



# Oxley Sailing Club Inc.

142 Leybourne St.  
Chelmer 4068  
Ph. 3379 1320  
OxleySC@gmail.com

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Mr. Norman Fry  
Yachting Queensland  
PO Box 5462  
Manly QLD 4179

Dear Norm,

Thanks for circulating the Draft Membership Fee proposal. The OSC committee has discussed this and it is currently being circulated among the members. Should further comments come from the members these will sent through to you.

Firstly, we support the idea of "User Pays" and accept the position that "non Sailing Members" may have been subsidising the sailing members both under the old fee structure and under the current banding system. OSC is currently recovering \$60/\$20 YQ Capitation fees for Adult and Junior members as part of our fee structure which can be found at <http://oxleysc.googlepages.com/membershipform2008-2009.pdf>. Typically, an adult Laser sailor at OSC is paying \$346 per year to sail at OSC. Our fees have deliberately been kept low to encourage, not discourage membership. Our membership is still falling as we have been unable to retain our junior fleet after completing the learn-to-sail classes.

However, the problem for YQ as we see it, is that our members see absolutely no benefit from being associated with YQ. So it will be the benefits you will need to address and sell to have any sort of success with this revised proposal at member level.

In addressing the 23 benefits list in Annex A the following comments are made.

SER	BENEFIT	COMMENT
1	Voting at member level.	OK in principal but any of the larger clubs could simply dictate the outcome due to numbers.
2,3,4,5,	Silver Card and various insurance packages	This may be a benefit but members may already have acceptable cover in all areas in which case this is duplication. We would really need to see the policy document before commenting further.
6	10% Discount on Boat Insurance Suncorp, OAMPS	10% discount on comprehensive insurance for those that want it is good. But this will also include Public Liability, so is this duplication. What's more OSC current spends \$6000 pa on insurance some of which is Public Liability so again is this duplication.
7	Business Discounts	OK, but lets stick to Sailing. My company already

		gets considerably more than 10% of Hertz.
8	50% off YQ courses	A real benefit, assuming the fee structure is not increased to compensate.
9	One recovery Rescue fee.	No problems with this but most unlikely to be used at OSC.
10	Sail Magazines	We all buy them so the discount would be welcome. Will the magazines survive if their revenue drops 40%?
11.	Free Entry to Seminars and workshops.	This is fine providing it is of equal benefit to all clubs and members or effectively one member will be subsidising another. Why not just charge for this and reduce the Capitation fee.
12	Free Quarterly YQ Journal	Good luck if you ever tried to sell them.
13	Free State Squad Level training	Great if you are in the squad! Otherwise this is one member being subsidised by others.
14	Free YQ Coaching Clinics	Fantastic. Can you please detail the conditions of entry, expected numbers and type of clinics when available.
15	Free YQ Library .	Good
16,17,18	Annual report etc.	As would be expected by any state body.
19	Two Free night accommodation at YQ Manly.	Great. But who from OSC would really use this.
20. 21	Entry in Members Monthly Draw. Annual Fee Draw .	A raffle. Does that mean other members are making up the shortfall?
22	IRC Cert Measurement.	OK
Annex B.	Other Benefits	Most of this you would expect from any State/National body these days. Some of the "My Club" services we have found difficult to use and opted for our own. How many clubs or members are using it and is it worth while continuing?

Also, Some comments on the new structure:-

- Direct Individual Membership - OSC has no problem with this, but is this the most cost effective way for YQ to manage. Would it not be simpler if the clubs remitted the funds and reduce your administration.
- YQ Membership Levels- OSC accepts these, but changes would need to be made to the club structure to align with YQ.
- Value of Membership - The draft fee level is completely unacceptable to OSC. We appreciate this is a draft, but anything like these fee levels cannot be supported. We do not know what percentage of revenue is currently provided by "Non Sailing Members" but suggest YQ may have to scale down services substantially to compensate when this is lost.

- Please clarify AB Adult Membership. At OSC, being a small club, duties are shared. Sailors in turn perform rescue boat duties, starting duties Officer of the Day. Also, we have Non Sailing volunteers operating as starters, and in canteen. OSC considers that a Non Sailing Volunteer, usually a retired person, should pay no fee. Sailing members who in turn perform these duties should be considered for the reduce fee of AB as apposed to AA Level
- YQ/YA annual fees for Instructors/coaches who work at a club level on purely non profit/volunteer basis should be removed completely
- Value of Affiliation - Unfortunately, many members see little value in affiliation. There is simply not enough focus on grass route sailing. The perception is the all the funds go to the elite sailors in Olympic or sub Olympic classes. Example- OSC has not seen a representative from QY for 6 years at OSC. Frankly, although OSC is foundling member of QYA (YQ) if OSC had withdrawn from YQ it would have made very little difference to the club operation. Please understand this alternative has been discussed more than once in the past.
- Club Support for Individual. OSC is reluctant to play policeman with regards banning non YQ members from sailing. There needs to be a system to address Learn to Sail classes, Open Days, Come and Try days, visitors from other clubs.

I have endeavored to remain positive in doing this, but for a small club with dwindling membership numbers it is difficult.

Yours sincerely,

Peter R Triggell  
Commodore Oxley Sailing Club