

**1. Looking at the LBYC racing calendar, is there anything you would like changed? i.e. the types of races held, when they are held.**

**If yes, then what suggestions do you have to make racing at LBYC more appealing?**

*I would prefer fewer long harbours and more sprint racing personally but think that it's probably right for the Club overall as the variety caters for different preferences.*

**2. What would entice you to race at our next LBYC regattas? Rum regatta in November 2017; Sail Wellington in February 2018 (20<sup>th</sup> anniversary).**

*expect to be there anyway. More and earlier marketing is needed within LBYC and in other Clubs. More boats from other clubs would be the ideal and is what would most distinguish the events from other racing. Otherwise it's a normal day sailing really just with prizes and fees. I'd be happy to make entry free to any boat that hasn't competed at LBYC before, guarantee a bottle or rum to every visiting boat, or something else to get their attention and entice them.*

**3. We are considering reinstating 2-3 drops for the championship series. Do you agree with this?**

Yes

**4. The 3 Wellington Keeler/trailer yacht clubs would like more interclub racing and are organising a 6 race series i.e. 2 race days at each of Lowry Bay / Port Nicholson / Evans Bay yacht clubs. Would you be interested in this? It would involve some Saturday sailing.**

*I'd want to support it and to race against other boats but I already feel there is too much sailing and want to have at least one weekend a month off so yes but only if it will fit. If it was in May/June and we are on fortnightly racing then I'd probably be keen if it was every second one of the weeks currently off. Otherwise we would need to drop something else out to make room for this. . If it's important enough for us to do this then we should, drop out another series if we have to, eg make it like the old combined winter series. Perhaps a 3 race series would fit better? Saturday would be OK for me and I think my crew if they are not racing Sunday too that week so I'd be happy to make every one of these races a Saturday if it's needed for the other clubs. If in winter then perhaps an earlier start time and berths arranged so that we go to each others' bars after the race rather than head off to get back well before dark/cold. A 10.30 or 11.00AM start time with the host club putting a free lunch on might ensure a good turn out and social activity rather than turning around and heading straight back to their home bases. In short, yes I am keen but only if I'm still left with at least one weekend a month for a non-sailing weekend.*

## 1. Overall calendar

In general the calendar is damn good, and I appreciate that it is inevitably a compromise between different preferences.

- My impression is that the number of events has crept up. I am not looking for more events and indeed give away one or two Sunday races a year because I don't need as many as are scheduled
- Best are the Friday night and Summer, Spring and Winter races
- It is best if the Summer, Spring and Winter series are not spread over too long a period.
- I like that the Sprint race days are now spread throughout the year but would be happy with only one or two. I usually schedule anti-fouling over one when we have three.
- I don't need 4 Long Harbour Races
- This season, the racing went too close to Christmas. I am not interested in racing after the first weekend in December - if then
- Would like to have a crew or at home race at a time other than close to Christmas or over a public holiday weekend.
- Avoid having reserve days.

## 2. Regatta attendance

- I wish we would stop trying so hard with the regattas. We have been trying to get attendance up for 10 years and it never works. It makes participation feel like a duty.
- I really don't care about sponsorship and prizes - in fact I find it a disincentive
- When we didn't have racing fees, I was happy to pay for regattas as a contribution to racing costs. Now we have racing fees, regattas feel like an expensive day out.
- Rename the Sail Wellington. It means nothing and sounds boring.
- Main determinant of participation is that I am more likely to participate if they are not in the middle of an already busy schedule.

## 3. Drops for Championship series

- I don't try for the Championship series. It feels too like a participation contest.
- I might (but might not) feel differently about this if results were published during the year so I can see how I am doing.
- I can't answer your specific question because the results are not accessible so I can't see what the impact would be.

## 4. Interclub racing

- I am not interested in going over to other clubs for racing.
- Pedro mentioned there might be a joint Island Bay race. I may be interested in this.
- I wouldn't want the proposed programme to interfere with our Summer, Spring and Winter Series (including making each series more spread out in time).

- **1. Suggested Changes to Sailing Programme for 2017/18.**
- a. **The Pursuit Championship** has proved to be our most popular event with 36 competitors over the championship: Series A 27, B 31, C 24, and D 17. Of the 20 races scheduled over 4 Series of 5 races each, 14 races were sailed (a 70% completion rate): A 4, B 4, C 3, D 3. As there's little kudos in winning a 3 race series, I suggest a **reduction to 3x series of 6-7 races each** and anticipate an average of 4-5 races being completed per series. **Change names to Spring, Summer and Autumn Pursuit Series.**
- b. **Drop the Woman's Series and replace with a Crew Series.** There's no need to have a sex based racing as we already have heaps of women as skippers/helms competing regularly, viz BoJangles, Chickadee, Smokie, Am Meer, Out to Lunch.
- c. **Add a Saturday Night Series of 2-3 races** as a lead-in to the 24 Hour Race.
- d. **Include the Sprint Series in the Season Championships for the Cruising Division.** This season Cruising Division boats were well represented in both Sprints and the Rum Regatta.
- **2. Participation in Regattas.** BoJangles crew were committed to race management for both regattas this season.
- **3. Drops.**
- a. **Regattas & Race Series.** Sailing Instructions for the current season have included drops for both regattas and our 6 race Summer and Winter Series. Drops balance out participation and sailing scores. Without drops participation may be rewarded ahead of good sailing. Without drops bad luck and one-off bad races may unreasonably penalise an otherwise high performing boat.
- b. **Championships.** This season there are no drops in either the Season or Pursuit Championships: all races count toward the championships, even races dropped in the Summer and Winter Series. I believe this unreasonably rewards participation ahead of good sailing. As a dnc score is typically far bigger than a below par race score, a dnc has to be avoided if you are a serious championship contender. However, at times life gets in the way of racing, even for the most hardened competitors. This has already been recognised for Season Championship racing where there's one non-racing Sunday per month [although there's no similar respite for the Friday Pursuit Championship].
- c. **I support the reintroduction of 2-3 drops** for both the Season and Pursuit Championships. I believe championships Gross Scores should be the total of championship series Nett Scores, and drops should be applied to Gross Scores to arrive at Final Scores.
- **4. Inter-Club Series.**

- a. BoJangles has no interest in crossing the harbour 4 times to race in other clubs Saturday events.
- b. The 3 clubs have consistently failed to attract foreign boats. And whilst Interclub idea may appeal to a few of our fleet, I believe many of our regulars will reject participation – Saturdays and harbour crossings.
- c. The idea of starting the Interclub Series with 3x Opening Days on consecutive weekends will adversely affect the beginning of our 2017/18 season. Following our Sunday Opening there would be two Saturday Opening Days across the harbour followed by Labour Weekend. Is our Spring program to be delayed a month, or do we schedule Sunday racing on the same weekends as other club's openings?
- d. The whole concept of a 6 race series with mixed Saturday/Sunday racing is flawed and unlikely to achieve its goal of increasing cross-harbour participation in other clubs events.

**1. Looking at the LBYC racing calendar, is there anything you would like changed? i.e. the types of races held, when they are held.**

No urgent changes required.

Perhaps talk about the club entering a crew in the wine race or brothers race. Crew from smaller boats could perhaps assist with a big boat challenge.

Perhaps a "trailer yacht day for non-members". Skippers and crew from the club could support people in the trailer park who do not have racing experience.

I would like us to replace the women's race with a novice race. If we are set on having a women's race series, then we should also have a men's race series. Basically I think any race series based on gender is an out of date concept.

I would like to see more fully crewed race on Sunday afternoon during the non winter months. Maybe a second sprint series, or better - an autumn series.

I like the way it is - although I am not keen on Wednesday evening races.

All looks good to us thanks

We love the Wednesday night sailing , but this year we only had 2 boats in each series by the end of it ... would it be better to drop one (2 handed or fully crewed) and make them combine for bigger fleet perhaps.

**2. What would entice you to race at our next LBYC regattas? Rum regatta in November 2017; Sail Wellington in February 2018 (20<sup>th</sup> anniversary).**

The usual advertising and race management

I like the existing regattas. It would be good to co-ordinate with other clubs as the event success depends upon the number of boats involved.

I'm not sure. It's just a personal preference that I'm not keen on regattas.

SWR – run on one day like the Rum

For me the regattas are very dependent - need to know that there will be a good cruising fleet as we are certainly not competitive in the combined. Probably would like to engage in the regattas more to develop race officer skills.

Lower the cost ! I thought that the Sail Wellington Regatta was too expensive being \$125 for each boat, in our case being a trailer yacht and only 2 crew at the time ! Sure when you have in excess of 5-6 crew it's all good as the cost is shared, but maybe should be made cheaper for trailer Yachts or short handed crews perhaps ? (that was the main reason why we did not attend that regatta this year)

Meanwhile the Rum Regatta was only \$70 per boat and you got a bottle of Rum at the end of it ... reducing the cost to about \$35 if you really think about it !! so all good for that one.

But I have to ask why would you need to change the date of the Rum regatta to November ?, May is a far more settled month of weather than November for sailing regattas - Andy and myself tend to call that our peak windsurfing weather month !

**3. We are considering reinstating 2-3 drops for the championship series. Do you agree with this?**

I agree

Yes I agree with dropping 2-3 races. We need to maintain interest in the championship to keep it going. Personally I prefer not to sail in big winds.

No. I like that the championship is based on stamina. It encourages people to get out and race as much as they can

Only if there is a 15 race or more threshold before the drops phase in progressively (ie 1 drop for every 2-3 races completed after 15 races initially completed).

Yes - the championship needs to be more focused on worthy winners not regular participants

Wholeheartedly agree with this, everyone needs to be able to take a break from sailing, whether it be holidays, burnout, or even the common cold - and still be in contention of placing high in the series. I think if you have at least 5 or more races being sailed in a series you should be able to drop one of those races - especially for the major series such as Spring/Summer & Winter Series .... and even have a drop for the Friday night overall combined Series Trophy - as it is a lot of Friday nights and not everyone should be expected to make it to all of them .

**4. The 3 Wellington Keeler/trailer yacht clubs would like more interclub racing and are organising a 6 race series i.e. 2 race days at each of Lowry Bay / Port Nicholson / Evans Bay yacht clubs. Would you be interested in this? It would involve some Saturday sailing.**

Good idea. May come at the cost of people's availability on Sunday races.

I definitely like the idea of interclub racing.

YES

**GREAT IDEA. COOPERATION WITH OTHER LOCAL CLUBS WILL BENEFIT ALL OF US**

Probably. Subject to Saturday work schedule and crew availability

No not interested

We would have to think about this one as we have dinghy sailing on the Saturday but YES, I think White Heat would be keen to join in the fun, would be a great way to sail against some new boats / meet some new people. If we sail on the Saturday would there be sailing on the Sunday as well ? Would it then compromise another series to allow for this ?

## **Any other comments?**

**FOR THE 24-HOUR ENDURANCE YACHT RACE, WHICH IS PLANNED FOR THE WEEKEND OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH. THIS SHOULD ALSO BE COMMUNICATED TO OTHER YACHT CLUBS IN THE REGION.**

**THE LONG HARBOUR RACES COULD BE PROMOTED MORE STRONGLY AND OTHER CLUBS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THEM. WOULD BE GREAT TO SEE YACHTS FROM OTHER CLUBS ENTERING.**

**ALSO, THERE MAY BE A GOOD CASE TO RE-INTRODUCE THE ISLAND BAY RACE, EITHER AS A STAND-ALONE RACE OR AS PART OF THE LONG HARBOUR RACE SERIES**

There is one more thing I want to say, particularly in respect of the Sail Wellington Regatta and the Rum Regatta. If we want more participation in these regattas we need to promote them much harder, much more effectively. Promoting these regattas will need to start many weeks before they actually take place. Create 'build-up', create expectation, skippers need to be enticed to take part. Make it worthwhile.

One more comment. Perhaps the Sailing Committee will need to consider whether it wants to continue with two regattas. People are busy, the racing calendar is very full and perhaps it is better to put the club's efforts and resources in just the one regatta. I have no preference for which one, but it may be more attractive for sponsors (particularly sponsors with naming rights) if they can be the 'hero' for this major event. It is also easier for the Sailing Committee to 'sell' sponsorships, if there is just one regatta.

Overall I think it's a good balanced program that endeavours to meet the various demands of clubmembers.

I wonder if there could be more races like the Friday pursuit - still competitive but lower key - to encourage more boats to sail. Not sure how tho

1/ I would say no to two day regattas, It is very hard to get crew for 2 days, would prefer a 1 day with potential for a reserve day. Both Sail Wgtn and Rum are better as 1 day events....with reserve for bad weather.

2/ Also a no to the 4 long harbour races....again for obtaining crew reasons. 3 is plenty.

3/ Agree that drops be reinstated for championship.

4/ Would like to see greater recognition for Line honours.

5/ Not sure if we need a women's series, what is the target market?

6/The Antarctic challenge seems to have died, so why include it in the programme

7/ Not interested in sailing a 6 race series at Evans Bay or Port Nick etc, makes for a long day getting there and back.