



THE BEST ON THE BAY: WORKING BEE 28 SEPTEMBER, 9 AM



COMMODORE'S COLUMN

Hello everyone, Not long now till the start of season 2019-2020 - preparations are all underway for **Opening Day on 19 October**, fingers crossed for a nice sunny day.

I hope you all had some time away and escaped the Melbourne cold. Prue and I took off to Darwin for a week

while the Minnow Nationals were on which was great fun and WARM.

The Working Bee is being organised by the Yard Master, David Parker (see his column below). Please come down with appropriate hand tools to help spruce up the Club for the upcoming season - many hands make light work.

Membership renewals have been very strong again this year and I thank you all for your ongoing commitment to our great Club and I am looking forward again to seeing everyone around the yard for the usual banter. Until then..... Hasta luego

Commodore Briggs

YARDMASTER'S REPORT

Here we go again. Looking forward to the new season. But before we get into the sailing we need to get our facilities in tip top shape. Working bee will be held on **Saturday 28 September starting at 9am**. Being Grand Final day I have decided there will be no morning tea but we will stop for lunch about noon. I also encourage everyone to hang around for the Grand Final as the bar will be open.

You will notice some small changes around the Club since the end of last season including a new shelter and racking for paddle boards and the alike. Please get in contact with me if you want a spot in this shed.

The yard is filling up fast and looking like it could be a tight squeeze this year so I hope everybody got there forms in on time.

Looking forward to the new season.

David Parker, Yard Master



CANTEEN MANAGER'S REPORT

Hello everyone,

I hope you had a nice winter break.

There will be a change of opening hours for the canteen this year. In the morning we will be open from 11am to 2:30pm as usual and then we will close the canteen in the afternoon. Instead we will be selling food from upstairs after sailing. If the race is postponed, we will keep the canteen open until you go out racing.

Also I am hoping to make a group for any food activities, except social dinners, at the club which include the canteen, roll making, sausage sizzle, hamburger day, snacks after sailing, food during the regattas etc. If you would like to join me to support our sailors or have fun together while your

family/partner are out sailing, please come and see me at the canteen or you can email me at mobrienau@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you in the new season and having fun together.

Akemi O'Brien, Canteen Manager



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Club Captain



One of McCrae’s great strengths as a yacht club is the number and variety of boats that coexist in relative harmony on the race track. Our mix of competitively sailed monohulls and catamarans includes everything from strict one-design to development classes and caters for all preferences, budgets and abilities.

The Sailing Committee aims to set the standard for fair and safe racing and is aware of anecdotal evidence suggesting that the increasing speed differentials between faster and slower boats might be having an adverse effect on fleet numbers. With this in mind, we have undertaken a comprehensive review of the current course to see whether it remains fit for purpose.

Balancing competing interests in a mixed fleet is a challenge, and the first major finding of our review was that the architect(s) of the current course did a remarkable job, and that any changes should be evolutionary rather than revolutionary.

The Sailing Committee has resolved to make 2 changes to the standard McCrae course:

1. Separate leeward marks for the inner and outer triangles; and
2. Reverse the current starting order.

Separate leeward marks

The current course consists of an inner and outer course sharing a leeward mark – the gate. By laying one additional mark, we will move to inner and outer courses with separate leeward marks.

The windward leg of the outer course is generally at least 0.2nm (approx. 400m) longer than the (shared) windward leg of the inner course. From the commencement of the 2019/20 season, a new mark 6 will be laid 0.1 nm (approx. 200m) to windward of the gate, and this will be the new leeward mark for the inner course. In effect, the inner course is being picked up and moved approximately 0.1nm (or 200m) up the course.

See below for a diagrammatical representation (not to scale) of the new course. The mark roundings will be

Distances in nautical miles (1nm = 1,852 metres)		3ps - 6	Leg	Leg	Triangle	Triangle	W/R	W/R
Assumes distances from 3ps and 6 to finish equal			Inner	Outer	Inner	Outer	Inner	Outer
Inner gate closed upwind unless Mark 6 is a mark of your course		0.10	0.50	0.70	1.5	2.1	1	1.4
Inner gate closed in both directions for Division 1 and Division 3								
		Distance (nm)						
Division	Proposed course	Proposed	Existing	Difference	Notes			
1	Start - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - Finish	5.70	5.60	0.10	0.1nm longer (short beat to finish)			
2	Start - 1,1a,2,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,2,3ps - Finish	5.70	5.60	0.10	0.1nm longer (short beat to finish)			
3	Start - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - 1,1a,3ps - Finish	4.30	4.20	0.10	0.1nm longer (short beat to finish)			
4	Start - 1,1a,3ps - 4,5,6 - 1,1a,3ps - Finish	4.40	4.50	(0.10)	0.1nm shorter			
5	Start - 1,1a,3ps - 4,3ps - 4,6 - Finish	3.70	3.80	(0.10)	0.1nm shorter			
6	Start - 4,5,6 - 4,6 - 4,5,6 - Finish	4.10	4.00	0.10	0.1nm longer			
7	Start - 4,6 - 4,5,6 - Finish	2.60	2.50	0.10	0.1nm longer			
8	Start - 4,5,6 - Finish	1.60	1.50	0.10	0.1nm longer			
9	Start - 1,1a,6 - 4,6 - 4,6 - Finish	3.30	3.40	(0.10)	0.1nm shorter			

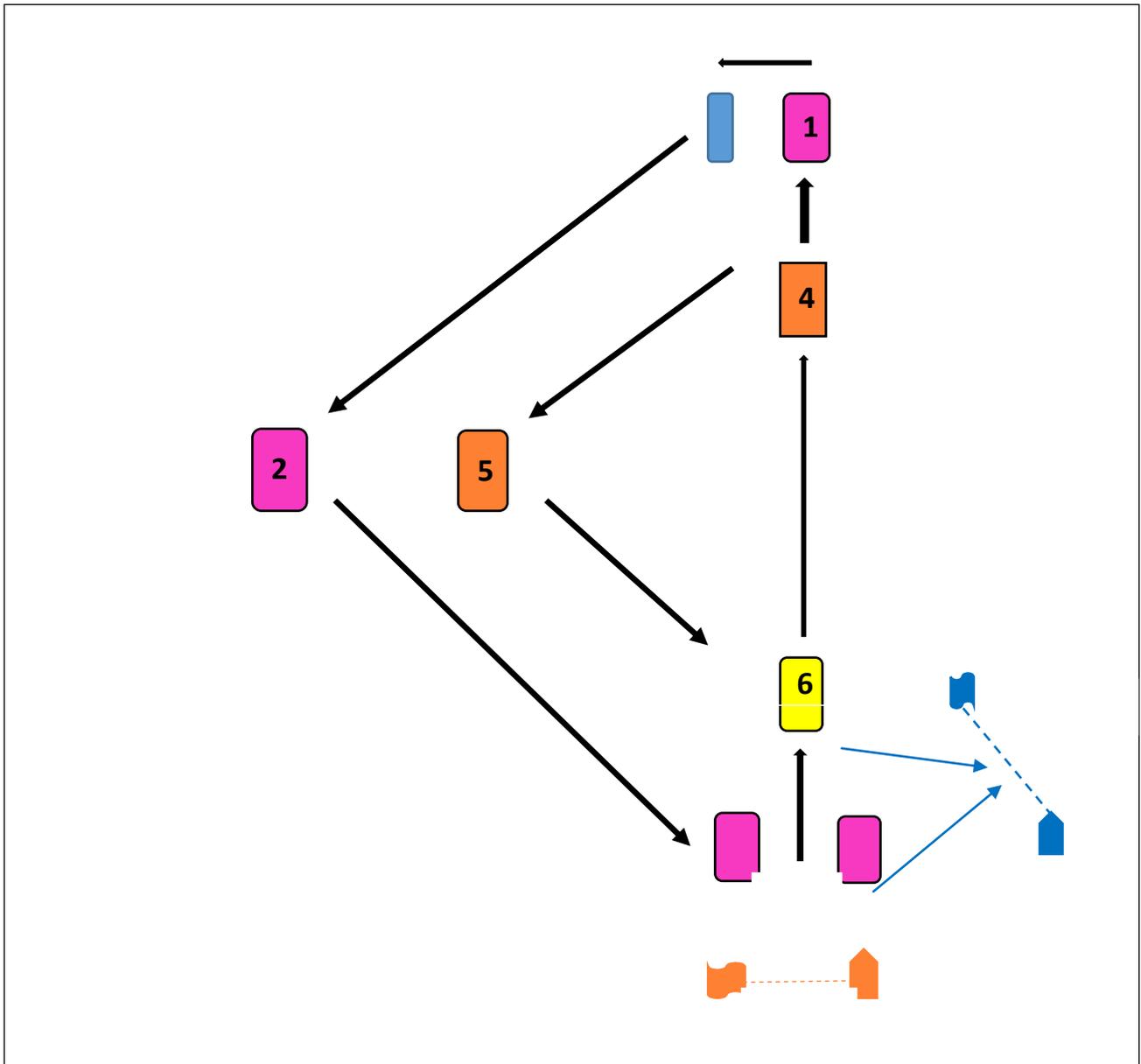
Reversed starting order

From the commencement of the 2019-20 season, Division 9 will start first and Division 1 will start last. Simple.

The Sailing Committee will be monitoring the impact of these changes and may make further change(s) if required, with a view to finalising a revised format before the commencement of the Aggregate series.

Stay tuned for revised Sailing Instructions to be posted on the club website.

Richard Nicholson
Club Captain



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TRAINING CENTRE REPORT

We have a very busy season coming up with a full Training Centre calendar. Here are some dates to put in your diaries:

- Saturday 14 September First aid/First aid update/CPR update
- Friday 20 September Powerboat Handling Course Session 1
- Saturday 21 September Powerboat Handling Course Session 2
- Sunday 6 October McCrae Junior and Youth Development Squad commences
- Friday 11 October Powerboat Handling Course Session 3
- Sunday 13 October Powerboat Handling Course Session 4
- Sunday 13 October Responsible Service of Alcohol course
- Saturday 26 October Learning and Development Program information session
- Saturday 2 November Saturday Learning and Development program commences

All information and bookings can be made on TryBooking via the McCrae Y.C. Website.

Training Centre Administrator/Assistant Administrator

A big thank you to Margaret Crossland and Anna O'Brien for taking on the roles of Training Centre Administrator and Assistant Administrator respectively.

New Saturday Morning Learning and Development Program

This season we will be starting our new Structured Learning Methodology program. So what is different about this program from what we have been doing? What are the elements that have made this so successful at the clubs in W.A. that have implemented the program?

In some ways the program is not so different to what we have been doing. After all sailing is sailing. I will try to summarise the main points:

1. Marketing of McCrae Y.C. to local schools to attract local families to our club. Target audience is 7 to 10 year old age group.
2. Offer four week free trial to attract participants to our club. Repeat four or five times per season
3. Focus on engaging with families to help them understand the sailing and club culture
4. First 10 weeks is completed in club Optis then a boat must be purchased to continue
5. The club will decide the classes to be used. Mixed class coaching is not an option
6. Yearly program double current. Producing competent sailors requires time on the water!
7. Participant progress carefully managed by instructor/coaches who communicate with each other effectively.
8. Current program stops at start racing. New program will continue to Youth level with coaching. The program moves coaching to a club environment rather than class associations which in turn keeps members at the club and relieves the expense and time of travel to other clubs.
9. Regular intake of new participants ensures larger numbers for more effective coaching and learning which results in better sailors, higher retention and increased membership and sailing activity.
10. Refinement of the curriculum so that participants feel a sense of achievement and improvement with each session. This keeps them enthusiastic and engaged with the program.

This program may shift the culture of the club to having a larger focus on sail training activities. From Don's Elks' research parents are attracted by programs that deliver results through structured learning. Of course the experience must remain enjoyable and rewarding for participants, parents, volunteers and coaches alike.

I ask that the current membership get behind the Training Committee in implementing this important new club building initiative. We will need the help of all who can. Please talk to Murray O'Brien, John d'Helin, or Scott Watson to see where you can best assist.

Murray O'Brien

CONTENDERS TRAVEL TO FRANCE



Contender sailors (Kneeling) Joey Randall, Matt Triglone (Standing) Neil Whittaker, Mark Bulka, Scotty Munro, John McLean, Lindsay Irwin, Sam Reid, Andrew Barrett, Andre Webster, Steve Young, Jeff Owen and Johnny Lindholm

Thirteen Aussies travelled over to France for the 2019 Contender Worlds held at the French National Sailing Training Centre in Quiberon, in Brittany.

The Pre-World event attracted 60 boats. They had 8 races in good conditions. Mark Bulka took out the Nationals with 6 bullets, a 3rd and not having to sail the last race. So, of the Aussies who sailed the Nationals: Bulka – 1, Andre – 7, Johnny – 8, Sammy – 16, Lindsay -17, Jeff – 20, Steve – 39, Crazy – 41, Matt – 45, Andrew – 51, Neil – 59.

The Worlds had a line-up of 127 boats, and the conditions were a whole different story. Whilst the location was beautiful, the wind was terrible!! Light winds plagued the event, and only 7 of the scheduled 10 races were sailed. On day 1, we were on the water until 8.30pm trying to complete the day's scheduled sailing. One race on day 2 and no racing day 3 due to no wind. This left event organisers to split the fleets based only on 3 sailed races, and no drops. The final 2 days were in light but sailable conditions.

The highlight for me had to be seeing Steve Young being first around the top mark in the last Silver Fleet race - just awesome! Overall, the lightweights dominated the event, with Max Billerberck from Germany taking the title ahead of Graham Scott (UK) in second and Soren Dulong (Denmark) in third.

Of the Aussies, we placed: Bulka – 15, Andre – 41, Johnny – 47, Joey – 56, Jeff – 58, Lindsay – 59, Sammy – 67, (3rd in Silver fleet) Scotty – 71, Steve – 84, Crazy – 89, Matt – 94, Neil – 115, Andrew – 120. I must say, going overseas to regatta's always highlights for me how well we do events at McCrae. I'm looking forward to a great 2019/20 season at McCrae and Contender Nationals in Brisbane. **Scotty Munro**



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FLAG OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE DIRECTORS FOR THE 2019/20 SEASON:

Commodore – David Briggs

Vice Commodore – Jon Knorr

Rear Commodore – Scott Cunningham

Secretary – Mark O'Brien

Treasurer – Michael Paynter

General Committee (Elected members)

Scott Munro, Scott Hailes, Akemi O'Brien

General Committee (Appointed members)

Lyn Johannessen (Membership Manager)

Murray O'Brien (Training Centre Principal)

Club Captain – Richard Nicholson

Sailing Committee

Cameron Dunwoody, Steve Floyd, Brody Riley

Andrew Pritchard, Alistair Watson, Louis Chapman

Simon Merritt, Andrew Vize

Training Centre

Murray O'Brien (Principal), Margaret Crossland (Administrator), Jeff Owen, Scott Watson, John D'Helin, Scott Hailes and Paul Jenkins

Youth Club Captains Evelyn Floyd and Jessica Vize

Canteen Manager - Akemi O'Brien

Bar Manager – Scott Hailes

Social Committee – no nominations received

Yard Master – David Parker

Deputy Yardmasters – Neil Wilson and Brian Bell

House Manager – Guy Bancroft

Membership Manager – Lyn Johannessen

Beacon Editor - Campbell Miles

A past member of McCrae Yacht Club, Bob Churcher died earlier in the year. From comments from older members of the Club, he was a very well-liked member. The following is a short extract from the eulogy delivered by his son.

"By early 1963 he and Mum had purchased an old fibro shack at McCrae which we kept for more than 20

years. Never one to sit around for long Dad thought sailing looked to be a good activity for him and his boys to be involved in. So he built one of the first Mirror dinghies on the bay, got his friend John Beale to teach him to sail and joined the McCrae Yacht club. Again, who could have known what would develop out of these humble beginnings into yachting. We even used to row the boat out into the deeper water off McCrae, catch a bucket full of good-sized flathead and row back in with Dad doing the messy job of gutting the fish while the boys took turns rowing.

Over the years Dad built two boats, and owned two catamarans and three trailer sailers and had many wonderful memories sailing on the bay and holidaying on the Gippsland and Myall lakes. He purchased one of the new Windsurfers so that he and others could have a go at this new sport. On the back of the order of service is a picture of him that a newspaper took and featured showing that older people could still be involved and get a kick out of life once they retired.

He has also sailed extensively on the Australian East coast and even in Noumea on his son David's keel boats. He has continued to love being out on the water and sailed this past summer at Safety Beach in the Friday night twilight races when weather conditions permitted."



At the McCrae Annual General Meeting, Graeme Fraser was presented with his own tractor in recognition of his long service to 'launch and retrieval' at McCrae.

O'Brien
Accountants & Advisors



LASER NEWS

Laser News has often profiled our young high-performance Laser Sailors & their campaigns. They are not the only sailing campaigners.

This time I want to profile my mate JJ (also known as John Jagger). If you have been around the club this winter & spotted a Laser Radial out near the channel, chances are it's JJ. JJ loves sailing Lasers.

He likes:

- Sailing to SC21 in 18-20Kn Northerlies (painful)
- Running downwind from SC21 in 1 metre waves, hard by the lee, fast transitions & crazy gybes (exhilarating)
- Rigging & un-rigging a Laser quicker than anyone else on the planet.

He dislikes:

- Do-gooders who pull his beach dolly out of the water & up the beach out of reach.

His training regime:

- Kayaking, Pilates, walking up Arthurs Seat with the Dingo & of course Laser sailing.

Target events this season:

- Victorian Laser States at SYC in November; Sail Melbourne at RBYC in January; Laser Men's Radial Worlds at SYC in February; Australian Laser Masters followed by the Laser Masters Worlds at RGYC in March. Big program JJ.

What to like about JJ?

- He knows a lot of stuff & is always helpful in making suggestions & passing on sailing hints.
- He helps me haul my boat up over the sand.

All the best JJ for your final year as a Laser Master, next season it's GM division for you mate!

John d'Helin

McCrae Laser fleet



Over the past few three months we have sold 48 properties locally and some great McCrae sales including club member Trevor Knight's holiday home at 4 Murray St McCrae.

Since the federal election, we have noticed a large increase of investors entering the market along with first home buyers and Baby Boomers downsizing from Melbourne. With interest rates at an all time low and stock levels tight, we envisage a busy spring/summer ahead.

Recent McCrae sales -

2 Murray St McCrae - \$1,203,000

4 Murray St McCrae - \$1,265,000

7 Prospect Hill Rd McCrae - \$1,070,000

8 Glendale Grv McCrae - \$580,000

47 Bayview Rd McCrae - \$1,020,000

13 Catherine St McCrae - \$870,000

13 Henry Crt McCrae - \$515,000

If you are thinking of selling, please call me anytime to arrange a market appraisal. When you list your property with hockingstuart Dromana-Rosebud and upon a successful sale, I will donate \$500 back to the club.

Once again, thank you to all members for your ongoing support and I look forward to seeing you down at the club in the coming months.

Grant Connell (0407-515-078)



At the 2019 Victorian Sailing Awards **Peter Merritt** was recognised with the award for *Volunteer of the Year* and **John D'Helin** with a *Lifetime Achievement Award*.