2021/22 NSWRYA Regatta Officer Report

Stating the obvious, the last season was challenging for running events in NSW!

After the NSW COVID19 lockdowns finished in October last year, we decided that we should abandon the published NSWRYA calendar and instead try to organize as many of the RC Class State Championships as possible before the end of the year. Fortunately, with the help of Kogarah Bay, Lake Macquarie & Wollongong Radio Yacht Clubs we were able to run the 10 Raters, A Class, Marbleheads, IOM's & DF65's NSW Championships during this period. This was pretty "full on" and an enormous impost on these clubs. A huge thanks goes out to all these club members and helpers for running these events.

Unfortunately, 2022 has started just as badly as the horrendous weather and floods on the east coast of Australia has meant most of our interclub and ranking events have had to postponed or abandoned. One notable exception was the IOM GP1 that was sailed at Kogarah Bay in the flood waters amongst the floating trees and other miscellaneous flotsam & jetsam…..Paul Jones managed to win this unusual event!

And so to next season!

The ARYA has changed the way they are planning the National Racing Program this year by ensuring they have locked in all the Class National Championship dates and locations before the State racing calendars are agreed. This is to ensure there isn't any overlap between National & State events. At this stage, there are no plans for any National Championships to be run in NSW in 2023 for any of our classes.

The other big impact on our 2023 Calendar is that there are several clubs that are no longer able to hold interclub events. This means that other clubs will have to carry the extra regatta load which really isn't feasible given they many are still getting back to normal after a couple of years of disrupted sailing.

We would normally have about 30 Interclub events on in NSWRYA Racing Calendar not including State Championships. This includes up to 6 GP events for the A Class, Marbleheads, 10 Raters & IOM's.

Next year I think this needs to be reduced significantly so clubs are not overloaded. Based on what we can realistically manage, I am proposing that we reduce the number of GP's to:

- A Class – 2 GP's
- Marbleheads – 2 GP's
- 10 Raters – 3 GP's
- IOM – 3 GP's

Based on agreement of the above changes, I would hope to have a draft program out by mid July.

Wayne Keavy

NSW Regatta Officer