



Townsville Sailing Club Inc

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5 November 2008

The Executive Officer
Yachting Queensland
By facsimile: 3393 6799
BRISBANE

Dear Sir,

RE: SUBMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL

The Townsville Sailing Club membership has discussed the proposal forwarded in your letter dated 18 September 2008. After carefully considering the matter the Townsville Sailing Club makes the following submissions in relation to that proposal :-

1. With a membership of less than 100 and a basic Clubhouse, we consider the Townsville Sailing Club to be a grass roots club manned entirely by volunteers with no commercial source of income. We can find nothing in the membership proposal put up by Yachting Queensland that would be helpful to us at this grass roots level.
2. The proposal would result in Townsville Sailing Club membership capitation fees rising by some 400% (on 2008-09 level) This fee increase would result in reduced membership as the majority of members are recreational sailors.
3. Of all the proposed benefits listed in the Yachting Queensland Proposal, the membership can find no specific demonstrable benefit to the majority of Townsville Sailing Club members.
4. If the proposed benefits are in keeping with the record of Yachting Queensland in the past, the membership are very sceptical about Yachting Queensland's ability to deliver on the promises set out in their proposal.
5. The membership considers that there must be a better state membership model either amongst the state associations of other sailing fraternities or amongst the state bodies of other sports.
6. Within the proposal there are no key performance indicators by which the delivery of the promised benefits could be measured at the end of each sailing season.
7. If there are no obvious benefits to a state association under the new proposal, then it would be more economical that the sport be governed only by the national association and not by a state body. Having said that, the membership cannot point to any direct benefits to them as individuals that result from membership of the national body either. However

the feeling was that it is better to subscribe to one peak body for no benefit than to two. It must be said in praise of the staff of Yachting Queensland that in years past they have done their best to be of as much assistance as possible to our club. However in more recent years the boundaries and formats within which they must work have tightened so much that the activities they have been able to provide have been uneconomical and the club has taken over organising these events on its own.

8. Members of our club have in the past been members of the Queensland Yachting Association Board and even delegates at Australian Yachting Federation meetings. However in today's environment even those members cannot point to any worthwhile benefits in their affiliation with Yachting Queensland under the new proposal.

Therefore Townsville Sailing Club's proposal in relation to this new membership model would be to abandon the entire model and look to other sports or state associations for a more workable solution.

Yours faithfully,
Townsville Sailing Club Inc

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Byrne', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Byrne
Secretary