

# Commodores Report

June 2004

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and keeping warm in the coming months of winter. With all the boats and boards now either tucked away or getting their annual overhaul or winter maintenance done (cough...cough).

For all those members that attended our presentation and annual general meeting I thank you and hope that you all enjoyed the day. The food was good and the free wine was a real bonus, thanks to Tonia for organizing that. The atmosphere at the club was very positive with a real buzz of excitement and anticipation of the coming season with many members getting into the spirit of the occasion, a little thanks to the wine. But, nonetheless it was all good and a very pleasant way of finishing the season.

Also, I'd like to say thank you to all the committee members standing down and welcome to the new ones coming on. Special thanks to Lisa Badrock for her fantastic efforts as Treasurer and Noel McNicol as the Rear Commodore and where would we be without our volunteers. Thank you all very much.

We also now have two more life members to add to our honor board, Bill Grimshaw and Andrea Stephens for their brilliant efforts over many years of dedicated contribution of their personal time. Congratulations, we are proud to have you on our honor board.

I hope all members have a good break over the off-season and again look forward to seeing you all back this coming season. The committee will be working through the break to hopefully make the coming season even more enjoyable.

Take care and best regards

Mal Winder

# NOTICE BOARD

All sailors must supply their own PFD or buoyancy jackets as PYC jackets will be thrown out as the use by dates have expired.

Membership fees are due on the commencement of the season 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004.

Club sponsors required, to advertise in our clubroom, web site and in newsletter, cost \$100.00 plus signage per year, contact Mal Winder (Commodore) for details.

**Position Available:** Volunteer for Public Relations Officer. Duties are contact local newspaper and submit interesting club news. Contact local businesses to offer hall hire for corporate functions plus, promote club to increase membership.

COBRA LEASE BOAT AVAILABLE FOR FREE, HOWEVER, INSURANCES AND CLUB FEES APPLICABLE.



## COBRA REPORT

Now that the season is over and the National, State and Club titles have come and gone, it's time to reflect on the 2003-2004 Cobra season, before we plunge into the depths of winter and start digging out the ski suits and warm woolies.

On behalf of the Cobra Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers at the club – the rescue boat crews, duty officers, race organizers and all the members who help to make Parkdale a successful club and provide everyone with a venue at which we can all indulge ourselves in our favourite sport

Congratulations to all who have competed this season. By the time you read this you will know who was successful, but I believe that in the wider sense, there were no losers this season. Some new boats came, some older boats stayed at home, but those who competed all had their own successes. We introduced a number of new crews and skippers to the joys and despairs of sailing and the influx of younger skippers bodes well for the future of the Cobra Association..

The lease boats continue their good work. Although Australia Who is to be retired, Wild Cat and Undercover will continue to provide introduction for new sailors to Cobras. Welcome to Daniel, Eric, Paul, David, Matty, Will, Ian, Johnny and Fiona who have all made their Cobra debuts this season.

In the Club competition, there were four boats with the chance of taking out the Cobra Championship in the last race. The level of sailing ability and the intensity of racing have risen enormously this season and I don't think anyone can predict the placings for next season. The State Titles again provided a great competitive and social venue with some interesting results. Everyone sailing at Lake Boga commented favourably on the way all the Cobra people helped each other on and off the water. (I have to say that I did my own bit by helping many skippers to achieve a much better result than I got!!). The new tops were a great hit and identified us to all other sailors as an important and active class – every bit of advertising helps, so spread the word wherever you can! If anyone wants Cobra logo tops, see me as I have some spares.

I have always said that our greatest strength is the camaraderie that exists within our class and is the major factor in ensuring the continued Cobra growth, so take a pat on the back everyone – skippers, crews, partners, supporters and friends and keep up the good work. Enjoy the break everyone and remember there are only 134 days to the next race!!!

Laurie

## Windsurfer Nationals - Mooloolaba

The 2004 Inner Circle Rum Australian Windsurfing Championships attracted a top quality field to Mooloolaba Yacht Club over Easter for five days of competition in four racing disciplines.

Over 65 competitors registered providing the strongest one design sailboard racing fleet in the country. The 'Wally' is the grand daddy of modern windsurf racing, taking its pedigree from the original Windsurfer board. The simple, cost effective rig and hull package places the emphasis on technique and tactics.

Parkdale Yacht Club sent a strong contingent to meet its big test for the year - the Sydney sidlers having proven to be the benchmark in recent years.

### Course Racing

The course racing was contested over 8 races with one drop in conditions ranging from 12-16 knots and big rolling ocean swell on the opening day to drifting conditions by the final heat.

Given the moderate conditions, the Victorian hopes were resting with Mark Lloyd and Jason Morris who have battled up front all season at Parkdale and at the State Championships. The starts were crucial as clean air to maximise board speed off the line was vital to get to the favoured side of the course.

It quickly became apparent that the Vic's were in for a hard regatta, with the NSW team led by class lightweight Martin Stone and Rob Treharne and middleweight champ Stuart Gilbert showing the way out front. Meanwhile in the 'fat boys' division a heavyweight battle between ex World Champ Dennis Winstanley and reigning champ Matt Whitnall was raging. As the races unfolded Lloyd, Morris and middleweight Nick Bez showed glimpses of form but in general they were off the pace in board speed, especially upwind.

In the end it all came down to the last race with Martin Stone sailing a great heat in very light airs to nail the overall result and take the lightweight prize.

In the female division Parkdale's Tonia Grimshaw sailed well to record a second behind Karen Murden of NSW

### Marathon

The Marathon was a 16 km circuit down the Sunshine Coast in ideal 8-10 knot conditions. This time the Vics were at the head of the fleet with Mark Lloyd flying downwind and Bez and Morris in a group of five others in hot pursuit.

The fleet strung out over many kilometres as the breeze lightened to commence a massive beat to conclude the first lap. At some point before the leeward mark, Lloyd had a 'brain snap' and missed the buoy and copped a DSQ.

Upfront a ding dong battle between Martin Stone and Rob Treharne played out over 2.5 hours with just 15 seconds separating the pair as they went tack for tack toward the beach finish. Morris ended up 4th and Bez 6th across the line.

In the female division Tonia was third across the line.

## Freestyle

The freestyle is a 3 minute routine of tricks that is a great test of flair and skill. Maximum points for degrees of difficulty and definitely no falling off.

Held in the Maroochy River close to the spectator viewing area there were a number of show stopping performances that had the large crowd pumped up.

Dennis Winstanley nailed a great routine to take the gong in a close contest from Chris 'MotorMouth' Thompson and Beau Molson.

Ex Vic James Gully put on a great show for 6th, while Mark Lloyd paired with daughter Tess for double the impact in 8th. Parkdale's Keith Whiteley put together a very strong repertoire for a second in the Ancient Mariners and good overall place, one ahead of Gerald Nailon.

Tonia was judged third.

## Slalom

The slalom was held in highly suspect circumstances with the breeze just 1-2 knots which made pumping the only way to get around the course.

In less than ideal conditions a final was run with the super buff John Buick back on the winner's dais after a 7-year absence. 'Rockin' Roger Crawford pulled off a major upset for second followed by Stuart Gilbert. Jason Morris was the only Vic in the hunt and ended up a very healthy 5th.

The girls had similar insipid conditions and Tania Newton prevailed with three firsts and Tonia coming in third.

## The Wash Up

Congratulations to all the winners and to all the Parkdale team who did a great job. A huge 'thank you' to Bill & Jeanie Joselin and their race management team who prevailed under very difficult circumstances.

Special thanks to Bill and Collena for carting the trailer and the gear all the way up and back.

Next year it will be at Geelong in conjunction with the annual "GEELONG WEEK" regatta on the Australia day weekend. Go Vics.

## P.Y.C Windsurfer Update

Another season slips by and all of us, like it or not, are another year older and hopefully wiser. Trophies have been won and new goals are being contemplated for the coming season by many PYC members.

Our Windsurfing fleet remains quite strong and I hope we can stay keen and committed for the next year. Congratulations to all the trophy winners. And to those who didn't take home some glass ware my tip is to sail in as many races as possible throughout the season, because if you have to carry even one drop in a big fleet after dropping the required amount of races, you give yourself a huge point penalty.

An interesting situation has arisen concerning our next National Title venue.

For those of you who haven't heard; At the 2004 Nationals at Mooloolaba in QLD

We put forward our proposal to hold the next titles in Vic. To be held over the Australia day long weekend at Geelong Y.C in conjunction with the Skandia Geelong Week. Well !!! The Sydney sailors came up with a competing venue challenge and put their case well, declaring that Middle Harbour was the place to be in Jan. 2005 and that they could rustle up some big numbers and big bucks.

The days of two States fighting it out to secure the Nationals on home turf has not been seen for some time and I think its great for our class. So what happened you ask!

Its only fair to solve this sort of dilemma in a democratic way; Vote on it !

The voting forms were sent out FROM Sydney to a list of windsurfers who had sailed in recent titles, filled out and sent back TO Sydney. "Dodgy" I know, but hey guess what?. The result was 80% for Geelong - 20% Sydney Harbour.

We already have the advantage over those Sydney dudes and best of all we don't have to drink their dodgy sponsor alcohol at \$ 6.00 a go.

So now after our moral victory we all need to really put in to make this event the best Nationals known to man.

Lloydie