double Bay SC saw a fleet of 110 boats celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Laser Regatta on Sunday 20th June. The sailors enjoyed the 10-18 knots of breeze to complete the course from Farm Cove in front of the Opera House to Watsons Bay. Thanks to Rob McMillan NB Sailsports for donation of two sails and Ian Douglas for donation of a gold Laser hull as prize draws for this event.



The

DBSC’s very popular Women’s Regatta was again victim of COVID health orders. The Women’s Regatta will be back larger and better than ever next season.

Thanks to the host clubs for putting on a great show for us. The on the water and in the club house teams make the events work. They do it just for the love of the sport and we thank them one and all.

National Championships Planning

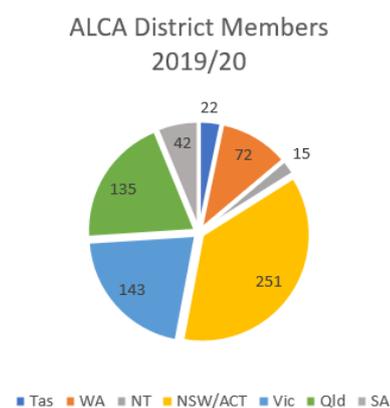
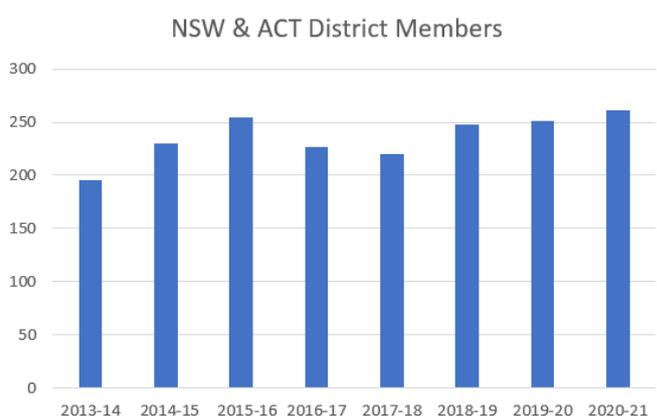
Because ILCA have recently announced the 2023 World Masters will be in February in Thailand we have had to move the 2023 Australian Masters from mid February to 13-16 January following the Open & Youth Championships and the venue to Georges River. The venues and dates for the 2023 Nationals are thus;

- Oceania & Australian Laser Open & Youth Championships – Georges River Sailing Club 1-8 January 2023
- Oceania & Australian Laser Masters Championships – Georges River Sailing Club – 13-16 January 2023

We have started planning the arrangements for the two nationals events which will need a range of volunteers both on the water and for measurement and event management ashore to make them the best ever.

NSW/ACT Membership

Our District membership for the year increased slightly to 261 (from 251 in 2019/20 season). Our eight year average membership is 236.



We pass more than half of our collected membership fees onto ALCA and ILCA through affiliations (\$23 per member to be exact) to help to support their activities. The greater the number of Australian Laser sailors we have as members the larger our allocation of places in limited entry World Championship events.

District Administration

Hopefully we are keeping sailors informed on sailing, events, results and Laser sailing happenings through laser.asn.au. We try not to barrage members and others on our email list with endless messages. We currently have 550 people on our email distribution list.

A special thank you to our own small team of helpers in particular R.O. Andrew McLachlan, our treasurer Geoff Lucas, race secretary Sue Phillips, regatta helpers David & Elaine Edmiston and VC Frank Walsh. Dave wears the Measurers hat as well. Thanks also to Youth representative Finn Alexander, Women's representative Clare Alexander advisor and Masters Representative Rob Lowndes for their work and support.

Thanks to the many people who helped out with administration and on the water for our events. Without people just stepping up as required we could never have managed the tasks involved in staging these events.

Cheers

Kevin Phillips
Chair NSW/ACT Laser Association

Queensland Laser Association Report 2020 -2021

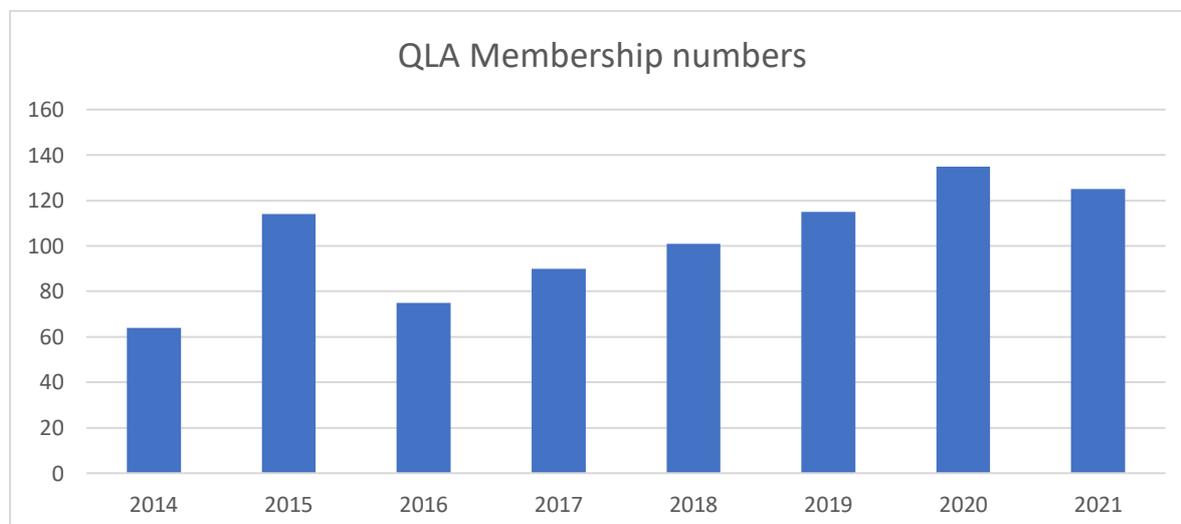
December 2021

Despite another Covid affected year we have managed to hold all of our scheduled regattas and in fact had one of our strongest State Titles in many years whilst membership has held at relatively high levels.

QLA Regattas: This year we took our State Titles to Bowen in North Queensland. It has been many years since our State Titles have been held in this region but with strong interest and activity in the NQ clubs at Airlie Beach, Bowen and Townsville we decided to hold our States at the Port Denison Sailing Club in Bowen one week after the NQ Laser Titles were hosted by Whitsunday Sailing Club at Airlie Beach as part of their Easter Sail Airlie. This double header proved popular with Masters sailors and it was fantastic to see a number of Sydney sailors making the long trip north. Despite being 1100 km from Brisbane the regatta received strong support from SEQ sailors whilst attracting many from the north of the state resulting in 80 entries which is the strongest championship for some years. Hopefully, successfully holding the States in this region will create a surge in Laser sailing for some years to come and QLA will be looking to hold States in NQ more regularly. Our South Pacific Laser Masters were once again affected by Covid interstate lockdowns and travel restrictions and were re-badged for a second year as an open Winter regatta which proved highly successful with 60 sailors competing.

We held our River Titles at Brisbane Sailing Squadron on 7th February to help them celebrate their 100 year anniversary. This proved quite popular with 37 entries. Our Metropolitan Championships were held at RQYS in March with 60 entries and we were fortunate to have the women's squad from the Australian Sailing Team enter. Mara Stransky won the radials as a warm up regatta towards the Olympics.

Membership: Our membership numbers continue to be historically strong although there is a small drop in numbers after last surge. This year we reported 125 members compared with 135 last year and 115 the previous year.



Organisational Issues: Last year QLA moved our membership entry and data storage onto the AS sponsored Revsport platform. We have found this system to provide much improved membership

management and we believe this has also helped in increasing membership numbers and the ability to issue membership invoices. The system also provides better data management and filtering abilities.

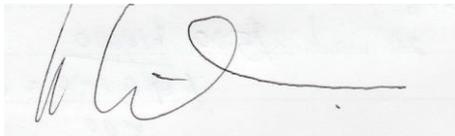
We have changed our financial year from 30 June to 30 September to better align with the sailing season and have reduced our membership fee to make it more attractive to join QLA.

Last year we adopted the VLA sponsored app on trial to improve communications with sailors at regattas and for members to access documents and results. This has had limited success as it relies on the club holding regattas to come on board with inputting documents, notices and results during regattas. Smaller clubs are reluctant to add this load to their volunteers whilst larger clubs have their own software systems. We are continuing to upload information on future QLA regattas so that this info can be easily accessed by members in Queensland and interstate.

Coaching: QLA has undertaken a review of our coaching activities following reorganisation of elite coaching by QAS and AS and of club coaching by RQYS. This has led us to structure our coaching to provide coaching to more targeted groups of sailors. For instance the average club sailor at specific clubs and top end masters sailors prior to significant Masters regattas.

The QLA committee has welcomed a couple of new members this year in Doug Innes as our Youth Coordinator and Greg Kemp as our coaching coordinator. Otherwise the committee has remained stable.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Wilson', written on a light-colored background.

Michael Wilson

Chair QLA

6 December 2021

Northern Territory District Laser Class Association

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2021 Annual report

Laser sailing in the NT continues to grow with a number of good quality Lasers bought into the Territory to swell the fleet. Lasers were bought from Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Townsville including a container full of Lasers bought up from Sydney thanks to NB Sail Sport. Current membership stands at 24 however when the new season kicks off in 2022. I expect that this will increase as some of the new Laser sailors who only received their boats at the end of the 2021 season will discover the advantages of joining the Association.

In 2021 the Laser remains to be the most active class at the Darwin Sailing Club and they outnumber all other classes in club and Championship racing. A fleet of 18 to 20 Lasers regularly sailed through the 2021 season covering all rigs with results awarded on Yardstick as well as performance handicap. Due to the consistent numbers of Lasers on the water the Darwin Sailing Club recognised the Laser as an individual fleet and now provides separate start for the Class.

In October this year the Gove Boat Club conducted their annual Regatta and two trailers carrying 7 Lasers along with sailing and camping equipment were shipped by barge to Gove to compete in the regatta. The barge takes around four days to reach Gove and the Lasers are transported through the generous sponsorship of Sae Swift, also a major sponsor of the regatta. A number of sailors drove to Gove via the rough Arnhem Land 4 wheel drive track, a journey of 675 km of corrugations and dust while others opted for the one hour flight from Darwin to Gove. The regatta was a huge success again with 12 Lasers competing in 15 races over three days. The regatta also includes sports boats and keel boat events. Gove Boat Club plans to keep this as an annual event and hopes to attract more sailors from southern fleets to come and enjoy the regatta.

Since the granting of the 2022 Oceania Laser Masters Championship in Darwin the association has been busy sourcing sponsorship and securing a charter fleet to make the Championship a success. Valuable sponsorship has been secured through the NT Government, The Darwin Sailing Club and local businesses as well as SEA and NB Sail Sport. The Notice of Race has been finalised and is available through the ALCA regatta web site as well as the Laser app. Registrations are open and I am pleased to report that Brett Beyer was the number one sailor to register. Due to the need to keep the Championship compact and manageable we have put a limit of 150 competitors on the event so everyone is urged to register early to avoid disappointment. There is also an early bird registration discount for those who get in before 31 April 2022, so register ASAP.

Laser sailing is thriving in the NT and the 2022 Oceania Masters Championship will be a great opportunity for all Laser sailors and their families to visit Darwin and enjoy the sailing. The Association is keen to encourage all Laser Coaches to come to Darwin to share their skills with our young sailors. The season runs from April to October, the water is warm and flat with 8 to 12 knots of breeze and up to 25 knots late in the season making Darwin the ideal place to spend the cold winter months.

Gary Martin
NTDLCA President.



Victorian Laser Association Inc- ALCA AGM Report.

Membership- During season 20/21 the VLA membership fell from 143 to 118. This was because we were unable to run the usual number of regattas due to Covid lock down restrictions. Hopefully the numbers will recover over the 21/22 season.

Training- All winter training events including the Mordialloc winter series also had to be cancelled. The popular Green Point sessions on Tuesday & Thursday evenings have resumed and are being well attended by sailors from RBYC & SYC.

The Victorian States held two weeks ago was well attended with 74 entrants including 19 x 4.7's. The VLA efforts in promoting the 4.7 to clubs as the logical transition boat is starting to pay dividends. This is creating demand for second-hand boats in both metro & country clubs.

Upcoming regattas-

2022 Laser Masters at Western Port Yacht Club. Planning is well under way & promotion for this event has commenced. With the lifting of travel restrictions, we are hoping for good numbers. PSA will be providing charter boats & regatta support. There will be a 2-day coaching event held prior to the regatta. This will be the ranking regatta for the 2023 ILCA Masters world championship.

Sail Melbourne- With no class Nationals in January Australian Sailing are hoping Olympic classes will support the SM event commencing Jan 13th. The Lasers are at RYCV at Williamstown. Pre event coaching clinics have been arranged by AS.

Retiring committee member- Long serving VLA committee man Joby Graves has retired from the committee. Joby, along with Mark Tonner-Joyce was the architect of the VLA training program. Joby's organisation & business skills will be missed by the VLA. We thank him for 9 years of service & wish him well.

I move that my report be accepted.

John d'Helin

President VLA



Australian Laser Class Association Inc
Annual General Meeting Minutes
15 December 2020 - Zoom Online Meeting

Meeting Opened: 9.20 am

1. Attendance

Ken Hurling (QLD, ALCA President), John D’Helin (VIC, ALCA Vice President), Geoff Lucas (Treasurer NSW & ACT), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT Chair, ALCA Secretary), Rob Lowndes (Masters Rep NSW & ACT), Mike Wilson (QLA Rep), Phil Danks (QLD), Mike Gluskie (TLDA Rep), Peter Merritt (VIC), Don Elks (WA, ALCA Youth Representative), James Mitchell (VIC), Gary Martin (NTLD Rep), Ros Sayers (SALA Rep), Peter Fell (QLD). Nick Page (NZLD)

2. Apologies: Wayne Thompson.

3. District Representatives for Voting : Mike Wilson (QLD), Mike Gluskie (TAS), John D’Helin (VIC), Kevin Phillips (NSW & ACT), Gary Martin (NT), Ros Sayers (SA).

4. Confirmation of minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Sandringham Yacht Club Tasmania 5th January 2020. Minutes accepted.

5. Business arising from Minutes:

Rob Lowndes asked for an update on the C5 rig. His view was that the C rigs were an unnecessary distraction. Ken Hurling reported that only a few of the C5s rigs are in action locally. Presently there are no plans in ILCA to do more than trial the concept.

6. Reports

ALCA Chairman: Ken Hurling - report attached.

Treasurer: Geoff Lucas’ report presented profit and loss & balance sheet attached. The funding of the Australian Laser App was raised and Geoff Lucas confirmed that no ALCA funds had been used to develop the app but that VLA had paid for this work as a legacy from their successful running of the 2020 World and Australian Championships.

Western Australia District:

NSW & ACT District: Kevin Phillips – presented report attached.

South Australia District: Ros Sayers - presented report attached.

Queensland District: Mike Wilson – Reported increased membership in 2019-20. He also reported like other districts that due to the 2020 events in Victoria QLA events were all scheduled earlier than normal and so were able to be run before COVID took over our lives. The South Pacific Laser Masters unfortunately had to be cancelled after attempts to re-schedule.

Mike also reported on good success with coaching in SE and North Queensland and attracting new 4.7 sailors.

QLA has an active program with events at Brisbane Sailing Squadron and Metros at RQYS. Mike also mentioned the Queensland States at Bowen and work underway with PSA to get charter boats there to make the event attractive to fly in fly out sailors. QLA is putting out a flyer for the event.

Additional report attached.

Northern Territory District: Gary Martin - presented report attached. Also spoke on the logistics of the Gove Regatta.

Rob Lowndes raised the issue of support for indigenous Laser sailors. Gary commented that NTLA had made efforts to introduce indigenous kids to Laser sailing but that generally the kids preferred land based activities and when on the water liked to fish rather than sail.

Tasmania District: Mike Gluskie – Reported reduced numbers of members – down to around 20. TLDA are working to recruit graduating Opti sailors to 4.7. Mike referred to their major event the Tasmania State Championship next year.

Mike reported that they were looking for new people for their committee which has been the same for some time. TLDA are now using RevolutioniseSPORT for their web site. It is established at <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/tdla/home/> but with no information yet.

Mike reported that the Sharpies had been resurrected in Tasmania and taken some of the Laser Masters sailors which TLDA hoped to get back for major Laser events.

Victoria District: John d’Helin – presented report attached.

John also spoke of the new VLA constitution prepared by Melbourne law firm Lander & Rogers drafted to Victorian Government Consumer Affairs requirements. He suggested other districts should review their constitutions offering the new VLA constitution as a model.

Youth Representative: Don Elks – reported through KH need to keep parents and sailors informed on viability and status of World Youth events due to the uncertainty and need for and difficulty of travel planning.

Masters Representative: Rob Lowndes reported on new National Masters arrangements suggesting that this should prove popular with the majority of Masters Sailors. Rob also commented from his recent experience as an RO at Sail Sydney on the current relative numbers and success of 29’ers Vrs 4.7’s.

7. Election of Office Bearers

Ken Hurling thanked the office bearers for their sterling efforts over the past year.

President - Ken Hurling (Qld); Vice president - John d’Helin (VIC); Secretary - Kevin Phillips (NSW); Treasurer/Public Officer - Geoff Lucas (NSW). Elected unopposed.

8. Sub-Committee Representatives

Youth – Don Elks and Masters – Rob Lowndes were re-appointed.

9. General Business

MoU for National Championships: Ken Hurling spoke of the MoU for the Australian Championships which had been generated at WALA’s request for the 2021 Championships at

Freemantle. The aim of this document is to formally grant the host region the rights to the event and set the broad parameters for the running of the Nationals.

Ken Hurling suggested that with the long term certainty provided by the rotation the MoU can be issued well in advance which could be helpful for districts negotiating with host clubs and would be sponsors.

Australian Laser App: Ken Hurling reported that the roll out of the app is proceeding and districts are encouraged to use it.

Peter Merritt reported that he had run one online meeting/demonstration for districts. He also reported that many clubs were now using the sister Sailor App for their announcements, documents, racing entry and membership.

QLA has produced a report on the app for its normal mode of working. NSW & ACT has the app populated and had used it for the recent State Championship with good effect. NSW & ACT found that around 60% of sailors used the app and that most of the 40% who did not had issues with getting the app, having a Google Play Store account or being able read QR codes to get the app i.e. access to the app problems rather than usage issues.

The app functions best if all the Club Ops features like entry, membership, scoring and sign on/off are used. The app can be used when these activities are handled on other platforms like Try Booking, Sailwave and Google Forms, or as QLA does by a host club's systems, however navigation to the external data from the app as it stands is not so easy.

A report from experience and suggestions to date will be compiled for Peter Merritt's consideration.

Oceania Masters Darwin: Ken Hurling talked of the plan to run the Oceania Laser Masters in 2022 in Darwin. The considerable issues of organising charter boats in large numbers were discussed.

ILCA Membership Dues: Ken Hurling reminded districts that on time payment of ILCA dues (\$10.34 USD per member) is important as the number of financial members we have at November each year is used by ILCA to set the number of places we are allocated in the limited entry World Championships in the following year.

Meeting closed 10.40 am

Kevin Phillips
Secretary ALCA