

Australian Tasar Council – Annual General Meeting

Presidents Report 2020

Whilst it is my great pleasure to present this report to the Annual General Meeting, I am bitterly disappointed that we aren't coming together at a Tasar Nationals in 2020. 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 Victoria (TAV) who worked tirelessly to prepare for their respective National title events in Mandurah and Paynesville that were not able to proceed due to restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic, a position recommended by our national authority, Australian Sailing.

It has been almost two (2) years since my last report at the AGM in Largs Bay South Australia, an event that created an authentic 'South Aussie' experience for all those attended and was again supported by long standing class sponsor Ronstan, to whom we owe a debt of thanks. Relative newcomers to the Tasar class, James and Tara Burman from NSW remain our now somewhat long standing national champions.

Despite there being no National championships this year, the ATC continues to support a number of important endeavours. In 2019, the ATC supported the Australian fleet's container arrangements to the Tasar Worlds in Hayling Island in the UK, which saw 19 Australian entrants. Extending our agreements from the previous worlds in Japan, we were also able to supply four (4) charter boats to the North American fleet. Congratulations to Rob and Nicole Douglass from NSW who are our current World Champions.

The ATC also put forward a motion at the WTC AGM which was held in Hayling Island that the Sandringham Yacht Club in Victoria be endorsed as the host club for the 2024 Tasar World Championships. This was eagerly endorsed and we look forward to an outstanding event on home soil.

From an administrative perspective, the ATC has also undertaken a comprehensive review of its constitution which will be circulated for feedback in early 2021.

As detailed in my last Presidents report, a focus for the ATC continues to be on establishing increased communications and dialogue with the builder and its agencies to maximise opportunities for new Tasars to come into the fleet, ensuring availability of spare parts and interrogating deficiencies in our supply chain in an effort to decrease the cost of sails. This also extends to working more collaboratively with the WTC, and in the first half of 2020 – we held a number of WTC/ATC teleconferences that were attended by class designer Julian Bethwaite. We had also established a dialogue direct with our class sail maker, Ian McDiarmid.

Whilst I wish I had more to report as tangible outcomes from those discussions, in more recent months through the collective efforts of the ATC, Phillip Potter and Stuart Templeton – direct engagement with NB Sailsports has increased significantly and we hope to be able to present to the membership a more sustainable sail price outcome in early 2021. We'll continue to use the quarterly teleconference facility to report back our progress or consider new options if

necessary that still achieve our aim of increasing participation whilst protecting the important one design ethos of our class.

In closing, I wish to give thanks to Blaise Vinot who was elected to the ATC executive in 2018 and has made a 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 2020 has been a difficult year for community sport with COVID restrictions hampering major events across the country. I wish all members a brighter 2021 with more opportunities for domestic sailing. Stay safe!

Nicole Kidman President, Australian Tassar Council

4 December 2020