

Commodore's Report – 2018 AGM

The 2017-2018 sailing season has come to a conclusion. Winter is on our door step. For the many of you heading north, off touring in your caravans or heading overseas. I wish you a safe and happy journey and look forward to catching up with you on your return.

New flag poles, a fresh lick of paint, new fences all in preparation for the 2018 Contender National and World Championships. 90 boats from 8 countries. What a terrific event and a testament to the energy and enthusiasm of all members. The entire club did it's self proud. This regatta will be remembered for a long time to come.

We also hosted the Taipan and A Class States on the March long weekend along with the Vic Cat Champs held in November.

Hosting regattas, including World & National championships helps build our club's capabilities and reputation for great off the beach sailing. It contributes significantly to our success and helps to keep our membership fees to a minimum, whilst providing and maintaining our sailing equipment and boats used in our Saturday afternoon sailing program.

The Training Centre now have 2 new windsurfers. Training is now being provided on the windsurfers as part of the Saturday morning sail training program. The boards are receiving plenty of use from our younger members.

The working bees provide us with the opportunity to maintain the Club's buildings, boats and grounds and the two working bees are where a lot of the work is carried out. Once again thank you to those that turned out at the working bee under the guidance and leadership of our Yard Master.

Following the working bee, an information session was held regarding a proposal to install a lift to the upper deck of the Club House. We are, and always will be a fun, family based sailing club, however we occupy public land in a privileged position. We have an obligation and responsibility to allow for maximum current & future use to all visitors and members who have reason to be here, with the same rights and opportunities to access our facilities in an independent manner. We chose to decide how we position our club and whether it is inclusive, welcoming & progressive, or elitist & exclusive, on public land in a privileged position?

This year we held our Presentation evening at the Jetty Road Brewery with a change in format which was well received. A great evening was had by all.

To all those members who have represented McCrae at events over the last season congratulations on your participation, sense of adventure and your pursuit of sailing at it's highest level.

Memberships are strong and is certainly represented by the Cat boat yard being full of Catamaran's and the mono hull yard well utilised.

I thank the Flags, Office Holders & General Committee for their support, assistance and great work over the season. I send our outgoing Club Captain a heart felt thank you for his efforts over the last 2 seasons. In my opinion, the role of Club Captain is the most demanding of the club officer roles and I wish Col well. I'm very fortunate to have been part of a general committee, the members of whom both challenge and inspire me. I'd like to thank them for their team work.

To see the enthusiasm displayed by members over the last season tells you what McCrae Yacht Club is all about. For those not named, I thank you all on behalf of the membership.

Lastly, thank you to Majella, Tom, Molly & Pat for supporting me in my efforts.

Mark O'Brien

Commodore

McCrae Yacht Club