



HOBSONS BAY YACHT CLUB

EST. 1888

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MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026 at 7.30pm at HBYC

MEETING OPENING

COMMODORE - DAVID GAYLOR declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

Commodore delivered an Acknowledgement of Country:

"I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waterways on which we gather and sail, the Yalukit-Willam clan of the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and recognise their continuing connection to Country, land and waterways."

1 A quorum was reached with 53 attendees registered as present.

ATTENDEES/APOLOGIES

2 Attendees

Leonore Eeckman
Ken Berry
Simon Wilkins
Adele Sattout
Murray Judd
Robert Brown
Roy Thompson
Peter Clark
Emma Arnold
Michael Arnold
Andrew Blackstock
Kevin LeNepveu
Tony Johnston
Kim Girdler
Hugh Munro
Rod Fuller
Ryan Blackstock
Ian Mitchell

Simon Hobbs
Colin Orchard
Craig Jackson
Tim Metherrall
Tony Dawson
Lyn Dawson
Le Yen Boc
David Gaylor
Philip Oefner
Marina Monz
Cam Smith
Fikret Sevik
Anna Pastor
Trevor Burke
Colin Leake
Jonathan Fryer
Jonathan Mifsud
Robert Grant

Bradley Clayton
Erwin Koster
Pere Agnez
Sue Burke
Bill Feore
Dan Kennedy
Peter Costello
Garry Cook
Ray Proudlock
Rob Pullen
Adele Seymon
Garry Undy
Katharina Matsch
Joslyn Portelli
Thor North
Anthony Portelli
Paul Beresford

3 Apologies

Laurent Ailleres
Rob Tanner
Sue Tanner
Miles Williamsz
Paul Neilson
David Judge
Peter Edwards

Nicolas Foa
Ray Allen
Coral Allen
Robert Bradley
Jim Doherty
Colin Wood

Cecile Simes
Eddie Mackevicius
Patricia Mackevicius
John Allen
Muriel Allen
Keith Mitchell

VALE - One Minute Silence

Commodore observed one minute of silence for current and past members and partners who had passed away during the preceding 12 months.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

4 Commodore asked whether there were any requested amendments to the Minutes of the last General Members Meeting, held on Friday 27 March 2026. No amendments were recorded.

5 The Minutes of Friday 27 March 2026 - General Members Meeting were put forward for acceptance.

Moved: Tony Dawson

Seconded: Tim Metherall

Carried: Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

6 There was no correspondence received for this meeting.

MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

7 Commodore welcomed any new members present to the Club. Bradley Clayton introduced himself to the Commodore and attendees.

8 Recognition of 40 Years Life Membership:

- Lyn Dawson - joined 1 November 1986 (already an Honorary Life Member).

Lyn Dawson was invited forward to be presented with her medal.

9 Recognition of 25 Years Membership:

- Stephen Cheney - joined 1 November 2000
- Michael Grey - joined 1 February 2001
- Miles Williamsz - joined 22 February 2001
- Paul Beresford - joined 22 March 2001
- Rodney Fuller - joined 24 May 2001
- Jonathan Mifsud - joined 27 April 2001

The 25-year members present were invited forward to receive their medals.

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT - MARINA MONZ

10 Honorary Treasurer Marina Monz presented her report. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year 2025/2026 were before the meeting.

The motion to adopt the ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR 2025/2026 was put to the meeting.

Moved: Marina Monz

Seconded: Rod Fuller

Carried: Yes

11 The motion that STANNARDS be elected Auditor for 2026/2027 was put to the meeting.

Moved: Marina Monz

Seconded: Andrew Blackstock

Carried: Yes

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT (Cont):

Key Points Raised:

- Surplus after depreciation of \$48,932, compared with \$82,916 in 2024/2025.
- Cash at 30 June 2026 was \$644,264, including \$168,474 held in a term deposit.
- Net cash increased by \$157,535 and total equity increased to \$2.875 million.
- Bar sales decreased 12% (\$52K) and membership income decreased 4% (\$15K).
- Yard sales increased 15% (\$17K), while employment costs increased 7% (\$43K).
- Repair and maintenance expenditure decreased 30% (\$57K) and other expenses decreased 38% (\$31K).
- Strong cash reserves support major capital investment, including Angus Fletcher and the North Arm renewal works.

COMMODORE'S REPORT - DAVID GAYLOR

12 Key Points Raised:

- Described 2025/2026 as a year of transition and renewal, including significant management and staffing change.
- Acknowledged the new office team and the recent appointment of Leon Berry as Club Manager.
- Thanked staff, volunteers and committees for maintaining Club services, sailing, training, hospitality and social activities during the transition.
- Highlighted the new 21-year lease, the PPNYC sailing program, community participation and planning toward HBYC Vision 2030 and climate resilience.
- Recognised the service of Colin Orchard, Kevin Le Nepveu and Patricia Mackevicius following their departure from the General Committee.
- Congratulated Bill Feore / Encore as Club Champion, Dan Kennedy as Member of the Year, Brett Harrison as Freeman—Endeavour Community Award recipient, and Rod Fuller for the Victorian Sailing Award for Climate Risk Adaptation.
- Thanked Flag Officers, General Committee, staff, volunteers, and members for their contribution and support.

Staff Changes:

- HBYC Club Manager: Scottie Biggers resigned - Leon Berry employed
- HBYC Office Bookkeeper: Zoe Marques resigned - Amanda Oliver employed
- HBYC Membership Services Officer: Erica Cookson resigned - Lisa Olivier employed

The Commodore thanked Hobsons Bay Yacht Club 2025/2026 sponsors:

- Flotek Hydraulic Services
- Jellis Craig Real Estate
- Scotchman's Hill Winery
- Hop Nation Brewery
- The Office Williamstown
- PGN Geoscience
- Mech N Air Construction & Access Equipment
- Mayver's Peanut Butter
- Signway Signs
- Luxcel Blinds
- Peter Sadler Removals & Logistics
- Aviso Specialty Insurance
- Stannards Auditors

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT - SIMON HOBBS

13 Vice Commodore Simon Hobbs presented his report.

Key Points Raised:

- Reported a broad sailing program covering competition, cruising, recreation and community participation.
- Race-boat safety audits achieved full compliance, with the Sailing/Racing Safety Management Manual and risk register refreshed.
- PPNYC collaboration with RYCV and RMYS continued to strengthen racing and volunteer resources.
- The new start boat Angus Fletcher was launched on Opening Day and upgraded to support safe race management.
- Racing participation remained strong, with increased interest in long-distance and Wednesday afternoon sailing despite almost 30% of scheduled summer races being abandoned due to inclement weather.
- Recognised the contributions of Greg Hynes, Leo Eeckman, Kassia Jack and Noel Robbins.

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT - LEONORE EECKMAN

14 Rear Commodore Leonore Eeckman presented her report.

Key Points Raised:

- Outlined the renewed focus on youth as an investment in HBYC's future.
- Presented a formal youth sailing pathway from Discover Sailing and dinghy participation through keelboat training, racing, cruising, mentoring and leadership.
- Highlighted the role of Shining Star and the need for member support to help deliver the youth program.
- Emphasised progression from training into active Club membership and regular sailing participation.
- 2026/2027 priorities include more off-water events, increased participation, more volunteers and more crew.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT - COLIN ORCHARD

15 Club Captain Colin Orchard presented his report.

Key Points Raised:

- Carpark line spacing improvements were completed and have been well received by members.
- Visiting boats, particularly from RMYS, are contributing additional yard income.
- Plans have been prepared for a Front Office facelift, with works able to proceed once budgets are finalised.
- The North Arm renewal was completed, improving safety for boats and members.
- North Arm works were quoted at \$232,580 and completed for \$236,540, a variation of \$3,960.

OH&S SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT - CHAIR: LAURENT AILLERES

16 HBYC Club Manager Leon Berry presented this report, in Laurent's absence.

Key Points Raised:

- Health and Safety policies and 17 Club Safety Standards have been completed and endorsed.
- Training and Racing risk registers have been completed or reviewed, with safety manuals progressing through endorsement.
- Operational safety procedures are complete or under review.
- Monthly meetings continue to review incidents, hazards, processes and safety systems.
- Electronic incident and hazard reporting, together with electronic pre-start records for Club boats, plant and equipment, have been implemented.
- Marina, Yard and Clubhouse risk registers and manuals are being finalised, with the Climate Change Risk Register being incorporated into HBYC's wider risk framework.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT - CHAIR: CAM SMITH

16 Membership Development Committee Chair Cam Smith presented his report.

Key Points Raised:

- Membership at 30 June 2026 totalled 752, comprising 431 sailing-related members and 321 social members.
- The Committee's purpose remains increasing participation and membership in line with HBYC strategic values.
- Continued focus on inclusion, diversity, community participation and improving value and engagement for members and casual users.
- 2026/2027 priorities include working with the Club Manager and General Committee on membership growth and marketing the full range of accessible Club activities.
- Greater focus is planned on sponsorships and grants, together with continued Opening Day, Discover Sailing Days and Community Days.
- The Committee will explore inclusion campaigns including International Women's Day, Pride Week and NAIDOC Week.

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT – INTERIM CHAIR: DAVID GAYLOR

17 Social Sub-Committee Interim Chair David Gaylor presented his report.

Key Points Raised:

- A strong calendar of social events included Melbourne Cup Day, AFL Grand Final, Wine & Cheese, Bring Your Vinyl and New Year's Eve.
- Music Sundays and regular Friday gatherings helped keep the Club socially active throughout the year.
- The Lucky Draw and Treat Tray raffle continued as popular Friday features.
- Social events complemented the sailing program and strengthened connection between members.
- Greek Taverna Night raised \$750 for the HBYC Foundation and \$750 for Williamstown Hospital.
- Special thanks were extended to Cally Kwas, Brett Harrison, Tania Mosheev and the many volunteers who supported the social program.

FOUNDATION COMMITTEE REPORT - CHAIR: TONY JOHNSTON

17 Foundation Chair Tony Johnston presented his report.

Key Points Raised:

- The Foundation continues to support the long-term sustainability of HBYC and its sailing community.
- Its purpose includes supporting sailing, racing, cruising, training, equipment and facilities for current and future sailors.
- Income is generated through donations, member opt-out contributions, events and interest.
- Total Foundation funds at 2026 were \$50,859.
- Fund balances included \$23,743 for Sailing Assets & Equipment, \$3,662 for Facilities / Master Plan, \$21,869 for Youth Development and \$1,585 unrestricted.
- The first funding request is for the Youth Sports Boat Regatta.
- Members can support the Foundation through tax-deductible donations, fundraising events and bequests.

ELECTION OF FLAG OFFICERS, OFFICERS OF THE CLUB AND GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR 2026/2027

18 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF COMMODORE. David Gaylor was nominated by Tony Dawson and seconded by Tony Johnston.

David Gaylor was duly elected COMMODORE for 2026/2027.

19 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF VICE COMMODORE. Simon Hobbs was nominated by Cam Smith and seconded by Marina Monz.

Simon Hobbs was duly elected VICE COMMODORE for 2026/2027.

20 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF REAR COMMODORE. Leonore Eeckman was nominated by Ryan Blackstock and seconded by Cam Smith.

Leonore Eeckman was duly elected REAR COMMODORE for 2026/2027.

21 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF CLUB CAPTAIN. Michael Grace was nominated by Tim Metherrall and seconded by Rob Pullin.

Michael Grace was duly elected CLUB CAPTAIN for 2026/2027.

22 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF HONORARY TREASURER. Tony Johnston was nominated by Cam Smith and seconded by Ryan Blackstock.

Tony Johnston was duly elected HONORARY TREASURER for 2026/2027.

A lapel was handed to the incoming Honorary Treasurer. Marina Monz was thanked for her service as Honorary Treasurer.

23 There was one nomination for the POSITION OF HONORARY SECRETARY. Craig Jackson was nominated by Miles Williamsz and seconded by Brett Blakemore.

Craig Jackson was duly elected HONORARY SECRETARY for 2026/2027.

24 Six nominations were received for General Committee:

- Laurent Ailleres, nominated by David Gaylor and seconded by Craig Jackson
- Emma Arnold, nominated by Alex Morton and seconded by Thor North
- Ryan Blackstock, nominated by Leonore Eeckman and seconded by Cam Smith
- Hugh Munro, nominated by Peter Edwards and seconded by Paul Beresford
- Marina Monz, nominated by Ryan Blackstock and seconded by Cam Smith
- Cam Smith, nominated by Leonore Eeckman and seconded by Ryan Blackstock

25 The General Committee consists of seven members and six nominations had been received. No additional nomination from the floor was recorded.

The six nominees were duly elected to the General Committee for 2026/2027, leaving one vacancy.

Hugh Munro was invited forward to receive his Committee lapel.

SUB-COMMITTEES

26 Commodore discussed that if members that were interested in joining the Club sub-committees, they were invited to contact the Club Manager or Commodore after the meeting.

NOTICES OF MOTION

27 There were no notices of motion put forward for the meeting by 28 August 2026.

QUESTION TIME

28 The Commodore invited questions from the floor.

Tony Dawson spoke, and thanked both the outgoing Committee for their services, and wished the incoming Committee all the best.

MEETING CLOSURE

29 The Commodore thanked members for their attendance, wished all a continued safe and successful sailing season and welcomed members to the bar.

Meeting closed – 8.53pm