

# TASAR Association of NSW

## Winter 2025 News



# tasar

Membership renewal for the 25/26 season is now open! - <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/nswtasar/registration>

## New TANSW Executive

The TANSW Annual General Meeting took place on the 20th of May and was conducted as an on-line meeting with 20 attendees. A big thank you must be given to the past executive for their fine work throughout the year.

The new executive for the coming 25/26 year are as follows -

<b>President</b>	Heather Forton	heather@balfor.net
<b>Vice President</b>	Sean Mullin	s.mullin@rocksolid.com.au
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Balass	john@balfor.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Peter Warde	peterswarde@gmail.com
<b>Registrar</b>	Michael O'Brien	obrienmj.o@gmail.com
<b>Race Secretary</b>	Neil Temperley	neil.temperley@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Brad Schafferius	brad.schafferius@bigpond.com
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Dani Caruso	danicaruso@hotmail.com
<b>Social Secretary</b>	Pia Lehtonen-Davies	piald@icloud.com

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## Provisional Calendar

The committee is working hard to lock in place sailing events for the 25/26 season. The TANSW events listed below are indicative only and will be confirmed as soon as practicle.

20th to 24th Oct	Aust. Masters Games	Canberra YC
26th Oct	Metro Trophy 1*	Georges River SC
15th & 16th Nov	Travellers Trophy 1*	Canberra YMCA SC
22nd & 23rd Nov	Celebrating 50 Years*	Northbridge SC
	TT2 & MT2	
13th Dec	Teams Event*	Balmoral SC
12th to 16th Jan	Tasar Nationals	Wallaroo SC
31st Jan	Metro Trophy 3*	Dobroyd SC
7th & 8th Feb	Travellers Trophy 3*	Port Macquarie SC
28th Feb & 1st Mar	TANSW State Titles*	Lake Macquarie

\* TANSW Sanctioned Event



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## NSW Tasar crews are off to Lake Garda for the Worlds!

Ten crews from NSW are competing in the European and World Championships scheduled for the 14th to the 21st July at Lake Garda, Italy. All ten boats were loaded into a container on the 29th of March. With fingers crossed, the crews are tracking the progress of the container which should arrive on site at Garda around two weeks before the event.

It's a massive logistics exercise to ship boats overseas. Heather Forton and John Balass deserve much of the credit for making this happen. Lake Garda is renowned as one of the most stunning venues for sailboat racing in Europe. With crews coming from around the world to compete, it should be a fantastic event. Best wishes go to all ten NSW crews!

Follow the action on [www.circolovelaarco.com/](http://www.circolovelaarco.com/)

## Australian National Championship heading to SA!

The Decision has been taken to hold the 2026 Australian Tasar Championship in South Australia!

The Nationals will run over 5 days from 12th to 16th January inclusive at Wallaroo Sailing Club. Measurement on the 12th will be followed by 4 days of racing for a total of 8 races. For those who intend to participate we recommend looking for accommodation as soon as possible as this will be peak summer season.

Entry forms and further details can be found on [www.tasar.org](http://www.tasar.org).



# Celebrating 50 Years!

*2025 marks the 50th anniversary of the launch of the Tasar dinghy. Over that time, the Tasar has become one of the most successful designs to come out of Australia and is raced worldwide.*

*TANSW is holding a special event to celebrate this milestone at the spiritual home of the Tasar, Northbridge Sailing Club, on the 22nd and 23rd of November.*

*There will be racing both days as well as other fun activities. As well, TANSW has created a special range of merchandise to commemorate the event which will be available for on-line ordering in the proceeding months.*

*It would be fantastic to see a large turnout for this event! We're looking forward to seeing you there! Keep an eye out for more details.*



## Tuning Tips

For more than a decade, Rick Longbottom along with his sailing partner Darryl Bentley, have consistently been in the podium places in Tasar championships. I had the pleasure of sitting with him as he shared his thoughts on how he sets the centreboard height across the wind ranges and how it affects the performance of the Tasar.

*"Fundamentally the centreboard on a Tasar is bigger than what is required, so the challenge is figuring out how much board in the water you need for the prevailing wind conditions, balancing the need for height against acceleration. From the moment you become overpowered (upwind), the board has to start coming up". "Our objective is to sail the boat as flat as possible and ensure that the boat accelerates in the gusts". "We will choose to set the board lower on starts to ensure we can tough out the pinching that occurs off the line, but will then set it higher at the first opportunity". "In some circumstances, we may continue to optimize the height up the beat but it's got to be weighed against the impact of Darryl having to come in to do it." "In the upper wind strengths, we could have it as high as 16" (40cm)." "You just have to remember, if you are getting into tacking duels, it's much harder for the crew to get from one side of the boat to the other with the board up." "It's hard to be prescriptive as to what is the right board height for any boat." "Crew weight, how hard you sheet the main, how you play the traveler, cunningham and rig tension all play their part in where you set it". "We don't particularly worry about putting measure marks on the board, but that's probably because we've been doing this for some time. They are a good idea though." "For us it's feel. Is the boat accelerating in the gust rather than just heeling. Are we sailing at an optimal VMG?". "On the reaches and runs, we will pull the board up to both reduce drag, increase maneuverability and increase acceleration. However, if the wind and seaway are up, there is always the risk of having the boat slide out underneath you if the board is too high." "This gets down to careful risk management. Is the board going to slow you down too much if it's 75mm lower? I don't think so." "You rarely win races by capsizing!".*

**Thanks Rick!**





## ***Win A New Sail!***

Apart from the obvious incentives of experiencing great racing and enjoying the company of wonderful people, the TANSW is also giving participants in both the Travellers and Metro Trophy series an opportunity to win a new sail. How does it work? Quite simply! For every race you start in both the Travellers and Metro Trophy series, you earn one ticket in the draw for a new sail. Start in one race, earn one ticket. Start in five races, earn five tickets. You don't have to win a race! You just need to turn up and enjoy the racing!

The draw will take place following the final Travellers Trophy race of the 25/26 season.



## ***New 50 Year Celebration Merchandise Now Available For Order !***

***We've created a range of merchandise just for the 50 year celebration! Available in both men's and ladies sizes in a range of colours. They're freely available for ordering up the end of August so order now!***

***Go to [www.shoresideclothing.com.au](http://www.shoresideclothing.com.au) Type "Tasar" into the search bar to see the complete range.***

## ***Be part of the celebration!***



## ***We would love to hear from you! .....***

The TANSW executive would love to get some feedback from you. Our goal is to increase the participation in Tasar sailing and to help maximise the enjoyment of everyone taking part. We can only achieve that if we are aligned to the thoughts of our members.

***Are we holding enough and the right types of events?***

***Are there other locations where we should be holding events?***

***Do you want to see more coaching days?***

***What can we do to promote the class better?***

As well, if you have a Tasar sitting in your garage unused and you are not in the position to sail anymore, let us know. There are always people looking to buy a good Tasar. If you are not sailing as you can't find a crew to sail with, also let us know. We are here to help!

If you have any thoughts on this, or any other feedback for us, please take the time to contact us through our secretary, Peter ([peterswarde@gmail.com](mailto:peterswarde@gmail.com)).