

QUEENSLAND SPORTING HOVERCRAFT CLUB

Branch of the Australian Hovercraft Federation Inc.

www.hovercraft.org.au www.qhover.com

E-mail: vk4khq@ozemail.com.au

President:	Ben Woodhead	Ph 0401 630638
Vice President:	Kim Craig	Ph 0434287615
Secretary:	AGM 11 April 2018 adjourned. No nominations	
Treasurer:	Phillip Audsley	Ph 33516429
Publicity:	Steve Stephens	Ph 0408 743231
Web-Master:	Arthur Stead	arthur@qhover.com
Growth & Fund-raising committee:		
James & Elisha King		jamesandking@bigpond.com
Karl Bowman		hoverhall@inet.net.au

Meeting Venue: Coopers Plains Library 107 Orange Grove Rd Coopers Plains Q 4108

Agenda:

Meeting opens 7 -30pm

Welcome to visitors.

Mail inwards and outwards:

QSH treasurer's report from Phil Audsley with apology. Unable to attend 15/5/2018

Time to consider a permanent home base by Kim Craig 17th May 2018

Reply to Kim Craig by James King on permanent versus mobile office 17th May 2018

Request to broker for club PLI policy to cover a syndicate of 20 ACVs by SS 17/5/18

Invitation to James King to stand for election to AHF committee as delegate 19/5/18

Rejection of nomination to stand as a delegate for AHF regional branch nor QSH club

Letter to State Ombudsman re complaints to NPSR now DES by James King 19/5/18

Steve Stephens suggested James King cc letter to Geoff Clare at DES 19/5/2018

How much do you value your waterways Survey via Steve Stephens 19/5/2018

List of Qld branch delegates sent to AHF president 19th May 2018

Request to Broker for Certificate of Currency noting DOTMR 20th May 2018

Confirmation that AHF proxy forms were sent out by Rachel Smithson 21st May 2018

Request for merchandise from Judy Bowman paid for at National Rally 2017.21/5/18

Qld State Rally promotion to MacIntyre Gazette Heidi and Lester 22nd May 2018

Following AGM, Bank form required to update signatures from Phil Audsley 25/5/18

AHF AGM Treasurer's report by Paul Moody 28th May 2018.

Cert of Currency noting Sunwater not adequate for Aquatic Permit application MSQ 28/5

Reply to Dieter Renisch from Natacha at Electorate Office for Leanne Linard MP 29/5 AHF

AGM agenda by Rachel Smithson 29th May 2018.

Application for Access to Sunwater Land for Event Qld State Rally mailed 29/5/2018

National Rally site proposal - Morgan by Bruno Davids of HCSA 30th May 2018

Consumer Affairs Victoria - New committee for AHF lodged 31st May 2018

AHF committee distribution list updated Paul Moody 1st June 2018.

AHF AGM draft minutes by Paul Moody 1st June 2018.

List of information on Product Disclosure for CGU to assess granting Cert of Curr. 1/6

Draft answers to Insurance Broker circulated to AHF committee for perusal 2 June 18

Paul Moddy suggested that I circulate insurance reply to all AHF delegates 3 June 18

Template letter to MPs Qld Marine Parks Permit grievances by James King 5/6/2018

Reply from Buck Rogers re Insurance questionnaire for Lake Coolmunda 6th June 18

Request for Aquatic Permit to finalise event application from Sunwater 8th June 2018.

Updated template re Qld Parks Permit grievances by James King 8th June 2018.

Debris Alert from QRBC via Steve Stephens 10th June 2018.

Letter to Insurance Broker to look at options for securing Cert of Currency "DTMR" 13/6

Letter to Geoff Clare of DES re QSH club code of practise by Steve Stephens 14/6

Agenda item from James King "Understanding the documents & dealing with DES" 14

Response from MSQ re Cert of Currency Must note DoTMR or MSQ not Sunwater 15/6

Date of next National Rally consideration for school holidays by Peter Streader 15/6

Cert of Currency by Insurance Broker for Lake Coolmunda. Sunwater Ltd noted 15/6/2018

Letter to Insurance broker that we require of Cert of Currency with MSQ noted 16/5/2018

Bank form for QSH club president to sign at a branch of Bank 17/6/2018

Certificate of Currency No 4 from Insurance Broker noting DOTMR issued 18/6/2018

QSH club newsletter from Steve Stephens mailed out 26/5/2018

HCV newsletter from Tony Westwood 31/5/2018

Treasurer's Report

Minutes from the meeting held at Coopers Plains library on Tuesday 15th May 2018 Attendance: Ben Woodhead, Kim Craig, Steven Odgaard, Michael Stephenson, Steve Stephens, Les Taylor, Dwayne Morgan, Angus Kerr, Larry Franks, Bill Toppin, Dieter Renisch, 11 Apologies: Phillip Audsley, Arthur Stead, Peter Venn,
Mail report and financial report by Ben Woodhead moved MS seconded Angus Kerr Minutes read by Ben Woodhead. Moved Bill Toppin seconded by Les Taylor.

Cruise report read by Michael Stephenson, Moved S Stephens sec by Dieter Renisch.

Business arising from previous minutes and new business read by Ben Woodhead QRBC report by Steve Stephens. Whales are coming in close to the Gold Coast

Boat Show 24th 25th 26th August 2018 10am to 8pm 10am to 6pm Sunday. Venue is Brisbane Convention Centre. Moved Angus Kerr, sec Bill Toppin carried 11 votes in favour of manning an exhibit this year.

State Rally events

Noise Test Les Taylor, Thrust Test Angus Kerr, Slalom Ben Woodhead, Orienteering Steven Odgaard, Point to Point Peter Venn,

Motion by James King Read by Ben Woodhead. Angus asked who is going to tow this large caravan? Need a truck to tow it. Rego and insurance?

Dwayne Morgan spoke on the subject of a caravan.

James King's fund raising and club growth committee including Elisha & Karl Passed Mobile Office Large Caravan with toilets, problems with towing and storage. (2 for 19 against). More value in purchasing a club ACV or safety boat (7 for 14 against)

Gaming fund motion - Yes unanimously. However discussion on dual legal identity. James, Elisha and Karl are authorised to enquire and propose fund application but may not act for QSH club until such application be perused and voted at following meetings. Discussion on whether the AHF Incorporated body could be represented via the AHF branch in lieu of the Qld state branch, thus utilising a legal identity already in existence.

QSH club growth proposal utilising open days and sporting demos. Yes. All in favour. Next cruise Waterford via Logan River.

Lunch at Fitzzy's Road House Grill. 10/6/2018 Meeting closed at 9-18pm



Cle Sheck Homebuilt Viper4, Phoenix, Revtech Rocket, The Norm, Viper 4 at Waterford

Cruise report from Sunday 10th June 2018.

The table was booked for 6 on Saturday 9th June with a busy day expected for the Jeff Horn / Terence Crawford Las Vegas welterweight boxing bout. I estimated that half a dozen may venture up from the sandy beach at the Waterford boat ramp at 11. To my delight 15 enjoyed a Bistro meal at Fitzzy's Road House Grill Bistro.

Seated in the dining room were Ben Woodhead Neil Budworth, Bill Toppin, Les Taylor Dieter Renisch, Cle Sheck, Caroline Hunter, Larry Franks, Kay Franks, Greg Fietz, Angus Kerr, Lucas Kerr, Danielle Kerr, Cameron Kerr and Steven Odgaard.

Kim Craig, James Geordie and Michael Stephenson unfortunately had to turn back while heading up the Logan River. Ian Lind set off in the safety boat but it developed an overheating issue with the 50hp Yamaha outboard engine. Peter Venn also set off in the Revtech Renegade but returned to base with the safety boat. On the return trip, Lucas Kerr came ashore at Skinners Road and Larry & Kay Franks returned to Carbrook boat ramp where they had a secure park for the vehicle and trailer.

Back at base, it was another busy day for the monthly club turnout.

37 people in total. Elaine Venn, Samantha Penaluna with Jacob, Jane and Amelia, Ian McLean, Nadia Cowcher, sons Casey, Cam and Kody McLean, friends of Dieter, Dylan Forrest, Amelia Torrance, Hunter Forrest 2yo, Steve Stephens was working in the vicinity and used the same parking area with work colleagues Graham Webb (Master 4 Commercial Vessels up to 80m & Marine Engineer 2), Rob Walker & Tony Martin. 11 ACVs: Ben Woodhead's brand-new home-built "Shark Thundercat" did its first on-water run but the fan disintegrated 7 seconds after launch. Bugger! Back up craft "Turbo XP 960" Ben Woodhead, Home built "Viper4", Cle Sheck, "Phoenix" Les Taylor, "Viper 4 Cruiser" Angus Kerr, "The Norm UH18SPW" Larry & Kay Franks, "Revtech Rocket" Lucas Kerr, "Zesty" Kim Craig, "Revtech Renegade" Peter Venn, "No Wheel Drive" Steve Stephens,

Safety Boat Ian Lind. "Expo 88 Turbo" static display. Peter Venn once again explained that this must be the only club with too many ACVs and not enough commanders with permits.



"Hovercrafters lunching at Fitsy's on the Logan River.

QRBC report by Steve Stephens

The Boating Industry Association is holding their next Brisbane boat show from Friday 24th August Saturday 25th August and Sunday 26th August 2018. 10am to 8pm Friday & Saturday and 10am to 6pm Sunday at the Brisbane Convention Centre, corner of Merrivale Street and Glenelg Street, South Brisbane Qld 4101 They are considering offering a static display site for our club at no charge. Details are still to be confirmed.

Volunteers will be needed to represent the club exhibit and to guard the display.

Our next cruise will be the Queensland State Rally:

To be held at Lake Coolmunda near Inglewood, Qld 4387 from Friday 6th July 2018 till Monday 9th July 2018. Call Troy & Idalia at the caravan park for bookings: Cabins, powered & unpowered sites at the caravan park, or unpowered camping near the water's edge in our own cordoned-off area. Ph 07 4652 4171 or 0418 665692

State Rally events:

Noise Test Les Taylor, Thrust Test Angus Kerr, Slalom Ben Woodhead, Orienteering Steven Odgaard, Point to Point Peter Venn.

New Business.

MSQ application for aquatic permit submitted 2 months late due to difficulty in acquiring supporting documentation.

Medical Centre at Inglewood advised of dates of state rally. Sunwater Qld application only requires 4 weeks notice but needs Aquatic Permit included as supporting document.

Cle Shek purchased a QSH club polo shirt \$30 and cap \$15 & a \$5 donation, Sunday 10th June 2018.

Annual General Meeting

Adjournment due to "not all positions filled". Election of branch office bearers and state delegates for the Federation.

There are currently 5 clubs linked / affiliated to the AHF

AHF regional club (modelled on the HCUK. Due to distance, all club business is transacted on line), WA branch (HCWA), Vic branch (HCV), Qld branch (QSH). HCSA Inc. (affiliated club with its own incorporation registered in South Australia)

Other Local business.

Query letters from Richard Orchard (Senior Ranger Moreton Bay Marine Park, Manly base) regarding Marine Park Permits were sent to various members seeking cooperation with the Parks and Wildlife Service to ensure its objective of providing a balance between human needs and the Bay's special environmental values. Members encouraged to fill in the forms and return to NPSR (new name: Dept of Environment and Science) asap. Random on-water compliance checks are possible in the near future. Please make sure your permit details are up to date.

Qld Sporting Hovercraft Club Meeting 19th June 2018

Discussion led by James King:

Progress on the Department of Environment and Science (DES) and the removal of permits and insurance. Get everyone up to speed on the documents.

Understanding the Documents (where hovercraft are mentioned)

Marine Park Regulations 2017

Subordinate Legislation 2017 No. 154 made under the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014 Fisheries Act 1994 Marine Parks Act 2004*

Nature Conservation Act 1992

State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999

This is legislation that outlines permit requirements, entry and use of marine parks including accreditations of external instruments example, Code of Practice etc

Hovercraft and Managed Vessels are not mentioned

Marine Park Act 2004

The Act is to provide marine parks with adequate conservation of the marine environment, and for other purposes.

Aircraft does not include a hovercraft. *Boat* includes a ship, submersible boat, raft or pontoon but does not include a hovercraft or personal water craft. *Vessel* means a barge, boat, ferry, hovercraft, personal watercraft, water taxi or other thing capable of carrying people or goods through water, but does not include an aircraft.

Great Sandy Marine Park and Moreton Bay Marine Park Zoning Plans

Managed vessel or aircraft means a vessel or an aircraft that is any of the following (a) a hovercraft; (b) a wing in ground effect craft; (c) a hydrofoil.

Entry or use with permission in all zones

Permission required (permits)

(h) to navigate a ship or a managed vessel or aircraft;

Class Assessment - Navigation of a managed vessel (hovercraft) in Great Sandy Marine Park and Moreton Bay (Acquired via freedom of information RTI)

The Class Assessment (the Assessment) is a comprehensive document completed by DNRM for the DES (formerly NPSR) with permit recommendations and is pursuant to the Zoning Plan/s. It's an internal management document used for the purpose of understanding how to regulate hovercraft, both commercial and recreational in marine parks.

The Class Assessment covers all zones of the Great Sandy Marine Park and Moreton Bay.

1) Navigation of a managed vessel- hovercraft

For the purposes of this Assessment, navigation of a hovercraft is driving the hovercraft in tidal land and tidal waters of the marine parks. Navigation may be for a commercial purpose e.g. a scenic tour or boat cruise for a recreational purpose.

2) Vessel charter involving the navigation of a managed vessel - hovercraft .It does not include organized events involving hovercraft.

It covers the requirements of the Marine Parks Act 2004 and The Marine Park Regulations 2006.

Other legislation covered in the Class Assessment is:

EPA Act 1994

EPP (Environmental Protection (noise) Policy 2008 Recreation Areas Management Act 2006

Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004

The Class Assessment recommends that a code of practice be implemented for recreational hovercraft.

Code of Practice (accredited instrument) - Internal policy document (Acquired via freedom of information RTI)

"This code of practice effectively removes the need for a recreational hovercraft operator to seek a marine park permission when navigating in the MBMP or the GSMP subject to compliance with conditions. The conditions have been formulated to manage the potential impacts of hovercraft use on marine park values."

"This code of practice is accredited under section 85 of the Regulation and states the conditions under which a person may navigate a recreational hovercraft in the GSMP or MBMP. The code must be read in conjunction with any general requirements outlined in the Act and the Regulation."

Limitations of a code of practice:

The Chief Executive can cancel the accreditation at any time he thinks it's not being complied with or not in the interests of managing the marine park. Division 2,96 of the Regulations.

The conditions can be much more restrictive than the permit assessment criteria

Not complying with the conditions means we are a managed vessel in a marine park without a permit or insurance. We cannot be fined for not complying with the instrument but can be fined based on not having a permit for the marine park. The code of practice is an overlay instrument that gives us flexibility by not requiring permits that trigger the insurance requirement.

Class Assessment - permit assessment criteria for recreational hovercraft

The permit assessment criteria, is the basis for code of practice conditions. It's the foundation of the original code of practice which has been made more restrictive than the Assessment intended.

Access and egress from the marine park should be only via formal locations eg boat ramps. Hovercraft should avoid passing the same point repeatedly in the one day

Hovercraft should be encouraged to avoid navigating on exposed sandbanks and mudflats where marine plants are present. Should be also avoiding those areas with obvious productive areas eg, seagrass.

Operators must not travel within 200m of shorebird roost sites unless navigating in a marked navigation channel. The onus will be placed on the operator to identify the presence/absence of shorebirds prior to deciding to drive over an exposed intertidal sandbank or mudflat and not operate on exposed mudflats and sandbanks when shorebirds are present.

The onus will be placed on the operator to operate their craft at a distance that does not expose the public to greater than 75 dB and disturb the public, and relying on public complaints to identify where hovercraft noise is an issue is the preferred approach. Recreational hovercraft operators must ensure that they will not cause noise that is of a nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.

After starting the hovercraft! the hovercraft should move away as quickly as possible from the startup location.

Not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6.30pm on any other day. Audible noise means noise that can be clearly heard by an individual who is an occupier of a building.

Traversing, landing and taking off must not be conducted within 100m of people and/or anchored vessels within the marine park.

ATTACHMENT 1- Code of practice for navigation of recreational hovercraft

1. Hovercraft must enter and egress the marine park via formalised access points e.g. boat ramps.
2. Hovercraft must avoid repetitively operating in the same location on any one day.
3. Hovercraft must avoid traversing exposed seagrass beds, mudflats and sandbanks.
4. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from known shorebird roost sites shown on maps provided unless navigating in a marked navigation channel.
5. Traversing and landing/ take off on exposed intertidal areas must not be conducted when shorebirds are present.
6. Hovercraft must travel past sensitive receptors e.g. a visible dwelling, campground or anchorage, at a distance that keeps the noise levels below 75dB when recorded from the receptor.
7. In all other locations not adjacent to sensitive receptors hovercraft must not cause noise that is of nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.
8. After starting, the hovercraft must where possible move away as quickly as possible from the start up location.
9. Hovercraft must not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6:30pm on any other day. Audible noise means noise that can be clearly heard by an individual who is an occupier of a building.
10. Traversing, landing/take off must not be conducted within 100m of other people within the marine park (in water and on beach).

While the development of a Class Assessment for hovercraft use has already streamlined the permission application assessment process, there are further opportunities for streamlining permission requirements.

Three options have been considered in delivering a reduction in the recreational hovercraft permissions requirements for marine parks, including:

- 1) Retaining the existing requirement for recreational hovercraft permissions and implementing policy reform to streamline permission application processes.
- 2) Amending marine park zoning plans to remove the requirement for recreational hovercraft permissions.
- 3) Accrediting a code of practice as an accredited external instrument for recreational hovercraft use under the Marine Parks Regulation 2006 to effectively remove the requirement for a permission.

The desired outcome is to identify an option that will reduce red tape around recreational hovercraft permissions while ensuring that the potential impacts of the activity can be appropriately minimised and managed.

Further information and an assessment of the benefits and risks of each option are provided in the following Assessments of Options table.

A summary of the implementation requirements is also included.

It is clear that the department has made the code of practice more restrictive so that it is 'objective and enforceable'

(Internal policy document code of practice document table 1

Assessment of options)

They have done this at the expense of reasonable conditions rather than taking the assessment's view that our operation causes very little impact.

We need to identify what's reasonable from the permit assessment criteria and closely follow this in formulating a new 'code of practice'. By doing this is, it will give us the most beneficial conditions that are flexible but also allows for the least 'potential impact' on the environment which is one of the department's biggest considerations.

The field tests used to show impacts in the Class Assessment are based on much larger (commercial type) hovercraft that are not comparable to our small recreational craft. The department has used this as examples of impact in the past to justify their unreasonable decisions.

Amend the Zoning Plans to add "commercial" in front of 'hovercraft' under the definitions. That would remove recreational hovercraft from the permit requirement and would see us using the marine park in the same way as any other recreational boat.

To have the department implement and accredit a code of practice with conditions which align with the permit assessment criteria. This means recreational hovercraft would have to comply with conditions but would not have to obtain a permit.



Larry and Kay Franks leaving Carbrook after an enjoyable Logan River cruise to Waterford.

Letter from Bruno Davids of the HCSA Inc.

Hello All.

Have been in contact with a person who runs Camp Kedron, which is a camp area Paul Moody located. He has sent me some information which I have attached.

The camp has bunk room accommodation, camping sites for vans and tents, showers, toilets, hall with tables and chairs, kitchen, grass area, barbecues and lake access. Also it's a private camp area so we could hire the place and have the area exclusively.

The person who runs the camp seemed receptive to the idea and lives on site so I told him we want to meet him this weekend to check out the site.

There is a problem with the dates, camp is booked on Sunday 29th September 2019 so we would need to be out by 3pm which is no good. But the long weekend Friday 4th October to Monday 7th October is available, so is the following weekend, Friday 11th October to Monday 14th October 2019.

Looks like an area with good lake frontage so water events etc. should be no problem and is also a few kilometres away from the centre of town so noise should not be an issue.

Regards,

Bruno.

Interstate News.

In light of the recent increase in insurance cover, the AHF requires funds.

AHF makes its income from branch subs: \$50 plus contributions for insurance of \$22 per member, and national rallies. Current insurance bill is \$1735 End of financial year was 31/12/2017 with report now presented to AGM.

Incorporation payment \$56.90 for 2017 now paid. AHF AGM held 30th June 2018.

Election of AHF office bearers.

President: Rachel Smithson. Moved Paul Moody, seconded Ben Woodhead.

Vice President: Ben Woodhead. Moved Paul Moody, seconded Les Taylor.

Secretary: Paul Moody. Moved Rachel Smithson, seconded Ben Woodhead.

Treasurer nomination: Les Taylor declined

Treasurer: Charles (Buck) Rogers. Moved Les Taylor, seconded Ben Woodhead.

Possible National Rally options: Morgan on the Murray River

At the AGM Buck Rogers suggested last Saturday in September 2019. Rachel Smithson announced 27th to 29th September 2019.

Bruno Davids & Paul Moody are investigating Camp Kedron, Lake Bonney near Barmera. Peter Streader looked at date logistics and suggested 4th - 6th October 2019 may be better to suit school teachers in the club. Careful consideration given to school holiday periods in various states.

Peter Streader called on Queenslanders to offer suggestions in light of the well organised team effort involved to run the last national rally.

AHF requires \$20M public liability insurance to use the Jan Wilson Community Centre, Halton Road at Noble Park. Council: Greater Dandenong City Council.

Certificate of currency noting Latrobe City Council as landlord for The Pavilion, North Shore Road, Lake Narracan has been supplied and distributed.

Qld need \$10M public liability and a certificate of currency noting Sunwater as landlord. Qld needs \$20M public liability to apply for club rally applications ie State Rally July 18 and a certificate of currency noting DTMR as an interested party.

Overseas News

Hovercraft insurance is available through BJS Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd Suite 6 Level 1, 315 Main Street Mornington Vic 3931 Ph 03 98604279. Fax 03 98205664 Email: southern@bjsib.com.au Web: bjsinsurancegroup.com.au

Other business.

Meeting closed Tea, coffee & biscuits are free. Soft Drinks \$1.