NEW SOUTH WALES RADIO YACHTING ASSOCIATION
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NSWRYA 2022 Annual President's Report

After reporting at last year's AGM that it was nice that sailing was getting back to normal NSW slammed into a four month "delta" lockdown followed by a Omicron semi-shutdown only a few month's later! We are now in the third year of interruptions caused by COVID and it is still affecting ongoing association activities. To top it off, La Nina floods have also played havok on sailing activities. I think a plague of locusts is next…

The reality is that the association at state level has not rebounded the way it did twelve month's ago. Clubs are more insular than previously and less willing to host events, which is a shame as the events that have gone ahead have been well attended and sailed in high spirits; it feels like hosts and competitors are not taking these events for granted the way they may have previously.

We now have only a rump of clubs willing to host interclub events and this is not a sustainable situation. This is not a new situation (I reported concern last year) but is becoming critical. If members want to participate in interclub events I urge them to petition their clubs to host events.

Events like the recent Marblehead/10Rater weekend at Kogarah Bay and the DF65/DF95 weekend at Wollongong last year show that "double headers" are a potential model moving forward. In both instances, the classes were paired where there would be a reasonably high overlap of competitors and the entire weekend felt fresh. We may be able to extend this further and have two one day IOM regatta's at a venue on the same weekend to keep things fresh. Having discussed this in the past with Brad Gibson the UK have also used this model with success.

On the club side we have had some fold over the last year but others have joined. Amongst these are some exciting venues for RC sailing and I hope they host interclub and state events soon.

One of the better reforms introduced by the committee this year was the facilitation in our constitution for ongoing "virtual" meetings. It is hoped that not needing to meet in person will allow association members from outside of Sydney to fill committee positions and for greater club representation at general meetings.

Lastly, I want to thank the outgoing committee for their contributions during the year. Peter Newman resigned from the committee shortly after last year's AGM but remained on as Treasurer for most of the year. Scott Condie stepped in as Publicity Officer to keep the committee functional. I want to thank both gentlemen for their service to the association. I also want to express gratitude to Peter Zecchin who recently stepped in as Secretary and Treasurer. Peter instantly provided impetus to the committee and has already introduced much needed reform to association processes. Lew and Wayne also provided much needed stability and continuity to the committee. Thank you one and all!

However, I find it unfathomable that an association with so many members can't fill six committee positions. We need members to step forward to take committee positions.

Yours Sincerely,
Colin Court
NSWRYA President.