

2024. RL 24. Owners Association AGM.

Port of Yamba Yacht Club. NSW

Date: Tuesday, 9th of January. 2024

Attending:

Darren Dyer, *Whatever*
Matt Harper, *Liquid Limo*
Time Jackman, *Dodgy Vindaloo*
Johnny Knight, *Sasha*
Paul Harris, *Steal Away*
Graham and Lorretta Chapman, *Argo*
Brian Phelan, *Sangria*
Marc and Yvonne Francis, *Vintage Red*
Paul Corbin, *Cosmic Sedso*
Joe Kelly, *Kokomo*
Doug Dyce, *Gundaroo 2*
Martin O'Shannessy, *Rubicon*
Adam Chambers, *Pipe Dream*
Gary Bargh, *Happy Hour.*
Rod Smith, *Summer Dream*
Gretta and Wayne Hill, *Spiral Navigator*
Jeff Maynard, *September Song*
Simon Walsh, *Ohaurua.*

Apologies

Ross Corben.



President's Welcome

Welcomed boat representatives and acknowledged that the 52nd National Championships were going well at the Port of Yamba Yacht club. The weather and wind have created great sailing conditions, making for an excellent sailing competition on the Clarence River. The sailing officers and courses have been very professional.

Reminded participants of the one vote per boat rule for the AGM.

1. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Business arising from meeting: None.

Move to accept minutes. Moved -Martin O'Shannessey 2nd- Brian Phelan Accepted by all.

2. Correspondence. Colin Boylan

Commentary on Victoria Trailer Sailer Association view of Yachting Victoria CBH discussion about mixed fleet sailing. See secretary report.

2. President's Report.

The innovative and adaptive spirit of the RL24 approach set in motion by Rob Legg lives on.

Around 20 entries for the last 5 years at National Championships up and down the East Coast is impressive. Royal Queensland, Lake Illawarra, Colac, Hollywell and now Port of Yamba is an impressive track record. The increased involvement of families and old friends sailing together is very rewarding. We also totally enjoy the meeting the 'new' crews roped in for National Championships and always get feed back for them, venue managers and hosting clubs that we are skilled racer, easy to get along with and willing contributors to the local economy.

Our stable, performance and safety orientated class rules remain the foundation of rewarding racing and boat ownership. There is a steady number of remanufactured or restored boats joining the fleet.

Colin Boylan is retiring as Secretary, Colin has made many important contributions to the strength of the Association; a robust regularly updated and very comprehensive mailing list of RL24 owners past and present, responding to new owner queries, solid and accurate hard work before each National Championship to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place, tracking down trophies and updating trophy plaques and histories, being the 'go to' person for NSW and Canberra RL24s and contributing to the marathon CBH debate. On behalf of the Association I'd like to thank him for an impressive and enduring contribution.

Rod Smith has done a fine job of Treasurer and is also retiring in this position. Rod has delivered accurately and conscientiously despite his work and family being impacted by some of Australia's more infamous natural disasters. Rod is RL24 racing and cruising stalwart and kicked off the Yamba adventure. Thanks Rod.

Matt Harper has provided calm, practical event and procedural advice in regard to events and racing. Its great to know we have a Vice President across all things RL24 and able to step up when the President is distracted or travelling.

Darryn Dyer is doing a magnificent job as Publicity Officer, capturing and distributing a great balance of important National Championship news, other sailing event opportunities and very importantly the 'vibe' of a progressive and exciting class of boat and the people involved. Thanks on behalf of all the RL24 competitors, the Association and also the armchair dreamers who can experience a little of the class at home. Darryn is also an experienced and wise advisor to host clubs when it comes to scoring the handicap series. Thanks for being a great motivator, ambassador and contributor.

4. Treasurer's Report. 2023-2024. Rod Smith.

The 50th anniversary Regatta at Southport Yacht Club was a milestone in the Associations history. Membership participation was high as we all converged on Southport Yacht Club to celebrate. This special event created some one-off expenses like the publication of the 50 years ebook. Sales of the book generated \$385, resulting in a \$228.25 profit after production costs. All the usual regatta expenses like trophies, photos, gifts, etc. totalled \$1186.95. An agreement with SYC on an entry fee commission resulted in the association being gifted \$700.00, a welcome addition to our bank account. Throughout the year, the association outlaid for running costs of the organisation- Consumer Affairs Victoria \$61.20. Secretarial expenses \$78.69. Australian Sailing class affiliation \$256.73. The association also gave support to the RL sailing community by providing financial support of \$250 to Mr Van Deudekom for admin expenses for the Queensland state title. Income from membership fees, which includes one year, three year and associate membership options, is \$1425 (from January 23 to December 23). The success of the 50th anniversary has created a momentum that has carried forward to the Yamba regatta with participation at a good level. Upcoming regatta costs include trophies, prizes and gifts, worth approximately \$733, plaques and mementos approximately \$294.00 and other costs forthcoming over the next month. The RL 24 Owners Association bank balance is currently \$11,214.48 as of December, indicating we are in a sound financial position. A review of the associations banking procedures is underway whereby the traditional check account will become obsolete. In closing, I would like to thank President Wayne Hill and the committee for their help and support, in particular Colin Boylan for his dedication to all things RL. Membership fees will stay at the current rate. The three year membership option is working well. Rodney Smith. Treasurer.

Questions arising from treasurer's report: None

Moved-Martin O'Shannessy. 2nd-Doug Dyce. Accepted by all.

5. Secretary's Report. Colin Boylan. As read by Wayne Hill.

After 6 years as Association Secretary, I am now looking forward to a new and challenging position on the Executive.

Over the past 6 years, the Association's membership has grown from 23 to currently 50 financial members and 5 life members – 4 of whom are active supporters of the RL24 Class. I think the Association's decision to offer a 3year membership option has been very successful.

Sadly, we lost our stalwart, class designer and first Life Member Rob Legg in 2019.

One of the challenges that I have undertaken has been to develop an email database of current RL24 Owners, past owners and supporters. Currently, the owner's email database has 325 people listed. This database is used regularly to promote RL24 events, seek input for an RL24 Association submission, promote RL24 class merchandise, and maintain a link with our large group of North American RL24 owners.

Part of the role of Secretary has been to maintain links with key organisations including Australian Sailing and Consumer Affairs Victoria. Other roles include communicating with host Sailing / Yacht Clubs for conducting State and National Championships, keeping track on all the perpetual trophies that the Association holds. The Association holds perpetual trophies for: Drop Keel Champion, Swing Keel Champion, Overall Handicap Champion, The Coolibah Teams Trophy, The Oldest Skipper Flag, The Toad of Barmera Trophy, The Bruce Castles Trophy, The Rob Legg Invitation Series Trophy, and various Queensland and New South Wales State Champions trophies.

Finally, there are the day-to-day operations of the Secretary position: receiving and sending mail and emails, liaising with the webmaster for the rlyachts.net website and with the administrators of the 2 Facebook pages. Collectively these 3 media-based sources of information represent the RL24 Association publicly as a very successful and professional organisation. The maintenance and promotion of everything about RL24 sailing sets a gold standard that many other class-based organisation are envious of. The success of the 50th Nationals at Southport YC is a reflection on the dedication and commitment of the Executive to steer the RL24 Owners Association into the future with a strong and vibrant leadership.

The 51st Nationals at Yamba continue the strong commitment by the Executive and the support from the entrants as a major regatta where both great sailing and renewing friendships happen.

Moved-Matt Harper. 2nd Darryn Dyer. Accepted by all.

6. Media Report. Darryn Dyer.

The Facebook page has been travelling along smoothly. Main goals of the Facebook page are to help new owners and members with information and inquires and be a positive outlet for people interested in RL yachts. It has been a really good tool for helping to run the association. Jenny Legg contributes a social page, while Darryn coordinates the news and events page.

At the Victorian Trailable Yachts meeting, the RL24 association was admired for its positive and constructive approach building strong participation within the club as well as at a state and national level.

It is good to see younger members taking part in events and owning RL's.

The RL24 Website continues to answer questions and provide solutions to just about all the issues ever raised about owning and maintaining RL24s.

Darryn helps on the forum as new queries come up.

7. Election of Office bearers. Chaired by Paul Corben.

Positions declared vacant. Nominees called for positions of-

President: Wayne David Cumming HILL. Nominated by Martin O'Shannessy. 2nd by Rod Smith. Passed by all.

Vice President: Matt Dean HARPER. Nominated by Joe Kelly. 2nd by Martin O'Shannessy. Passed by all.

Secretary: Yvonne Michelle FRANCIS. Nominated by Joe Kelly. 2nd Martin O'Shannessy. Passed by all.

Treasurer: Doug Alexander DYCE. Nominated by Joe Kelly. 2nd Wayne Hill. Passed by all.

Media & Publicity. Darryn DYER

Exec appointed Measurer. Simon WALSH

General Meeting.

Payments and reimbursements

As the cheque account system of banking is not viable any more, the association needs to move to modern banking systems, using the internet and e-commerce systems.

Account is held at Colac branch of the Commonwealth Bank.

Account CBA Number 063510 10135552, RL24 Association of Australia.

Due to the shared responsibilities of organising each National Championships authorised office bearers able to authorise payments from accounts shall be:

- Wayne David Cumming Hill, President
- Douglas Alexander Dyce, Treasurer
- Yvonne Michelle Francis, Secretary
- Matthew Dean Harper, Vice President.

Method of operation: Any 2 of the above office bearers are able to initiate a payment and to provide a required second authorisation for the payment.

Motion: That the RL24 Owners Association, Australia adapts to the e-commerce system for its financial operations.

President and Treasurer to work with Colac branch of the Commonwealth Bank (current provider of the RL24 account) to put a modern club orientated EFTPOS system in place.

Proposed: Rod Smith. 2nd by Martin O'Shannessy. Passed by all. Motion carried.

Contract/ Agreement for hosting National Championships

There are some good learnings and digital examples of the key ingredients for a standard contract/agreement for hosting Clubs for National Championships. A supporting document of key Association tasks may also be useful.

Short discussion of earlier approaches. Generally agreed that it's an Exec task to be completed prior to 2025 National Championships.

Thanks to Webmaster, Keith Merkley.

We rely on RL24 for publicity, promotions, providing an accessible record and the Discussion Forum. The website remains the benchmark for other class-based sailing websites and is a key element in the RL24 success story. Thanks to Keith Merkel who has steadfastly maintained and updated the rlyachts.net website.

The website has endured a number of 'attacks' prior to the National Titles. Exec is tasked with checking if the RL24 OA can further assist Keith financially or with hired expertise to make the webmasters role a little easier to deliver.

2025 National Championship.

To be held at the **Lake Wellington Yacht Club. Sale. Victoria.**

Dates: 6th – 10th January. 2025.

Darryn Dyer is a member of the club and has already put in a lot of work along with the local yacht club community and tourism. Information bags were handed out at 2024 AGM providing information on accommodation, food, and interesting places and events in the area. There is 10 acres to use for camping, a club house, showers and toilets. Boats can be trailered each night or moored in the lagoon adjacent to the club. The executive will continue to plan catering, accommodation and ensure opportunities for great racing.

Motion: A note of thanks and gratitude for the outgoing executive, Rod Smith and Colin Boylan for their exception efforts over the years.

Proposed: Martin O'Shannessy. 2nd Wayne Hill. Passed by all. Motion carried.

Meeting closed. 7.05 pm.

Affirming these minutes are a correct reflection of the Annual General Meeting

Wayne Hill, President RL24 Owners Association of Australia

Addendum post AGM.

1. Future venues for National Championships

Investigations have begun for a 2026 venue in NSW, Canberra fact finding underway.

A northern Queensland venue for 2027 is also being investigated.

2. Perpetual Trophies Awarded Yamba 2024

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| Oldest Skipper | Doug Dyce |
| Rob Legg Invitation Races Trophy | Whatever |
| Bruce Castles Participation Trophy | Colin Boylan |
| Handicap Series | Happy Hour, Gary Hodges |
| Coolibah Cup, State Teams | Victoria. Sequoia Ohau Rua, Whatever |
| Best Presented Boat | NOT AWARDED, to be located |
| Toad of Barmera | Happy Hour, Gary Hodges |
| Swing Keel Division | Whatever |
| Drop Keel Divion | Ohau Rua, |