

## **Sub Committee report on structure and governance of KCC Learn to Sail and Centreboard program – July 2018.**

Sub Committee members:

- Peter Wilson
- Dean Smith
- Ric McCready

### **1. Discussion - Structure and Governance:**

KCC Learn to Sail is currently governed by the KCC Centreboard committee that reports to the KCC General Committee. Future operations can continue to run in this way or could be setup at separate entity. A separate non-profit entity may be beneficial for funding applications and may provide a clear separation from the KCC club and marina assets.

To date Centreboard programs have been almost solely dependent on the ebb and flow of enthusiastic parents and volunteers. What have been the key factors to the good performance of LTS courses over past few years?

- When Doug France was Commodore he put great focus and effort on youth programs as the future of the club.
- Have had a good group of coaches and volunteers.
- Americas cup success and high-profile local sailors have made sailing attractive to kids.
- Good economic times means parents have time and money.

What are the limitations of the current structure?

- Recent funding applications have been rejected as the club is seen as having too many assets and the marina refurbishment fund is seen as cash in the bank.
- Organisation and administration resources are stretched, volunteers and admin staff effort would be difficult to sustain.
- Tidy up programs - Some programs and charges are very ad hoc, organisation and charging have been inconsistent.
- Assets - RIB's and CB boats are getting older and need to be maintained and upgraded if they are to last well.

### **Vision:**

To create a sustainable structure for KCC centreboard sailing programs that is professional, organised and makes a positive contribution to the KCC. This structure would be strongly supported by an expanded group of volunteers but not solely dependent on them. This will help even out the peaks and troughs experienced by many clubs.

### **Key roles:**

- Coordinator to handle scheduling of courses, communication with clients, organisation of coaches and volunteers, administration, marketing of programs, sponsorship, organising of boat maintenance, ensuring programs run smoothly.
- Volunteer coaches and helpers - use as many as possible to satisfy safety requirements and preferred student/ coach ratios.
- Professional coaching staff – contracted for various programs where volunteers not suitable or available, like how it is now.
- Maintenance - use more volunteers as much as possible for most tasks, may need skilled paid people or outsource for some tasks.

**Funding** – Aim is for operational costs to be covered by operational income and sponsorship and/or donations. Asset purchases may come from surplus operational income but more likely charitable grants and/or commercial sponsorship and donations.

Assets required - Support boats – Doves and Lake, Training boats - Doves and Lake, Storage and support – sheds, storage racks etc.

## **2. Discussion – What are the current and potential services we could provide:**

**Current** - Lake LTS1/LTS2, Doves Bay coaching – LTS3, single handed and 2 handed, Ladies LTS, Schools have a go day, School holiday programs.

**Potential** - Adult Centreboard LTS, Schools full LTS courses, Keelboat LTS, High performance training, Keri High Sailing Academy/Teams racing squad, High schools NCEA LTS courses, Schools STEM programs, Russell Coutts promoted Endeavour program.

### **Vision:**

1. To provide an introductory sailing experience to all 8-10-year-old primary school kids in the Mid-North area (Kawakawa-Kaitia). Includes Have a Go, Holiday Program etc.
2. To provide Learn to Sail courses at Level 1 and 2 for up to 24 students at each level.
3. To provide a range of progression options for students beyond LTS2 – LTS3, Team Sailing, Racing.
4. To provide Keelboat LTS program for both adults and progressing centreboard sailors.
5. To capture parents and family of centreboard sailors and get them involved in wider club activities - Club membership, Clubhouse restaurant, Keelboat racing, Cruises.

## **Recommendations:**

### **1. Create the role of Sailing Coordinator**

Key responsibilities would be:

- Admin – bookings, arrangements, payments.
- Promotion – CB courses and Keelboat.
- Arrange coaches and volunteers.
- Be backup coach in emergency
- Arrange boat maintenance – RIBs and CB boats
- Help with fundraising/ sponsorship.

Recommend that this be a paid role, could be part time role initially – need to look at options for funding but have already had some expressions of interest for seed funding for first year.

### **2. Maintain KCC governance**

Recommendation is to maintain KCC governance for the near future and revisit after another year of funding rounds.

Should there be a separate entity for LTS to improve access to funding? This would be helpful for funding applications but would introduce more complexity and administration. Keri Youth Sail and Sail Northland Trust are examples of this type of setup.

Funding efforts are getting better – Diedre White involved, club manager going to funding workshops etc. There is little reason other than funding to do this. A separate organisation would take extra effort to run and manage and has the added risk of losing control of assets and direction.

### **3. Investigate expansion of programs.**

Recommend that KCC investigate how programs can be expanded – possible areas:

- Keelboat LTS
- More/closer involvement with Keri High school and Keri Youth Sail
- Expand or improve structure of have a go programs and promote to schools.
- Work with other clubs on shared programs.

#### **4. Lake Manuwai venue access and use.**

The right to operate LTS activities at Lake Manuwai and the terms of use of the facilities need to be formalised with Keri Irrigation Company and Far North District Council. Key items:

- Right to access and operate Learn to Sail at Lake Manuwai.
- Facilities – toilets, shed, boats etc. need developing and need an agreed cost structure.
- The club owns the boat shed and changing rooms at lake Manuwai, plans need to be in place for maintenance and upgrade of these as required.

**Next step – take these recommendations back to general committee and see how they want to proceed.**