



Albert Sailing Club Inc.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ALBERT SAILING CLUB INC.
SATURDAY, 10TH MAY 2025**

Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Albert Sailing Club held at the Albert Sailing Club clubrooms, 1 Aquatic Drive, Albert Park commencing 5.00 pm.

Attendees

Sue Schoene, Ralph Schoene, Noelle Howitt, Anne Kaezerovski, Steve Milton, Gary Craig, Geoff Saliba, Jaemie Wilson, Jack Woods, Mark Snell, Phil Gardyne, John Old, Leone Gardyne, Giane Gardyne, Greg Ryan, Tim Falkiner, Tony Mc Grath, Michael Horvath, Helen Faulkner, Lesley Scott, Gai Bourke, Rowley Bourke, Peter Bennell, Ian Coleman, John Capewell, Paul Leitinger, Bettina Azzopardi, Paul Farrell (via Zoom), Robert Caulfield, Kaye Caulfield, Rod Thomas, Ron Fergusson, Charles Bagossy, Jason Clark, Tony Schalken by proxy and Pam Webster by proxy. (36)

Apologies

Pam Webster, Tony Shelton, Steve Lincoln, Shinsule Matsubara.

Proxies –

Tony Schalken proxy to Greg Ryan. Pam Webster proxy to Cindy Tilbrook.

Confirmation of Minutes of Last AGM

Motion: That the draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 11 May 2024 be confirmed.

Proposer: Helen Faulker Seconded: John Old Passed

Committee Report

Greg Ryan, Commodore, provided a detailed account of the wide range of activities covered by the committee. He spoke of:

- Events. The past year which had been generally positive for Albert Sailing Club, with successful events such as the Top of the Lake Regatta, Discover Sailing Day, and several social gatherings.
- Memberships. While the club gained 12 new members, overall membership declined by 10-15%, particularly among newer sailors who did not renew. Efforts are underway to improve retention through mentoring and social sailing.
- VIODA. The VIODA Optimist Class program hosted by the club was a finalist in Australian Sailing's Victoria Awards.
- Challenges faced over the year. These included high winds leading to race cancellations, diminished water levels in Albert Park Lake, and continued discussions on club unification with APYC, which is currently on hold.

- Lease. The club is negotiating a new 10-year lease with Parks Victoria, with increased rent and minor amendments.
- Focus. Committee efforts have focused on financial stability, facility maintenance, communications, and club sailing programs, with strong contributions from both committee and non-committee members.
- Volunteers needed. The club seeks more volunteers for key roles such as Rear Commodore, Club Captain, Training Principal, and Vice Commodore.
- Looking forward, the club hopes for improved water levels to support a successful winter sailing season and upcoming club regatta in June.
- The Commodore wished the members another enjoyable 2025/26 year.

Motion: That the Committee Report be accepted.

Proposer: Cindy Tilbrook Seconded: Tim Falkiner Passed

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer tabled the Financial Report. The Treasurer's Report was then delivered by the Treasurer. The club achieved a net profit for the 2024/2025 period of \$7,807 as detailed in the Treasurer's Report. After taking into account liabilities (creditors and key deposits), the club's net equity position is \$357,446, a healthy financial position. The Treasurer outlined the significant items and answered questions. The members thanked Joe for all the work he had put into his position as treasurer. Joe thanked Cindy for her very substantial tutoring and assistance.

Motion: That the Financial Report and Treasurer's reports be accepted.

Proposer: Joe Chircop Seconder: Tim Falkiner Passed.

Motion: That the Statutory Financial Report be accepted

Proposer Joe Chircop Seconder: Tim Falkiner Passed

Club Member of the Year and any Life Member nominations

The Commodore awarded Club Member of the Year to Rowley Burke. Rowley had done a lot of work about the club, keeping the yards tidy, putting covers on the rails, assisting with the learn to sail, fixing the plastic Opti rudders and other things. There were no Life Member nominations.

Miscellaneous Class Grouping Trophy

The Miscellaneous Class Grouping Trophy was awarded by the Commodore to Ron Fergusson for the RS Aero.

At this stage all committee positions were declared vacant.

The Commodore handed conduct of the meeting to Geoff Saliba to conduct the election of flag officers and office bearers for 2024/2025

Election of Flag Officers and Office Bearers for 2023/2024

Committee Nominations were received from the following:

- Greg Ryan – Commodore
- Vacant – Vice Commodore

- Vacant – Rear Commodore
- Jason Clark – Treasurer
- Jamie Wilson – Club Captain
- Tim Falkiner – Secretary
- Bettina Azzopardi - Committee
- Danny Matthews – Committee
- Peter Bennell - Committee
- John Capewell – Committee
- Steve Milton - Committee
- Michael Horvath – Committee
- Rod Thomas - Committee
- Cindy Tilbrook – Committee

As the number of nominations for officer positions and for general committee positions did not exceed the number of vacancies, all the above nominees were declared elected in terms of the Club's rules and bylaws.

Closing Comments by Commodore

Greg Ryan thanked everyone and the members of the committee. It was good to see the involvement of the new members. The committee could do with support in a few key areas and anyone wishing to help should speak with Greg. It is also good to see the progress that is being made with APYC on the road to amalgamation. The Club's strategy is helping the Club move forward. The current season is looking good because of the water levels and the way things are going. Greg looks forward to seeing the members out on the Lake.

Comments/Questions

Tim Falkiner requested members who knew former sailors interested in getting back into sailing to advise them. Albert Sailing Club would welcome them and help them get back into sailing.

Paul Leitenger informed the members that Port Melbourne YC had a group that sailed on Saturday down at the PMYC and made the offer that members could bring their boats along and sail there.

Rod Thomas noted the club would have to build up its training and mentoring capabilities. He pointed out there was a big gap between those who went through the sailing program and those who took up regular sailing. The club sought ideas as to how to reinvigorate its sailing and training programs which were vital for attracting new members.

Noelle Howitt felt trainees should be introduced to boats sailed by club members such as Sabres and Impulses.

Geoff Saliba suggested sailors should set up their boats earlier on Saturday and do more advertising of sailing courses visible to persons passing the club. The club needs a presence.

Duty crew are told not to attend until 10:30 am. If they came earlier they could set up the Zests and get activity on the foreshore earlier.

It is not possible to solicit sailors training at the Boatshed. The club can send potential members for training at the Boatshed which takes pressure off the club as regards trainers.

Could Saturday sailing start earlier? The 2.30 pm time is calculated to catch the breeze.

The Commodore and Rod Thomas reiterated the importance of the need for club members to come forward for the Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore roles.

Noel Howitt suggested people could become involved in social and communication.

Rowley Bourke queried whether new members were given documentation setting out their responsibilities. These are sent to new members by Jack Woods and they are also on the website but Cindy Tillbrook will check.

Cindy Tillbrook advised she wished to begin arranging for helpers for the regatta on 21 and 22 June on the basis it would proceed (though it may be cancelled if the lake level is too low).

Meeting closed at 5.43 pm.

Tim Falkiner

Secretary

Albert Sailing Club