



International Finn Association of Australia Inc.
PO Box 5391
Manly
Queensland, 4179

18th December 2019

PRESIDENTS REPORT

This year has been an extremely busy year for the Finn Executive with the 2019 Finn Gold Cup being the high point. This is the fifth time Australia has hosted the Gold Cup and the fourth time for Victoria. I would like to personally thank the organising committee and in particular Andre Blasse for coordinating the measurement process.

Our membership and financial position continue to increase with the challenge of continuing this growth no lost on the executive. Qld has led the way in growing their fleet primarily through good communication, utilising Social Media (Facebook & Messenger). Simply communicating on Messenger who is sailing when and openly sharing notes and learnings have been key. Several coached training sessions with Oli Tweddell, Jake Lilley and in the past with Brendon Casey has helped gel the group and inspire others. I would suggest other fleets follow this lead and hire a leading sailor to coach a group for a day or two. You might be surprised at the results.

The efforts of many Finn supporters around the world should be recognised and thanked for the #SAVE THE FINN campaign. Your Finn executive and others have been working behind the scenes to do what we can to keep the Finn in the Olympics beyond 2020. The IOC have the final say and can choose not accept World Sailings recommendations. I understand they have until 2021 to announce the classes sailing in Paris 2024. Geraldo Seeliger (President of Honor of IFA) is standing for President of World Sailing at the 2020 elections. This can only be good for the Finn Class.

Class Promotion – with the growing membership base and cash reserves your committee is committed to giving the membership greater benefits be it subsidised coaching or money towards a Social Occasion. \$500 per state per annum is available and we urge you to write to your executive with a proposal.

At the 2019 Qld State Championship in July we had a tremendous long lunch on the Saturday following racing which started at 8:30am and concluded at 11:30am to utilise the overnight land breeze and enjoy a balmy afternoon with friends and family in the restaurant at RQYS. The Association picked up half the tab and club the other half from regatta profits. This is a great example of how to pull your group together. The same format is planned for July 2020 State Championship.

Next Nationals – We have a proposal from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club to conduct the 2021 Finn Nationals 11-15 January 2021 at very reasonable rate and with suitable facilities. At the time of writing this we have not received any other formal offers.

State Championships – Local fleets are reminded it is your responsibility to organise your own State Championship. Please don't rely on the IFAA Executive to do this for you. We will assist in any way we can and help you promote the event via direct email and Social Media but in the end, it is your event to organise and manage.

Finally, please join me in thanking Amanda Coates (Treasurer) and David Bull (Secretary) for again doing a Stella job throughout the year. David and Amanda have been a joy to work with and extremely diligent and professional in their dealings. Thank you to the membership for your trust and we look forward to another great year of Finn Sailing.

Yours Faithfully,

Phil Chadwick
President
International Finn Association of Australia Inc.