

# Annual Report 2021/2022 & Notice of Annual General Meeting



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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT:** Paul Gulliksen

**VICE PRESIDENT:** David Slingsby

**COMMODORE:** David Neate

**TREASURER:** David Rowe

**CLUB CAPTAIN:** Garry Sinclair

**DIRECTOR:** Sarah Brennan

**DIRECTOR:** Stephen Luther

**AUDITOR**

Bishop Collins Chartered Accountants

**BANKERS**

Bendigo Bank

**LIFE MEMBERS**

Robyn Denton

Bris Doyle

Phil Gribble

Joy Law

Neil McDonald

John McDougall

Terry Pike

Bob Ranson

John Rigg

Peter Robson

John Sprague

David Slingsby

Paul Gulliksen

**PATRON**

Peter Robson

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are hereby notified that the Annual General Meeting of the Gosford Sailing Club will be held on **Sunday 21st August 2022 at 9.00am** at the Clubhouse, Masons Parade, Gosford.

### AGENDA

1. Vale – One minute silence for Members who have passed
2. Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th November 2021
3. Apologies (only written recorded)
4. Annual Report of the General Committee
  - (1) President's Report
5. Income and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2021-2022
  - (1) Treasurer's Report
6. Report of the Auditors
7. Written questions received
8. Questions from the floor in relation to the financials (please hold your questions until this time)
9. Presentation of Trophies
10. Appoint a Returning Officer and Scrutineers
11. Election of the General Committee as per the Triennial Rule. To elect in the following order:
  - (1) Treasurer (for a term of 3 years)
  - (2) Committee Member Director (for a term of 3 years)
  - (3) Committee Member Director (for a term of 3 years)
12. Motion to destroy ballot papers
13. Appointment of Auditors
14. Consideration of Ordinary Resolutions
15. Other Business (such as may be transacted at a General Meeting).

By order of the General Committee.

Paul Gulliksen  
President

## **FIRST ORDINARY RESOLUTION**

That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act:

(a) The Members hereby approve and agree to expenditure by the Club of a sum not exceeding \$2,500.00 in total for the following expenditure and benefits for Directors:

- (1) The reasonable cost of a meal and beverage for each Director immediately after a Board Meeting, on the day of that meeting, provided that the meeting corresponds with a normal mealtime.
- (2) Reasonable expenses incurred by Directors in travelling to and from other duly constituted committee meetings (other than monthly Board Meetings) as approved by the Board from time to time on production of invoices, receipts or other proper documentary evidence of such expenses.
- (3) Reasonable expenses incurred by Directors in relation to such duties, including entertainment of special guests to the Club and other promotional activities, and these expenses therefore are approved by the Board before payment is made on production of receipts, invoices or other proper documentary evidence of such expenditure.

(b) The Members acknowledge that the benefits in paragraph (a) above are not available to Members generally but only for those who are Directors of the Club.

## **SECOND ORDINARY RESOLUTION**

That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act, the Members hereby approve and agree to expenditure by the Club in a sum not exceeding \$5,000.00 in total for the professional development and education of Directors and being:

- (1) The reasonable cost of Directors attending the ClubsNSW Annual General Meeting.
- (2) The reasonable cost of Directors attending seminars, lectures, trade displays, invitational functions and other similar events as may be determined by the Board from time to time.

## **NOTES TO MEMBERS**

These notes are to be read in conjunction with the proposed Resolutions:

1. The First Resolution is to have the Members at this General Meeting approve an amount no greater than \$2,500.00 in total for expenditure by the Club in relation to duties performed by the Club's Directors.
2. The Second Resolution is to have the Members at this General Meeting approve an amount no greater than \$5,000.00 in total for the expenditure by the Club for Directors to attend seminars, lectures, trade displays and

other similar events, including the ClubsNSW Annual General Meeting, and to visit other Clubs to enable the Club's governing body to be kept abreast of the current trends and developments, which may have a significant bearing on the nature and way in which the Club conducts its business.

3. Each of these Ordinary Resolutions must be passed as a whole and cannot be amended by motions from the floor of the meeting or divided into two or more separate resolutions.
4. To be passed, each Ordinary Resolution must receive votes in its favour from not less than a simple majority of those Members, who being entitled to do so, vote in person at the meeting.
5. The Ordinary Resolutions you are being asked to approve have become necessary as a result of a number of decisions of the licensing court of NSW and also because of the amendment of the Registered Clubs Act in 1994.
6. It is a legal obligation of Members to provide adequate training and supervision of its Manager, Directors and staff to ensure compliance with all relevant laws relating to the Club Industry (Section B, parts 22 and 24(f) of the ClubsNSW Code of Practice).
7. A new section 10(6A) has been added to the Act, which provides for the authorisation of different benefits for different classes of Members by a General Meeting. As a result, it has now become common practice for registered clubs to set out all the costs and benefits associated with the Directors in a notice to the Members so that they can be approved at a General Meeting.

## **President's Report**

The past year has again brought many challenges to Gosford Sailing Club with the continued impact of COVID-19. The outstanding cooperation and support of our members, volunteers, and staff, has ensured our Club has been able to navigate through this difficult period.

This past 12 months at GSC has seen numerous changes as we completed the refurbishment of our Club in time for the commencement of our 90th-year celebrations.

The lockdown provided the opportunity for the us to repair and upgrade our training and support boats, and a redesign of the Bistro, Terrace and kitchen areas in the clubhouse.

The sailing calendar was again heavily disrupted, but through the hard work of the Sailing Office, Sailing Committee and Operations Team, we were able to provide as many on-water opportunities as possible during the year.

I must thank our builder, Short Constructions, for the amazing work they did to deliver the changes upstairs in a short time and within budget – we are truly grateful.

The positive feedback we have received regarding the changes to the clubhouse and the menu have been the shot in the arm that staff and directors needed throughout these challenging times when you open a new business.

Another good news story to come out of the Covid lockdowns is that we were successful in our application for state government grant funding to refurbish the downstairs change rooms/toilets. This will enable us to install a new handicap toilet and new public toilets, as well as improve the change room facilities for our members. These updates will bring us into line with government policies for Caring for the Disabled and Working with Children policies.

The Club itself endured closures and capacity restrictions due to social distancing regulations throughout the year that resulted in a marked downturn in trading revenues. We were also faced with recruitment and supply issues, as were many other businesses, which meant we had to take a hard look at the operations of the Club. This meant staying on reduced days of trading, reduced opening hours, and keeping the Sailors' Bar closed for trade.

Tight cost management, some government support, and other assistance provided throughout the year in different forms, has enabled our Club to remain financially strong under the circumstances. The future, however, will bring even more challenges to maintaining good fiscal management for the year ahead.

The resilience, positivity and enthusiasm shown by our staff, volunteers, and members to focus on moving forward and planning ahead for the new year has been fantastic.

## **Celebrating 90 years**

Over the last 90 years, the Club has seen a lot of changes throughout those years and no doubt will see a lot more in the years heading towards our 100<sup>th</sup>.

During September we will be celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, the Club will be hosting a ticketed event (more details will be released as soon as possible) for current and past members to celebrate this milestone. Throughout September we will be running, in conjunction with our regular sailing events, the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Regatta. Results from the regular events will be accumulated to find a winner from each fleet to be named the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary winners. Please come along and be a part of these celebration be it on or off the water.

In closing, much has been achieved this year and I'd like to thank the Board for the incredibly constructive way they have gone about their roles – each Director has delivered what has been asked of them, and more.

The same must be said of our staff here at the GSC – it has not been an easy year and I thank them all for their dedication and commitment.

Finally, I thank the members for being so supportive. It is a great privilege to be elected as a Director of this Club and, as Directors, while we know that we don't always get it right (!), our commitment is unquestionable, and we are proud to serve our members and the sport of sailing.

As we move through this 90th year, let us reflect on the proud history of the Gosford Sailing Club, the achievements of its members, its bright future and celebrate together!

Paul Gulliksen

President

## **Financial Report**

Since Michael Law stepped down from his Board position last year, I have taken on the duties of collating information and assisting with reporting the financial position to the Board. Michael has been very generous with his time and knowledge in supporting me in this role and I thank him for his efforts and ongoing commitment to the Club.

The past year has again been vastly impacted by covid and the associated lockdowns and restrictions which significantly suppressed the Club's income. Whereas in the previous trading year we received extensive government financial stimulus assistance, during this past year that support ceased, and subsequently we have suffered a \$301K loss in contrast to the 2020/21 profit of \$461K.

Whilst overhead expenses remained largely unchanged the significant reduction in income sources post covid resulted in the \$301K loss without the degree of injected government JobKeeper support. Of note the following income streams have been affected:

- Gaming clearances down by \$212K
- Sailing profit down by \$75K
- Bar revenues down by \$215K
- Net subsidies and donations down by \$164K i.e. subsidy income less Jobkeeper wages less rent reduction
- Other expense increases – advertising, marketing, and accounting \$15K, IT \$12K, insurances \$23K, R&M \$23K, security \$24K, sundry other items \$35K

Along with the accounting loss our cash position decreased from \$420K to \$202K. This \$218K reduction is largely explained by the \$221K spend on improving the clubhouse and kitchen, and a \$80K spend on maintenance and renovation of the magics and motor support fleet.

Now that the Bistro is in the control of the Club and staffing routines have been established, operating budgets have been implemented and there is a focus to drive efficiency and reduce variable costs. The Bistro has returned a profit and the expectations are for it to provide a strong and growing revenue stream into the future.

In addition to the focus on costs, and other than pushing forward and driving growth through general patronage and bistro revenue to return a profit in the current year, one of our bigger concerns is the liability attached to the marina deposits. Whilst taking the deposits originally, as a means to getting the marina

built, little has been done in working toward reducing this \$400K liability. It will be a focus of the Board in developing a strategy that turns the marina into a net asset, especially in light of the fact that the facility is now 14 years old and major service maintenance costs will be incurred in the coming years.

Whilst the headline result is disappointing, the overall position is positive. We have survived 2 very difficult years in circumstances beyond our control and have in fact taken advantage of the lockdowns to improve the quality of the clubhouse and take control of the bistro. This puts the Club in a good position to realise greater profits as the effects of the covid disruptions diminish.

I expect the Treasurer position on the Board will be filled again, and we are working on implementing improved in-house accounting management and reception duties by employing an appropriately experienced person. A busy and exciting year ahead.

David Rowe

Director

### **Commodore's Annual Report**

To say the 2021/ 22 season was tough is an understatement! Our last season ended with the winter series being cut short after just a few races with NSW going in to a two-week snap lockdown which ended up lasting 5 months. We did use this time wisely renovating and reregging the fleet of magics, adding dock fenders to the magic and Etchells launch area and replacing the engine on Else Ross. In total we spent circa \$80,000 on our sailing assets. I would like to thank Rolf Marine, Whale Spars and East Coast Yachts for making this possible.

Starting competitive sailing post the lockdown was tough and I would like to thank all our sailors for being flexible. This is flexibility they have had to show all season as later in the season came the rain which also impacted our racing! Something we thought what next!

We did manage to host the F11 nationals and Contender States which were great successes.

Our own competitions ended up being very competitive and closely contested, I congratulate all our competitors and winners. Also a special mention to Bruce Thomas and the crew of Aeolian who were the most successful yacht at Sail Port Stephens this year.

Another club member, Tom Slingsby had an outstanding year on the water winning Sail GP. Tom took some time out during the Sydney GP to coach some of our juniors, this was a great day but in true Gosford tradition there was absolutely no wind! As part of SailGP our member Bridget Conrad took part in the Inspire program.

As many of you know our junior section took a big hit post covid with many juniors not returning to the sport, this is not a problem specific to Gosford or sailing as many sports are faced with the same problem. We do however have a robust plan to recover as part of this plan we were successful in acquiring 8 new Opti's under the Australian Sailing Whitworths Tackers program. These boats have been funded from donations made by sailing members. I truly thank all our benefactors who helped make this happen.

This year I believe we also got the SheSails program right, we rebuilt this with the mantra of "Giving women the confidence to be able to get on a boat and pull ropes". In May we ran SheSails training each weekend and a combined clubs SheSails regatta. We also had two SheSails Magics compete winter series. Next season we've made a magic available for SheSails to compete in the inshore yacht series.

Of course, none of this just happens! I would like to thank Peter and Sophie in the sailing office for their organisation and implementation of our program and courses. Our fleet reps for their support in representing and organising their fleets. Our army of on and off water volunteers for their tireless commitment and our sponsors and financial benefactors as their contributions are invaluable.

Finally, as we look towards next season which is our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary year I wish all our sailors fair winds and calm seas.

David Neate

Commodore

## Venue Coordinator's Report

New challenges and adventures have been undertaken by the Club, with a fresh food and beverage menu offering and transformed dining space within the Club. This has revitalised our relationship with our locals, both new and loyal.

Renovations undertaken during June to October 21's lockdown has given the Club a modern and functional facelift that appeals to all looking for a waterfront venue to visit.

With produce sourced direct from locals in the community, our chefs have passionately implemented a modest yet substantial menu that serves a range of dishes to suit all taste buds and dietary needs. Our chefs have also adapted the menu to better suit feedback, and this has increased our visitors tenfold. A seasonal menu change was advertised but regrettably had to be pushed back due to cost of living and supply. We hope to release this soon.

Collaborations with international brands and suppliers have allowed for saved costs in marketing, print, glassware, and barware. Promotions offered have widened our visitor demographic and allowed for fresh, exciting campaigns and publicity. Our digital marketing has taken off with our social media reach up 334% in the last 12 months.

The Operations Team completely revamped the functions package with gourmet canape offerings and custom food and drink arrangements available. In the future, we plan to offer sit-down and degustation packages to increase our catering options.

The Club's official website was also transformed into a modern, easy to read marketing tool to enhance our online presence and find and secure new customers. Our social media pages and online newsletter were also completely rebuilt. Having a substantial digital presence can not only increase consumer awareness, but it also works to strengthen our brand and build up our credibility.

One thing that resounded with management over the past year was the continued dedication and commitment of our team members, both old and new. Our team continued to work tirelessly through lockdown and are now capably navigating the ever- changing environment in which we now live.

I thank all our members for their continued support and look forward to seeing you at our Club again soon.

Jessica Stuart  
Venue Coordinator

## **Sailing and Marina Manager's Report August 2022**

### **Sailing**

The start to the season was almost a repeat of last year which affected our traditional start to the seasons. Again, after coming out of a lockdown, we were able to start with a restricted series over November which allowed us to get back on the water. We were then able to commence our proper season in December. The weather wasn't kind to us on the weekends either but despite these challenges, sailing at the GSC was extremely well supported across all Club fleets.

A short and difficult season was an understatement, the weather wasn't kind to us on the weekends either, but we all survived and end up with great competitive season. We ran around 116 races for the Saturday fleets and 36 racing events for the yacht fleet. I congratulate all competitor for getting their boats and crews to the racetrack for each event a special effort this season. In the first 3 weeks of January I ran 3 Australian Championships the first being the MGs at DPSC in QLD then the F11s followed by the Contenders here at the GSC originally scheduled so an extremely busy start to the new year. Thanks to all of you involved both on and off the water as this event really showcased our Club.

Congratulations to all the participants across all the fleets as this is the most important contribution you can make in supporting sailing at the Club. To this season winners of the Club Championships and Pointscore series what a great achievement and my congratulations to all. My thanks to tireless work of the Sailing Committee now led by Commodore David Neate whose enthusiasm for both the GSC and Sailing has really made a difference to this season.

We all enjoy the well supported after sailing activities and to make this work, we need to thank President Paul, Vice President David and Commodore David for their tireless work behind the bar and hosting the afternoon. Also, behind the scenes the people giving up their time to calculate the results so need to really thank Kevin Phillips from the Lasers, David Slingsby from the Etchells.

On the water, again we are supported by a fantastic team of Race Officers who work tirelessly to manage not only our Club events but the visiting regattas we host throughout the season. I would like to thank, in no order, the Saturday team on the Splinter, Robyn Denton David Burrows, On the Mark boats I would like to thank Terry Pike, Peter Burris, Denis Grilk, Terry kinder and John Sinclair who between them lay about 11 marks a week which is a lot of anchors to set and retrieve throughout the season. The Yacht fleet crew have done a fantastic job this year and they include Liz Ross, Learne Dooley and Brian

Zemanic backed up by our Twilight ROs David and Sonia Doherty who also make a big contribution to the Regatta race management at GSC.

Unfortunately, the Clubs junior fleets have been greatly impacted over the past 2 seasons now by the pandemic and weather. We look forward to a normal season so we can have some consistency to rebuild the fleet.

### Sailing Academy

Our Sailing Academy had another busy sailing season where we introduced and taught 39 participants in the Adult Learn to Sail. Again, we need to thank our regular Saturday skippers including Nigel Short Jack Sprague, Warwick Phillips, Brian Baker, and John Morton. Without these guys, it would be impossible to run this programme. Our twilight sailing was based around giving our ALTS participants time on the water to help overcome the amount of lost sailing days. This was made possible by the twilight skippers who were Don Wilson, Brian Baker, Brian Mitchell A big Thank You to this team.

The Junior programmes although late to start were also well supported. Our silver fleet programme continually feeds and grows our junior fleet. We have an amazing team of enthusiastic senior and junior instructors who all deserve our thanks.

We also introduce a SheSails program in May which consisted of 3 weeks of training followed by a hosted sports boat regatta. All the events were well supported, and I thought was a great forum for all female sailors to learn new skill network and enjoy our Club in a very supportive way.

Sophie Macintosh works tirelessly behind the scenes in the sailing office to help me put together our LTS sailing programmes and manage our team of instructors. Her dedication and enthusiasm for sailing certainly rubs off on not only on our instructors but also our students. Thank you once again Sophie for your dedication and hard work.

### Marina and hardstand

Current Marina berth leasing status for our 29 berths

Lease type	“A” Arm	“B” Arm
Original licence	5	7
5 Year licence	3	1
GSC owned	7	6
Total berths on Arm	15	14

In 2023 3 more berths will transfer to GSC ownership. This means we have continued to significantly reduce the Marina liability to the Club.

Etchells Dock

This the dock was upgraded with fendering the length of the dock

### Conclusion

The Clubs Board through this hard time have also been very supportive of sailing including the refurbishment of the Magic fleet the repowering of the Elsie Ross so I would like to thank the Board for your support to all our sailing programmes as well proving facilities so sailing members who can enjoy the Clubs amenities on the sailing days.

Lastly Thanks Paul Gulliksen, David Slingsby and David Neate for your support and hard work throughout the season.

Peter Walsh

Sailing and Marina Manager

### **Yacht Captains Report for 21/22**

The past season was a difficult one. The pandemic disrupted our races significantly. First the Winter series was abandoned after 2 races when we went into full lockdown on 29th June, 21, so then there was no sailing until November when we ran an abbreviated November series. Then just when we thought we had the pandemic under control there came the floods with significant contamination and debris in our waterways causing the loss of one sprint day. Then 2 summer races were abandoned, one to heavy wind and one to no wind.

The BBIC series has also suffered significantly with only 2 of the 4 races sailed this year. One was lost to large seas making it difficult to get out of Brisbane Water and another to too much debris in the Hawkesbury. As well we have been informed by RMYC that they are no longer going to support the BBIC series and will run their own Broken Bay series. GSC has decided to take on management of the BBIC series and we will need to discuss further what shape that takes.

The other sad news is that for the first year since yachts joined GSC 31 years ago we have been unable to hold an offshore series. Again this was a

combination of lockdowns, lack of interest and adverse weather. Two cruise days to the CYC were held and enjoyed however.

On a brighter note we did manage to hold a presentation night this year upstairs and with a meal. An enjoyable night was had by about 100 people.

8 GSC boats made the trip to Sail Port Stephens this year. Congratulations to Aeolian who had a 3rd and a 2nd result and to Animal Farm who had a 2nd.

In May we held an inaugural SheSails event which has greatly upskilled a very enthusiastic bunch of women who have continued to sail in the Winter Series it is hoped this will continue next May.

The Ton regatta has been deferred for a couple of years but we have high hopes of holding it this coming February. This is a great regatta for our Div 2 and 3 boats especially so save the dates.

I would like to thank everyone in our yacht fleet for their cooperation in contributing to our starter assistance and also manning the Twilight BBQ when asked. GSC relies heavily on volunteers and it is great to see everyone step up and do their bit, be it to carry some buoys, man the bar, pick up glasses or cook a sausage.

I have also tried to keep everyone updated and to make everyone feel they belonged to a cohesive group with my jottings in a yacht newsletter and I hope you found them interesting.

The current yacht committee has held their positions for 2 years and some a lot longer. It was not possible to hold an AGM last year and thank the committee for hanging in there. However some changes need to be made to this committee. Our Inshore and Offshore officers, Bob Swan and Bruce Thomas are planning to stand down, and I thank them both for all the work they have done to keep our fleets sailing. In particular I would like to thank Bruce for his very long tenure as offshore officer and who did everything possible to keep the offshore fleet going.

Penny Dilworth

Yacht Captain

## **Offshore Officer's Report - 2021-2022**

The 2021-2022 Offshore racing season was a bit of a non-event.

The Sydney-return races were regarded as cruising events in an effort to get more participation. Middle Harbour Yacht Club was unable to accommodate GSC boats due to the compression of their season following the COVID restrictions prior to November 2021. However the Cruising Yacht Club was very accommodating and we therefore cruised to that club on two occasions: in January 2022 and in February 2022.

The January trip participants were Aeolian, Bolero, Enjoy, Sweet Chariot and Elusive Spirit. Unfortunately, as a result of that trip Bob Swan and myself and three of my crew contracted COVID. But we survived.

The February trip to CYC was attended by Aeolian and Elusive Spirit only.

The calendar indicated seven offshore races which comprised three of the BBIC races, three races with Royal Motor Yacht Club and one GSC event.

The racing events turned out to be a fizzer for the following reasons:

O/S #1: BBIC #1 on 13 November 2021 abandoned due to COVID and transferred to 11 December.

O/S #2: RMYC race on 28 November 2021 entered by Aeolian and Elusive Spirit. A slow race with very light winds, Aeolian achieved a result but Elusive Spirit could not finish and recorded a DNF

O/S #3: BBIC #2, on 11 December 2021 the Three Islands Race. Manly Office and Aeolian finished but Elusive Spirit scored a DNF.

O/S #4: RMYC race on 30 January 2022. Aeolian was the only GSC boat to compete.

O/S #5: the GSC race on 6 February 2022 was not held because only two boats, Elusive Spirit and Aeolian, were intending to race.

O/S #6: BBIC #4 on 12 March was abandoned due to potential hazards in the water from the flooding of the Hawkesbury River

O/S #7: RMYC race on 27 March 2022 was transferred to a Pittwater inshore Race due to potential hazardous conditions from flooding. No GSC boats competed.

So, of the seven races planned, one race produced two finishers and two races produced one finisher. All other races did not get any GSC results.

You may or may not have noticed, but in the Presentation Night on 21 May, there were no awards for offshore sailing. This is because the Yacht Committee had decided that there were insufficient results to award any trophies.

There is a general disinterest in offshore sailing in this club, which is understandable due to the distance most boats have to travel just to get to the

start line. I am therefore proposing that there be no planned offshore sailing, at least, for the next season and should only be resumed if there is sufficient interest from members. Accordingly I am proposing that there is no need for an Offshore Officer for the coming season.

Bruce Thomas  
Offshore Officer

### **GSC Etchells Fleet**

#### Fleet Captains Report Season 2021-22

The Gosford fleets season started with the hard stand full with 12 Etchells. Sailing commenced with a solid fleet of 7 boats for the opening Sprint series won by AUS970 Pointless. There were a number of days sailing lost during the season for too little / much wind with mother nature introducing new valuable “Water Quality”. Heavy rain runoff from the land resulting in water pollution with the authorities advising to suspend on water activities.

The overall series scoring system was changed for this season to sum the finishing positions in the individual Spring, Summer, Autumn series. This resulted in even closer competition all the way to the last races of the season with 4 points separating 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the season point score.

The season point score results:

1<sup>st</sup> AUS1088 SunTzu

2<sup>nd</sup> AUS892 Ivy

3<sup>rd</sup> AUS970 Pointless

Club Champion AUS1088 SunTzu.

The Gosford fleet travelled to a number of events with AUS1450 African Queen as the top travelling boat attending the Nationals, NSW States, Gold Coast, Brisbane regattas. The fleet are looking forward to hosting the 2022 NSW states at Gosford this year with a great on and off the water program, see you there. Fleet Development, GSC’s successful adult sailing academy will kick off the season with an Etchells joining the sail training fleet. The training Etchells will race with the magic 25s with crew rotating between the boats to build experience. The academy is proving successful in introducing new sailors to the club and Etchells fleet. The fleet will hold “experience Etchells” days again this season to introduce as many academy graduates to Etchells as possible to build the crewing pool. Thanks to the GSC sailing management and volunteers for their ongoing support of our sport and the Etchells fleet.

Best wishes to all fleets for an uninterrupted season from the GSC Etchells Fleet.

George Johnstone  
Gosford Fleet Captain

### **GSC Laser Section Chairman's Season 2021/22 Summary**

In March 2020, the Covid 19 pandemic broke out around the world and quickly migrated to Australia as we all know greatly affecting our daily lives and our sporting activities. The Laser Fleet sailed "2021 November Series" of races which was not well patronised due to the Pandemic restrictions and uncertainty of what the future of sailing held.

Our sail on Australia Day the regatta was contested by 6 boats.

When it did finally get underway, we had successful season in 2021/22 with very active club racing and good participation in Laser Association events that were allowed to be held.

At the club level we had around 13 boats racing on most Saturdays. We completed 13 pointscore races and 6 Club Championship heats.

Congratulations to all the Club Champions, sprint and pointscore series winners.

Obviously, due to the covid pandemic restrictions, titles away from GSC were very limited but well done to those who were able to contest and represent our club at those events.

Our Board of Directors are thanked for providing us with all the sailing equipment to make racing happen at GSC.

Thanks to Commodore David Neate and President Paul Gulliksen for your patience and dedication to our sport.

Thanks to Peter Walsh making the difficult decisions throughout the season as our P.R.O. and our dedicated club race officials for their work during this season.

Thanks also to our scorer Kevin Phillips for collating all the results whilst under time pressure. We greatly appreciate the time and effort you put into the Laser Fleet.

Yours in Sailing

Brian Baker

Laser Fleet Delegate.