

Australian Tasar Council – Annual General Meeting

Presidents Report 2022

It is my great pleasure to present this report to the Annual General Meeting of the first Tasar National Championship in three (3) years. To that end, I will firstly take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of both the Tasar Association of Western Australia (TAWA) and the Tasar Association of South Australia (TASA) together with the Port Lincoln Yacht Club and the ATC, who have worked together against all odds to prepare for this National title event here in beautiful Port Lincoln. The joint organising committee were determined that this National title was to proceed despite ongoing uncertainty as it would be fundamental to reinvigorating the Tasar class after a long hiatus due to the continued COVID pandemic.

Despite there being no previous national title events, the ATC continues to support a number of important endeavours. In 2022, we remain optimistic that we'll be able to support at least one container to the upcoming World Championships in Seattle, USA this September and have commenced early engagement and planning. As the world's largest Tasar sailing region, we have again been asked to lean in and support with the provision of charter boats. This extends upon previous arrangements at the Worlds in both Japan and the UK and to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the class at an international level, we must support the success of these events. Australian Tasar sailors Rob and Nicole Douglass from NSW are of course our current World Champions.

As outlined in my previous report, a strong focus for the ATC in recent months through the collective efforts of the ATC, Phillip Potter and Stuart Templeton has been in the direct engagement with NB Sailports to offer a lower price outcome on jibs and mainsails to our members. We were pleased to provide a bulk sail deal in Q3 of 2021 which enabled a significant price reduction and resulted in 26 sets being ordered and subsequently delivered. The challenge for the ATC moving forward will be ongoing sustainability from both a price and supply outcomes perspective.

Additionally, we are now working more closely with the WTC and have frequent meetings with the regions Presidents. As well as planning for the upcoming worlds and associated challenges, we have also discussed proposals around synthetic rigging, location of future Tasar production, improving global communications, maintaining our recognised status and ultimately working together to steer a new path for the class. The next meeting is in early February which Julian Bethwaite has been asked to attend and we'll continue to use the ATC quarterly meetings as a report back mechanism.

From an administrative perspective, the ATC has also undertaken a comprehensive review of its constitution which was circulated for feedback in mid-2021 and we'll be seeking its ratification here at this AGM.

In closing, I wish to give thanks to Blaise Vinot who was elected to the ATC executive in 2018 and continues to make positive impact to our national association in his short time.

Also, a special mention to Jenny Sorensen from NSW who works hard to lift the profile of our class via the Australian Tasars facebook presence.

It is fair to say that 2021 continued to be a difficult year for community sport with COVID restrictions hampering major events across the country, particularly along the eastern seaboard. I wish all members a brighter 2022 with more opportunities for domestic sailing and a strong Australian contingent at the upcoming worlds in Seattle.

Stay safe and good sailing!

Nicole Kidman President, Australian Tassar Council

29 December 2021