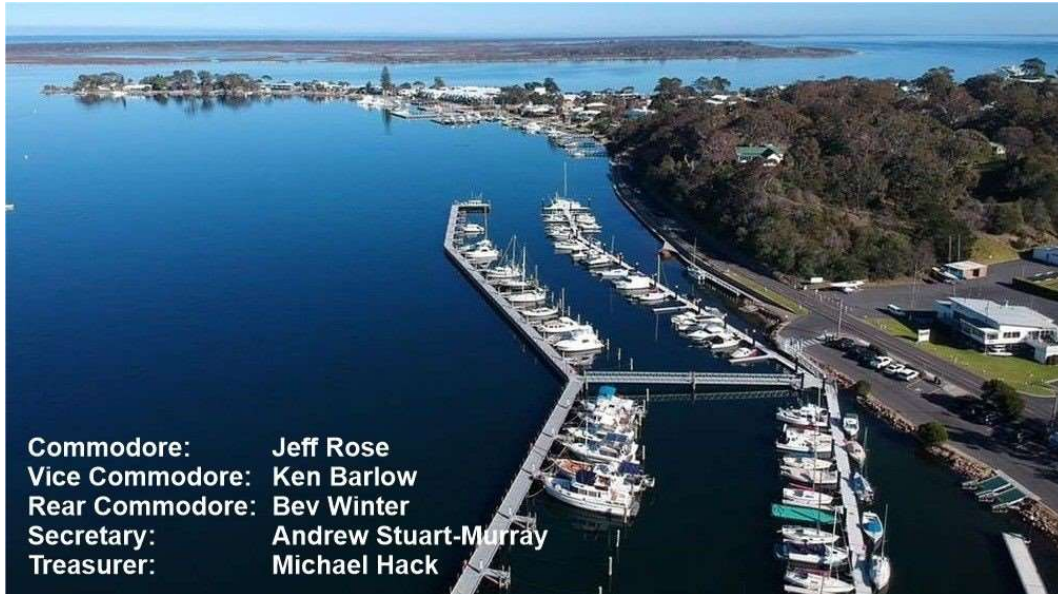


# TELLTALES

Newsletter of The Metung Yacht Club Inc eIssue #40

October/November 2021



**Commodore:** Jeff Rose  
**Vice Commodore:** Ken Barlow  
**Rear Commodore:** Bev Winter  
**Secretary:** Andrew Stuart-Murray  
**Treasurer:** Michael Hack

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## WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB

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**BAR - OPEN From 4.30 Wednesday - Sunday**

### WEDNESDAYS

We are holding a BBQ each Wednesdays after Twilights

### RACE DAYS

Hot finger food and snacks are available after weekend racing.

### HELP WANTED

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Wednesday BBQ - it will just involve barbecuing the meat and collecting payment. We need two people each week from 5.30 - the more helpers we have, the lighter the load.

If you can help out phone or text Bev on 0419 533 302

Please adhere to Covid Restrictions and limited numbers

Due to Government regulations on fully vaccinated are allowed

**YOU MUST SIGN IN ON ARRIVAL - QR Sign in is mandatory**

[CLICK HERE](#) for club requirements

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAYS - Twilights - Stern Chaser 1715**

Join us for a BBQ each Wednesday after Twilights

**SUNDAYS - Junior Squad and Off The Beach - 1000**

**Saturday 20th November - Sou Wester Heat 2 - Club Start - (Division 2 - 1400) (Division 1 - 1415)**

**Sunday 21st November - CWB/Sc Heat 1 -Calypso - rescheduled - Stern Chaser - Club Start 1400**

**Sunday 21st - Juniors/OTB - 1000**

**Saturday 27th November - Sou Wester Heat 3 - Club Start - (Division 2 - 1400) (Division 1 - 1415)**

**Sunday 28th November - Junior Squad - 1000**

**Saturday 4th December - Ray Dunn Memorial - Boat Start - (Division 2 - 1400) (Division 1 - 1410)**

Friday 10th December - Past Commodore's Lunch 1200

Friday 10th December - Commodore's Drinks 1800

Saturday 11th December - Norm Strange Cup MYC Trophy Heat 1 - Club Start - (Division 2 - 1400)  
(Division 1 - 1415)

Sunday 12th December - CWB/Sc Heat 2 -Chance - Stern Chaser - Club Start 1400

Saturday 18th December - Windward/Leeward Sprint Series - Boat Start - (Division 2 - 1400) (Division  
1 - 1410)

Sunday 19th December - CWB/Sc Heat 3 -Andy Henderson - Stern Chaser - Club Start 1400

From Wednesday 22nd December - Twilights start time changes to 1615

Sunday 26th December - Sydney to Hobart - Watch the start at the Club - 1130

Sunday 28th December - 3rd January - International Cadets - Australian Championships

SATURDAY JANUARY 1ST - NEW YEAR'S DAY - Sail Past - 1200 - This year's theme Australiana -  
Dress up your boats, salute our Commodore, then back to the club for Live Music and a Spit Roast lunch

## COMMODORE'S COLUMN

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While there has been a delay to the start of the sailing season due to Covid-19 and fickle weather, the sailing that has been happening on the water thus far has been very encouraging. The Women in Sailing Group has been amazing to watch develop, and the camaraderie they have developed has been exceptional. Many thanks to Sarah McCully, Dean Smith, and 'Eagle' Edwards for their interesting “coaching techniques” and other uses besides boating for learning to tie knots.

Two legends of the club who have celebrated significant birthdays. Geoffrey (Tuna) Smith celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and the evergreen Bob Dack celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> in addition racking up 45 years as a member of the Metung Yacht Club. I congratulate them both for achieving these milestones.



Despite sailing not being as accessible as we would have liked, a lot of work has been happening behind the scenes for all committees be it the Junior/Off the Beach Group, Women in Sailing Group, Sailing Committee, or the General Committee.

The General Committee has formed seven specific sub-committees to both plan the future and document the past. These are:

1. Negotiation of the renewal of our lease with the East Gippsland Shire that expires in 2 years and is chaired by Peter Harvey.
2. 5- & 10-year business plan that is chaired by Les Clough
3. History of Metung Yacht Club chaired by John Miles
4. Life Membership matrix chaired by Tony Owens
5. A feasibility study and costs associated with the possible extensions of the club house balcony, and to the existing upstairs club room at the West side. This is chaired by Dick Whitaker.
6. Review and implementation of a new catering model chaired by Bev Winter.
7. Purchase and replacement of our rescue boat “Kepper” that has provided great service to the club for over 20 years, but is rapidly coming to its use by date. This committee is chaired by me.

To help with the above and involve the members with some of these important decisions, a survey will be distributed around the end of February to gain your thoughts, input and ideas. I hope now with the easing of restrictions that we all can now get out there and enjoy some sailing.



We were finally able to hold our first face to face Committee Meeting in over 12 months

# CLUB NEWS

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## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members.

Full Members  
Nuria Carricondo  
Andrew Hurnard  
Sonia Forde  
Robyn Hooper

Sue Lary  
Dean Robson  
Sarah McCully  
Marcus Sill  
Junior Member – Nixon Benney

### NEW MEMBER CARDS

Due to the high number of defective Member Cards we shall be issuing new cards to all members.

From Wednesday 24th November your current Membership Cards will be de-activated and your new cards will be available at the club.

To obtain your Member Discount you **must** have your new card with you. There will no longer be a "General Card" at the till.

It is anticipated the new cards can be added to your phone wallet. More details on this option once it has been tested.

Our new cards will allow us to set up Rewards Program for our regulars - more information to come.

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## COMMUNITY

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### Metung CFA Training

For those of you who may have been concerned seeing the CFA at the Club on Monday 1st November, there was no need to worry. They were using the building for a Breathing Apparatus Drill, carrying out a search and rescue exercise.



## CLUB SAILING

### THE PERFORMANCE HANDICAP SYSTEM

The Handicap System used by MYC is designed to give all competitors an equal performance or "corrected time". Like a golf handicap, it is a personal handicap given to each boat. Even identical boats within a class have separate and different handicaps. This gives everyone a reasonable chance of winning a race, regardless of their sailing ability or speed/design of their boat. Sailing "better than you usually do" will have you finishing in the top half of the fleet, similarly "sailing not as well as normal" will have you finish in the bottom half. The consistent sailors/boats will usually finish mid-fleet.

For this reason MYC encourages as many sailors/boats as possible to enter races. You can sail single-hande, not fly spinnakers, use old sails etc etc. The handicap system will adjust for your performance and is modified after each race. You can even choose to start behind the pack seemingly giving away valuable minutes, however if you do this every race, the handicap system will learn about your performance and be modified accordingly.

The winner of the race is not necessarily the best sailor.  
It's the sailor/boat that beat their usual performance by the largest margin.  
With a personal handicap even I have a chance at beating John Bertrand!

Fred Haes, MYC Handicapper



### BOWMEN OF METUNG

The Bowmen of Metung was held on 30th October.

It didn't start well with Max slipping on Kepper and injuring his hand.

A fleet of eleven boats entered the race in Division 1 with eight boats finishing and Tom Moore on Harmony the eventual winner.

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Perfect weather for the SouWester Heat 1 on 6th November - another win for Tom Moore on Harmony.

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### NEW START PROCEDURES EXPLAINED

This year we are splitting the MYC fleet into two starting groups.

#### Division 1

Boats are given the option of two start times. Boats that are generally slower, or slightly intimidated by starting next to more aggressive boats are encouraged to start in the earlier group. The faster and/or more aggressive boats are encouraged to start with the later group.

#### Division 2

Is for boats who don't wish to compete for trophies but are encouraged to try the excitement of racing.

They sail the same course but are not entered in the main event and are ineligible for trophies.

#### Start Times

Division 2 boats MUST start in the earlier group. Division 1 boats MAY elect to start in either group and MUST declare this intention on every Race Sign-on Form. This intention may be varied each race to suit the boat/crew development. Regardless of which start group a Division 1 boat elects to start, sailing times, handicaps and results are calculated for all Division 1 boats as if they are in the same fleet.

By starting earlier slower Division 1 boats finish closer to the faster Division 1 boats that starts later and all arrive back at the club closer together.

EG: Sailors inexperienced with sailing Etchells may elect to start early to avoid (generally) tighter starts among the more experienced Etchells sailors, or indeed an experienced sailor aboard a slower boat may elect to mix it with the faster boats and teach them a lesson on how to start! Metung Yacht Club is attempting to encourage more participants by offering two starting groups.

Please help and promote the sport.  
FRED HAES

### RACING RULES OF SAILING Pre-season Workshops

The recent Basic and Advanced workshops covering the RRS ran for two months and were well attended.

Participants engaged in an inter-active discussion based on the Rules as they pertain to sailing a race. Sailors from Victoria, NSW, Tasmania and Western Australia joined in.

A close study of the Definitions and various Rules was completed. At the basic level the exercises built confidence among participants to sail the Start, Upwind, Downwind and Finish legs without "getting into too much trouble".

In the Advanced workshops, a closer and more detailed study of the 'hot' parts of a race such as Starts and Mark Roundings were discussed.

Participants were given 'homework' comprising various scenarios that had been covered in the session. Equipped with an increased familiarity of the RRS Book, participants built their understanding of the Rules, where to find more information, and most importantly the benefit of constant revision of the RRS.

At each workshop a Keynote Speaker addressed the group, and in most cases remained behind and participated throughout the session.

Past World Champions such as Nev Wittey, Nick Rogers and Buster Hooper shared their insights, gave advice and took the opportunity to brush up on some areas that they themselves had forgotten or perhaps hadn't fully understood. I often joked with them that the pre-amble to Part 2 of the RRS is titled "When Boats Meet", and they didn't need to know the Rules since they were usually out in front and didn't "meet" anyone!

They all shared the same message -  
"Sail cleanly and avoid trouble.  
You will rarely win a regatta over the RRS,  
but can certainly lose a regatta through RRS"

FRED HAES

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## TWILIGHTS

Our first Twilights race for the season on Wednesday 3rd November began with five starters and very little wind. Forty minutes later the change came through with winds around 20 knots. First over the line was Brogan's Way - even after the slight mishap of losing their outboard when it was caught by a wave. It now lies at the bottom of Bancroft Bay.

The race on 10th November was cancelled due to weather - but don't forget we still hold a bbq each Wednesday and you can come along and join us whether you sail or not.

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## JUNIOR SQUAD & OFF THE BEACH

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### JUNIOR SQUAD

It was great to see a good turn out on the first session for the Junior Squad on 6<sup>th</sup> November. There were around sixteen in the group with a number of potential new members. The first week was in the club house and included revision and knot tying before heading out to watch the women's group launch their boats.



Dean was very happy with the attendance with the Junior Squad looking forward to finally getting the season under way.

## **UNSUPERVISED SAILING/TRAINING**

For safety reasons the following should be adhered to when unsupervised Juniors go out on Bancroft Bay for a sail or training.

This applies whether single handed or double handed.

### **Prior to leaving shore please**

- \* Complete details on the "UNSUPERVISED Junior Sailing Whiteboard" outside the Junior Club Rooms and
- \* Hoist the yellow flag on the club flag pole



*You will preferably be in the company of another boat and should*

- \* Remain in the area of Bancroft Bay and
- \* Keep Metung Yacht Club visible at all times

On safe return to shore

- \* Remove the yellow flag and clear details from Whiteboard

### **IMPORTANT**

Anyone who sees a Yellow Flag at the club for an extended time and believe sailors have not returned to shore should call the contact number on the whiteboard outside the Junior Club rooms to check if they have returned.

### **OTB (comprising Women in Sailing program)**

The women in sailing in program has generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm with 16 women enrolling. After a few weeks of theory and rope tying, four had their first sail in one of the new Pacer yachts on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Prior to the sail, Peter Bull gave a talk on navigation marks as well as interesting aspects of the Entrance. This has prompted a plan to take a twilight sail on Metung 2 to have a look at the marks and see how they show up at night – there is also talk of taking champagne on board so it should be a good outing.

There has been some interest from Cousta boat sailors for any women who may want to sail on the wooden boats so this is another area we can explore as we progress.

It's fabulous to see this group of women wanting to learn and get out on the water and we are looking forward to a watching the progress.



## OUR MEMBERS - Bob Dack

I was born on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1931 during the last years of the Great Depression. The youngest of three boys, I attended Lloyd Street Central School and Caulfield Technical School. I was a cub, a scout and a rover. I joined the Cadets and rose to the Rank of Cadet Lieutenant with a King's Commission. In 1948 at 17 years of age I hiked over Cradle Mountain.

I met Betty when she was sixteen. We were married on 31<sup>st</sup> January 1953 and were together 61 ½ years. During that time we took two world trips and many overseas holidays including five America's Cups. We had three boys who were all good sailors. Sadly our second son Lindsay drowned in Port Phillip Bay on Boxing Day 2000.



He was sailing in the Round the Bay Race when the boat was hit by a sudden wind shift as he went forward to release the spinnaker. He went over the side and was not recovered for 20 minutes (they didn't wear life jackets in those days). Lindsay had sailed hundreds of hours in ocean races including the bad 1998 Sydney Hobart.



I was a Technical School Teacher for 35 years reaching the rank of Vice Principal. I served in five schools and in my final year transferred to the TAFE system and became

Deputy Director of the East Gippsland TAFE College. I served for 25 years in the Australian Defence Forces, 23 years in the RAAF and while I said I would serve anywhere as required I was never called so didn't go to war.

I was posted as an instructor with various units of the Air Training Corps where I taught Aircraft Recognition Survival and Weapon training. I was a member of Rotary for 38 years.

We lived in Sale for six years and would spend weekends sailing our TS16 on the Gippsland Lakes. We fell in love with Metung and moved here in 1981. We owned six yachts, we chartered yachts and we sailed on friend's yachts in Fiji, the Greek Islands, Croatia and Denmark. We brought the first Cavalier 28 to Metung (called Cavelle). We sailed her down from Sydney, arriving here in time for my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday which we celebrated at a party at the Club that had been organized by Rosie's mum.

We joined Metung Yacht Club 45 years ago. I spent eight years on the Committee and Betty spent time as Secretary. We won several races and a Club Championship in Cavelle.

For eleven years we couldn't race as we bought the beautiful old yacht "Spray" and ran cruises on the Lakes. Spray was built from Huon pine and was a replica of Joshua Slocum's yacht in which he was the first man to sail around the world alone. Our Spray was longer than his – 45ft plus a 15 ft bow sprit. She was licensed to carry 35 passengers on day cruises and six overnight. We sailed her to Sydney for the bi-centenary in 1988 and for the centenary of Slocum's visit to Sydney in 1996.



After we sold Spray we owned a 39ft Challenger yacht 'Classic Lady'. She was a fibreglass beauty, luxurious down below and fitted with all the latest navigation instruments. We continued our cruising business on her over the summer months. Each winter we would sail to North Queensland for several months. We missed sailing after we sold Classic Lady so bought Mimosa which is now owned by Bill Newcomen.

Having recently celebrated my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday my balance has put a stop to my sailing but I now have my campervan to go travelling and still enjoy frequenting the club regularly.

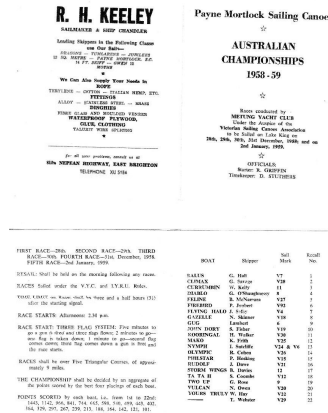


## A BIT OF HISTORY - by Peter Bull

Metung Yacht Club has hosted many regattas and championships over the years, which have been beneficial to the club. The first such Championship, held in 1958-59 was the Australian Championship for the Payne – Mortlock Canoe class. It was held in Lake King over five days.

This was a remarkable event, given the clubhouse had barely been built, and a National Title was being held by a small country yacht club.

I believe Lake King sorted these “tender” sailing boats out as it blew for most of the races. Interestingly the races were held over 5 triangular courses of 9 miles !



SOCIAL

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AFL Grand Final - with a bbq and social distancing



There was lots of enthusiasm at the start of the NRL Grand Final.

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Halloween and Melbourne Cup Day were times to dress up.

We ran three sweeps on Cup Day with Rosie having four winners from five tickets - and putting the winnings on the bar - thanks Commodore.

The winning hat prize was declared a draw - with special mention to Belinda for her creation made from a magazine.



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### MEMBER'S NIGHT

After cancelling September and October Member's nights due to Covid restrictions we were able to hold our November event on Friday 12th.

We had over fifty members attend and after selling the remaining tickets to our Win a Membership Raffle, Mary Rowe drew the winner.

Congratulations to Brandon Kibby.

### OUR NEXT MEMBER'S NIGHT - COMMODORE'S DRINKS

Friday 10th December 6.00pm

It's Commodores' Drinks Night in place of our December Member's Night.

Members and partners welcome.



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### COMMODORE'S CUP



Due to the forecast of torrential rain and wind on Saturday 13th November the Commodore's Cup race was cancelled and BBQ venue changed from Johnsonville to the club house. As it turned out by mid morning the rain had stopped and the sun was out. Around 30 members had an enjoyable afternoon at the club - thanks to Dave Isom for manning the BBQ most of the afternoon.

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## NEW YEAR'S DAY SAIL PAST

**Start planning now**

This year we are having a themed Sail Past.

We'd love all the yachts, power boats and water craft to dress themselves and their boats in an Australiana theme.

Afterwards come back to the club for Prizes, a Spit Roast lunch and Live Music.

**METUNG YACHT CLUB**

**ANNUAL SAIL PAST  
JANUARY 1ST 2022**

**Congregate at Shaving Point at 12.00pm**

**Followed by a  
Spit Roast & Live Music  
at the Club**

**DRESS UP YOUR BOAT**



**This year we are having an  
AUSTRALIANA  
theme**

**PRIZES for the Best Dressed  
Sail Boat, Motor Boat & Best Dressed Crew**

DON'T FORGET YOUR WATER PISTOLS - NO WATER BALLOONS PLEASE

### SPIT NEEDED

If anyone has a spit we could borrow for our New Year's Day lunch please contact Bev 0419 533 302

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## SAIL LOCKER

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**HACKER FOR SALE**  
**\$3900**

- \* International Cadet Mk IV 9746
- \* XSP 2008
- \* New Venturi
- \* New Spinnaker Bags
- \* Good condition
- \* Lots of Sails
- \* Boat and Mast Cover
- \* Frame that sits on 7 x 5 trailer

Call Kevan on 0400 377 037



## SAILING TIPS

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### USEFUL TIPS FOR RACING SAILORS

Article from [SAILING TO WIN](#)

Boat Preparation - To win you must be the best prepared, and a lack of attention in this area can mean gear or boat breakages and to be able to win you must be able to finish.

Beyond that, you must have competitive equipment, efficient systems and excellent hull finish. Carry spares for things that can be repaired on the course along with tools that are needed to effect those repairs.

Financing an Event - Look at your season and pick out the events that you would like to do. Work out whether you can attend each one and compete at the top level required with the finances you have available.

If you find that you are having to make the money stretch by scrimping on accommodation, food and equipment options, consider doing fewer events but dedicating more resources to those events.

You will find your stress levels will be reduced and the fun levels and your event success will greatly increase.

Mental Stamina - Are you able to keep going when things get really tough or do you let frustration get the better of you? Sleep and diet are not only important for your physical well being but they are important for your mental state as well.

When you train, work as hard as you would if you were racing and eat and hydrate the same way as well.

Many of us practice specific things but don't push ourselves as hard as we would if we were racing.

If your class does 3 x 45 minutes races each day, some of your training sessions should be for the same amount of time, that way you build the necessary mental stamina to carry forward to race day.

Concentration - In sailing, because there are so many variables, you are not able to concentrate on every variable all the time.

The best sailors pick the variables that need the most attention given the current course and conditions and disregard the ones that won't make much difference.

There are always plenty of distractions at your club, a regatta or around the boat park, try to concentrate on the days racing by thinking about the weather, the course and what you need to do to succeed.

Many top sailors I have spoken to use headphones prior to heading out on the water and play music suitable for the day to set the mood and block out unwanted distractions.

Keep a sailing Log - All of us have plenty going on outside sailing so trying to remember settings that worked in particular conditions. This becomes especially tricky when you may not encounter those exact conditions again for many weeks or even months.

The act of writing things down helps your memory. Keeping a sailing diary enables you to refer to it to when you encounter the same conditions again.

Body Weight - Many boats and classes we sail have an upper crew weight limit or ideal weight for best performance and many competitors get involved in yo-yo dieting to meet those weight requirements.

Changes in weight need to be gradual and balanced otherwise it can affect your ability to perform at your peak.

An ideal situation in a class that has a particular weight range to be competitive is to be somewhere in the middle but of course this is dictated to a large extent by our physical size. When choosing a class of boat to sail, it makes sense for sailors to select a boat matched to their natural size.



## BECOMING A MYC MEMBER

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Do you know how to help somebody if they ask you how to become a Club member? An explanation of the processes is available through the following link. [Click Here](#). If you have any queries call our Membership Coordinator, Tony Owens on 0418 343 134 or [metungyachtclub.membership@gmail.com](mailto:metungyachtclub.membership@gmail.com)

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