

YACHTING VICTORIA

ANNUAL REPORT

SEASON 2019-20

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Sailing

Our 2019-2020 season was clearly divided into two parts, pre-COVID-19 and post-COVID-19. The first part of our season was spectacular, with many national and international events held in Victoria, some were for Olympic classes and were to influence selections for several countries. I managed to attend many of these events and as usual I was in awe of the efforts of so many volunteers, all united with an obvious passion for our sport. I hope you enjoy the short video which accompanies the 'live' presentation of this report and reflects on their outstanding achievements. It can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

One Sailing

It is now four years on from AS and YV's adoption of One Sailing and the relationship between the MYA and AS appears to be constructive and amicable. The process is in a long-term transitional phase. The YV Board will continue to monitor progress in the other states and review the transition process with the intention of ensuring the YV pathway only leads to a better outcome for our clubs.

The club satisfaction survey is the primary means of monitoring club support and service and we encourage every club to ensure the right people are responding to the survey and providing critical feedback for our Board and Australian Sailing to consider and respond to. The One Sailing structure in transition still causes some confusion about YV's role as opposed to AS and the role of the YV Board. All Board members and all our hard-working committee members are volunteers. All staff in Victoria (and other states) are employed directly by AS, and therefore report to AS. The YV Board and each MYA Board or Regional Advisory Committee (NSW) is still responsible to its member clubs and classes for:

- Safeguarding the efficient delivery of quality services to our member clubs by Australian Sailing;
- Providing advice and representation on Victorian priorities and issues;
- Providing regular input into the development of national strategy and priorities;
- Holding the Australian Sailing Board to account; and
- Managing retained local assets and investing returns into priority areas as determined by the MYA Board.

Committees

Our committees continue to do their great work supporting various aspects of sailing in Victoria and in many instances, they have played a national role. The role of these committees is critical to the continual improvement of our sport and we thank all those committee members for their ongoing support.

Our Victorian Australian Sailing Administration Team

I would like to thank Gavin Wall and his team on behalf of the YV Board (and our clubs) for another outstanding year of service to Victorian Sailing. This time around they have had to cope with the complexities imposed by various stages of COVID-19 but have managed this process with commitment and a very professional approach. Unfortunately, we have seen the Victorian office re-structured and it was with great sadness we saw the departure of Ian Wall. Wallie has been an outstanding ambassador for our sport for well over thirty years, introducing many thousands of school children to the sport of sailing all around the State. I don't think I have ever seen a better instructor working with children in any sport in the past thirty years, we can only hope he may be able to rejoin us at some time in the future. From all of us, a huge thank you Ian.

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Our YV Board

I would like to thank the continuing Board members Debbie Parker, Linda Goldsmith, Liesl Petterd, and Meaghan Densley. Members of the Board have been assisting various clubs with a wide range of issues and we look forward to working closely with our clubs over the next twelve months and beyond. We will be focusing on how best to revive our sport as we evolve from COVID-19 and are looking to develop our communication with clubs. This has been materially affected by restrictions imposed by COVID-19 and we all look forward to getting out on the water again soon. Of course, as President I invite you to contact me directly at any time if you have any issues you wish to discuss.

Sean Hogan

President

shogan@ispt.net.au

TREASURERS REPORT

Given the transfer of operational responsibilities to Australian Sailing there are very few items now going through the financial statements of Yachting Victoria. The main transaction for the year was the payment of the final instalment to the builder of the State Sailing Centre (SSC) following the conclusion of the defects period.

The loss of \$56,000 was largely due to the depreciation charge of \$57,000 on the assets owned by Yachting Victoria including the State Sailing Centre (SSC). The total cost of the SSC is reflected in the balance sheet as an asset, together with the other retained assets such as training and coaching boats. These assets are provided to Australian Sailing at no charge other than regular maintenance costs. During the year a rib was sold to a Victorian club, with a profit on sale of \$1,140 recorded.

There have been no further significant events to comment on in regards to the financial results for the year.

I commend the audited accounts for your consideration.

Liesl Petterd

Honorary Treasurer

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REGIONAL MANAGER - VICTORIA REPORT

2019-20 started extremely positively with strong support for our Discover Sailing programs, excitement around the Summer of Sailing concept and the 27 major regattas that were being hosted by Victorian clubs and a growing membership across Victoria. Unfortunately, things can change very quickly. 2020 then brought devastating bush fires and the COVID-19 pandemic we are all fighting today.

I would like to focus on the positives that Victorian sailing saw in the early part of the season. However, before I do, it is important to acknowledge the devastating impact both the bush fires and the current pandemic have had, and continue to have, on both our clubs and the Victorian sailing community.

The bush fires impacted a number of Victorian communities both economically and socially. Further afield the smoke from these fires impacted several major regattas across the state. The hard work and support from the Victorian community to both support affected communities and to still deliver world class regattas shows the strength of our sport.

Currently we are all fighting a worldwide pandemic and it is having a major impact on our clubs and members of our sailing community. Australian Sailing is working tirelessly to support our clubs and community through Government advocacy and financial support where possible.

The Victorian team of Lesley Fasala, Sue Phillips, Adam Gristwood, Ian Wall, Chris Jones (moved to Tasmania to take up the Regional Manager role in November 2019), Clare Ridgway, Olivia Newman and Rebecca York worked hard to ensure all Victorian clubs received the service required to help them and the sport flourish in Victoria.

Unfortunately, due to the impact of COVID-19 Ian Wall finished up with Australian Sailing in May 2020. Ian was a long serving member of the Victorian team and highly respected across the Victorian Sailing community. The service that Ian gave to Victorian Sailing over his 33 years in the role was immense. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian once again for his dedication to Victorian sailing and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Summer of Sailing

This season Victoria was the center of sailing in Australia. Our clubs hosted in excess of 27 National, Oceania and World level regattas through the first half of the season. These regattas engaged with approximately 2376 boats and 3799 competitors. The unconstrained economic benefit to the state was between approximately **\$4.68 million and \$8.34 million**. The hard work and passion of our clubs, their staff and volunteers were world class, with over **1264 volunteers** giving of their time across these regattas. Again, I cannot thank the Victorian sailing community enough for their dedication to, and support of, sailing in Victoria.

Victorian Olympic Representation

Another great outcome from the Summer of Sailing was the selection of Sam and Will Phillips, and Tess Lloyd to represent Australia at the Tokyo Olympics in the 49er and 49erFX respectively. Not since 2012 has Victoria had a representative in the Australian Sailing team for the Olympics. We all wish them the very best of luck.

Participation

Prior to the disruption of the sailing season Victorian clubs were again successfully delivering a number of programs aimed at increasing club membership and sailing participation. With the ongoing support from VicHealth and the Victorian State Government (Sport and Recreation Victoria) we were able to grow the following programs both in Victoria and National:

- **SheSails** continues to be a key focus for Australian Sailing. This season saw six new clubs appointing a SheSails club representative to work with the other 51 representatives in Victoria on increasing female participation, both on the water and within our club committees.

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- **SailPass** was taken up by 33 clubs in Victoria over the 2019-20 season. This saw 2,467 SailPass participants participate in the program with 68% of participants surveyed stating they had engaged in ongoing participation, membership or a learn to sail course. With the support of VicHealth, Australian Sailing has now created an API to allow club membership databases to link directly to revSPORT.
- **OutThere Sailing (OTS)** continued to grow in Victoria with 10 new clubs delivering the program. This took the total number of clubs to 19 and saw another 1200 teenagers discover the joy of sailing and the lifestyle offered by our clubs. Since the program started in 2019, 1700 teenagers have engaged in an OTS program in Victoria. A byproduct of the new OTS program has been a renewed focus on windsurfing. Victoria now has four accredited windsurfing Discover Sailing Centers and another two clubs that deliver great windsurfing programs outside of the Australian Sailing accredited program.

Unfortunately, another impact of COVID-19 and the bush fires was the cancelation of a number of Discover Sailing Center programs. At the time the fires started and just prior to COVID-19 Victoria was on track to show growth across all our accredited programs. However, other than OutThere Sailing which grew by 147%, all other programs showed a slight decrease in numbers for the 2019-20 season.

Victorian Volunteer Committees

Outside of our strong clubs and their committees, one of the strengths of Victorian sailing is the Yachting Victoria Board and its sub-committees. The support and subject matter expertise these committees give the Australian Sailing staff and clubs in Victoria is highly valued and appreciated. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support.

Gavin Wall
Australian Sailing Regional Manager - Victoria

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SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

The events that have shaped and continue to shape our world during 2020 threaten to overshadow our thoughts and memories of the year past. Victoria in particular has been severely impacted firstly with the summer's calamitous bushfires and then followed by COVID-19. Casual conversations often turn to the topic that no one can recall having our participation in sailing so disrupted by events beyond our control in living memory. We are indeed living through extraordinary times.

On a more personal level, earlier this year we experienced the passing of a good friend and devoted member of our sailing community, Bill Bell. His contribution to the sport and officiating has been widely recognised. However, it was his commitment to the support and development of younger race officials that will remain a legacy and also stand as a great loss. We will miss his calm, considered demeanour and affable personality as a valued member of the Race Officials Committee.

Geoffrey Searle is a member of our committee who chose to step down this year. He has been a stalwart for our committee representing our interests throughout the clubs of the Bellarine Peninsula in particular. Geoffrey has been active both as a National Judge and Umpire and is well regarded for his tireless efforts to identify and promote new officials in the region. Despite stepping down from the committee, it is the latter role that he will continue to pursue locally and we wish him well in his retirement.

Whilst on the topic of retirement, we would also like to draw attention to the retirement of Ian Wall from the Victorian office. Ian epitomised the close working relationship between this committee and the Australian Sailing staff. He was an enabler that got things done and his cheerful approach was highly valued during countless events over the years. We also wish him well in his retirement.

Whilst the uncertainty of the past 6 months remains, attention needs to be drawn to the period preceding which by contrast, saw the most concerted effort to support an ambitious program of sailing that has not been seen since the 1999 Worlds here in Victoria. It seemed that from October 2019 through to March 2020, there was constantly an event underway throughout the state with numerous events being run simultaneously during the summer peak. If it was possible to write in words a 'standing ovation', I would do so to applaud the countless number of volunteers who worked tirelessly to deliver amazing events for sailors of all levels. Many of our volunteers were rolling from one event to the other closely supported by their clubs and the AS staff. Tremendous goodwill and co-operation between the clubs was consistently evident throughout this period and it was an effort that Victorian yachting can be rightly proud of. There were so many Victorian race officials involved ably led by the likes of Mark Taylor, Peter Merritt, Kevin and Ross Wilson. Our yachting families also opened their homes to visiting officials ensuring our guests were welcomed and cared for often for weeks at a time. The goodwill demonstrated was often appreciatively noted by our visitors.

As if the logistics of such and ambitious program were not enough, unfortunately one of the most horrendous fire seasons also complicated proceedings with issues of smoke haze and air quality having significant impact on many events. Again, the cooperation between clubs, classes and AS came to the fore as they grappled with the swiftly changing landscape requiring rapid responses and decisions with little precedence to guide them. Balancing the needs of the sailors and race officials was a challenge requiring some difficult decisions. With many racing programs impacted, the frustration of sailors was understandable but at the same time, there appeared an appreciation of the severity of the circumstances and efforts that race organisers were making on their behalf under extremely trying conditions.

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Our committee was excited to capitalise on the momentum that the Summer of Sailing was going to introduce with a view to continuing to engage with those who had demonstrated an interest in officiating. However, the COVID pandemic quickly overtook those intentions and diverted attention away from the water to more pressing needs. This pattern of false starts and uncertainty has prevailed since the end of March complicating the planning for the coming season.

One of the positive aspects of the pandemic has been the uptake of video conferencing technologies and a greater acceptance of online learning. Whilst this has been the subject of much discussion and exploration in the past, there has been some resistance to change. However, the current situation will afford a tremendous opportunity for training, remote hearings and general support moving forward. Members of the Committee have already been trialing club level training for our remote clubs and this is likely to be the trend over the coming months. Changes to the AS National Officiating Program (NOP) will see the introduction of more seminars for judges and race officers. These will be presented by committee members and tailored to the specific requirements of the clubs. We envisage that over time, we will be able to engage more frequently with less overheads with a broader range of clubs and officials. This is consistent without continued commitment to identifying ways to support the activities and development of race officials throughout Victoria.

Whilst the pandemic presents opportunities, it also continues to provide challenges not only to event planning but also to the accreditation and re-accreditation of officials. It is unlikely that there will be many major events held for some time. This will challenge us to think carefully about the training and accreditation needs of existing and up and coming officials.

Lastly, the committee is actively engaged in planning and preparation of training and support that will be required with the introduction of the 2021-24 Racing Rules of Sailing. Whilst it is encouraging to note that with recent iterations of the rules, the number of major changes is diminishing. Many of the changes pertain to clarification and addressing inconsistencies and anomalies. One of the major issues for clubs will be the update to the NOR and SI templates. The aim of these changes is to further simplify these documents and minimise errors due to replication in both documents. We will be supporting clubs to review and rewrite these documents in preparation for January 2021.

I would like to conclude by thanking the Australian Sailing staff for continuing to support and enable the activities of our committee. We enjoy a great relationship and look forward to this in the coming year. I would also like to thank the members of the committee who devote countless hours to the task of supporting our sailors and clubs; highlighting that volunteers continue to underpin operational support for our great sport.

Darren Eger
Chair

Members: Darren Eger (Chair), Luke Tupper (Vice Chair), Ben Fels (Secretary), Glenys Hitchen, Chris Wilson, Ross Wilson, Rob Ware, Paul Pascoe, Kevin Wilson, Andre Blasse, Geoff Eldridge, Matt Ross, Geoffrey Searle, John Collings, Danielle Watkins, Peter Merritt, and Tony Dawson.

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SCHOOL SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

The focus of the School Sailing Committee is to introduce and increase the numbers of those participating in sailing as a school sport, to help provide a competitive framework for this designing a wide variety of regattas targeted towards a wide range of abilities and ages.

In the 2019/20 season three rounds of the John Middleton Trophy were run. Each series incorporated five days of racing. In total, we ran over 200 races, and the Saturday competition attracted up to 130 competitors.

Usually, our season is about working towards our Victorian School Team Sailing State Championship and is the decider for the John Middleton Trophy. Unfortunately, the Championship was cancelled due to COVID-19, with schools taking the utmost caution with their students.

Our schools sailing program relies on a great group of volunteers; without their support, we wouldn't be able to run the program. Our events are hosted by a great group of clubs, Davey's Bay Yacht Club, Mornington Yacht Club, Royal Yacht Club of Victoria and the Boatshed. The Victorian Office of Australian Sailing provides invaluable administration and logistics support. Also thanks to Royal Yacht Club of Victoria for their planning in the cancelled State Championships.

The School Sailing Committee can help any clubs and schools who are interested in getting involved. For clubs, we can provide administrative assistance and training to get a weeknight program running for local schools. We are also happy to hear from any clubs interested in hosting a round of our Saturday competition.

We have helped schools, parents and students wanting to get a sailing program running, or a team to the state championships. Contact the committee to get help to get your students involved. Help includes, getting the paperwork together for the school, finding a coach, help on rules, or any other support.

Committee Members: Liam Edleston, Ben Fels, Mel Hitchen-Haw, James Sly, Luke Tupper (Chair)

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TRAILABLE COMMITTEE

The highlights for the 19/20 year for the Victorian Trailable Yacht Division committee have been;

- Delivery of a training package for trailable yacht sailors at Hobsons Bay Yacht Club,
- Promotion of the Travellers Series including six events at venues across the state (4 held),
- Host a successful season opening dinner and sailing day in Docklands,
- 2019/20 Trailable state championships at Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club, **Cancelled**
- Continue to improve our web site and the promotion of Facebook page,
- CBH ratings, assist AS with the revised capacity and formulas for CBH ratings.



The committee generally meet monthly at the Boatshed at Albert Park where various trailable yacht associations and yacht club matters are considered.

The Season Opening dinner in October '19 included many attendees sailing up to docklands, a visit to the 'Alma Doepel' restoration worksite and pre dinner refreshments dockside before about 60 people attended the opening dinner and participating in the Bob Couper memorial quiz. The following day had many trailable yacht associations members attended a man overboard workshop and demonstration. The season opening weekend was low key but attracted a good turnout of association members and their trailable yachts to the waters of Victoria Harbour at Docklands. A great outcome of the weekend

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being the participation and collaboration between various associations and yacht clubs' members getting together.



The 2019/20 Travellers Series was cut short due to COVID-19 shutdowns, attendance was reduced on account of the pandemic. This year included six events where four were completed:

- 1 'Pelican Race Geelong' hosted by Geelong Trailable Yacht Club;
- 2 'Around Sunday Island Race' hosted by Port Albert Yacht Club;
- 3 'Around French Island Race' hosted by Warneet Motor Yacht Club;
- 4 'Keeley Marine Supplies 52nd Marlay Point Overnight Race' hosted by Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club;
- 5 'Boating Central - Victorian Trailable Yacht Championships' hosted by Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club – **CANCELLED due to COVID-19**;
- 6 'Four Points Race' hosted by Melbourne Trailable Yacht Club - **CANCELLED due to COVID**.

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Notably, 110 trailable yachts entered the 'Keeley Marine Supplies 52nd Marlay Point Overnight Race' hosted by Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club.

The 2019/20 – Boating Central – Victorian Trailable Yacht Championships were to be hosted by Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club in March but was impacted by the first COVID-19 lockdowns and postponed, then later cancelled. This event would normally award the TYD Sailor of the year.

The TYD maintain a website and Facebook page promoting events and activities across the state. Facebook has proven a great addition attracting many followers and visitors, follow us at 'Trailable Yachts Victoria'. <http://www.trailableyacht.com.au>

Des Russel has continued to provide training weekends with assistance from Hobsons Bay Yacht Club.

The TYD has engaged with Australian Sailing staff to develop better support for trailable yachts with CBH ratings, The TYD are grateful for positive support and direction on this matter.

The focus to build a consistent approach and to assist these clubs in the race management, promotion and participation of trailer sailing to through the Travellers Series events, continued. Plans are well underway for the coming season's opening dinner. Looking to draw Trailable Yacht owners and new members to improve participation.

I would like to thank the YV-TYD committee including Des Russell, Ron Parker, Mitch Bayliss, Peter Shepard, Greg Power, Peter Mart, Alex Stroud, John Mole and Olivia Newman (AS) for all your great support. Also, Collin Forester for support with the Travellers Series handicaps (PBH) and results, and website.

Also, recognize the efforts of various associations and yacht clubs for their support to make the past year a great success. Thank you.

Mark McLellan
VTYD Chairman



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SHE SAILS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

The SheSails Committee's activities have been hampered but not halted by the COVID-19 pandemic this year. We have not been able to do much sailing in 2020 but we have still held a number of club representative forums and ran a leadership forum, all online! It has been good to catchup online and hear each other's stories and how the club reps and their clubs are coping with the sailing restrictions.

This year has seen the committee split up into three workgroups: Club Representatives, Leadership & Training and Communications, Marketing & Events, to facilitate delivering on the grant provided by Sport and Recreation Victoria, *Together more Active* fund. The funding enables the She Sails Committee to run a SheSails and She Leads Conference, to run a number of club representative forums, provide subsidised training for women and girls under 18, provide inspirational speakers at female sailing events, and to run more events during the next 12 months.

The SheSails committee's objectives include:

1. Increasing the number of women participating in sailing by providing events, training and promoting awareness in our sport;
2. Increasing the number of women in leadership roles by running and promoting events and training that equip women with the necessary skills to undertake leadership roles.

Social media/promotion

Social media platforms are a key communication tool used to promote women's events for all Victorian clubs. Facebook, Instagram and the new SheSails website, are used for sharing stories of success, Local Hero stories, training courses and general interest items. The SheSails Facebook page now has over 1900 followers and many interesting posts from Victoria and around Australia. The original WGIS site was rebranded last year as the national SheSails site and the stories and resources available on the web site are growing weekly and provide lots of useful information about SheSails activities.

The following table shows good progress (July 2020) toward the committee's objectives:

Item	Current
% Female club members (AS Target 40%)	35%
% Female Instructors	24%
% Female Officials	31%
% Female Coaches	31%

Highlights

- Four SheSails club representatives' forums held in the past year were well attended by representatives from over 25 clubs and covered various topics, such as successful grant writing and leadership skills.
- Currently there are 42 clubs with a total of 58 SheSails club representatives (some clubs having more than one representative). New clubs that have signed up a SheSails club representatives this year include Port Melbourne Yacht Club, Port Fairy Yacht Club, Yarrowonga YC and Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club.
- SheSails programs continue to grow at clubs around Victoria. Mount Martha Yacht Club's SheSails program, now in its third year, saw 89 women attend the various *Come and Try Sailing*, *Come and*

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Try Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP) and yoga sessions. Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club also ran a series of successful *Come and Try SUP* and 10-week *Yoga and Sunset Cruising* sessions.

- SheSails club representatives have kept women connected during COVID-19 restrictions through online quizzes, online cooking classes and online SheSails book clubs.
- SheSails network groups have started up in regional Victoria in Yarrawonga and Port Fairy.
- An online SheSails, women-only Race Official course was run in June 2020 and was oversubscribed.
- The 8th year of the Port Phillip Women's Championship Series (PPWCS) started in Dec 2019 and the 1st three scheduled race days were completed with over 50 sailors competing for the series title.
- For the first time, a point score was added to the Range Series to encourage more female crew members to race in the series.
- Wendy Wilson from Somers Yacht Club won the SheSails Award last year for her work in increasing female participation at Somers Yacht Club and her work with the Sabre Girls, including running the first SheSails Coaching regatta at Somers Yacht Club in December 2019.



Leadership workshops

A SheSails and She Leads workshop consisting of two sessions on Communicating Your Story with executive coach, Aimee Foster was held online recently. This was an excellent, well-facilitated workshop, and the online format allowed attendees from regional areas to attend. It was funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria which subsidised club representatives and was well attended with 20 women attending online. Aimee Foster previously ran a small leadership session for women at Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron and this training also received great reviews.

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Port Phillip Women's Championship Series 2019-2020

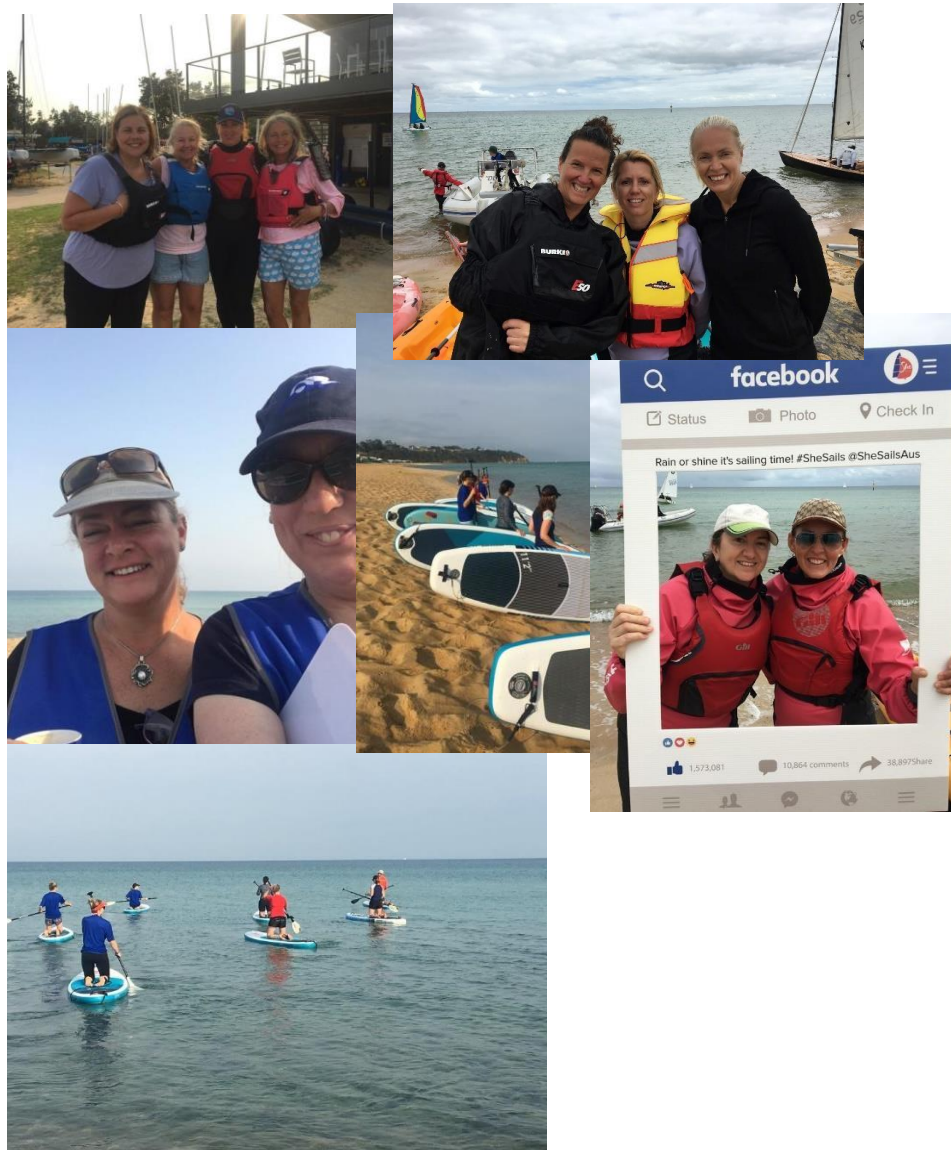
The Port Phillip Women's Championship series had 90% female participants amongst over 50 sailors but saw its eighth season shortened by COVID-19. However, it was still possible to achieve a series result as the first three of the five scheduled race days were completed, which was four of the ten races. With insight gained from a survey of past participants, a new series format for 2019-20 was rolled out with two new divisions – Division 1 for all-female crews and Division 2 for predominantly-female crews in key positions and a limited number of male support crew. We will look at running this format again next year.



Event Promotion

The SheSails committee also provides support to clubs running events for women and girls by promoting their events in social media and on the SheSails website, and providing expertise, resources and assistance to ensure the events' success. Unfortunately, many of these events were cancelled due to COVID -19 this year so additional promotion will be provided prior to the rescheduled events.

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Club Representative Forums

The SheSails committee runs at least three Club Rep forums each year to support the work that club representatives do by providing training, networking opportunities and resources. Four forums were held in the past year in October 2019, and in March, May and June 2020. The COVID-forced adoption of an online format has been a great success and enabled reps from regional clubs to attend and get to know their counterparts from the Bayside clubs, and vice-versa. With everyone now skilled in attending online meetings this is something we will continue in the future!

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SAILABILITY COMMITTEE

Highlights

1. Despite some significant challenges faced this year with Coronavirus, bush fires and blue/green algae preventing many Sailability Programs from operating at various times throughout last year some great events were still held, and programs continued as best they could.



2. Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron successfully hosted the 2020 Hansa State Championships in February 2020. 24 sailors and families attended the event and came from as far away as Shepparton and Albury. Russell Phillips came first in the Liberty Open class and Alison Weatherly came second in the Hansa 303 Open class.

3. In the 2020 Australian Para Sailing Championships held during Sail Melbourne in January 2020, Neil Patterson won the 2.4mR and Russell Phillips from Docklands Yacht Club came third in the Liberty class.

4. The Inclusion Program of the Year Award, now in its 3rd year bought a new winner in 2019 – with Sailors with Disabilities named as the winners.

Neil Patterson from RBYC winning Sailor of the Year with a Disability.



Neil Patterson
Royal Brighton Yacht Club
Winner of Sailor of the Year with a Disability



Sailors with disABILITIES - Winds of Joy Melbourne
Winner of
Inclusion Program of the Year



5. Despite the challenges, existing programs are still growing from strength to strength with Shepparton recording 239 participants between February and March 2020.

6. A survey of Sailability Programs was undertaken in Victoria and nationally to see what further support was required, 38 responses were received. A survey was also sent to schools and community groups that engage with Sailability programs.

7. A group of 20 Maori and Pacific Islander teenagers attended sessions at Lysterfield and Albert Park Lake over the Spring and Summer holidays. Feedback from the Community Development workers in the

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survey stated that ‘these young people never get to do these types of activities and the experience was awesome’.

8. Donations continue to be received by Mornington Sailability from the Sunshine Foundation and Sailability Victoria received a donation from the proceeds of a book published and written by Robert Ungar and friends from Sandringham Yacht Club.

9. Sean Hogan, Yachting Victoria’s President, took over the Chair of the Sailability Victoria Committee from Brian Girling with Liesl Pettard also joining the committee taking over the Treasurer position from Russell Phillips. The committee would like to express their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to both Brian and Russell for their commitment and hard work they have put into Sailability Victoria over the years. We are pleased that both Russell and Brian will remain on the Sailability Victoria Committee so we will not lose their knowledge or expertise.

Challenges for the next year

1. Updating the Inclusive Club Standards undertaken by Clubs and providing additional resources for clubs to become truly inclusive
2. Updating the General Principles Instructor course to be more inclusive
3. Improving the training on offer to Sailability Program volunteers
4. Sailability Programs/clubs to collect accurate data on participants through revSPORT management system
5. Expanding the membership of the Sailability Committee

