

South African Laser Class ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2018

The Annual General Meeting of the Laser Class Association was held at Langebaan Yacht Club during the SA Laser Class National Championships at 16h20 on 6th October 2018.

AGENDA

- 1) In the absence of the Chairman of the association the meeting was chaired by Campbell Alexander
- 2) Notice of meeting had been circulated to all members.
Apologies were received from Sigi Bailes, Alistair Fraser, Pam Miller and Rudolph Holm. 23 members attended the meeting.
- 3) Minutes of the last AGM held at Aeolians in September 2017 were approved.
Approval of minutes proposed by Jerome McLoughlin and seconded by Alistair Keytel.
- 4) The Financial Statements for the year ending 30th June 2018 were tabled and approved by the meeting. It was proposed and approved by the meeting to increase the annual subscriptions by an inflation related amount to R320 for the following financial year.
- 5) Chairman's Report (Rudolph Holm)
As the Chairman was unable to attend the meeting his report was not tabled but will be circulated to all members with the minutes of the meeting.
- 6) Venue of next National Championships is scheduled for KZN in 2019.
Campbell will proceed with the arrangements on this basis. Possible venues were PYC beach site or HMYC. It would be held to coincide with a public holiday if possible.
- 7) Election of the Committee
 - Chairman - Campbell Alexander
 - Treasurer - Ron Keytel
 - Secretary - Alan Keen
 - Western Cape Rep - Alistair Keytel
 - Eastern Cape Rep - Sigi Bales
 - Kwazulu Natal Rep - Jerome McLoughlin
 - Northern Region Rep - Stef Marcia
 - Ladies Rep - Cathy Hellstrom
 - National Youth Rep - Liza Keytel
 - Malcolm Osborne was volunteered to continue as webmaster.
- 8) General/ Other
The new Chairman thanked Rudolph for what he has done for the class as Chairman over the past few years.

9) Meeting closed at 16h40

Chairman's Report

Dear Laser sailor,

Although I did not sail much in the last two years during my term as Chairman, the Laser Class (the little boat and the people involved in it) continued to amaze me in many different ways.

First there was the introduction of the new sail and carbon mast (following Rio Olympics) which once again proves that the Class is alive and innovating globally. The combination of new radial cut sail and non-bending carbon top section creates a 'new' boat in some ways and a new sailing style (both upwind and downwind) is already visible in all levels of competition. If you don't yet have this kit, get it quick - it sure is worth the spend!

Then there was some truly amazing international participation and results - in particular on the youth sailing front - among SA Laser sailors, with a 4th place by Calvin Gibbs at Youth Worlds 2017, and a 21st from Sarah-Jane Deary in 2018. In fact, all youth laser results in the past 2 years are way above the average of the past decade.

On our local racing scene things are also looking very healthy, with 50+ boats at the inland 2017 Nationals, and a strong fleet at the 2018 Nationals in Langebaan, indicative of a healthy nation wide support base for the Laser in South Africa. It was particularly good to see how the enthusiasm of one or two KZN sailors could grow into an active Laser sailing circuit in Durban (over a short period of time) which ultimately resulted in the importation of 5 brand new boats - a real boost for Laser sailing in South Africa.

Many other good things happened in the past two years - importation of 4.7 training rigs, upgrade of nationals class trophies and many more - all the product of a committed and enthusiastic Laser sailing community - congratulations and thank you very much!

I am looking forward to the new season, Durban Laser Nationals 2019, and I wish Alexander Campbell and the new committee all the best for the year(s) ahead!

See you on the water,
Rudolph