

Strategic plan for the Otago Yacht Club 2021- 2023

Role

The Otago Yacht Club provides the principal base in southern New Zealand for coastal racing and cruising for keelboats and launches. It has a strong trailer yacht division and supports keeler, centreboard, multihull sailing and racing, as well as running an active sailing school. The Club is the site for major regattas held on Otago Harbour and the base for the sailing activities of many Dunedin schools.

It has a fine clubhouse at the Magnet Street Boat Harbour. Membership is drawn from the wider Dunedin community. Through sailing, boat maintenance and social activities, the Club fosters a strong sense of community amongst its members.

Aims

The Club's aims are to:

- sustain its leadership in southern New Zealand in all forms of sailing, including centreboard, trailer yacht, keeler, cruising and racing
- provide coaching in sailing skills at all levels and leadership in safe sailing
- provide a quality slip yard and other facilities for boat maintenance and storage
- progressively enhance its facilities including the development of a modern marina with the provision of a safe deep-water marine berthage for members' and visitors' yachts
- foster a sociable Club community, to grow the membership
- provide regular communications to members of Club activities

Resources

The resources are appropriate to the Club's aims and include an active sailing school, clubhouse, a major haul out facility along with a trailer yacht lifter, four safety boats, a centreboard fleet, trailer yachts and a multihull. The Club has over 200 financial members, comprising families, individuals, juniors and some schools.

Constraints

Size of the harbour and site

Continuing siltation in the harbour and its entrance demands an ongoing maintenance programme

Workload imposed by complying with local and national regulations

Ongoing maintenance of facilities that are ageing within a hostile environment

Actions to be taken in the next planning cycle

The Club has conducted an analysis of its strengths and weaknesses. The following actions have been taken or are being planned for the next three years to ensure that the Club continues to meet its aims as stated above.

Clubroom refurbishment

Currently we are receiving quotations and advice for the installation of heat pumps. Additional chairs will be purchased.

Pontoon improvements

The work on new and replacement pontoons is continuing. The Club will continue to look at ways of modernising its berthing facilities according to demand.

The aim is to be able to provide modern finger berths, while retaining some pile moorings.

Dredging

Dredging is recognised as a preventative maintenance requirement and will be an ongoing process, dependent on cost and suitable equipment being available.

Caretaker/Manager's house

The Club will continue to monitor the condition of the house and repair/improve as and when necessary. It is planned to carry out the following refurbishments, replace the flooring in the laundry room which is in poor condition, upgrade the downstairs washroom, replace carpet at the front door with hard-wearing floor tiles.

Changing rooms

The Club will continue to aim at improving the facilities.

Washdown facilities

This is an ongoing project, due to several issues regarding environmental and construction requirements. The Committee is well aware of the importance of this project and envisages more progress in the 2021-2022 year.

Sailing

The Club plans to continue in its mission to increase membership and promote and encourage sailing in its various forms on the harbour and beyond. Funds have been allocated to maintain Club yachts, rescue boats, yard and clubhouse facilities to meet the needs of members and make it attractive to potential new members.

The Strategic Plan is reviewed and updated each year and the plans and targets evolve with time and can change from those set in previous years. We encourage all members to refer to the plan along with the SWOT analysis. Constructive input from members is encouraged.

Appendices

History

The Otago Yacht Club was first established in 1869. Early activities were dominated by motor launches in the harbour and keel yachts in coastal racing. The Club has consistently supported a mix of boats and activities, boosted with the advent of trailer yachts in the 1960s. More recently the purchase of a new support vessel has enabled continuous growth in dinghy sailing, including links with local schools. The Club runs an active sailing school where hundreds of children and adults have learned to sail and continues to have a racing syllabus for all classes.

Facilities

The clubhouse and its attendant facilities make a popular venue for regattas. The Club's facilities cater for boats of 8-15 m overall length, which include pontoon berths and a number of pile moorings. Up to 50 trailer boats can be parked on land.

The club has the following facilities:

- 30 sailing dinghies to cope for a wide range of abilities
- 2 trailer yachts

- 4 safety/instructor craft
- Haul out and hardstand facilities for launches and keelers up to 12 tonne and a trailer boat lifter.
- A well-furbished clubhouse used for Club functions and for hire to conferences and other groups.
- The grounds include a picnic area, members' showers and toilets that are shared with the public.

Management

An honorary committee manages the Club's affairs. Elected annually from the membership at an annual general meeting usually held in July, it is comprised of three flag officers, secretary, treasurer, together with eight ordinary members.

The committee's decisions are guided by the Strategic Plan in accordance with the Club's rules. The Club is self-managed.

The Caretaker/Manager lives in a house provided on site.

Assets and Liabilities

Fixed Assets: Buildings and sheds (total insured value \$2.8 million), together with boats (value \$166,000) and other plant and equipment (value \$330,000).

Voluntary assets: The regular contribution to sailing school and to maintenance work by members, who collectively offer a wide range of sailing, professional and trade skills, is a significant asset.

Income and expenditure: Currently, the Club's annual income comes from membership, mooring and yard fees, together with clubhouse hire, but fluctuates with live-aboard and haul-out activity. Expenditure includes the costs of salaries (caretaker/manager together with casual part time secretarial assistance), annual ground-lease, insurance, affiliation fees, and costs of routine maintenance of buildings and boatyard. In many years, a small surplus has added to the Club's consolidated fund. The Club applies to registered charities for grants towards specific projects.

Liabilities: Maintenance of pontoons, depth of water in the harbour, haul out facilities, buildings and boats.