



Wing Flap

Newsletter of the B14 Class Association of New South Wales

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NSW President's Report

It is an exciting time for the B14. With the rapid growth in numbers in Europe and their desire for International recognition by the ISAF we have an opportunity to give the boat a 10-year update and bring all regions into the World Association under one set of rules.

We face problems along the way, however, as different countries have different requirements to enhance their individual market niches. We will require patience from all members as there may be teething problems over the next couple of years as we implement changes required by our overseas colleagues, the ISAF, and implement local by-laws for Australian conditions. Your ideas and comments will be appreciated as this work progresses.

On the local scene, it is pleasing to see the growth in our Gosford fleet and the commitment and enthusiasm of the regular Sydney sailors. We now have 19 boats sailing regularly with a few more coming out for special events. The committee is still keen to establish a third fleet in southern Sydney and hopefully this will come to fruition for the start of next season.

Of disappointment to me is the fact that only a minority of regular B14 sailors have chosen to join the association this season and enter the State Pointscore. A lot of work goes into organising events for the benefit of members and your membership fees are needed to help offset costs, including the production of this newsletter.

All boats that sail in association events, including the coming Australian and New South Wales Championships must have one full member on board. It is to everybody's long term advantage to join the association as it will give us the funds to help promote the class. Also, a strong association fleet at regattas like the Sydney Harbour Skiff Marathon and the Kurnell Cup demonstrate to other sailors that the B14 is a boat worth owning.

Grant Hudson

Are You a Financial Member of the Association?

*The Association can only promote the class if it has the funds to do so,
and that depends on you paying your fees.*

please send your membership fee to the above address if you are not financial.

Sydney Flying Squadron

Congratulations to Damon and James (222 *Fire Stopping*) for winning the *Hospitality Training Company Corporate Spring Pointscore* that concluded on 23 November. Runners-up were Grant and Brett (181 *Fujitsu PCs and Printers*) with Abby and Megan (350 *Flo*) a close third.

Newcomers this year include Elbow Grease (Scott McInerney & a cast of thousands) who has shown he'll soon be regularly on the pace. Backdraft (Brooke Boille & Damien Bury) and Miss Conduct (Ian Wrigley & various) are still coming to terms with this style of racing but are keen and improving each race.

The *MVG Summer Pointscore* commenced on 7 December. Please note that the third heat has been transferred to Gosford Sailing Club on 20 December to avoid a clash on the harbour (again) with the Olympic-classes regatta.

GOSFORD SAILING CLUB

Gosford now has the largest fleet of B14s in Australia with 13 boats registered. It would be even nicer if all were sailing every week and participating in all the Association events.

Numbers on the water is what will sell boats and get new people into the class. Having your boat sitting in your garage is not fun for you and doesn't promote the class.

We also have the highest percentage of unfinancial members - the club requires that you are a financial member of your Association. So please get your money away to the Treasurer.

RIGS, FITTINGS AND OTHER THINGS.

This class will be undergoing some fundamental rule changes over the next year to achieve International Status. The re-write of the B14 Constitution and By-Laws is progressing slowly (better to get it right than do it fast!).

The NSW Management Committee has decided that in NSW we will not adopt the official changes to the standard B14 rig until the end of the 1997-98 season. However, we have asked the Australian Association to allow a number of provisional changes for the 1997/98 season which will allow all members the opportunity to test one of the European rigs and some of the ideas that the Measurement Committee is proposing to the World Association.

It must be remembered that under our existing rules, a member could purchase a rig produced under the manufacturer's auspices in the UK and use it in Australia. Our plan is to allow the membership to vote on the changes at our AGM due in April 98 for implementation from 1 May 1998. It is likely that the new Constitution and By-Laws will be adopted elsewhere in the world at an earlier date.

A couple of boats are testing rigs which are within the measurements set out in the English rule proposals. They are doing this AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE to help the association evaluate these rigs. Some have voluntarily agreed to forgo points in club and association events so that they can test the rigs and give us a better understanding of the stance the NSW and Australian Associations should take.

The majority of rule changes have been agreed with the English and the French and Japanese are supporting the Australian position. The English were permitted to build all sorts of rigs when Julian released the B14E in Europe - they are now coming back into the B14 fold but they have the problem of having all these boats with odd rigs. Also, the conditions in England are quite different to Australia and they haven't had the experience with high-performance skiffs which the Australians have had. Please bear with us - and don't think that this gives you the right to make changes to your rig and particularly to fittings etc. **Remember the basic rule in the B14s is that you cannot add anything to your boat which creates another function.**

Special dates for your diary:

National Championships	Mordialloc Sailing Club	11 - 16 January 1998
NSW Championship	Gosford Sailing Club	21 - 22 February 1998
WORLD Championships {see enclosed note}	Weymouth UK	29 August - 2 September 1998

New South Wales Titles - Gosford

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the Notice of Race for the 1998 NSW Titles which will be sailed at Gosford Sailing Club.

Accommodation is available as follows:

- The Sands Motor Inn Free Call 1800 028 291 Double \$69 Friday Night \$79 Saturday Night
[1.6 km from club] 02 4323 1211
- Olympic Motel 02 4324 7377 Single \$70 Double \$80 Extra Person \$10
[200 metre from club]
- Gosford Motor Inn 02 4323 1333 Courtyard Poolside Bayview
[1.4 Km from Club] Single \$66 \$69 \$72
Double \$70 \$73 \$76
Extra \$10 Child \$6 Saturday night surcharge \$10

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT - VICTORIAN ENTRANTS GIVEN SPECIAL PRIORITY.

The Gosford guys are organising a fantastic weekend of sailing. The courses will be windward return sprints to provide excitement and fun.

There will be a barbecue in the clubhouse on Saturday night at very low costs and, of course, the bar of the club will be open for drinks.

This is going to be a great weekend planned for your fun and enjoyment. Come along and join in the fun.

Neptune Wetsuits B14 Skiff Sprint Series.

The handicap division of the Neptune Wetsuits B14 Skiff Sprint Series sailed at the Sydney Flying Squadron on Sunday 30 November was won by Grant Hudson sailing *Fujitsu PCs and Printers*. Grant scored a fifth place and two firsts in the three race series to easily take first place from Cronulla boat *Butts Aluminium Windows* (Paul Butts) with third place going to Gosford sailor Wally Millican on *Zodiac V*.

Abby Parkes and Megan Taylor, the only all female combination, broke up the Gosford boats domination of the scratch division. Gosford sailor Paul Hansen sailed *Priority 1* to a second, first and fourth place to take first place from Abby and Megan on *Flo* with Geoff Jakins on *Basic Instinct* in third place.

The series was sponsored by Neptune Wetsuits, who are one of Australia's leading sailing wetsuit manufacturers.

The series was sailed over a short course off Bradleys Heads and proved very popular with all those who participated - but there should have been TWENTY skiffs there - not just the thirteen who turned up.

Neptune's sponsorship provided lots of prizes and give-aways.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING TO BUY A NEW WETSUIT - CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE COMPANY THAT SUPPORTS THE B14s AND BUY A NEPTUNE WETSUIT.

**CONTACT JEFF KEANE OR PETER DANIELSON [MVG]
HOME: 02 9526 7005 MOBILE: 041 86 0058 BUS: 02 9556 3722**

IS YOUR NAME ON THIS LIST - IF IT ISN'T YOU AIN'T FINANCIAL....

Name	Boat No. [If Applicable]	Type
Paul Butts	300	Full
C Rowe		Associate
Ross Hansen	101	Full
Darren Beatty	101	Associate
Paul Hansen	269	Full
Abby Parkes	350	Full
Brooke Boielle	182	Full
James Bury	222	Full
Barry Foster	200	Full
Geoff Jakins	299	Full
Jeff Keane	153	Full
Grant Hudson	181	Full
John Jensen	313	Full
Grant Ward	269	Associate
Andrew Sheldrick	150	Associate
Brett Walker	181	Associate
Phil Thuaux	299	Associate
Jim Lamb		Life and Associate
Marion Farmer		Associate

Only Eleven Boats Are Currently Sailing As Financial Members -

If You Wish to Continue to Earn Points At Club and Association Levels Complete A Membership Application Form and Draw Your Cheque and Post it to the Address on the Top of this Newsletter.

This Will Be Your Last Newsletter If You Are Not Financial.

DESIGN A NEW B14 LOGO.

When the B14 was launched it was called the Exocet and had a different logo - the current logo is quite good to look at, however, is it easily recognised by people as the B14 Skiff. With the change to International status, we should think of having a new logo registered which makes it easier for people to immediately recognise the B14 on the water.

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO: PO BOX 264
GLADESVILLE NSW 2111

THE QUESTION OF A NICE PRIZE FOR THE BEST DESIGN WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING ON 27 JANUARY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 48A WESTERN CRES, GLADESVILLE COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM - TELEPHONE 02 9817 4346 IF YOU ARE ATTENDING.