



## OPTIMIST SAILING SOUTH AFRICA

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Lambton

Germiston

### OPTIMIST SAILING SOUTH AFRICA -AGM 15<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2019

THEEWATERS SPORTS CLUB. WC

**Attendance:** Mike Kavanagh, Lars Kessel, Jerome Mclouglin, Stefan Falcon, Peter Rautenbach, Tim Atwill, Karen Slater, Cal Tomlinson, Alister Keytel, Trish Du Preez, Peter Du Preez, Kendal Madel, Kobus Carstens, Ryan Purchase, Shellee Nel

**Apologies:** Marcus Popkin,

**WELCOME:** Shellee welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their time.

Confirmation of past minutes – proposed Lars Kessel, Ryan Purchase.

#### **PRESIDENTS REPORT:** CAL-

Constitution changes updated on the website. Class dwindling numbers how do we address this, some clubs on the up but other have none. Incoming committees should look at hosting an Africans. Whole generation of 2013 boats that could be acquired for charter. Something to use the classes fund. Boats acquired by the class can be stored for future events. Incoming parents to the committee are reminded to keep the interests of all sailors at heart.

QA-suggestion on where to host and Africans- Mossel Bay, Richard's Bay, and Durban.

The committee extended the thanks to Cal for his many years of service.

#### **CHAIRMANS REPORT**

International participation

Worlds- we only had one participant Ian Walker who is a South African finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall. We made application and he was awarded Protea colours for his achievement. We had a team attend the European championship in France. The team for the Africans was decided late in the process as the team needed a girl. Unfortunately, the higher ranked girls declined the position BUT Olivia Purchase got the opportunity to benefit from the coaching and travel with the team to the Seychelles.

#### **FINANCE:**

Proposal to buy unused optimists. Keeping them in storage for charter at a Africans. Alternately sell them when there is a demand. Majority declined the proposal.

Second proposal: To move savings to a low-risk investment with Laurium investment. Easily accessible should it be needed. Majority accepted the proposal.



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Membership fees increase: current state of the class finances is in a break even situation with a small increase there is no need for the increase. Majority agreed to keep the fee the same.

First timer membership fee R400. Renewal membership fee if paid before the deadline. R400. Late renewal fee R500.

Development sailors' fees can be waived on application to the Oppie exco. There will be a maximum of 5 accepted this season. Criteria is needing financial assistance not based on colour or gender.

Applications will be reviewed each season. It is not assumed that the same sailors will receive assistance each year. Regional committee need to put forward the names of sailors they feel need assistance.

A proposal was put forward to generate revenue for the class by charging for sail measurement. The 420 class raises funds from measurement charges and the sale of royalty buttons for development.

Discussion was that surely sail measurement wants a service the class should offer and not levy the members unnecessarily the majority agreed that this would not be feasible.

A request from the sailmakers for the class to hold stock of the Royalty labels and sell them to the sailmakers at a small profit so they do not have to hold stock. Currently IODA will only supply the class associations with royalty labels for distribution to the sailmakers.

Project funding: the committee once again called on the region committees to come up with project plans to grow the class in their regions. Class funds would not be spent without a plan for the exco to get a good understanding of the project.

### ELECTION OF THE OFFICE BEARERS:

There had been no nominations received.

### Regional Reps:

- Northern Region rep- Pieter Rautenbach
- WC Rep- Lars Kessel
- KZN-Jerome Mcloughlin

**Treasurer:** Mike chose to step down and Jerome Mcloughlin was volunteered from the floor.

**Chairperson-** Shellee Nel.

**Secretary-** Shellee Nel

**President-** the class will continue to consult with the likes of Craig Leslie, Andre Wolheim and Dave Booth to guide the committees.



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### Regional reports

Northern region- Peter reported that the northern region had a successful training clinic with an International coach from Holland. Currently the fleet remains small, with not many sailors coming into the group. Clubs seem to be neglecting recruiting.

Western Cape Mike reported that HP have had a successful season preparing for the nationals with a number of training clinics with the coaches from Viana sailing Feedback has been positive. Currently there are pockets of B Fleeters at Mac and ZVYC. Could always do more.

KZN and EC are struggling for numbers but there are a few sailors at Midmar.

### GENERAL

#### Lars proposal-

*Item 1.- Ranking and Prize giving at SA Youth Nationals- "I would like to suggest that to become SA National Champion, you need to be in possession of a SA Passport and that, if there are non-SA Passport holders participating, we have 2 different prizegiving. There would be one for the overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd with trophy and medals and a separate one for the SA 1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup> with trophy and medals.*

*I believe that this is necessary as the positions at Nationals are counting as points for the Selections and losing positions due to non-SA sailors taking up places could change Selections results. Also, it is only fair that no non-SA sailor should be called South-African champion."*

It was agreed and the deed of gift of for the South African Class National Championship's will be defined.

*Item 2 -"A selections process/scoring and venue that makes sure that the best SA Optimist sailors at that time are qualifying for Africans and Worlds . Also all parents of children that are sailing Selections must be willing to send their child to one or both of these events, as this is what they are sailing Selections for in the first place. Meaning that if you are not intending on sending your child, don't let them sail at Selections just because it is a nice regatta. In 2019 we saw children that did qualify for Africans/Worlds not participating in these events which consequently resulted in a weaker than necessary SA team being sent to Africans. Also, all the SA girls that had qualified ended up not participating in Africans which meant that, due to the gender requirements, it looked at one stage that SA will only send a team of 4 sailors to Africans instead of the allowed 10 sailors. We ended up sending 6 children and could have really needed more SA sailors on the water."*

It was discussed, whether to allow sailors who are eligible for selection to participate in the selection regatta although they don't intend to take up their place in the Team. It was agreed that if the sailors are eligible, they can participate.

#### **Mike Kavanaugh Proposals to raise at the Optimist AGM 2019:**



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• *Selections methodology - Currently we take 50% of the nationals' result (as it appears on the results sheet) and 50% of the selections regatta result for determination of the selections ranking ladder. Problem is that Nationals has a number of sailors who are either ineligible for selection or who choose not to make themselves available for selection. Secondly Nationals is likely to be at an inland venue that has little or no resemblance to the Worlds / Africans venues that tend to be mostly offshore.*

*o Proposal 1: Change to 50% of the nationals result excluding sailors who do not attend the selection regatta. This will give a true 50:50 weighting of nationals and selections.*

*o Proposal 2: Only the result of the selection regatta is used to determine the ranking ladder. This allows us to select a venue for selections that closely resembles the expected conditions for Worlds / Africans. The sailors who perform well at selections should be best placed to represent RSA.*

*o Proposal 3 - Should proposal 1 or 2 be adopted that they be implemented immediately for the 2019 teams selection.*

It was agreed that the selection process would not be changed but the scoring of the Ranking ladder would be such that the 2 events carry equal weighting. The Class Nationals results would be extracted to exclude sailor's not eligible for selection.

• *Transformation – propose implementing a quota of a minimum of two sailors of color in the Africans team and one in the Worlds team.*

• *Financial support - Propose that we seek funding support for sailors without sufficient means (regardless of color) from SAS structures (National, Regional, District), apply directly to DCAS for funding and if necessary use class funds to subsidize.*

There was lengthy discussion around including sailors of colour in the teams. Inclusion in the team should always be based on merit. There are options for fund raising, fee's waived reduced competition fees etc, which will enable sailors from disadvantage backgrounds to participate. All the clubs need to be working at bringing children into the sport.

There were no further items to discuss.