

# QUEENSLAND SPORTING HOVERCRAFT CLUB

Branch of the Australian Hovercraft Federation Inc.

[www.qhover.com](http://www.qhover.com) [www.hovercraft.org.au](http://www.hovercraft.org.au)

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Ben Woodhead	0401630638
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	Kim Craig	0434287615
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Cle Sheck	0407751163
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## Agenda for the Monthly Meeting of the Queensland Sporting Hovercraft Club held on Tuesday, 16 October 2018

at Coopers Plains Library, 107 Orange Grove Road, COOPERS PLAINS, Qld 4108 at 7.30pm

### MAIL INWARDS & OUTWARDS BIA mail inwards

Letter to Library

Email from Rose Siva thanking the club for a wonderful experience at the September Cruise.

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD AT COOPERS PLAINS LIBRARY ON TUESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2018 339TH MEETING

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Ben Woodhead (President), Kim Craig (Vice President), Cle Sheck (Secretary), Phil Audsley (Treasurer), Steve Stephens (Publicity Officer), Arthur Stead (Web-Master), Dwayne Morgan (Safety Officer), Les Taylor (Craft Scrutineer), Michael Stephenson, Dieter Renisch, Angus Kerr, Peter Venn, Larry Franks, Steven Odgaard, Greg Fietz, Caroline, Amy, & Brianna Hunter. 18 attendees.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that there was \$3,100.91 in the account. An amount of \$135.00 was received from Ian Lind for shirt and cap sales and was deposited into the club account. Cheque to James King had not cleared.

**RESOLVED** that the Treasurer's report as tabled be accepted.

Moved - Ben Woodhead Seconded - Kim Craig

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The President read the minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2018.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes are an accurate account of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved - Kim Craig Seconded - Angus Kerr

#### **CRUISE REPORT**

The cruise report was read by Kim Craig. The club had an eventful run to Waterford involving the rescue of two broken craft.

**RESOLVED** that the report is an accurate account of the cruise held on 16 September 2018.

Moved - Angus Kerr  
Seconded - Larry Franks

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

##### 1. Boat Show:

It was discussed that the Club's presence at the Boat Show was a success, however the petition did not receive as many signatures as hoped. Thank you to everyone involved.

##### 2. BJS Insurance

Dwayne Morgan reported that QBE will no longer insure hovercraft as of 1 November 2018. If no replacement cover is available then Qld Parks and Wildlife will need to be notified that their PLI Policy is impossible to comply with, therefore they are hindering public access to our marine parks with unreasonable conditions which must be removed immediately if they cannot show evidence that a suitable and affordable replacement Public Liability Insurance policy is available for small recreational hovercraft. The \$10M PLI requirement of the Qld Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS) ACV permits is a strangle-hold on more than 90% of recreational hovercraft activities in Queensland.

It has been suggested that there may be a legal requirement for an alternative suitable policy to exist before a sole-supplier can exit.

If no PLI is available, then it can be shown that QPWS is making it impossible to use our hovercraft within the marine parks. James King has taken over negotiations with the department as he has better administrative abilities. Please address your concerns to James directly & cc me if you want it circulated to all QSH members. Better still, publish it on the AHF Hover Talk forum: [www.hovercraft.org.au](http://www.hovercraft.org.au) so all AHF members can comment.

3. Business Cards

The decision was made to print 1000 business cards using the picture of Neil Budworth and his 265 Turbo. Kim Craig organised it.

Moved - Michael Stephenson  
 Seconded - Les Taylor

4. Environmental Report

The Cruising Hovercraft Club of Great Britain (CHCUK) produced an "Environmental Impact Assessment for Recreational Light Hovercraft in Coastal Environments" by Ian Brooks. It was read in its entirety by Steve Stephens & discussed. The department was made aware of this excellent report many years ago, but it was basically ignored, along with most of the other scientific evidence supporting our negotiations for more sensible regulations.

5. Rescue Boat

Peter Venn explained the sinking of the clubs safety boat at its jetty overnight. It was found partially submerged next morning after a combination of bad weather & a bilge pump syphoning water back into the hull. Luckily it was insured.

AHF MEETING

Ben Woodhead was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting scheduled for 29 August 2018.

CRUISE REPORT -14 OCTOBER 2018

The scheduled cruise was postponed until next month due to unsuitable weather, but Steven Odgaard made the effort as he had booked annual leave. His photos appear below. Better luck next month at the same location.

NEXT CRUISE

The next cruise will be the Maroochydoore camping weekend on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November. Everyone should meet at Muller Park, There is accomodation at 3 nearby caravan parks including "Cotton Tree" & "Castle".

**\*\*\* An extra cruise has been organised from Peter & Elaine's place from 9am on 28/10/18, before the PLI expires \*\*\***

NEW BUSINESS

1. James King - Code of Conduct

Request to remove from Qhover Code of Practice statement "Avoid passing by the same point repeatedly on the same day." from the Qhover web page. Moved by James, 2nd by P.V. Passed 10 (incl James) for & zero against. Arthur to remove asap.

2. James King authorised to present to QRBC @ 14/11/18 meeting. Moved Angus, 2nd Kim.

3. QSH club agrees that it is up to James when he tells the department about the impending expiry, but we acknowledge it is a condition of our permits to notify the dept when a change happens (4pm, 31/10/18)

**2. Environmental Risk Comparison Database**

A database outlining environmental risk comparisons for different vessel types was sent to club members & needed to be discussed. Please see the attached table in either Microsoft Excel or Open Office format. It compares the likelihood of risks occurring during typical use of the 6 classes of powered recreational vessels. This data needs to be objectively considered by the department & actioned in their current regulations. We are currently considered a much greater environmental risk than jetskis, racing boats, all boats with propellers & rudders, etc.

This page compares the likelihood of the following risk-categories occurring during typical uses of the 6 classes of powered recreational vessels. It is mainly concerned with shoreline (littoral), & marine mammal harm within Queensland Marine National Parks, particularly MBMP & GSMP.

Risk categories	Tenders, sailing dinghies & tinnies (<4m)	Personal WaterCraft	Trailer boats (4-6m)	Planing craft(>6m)	Displacement craft(>6m)	Hovercraft (<6m)
A Propellor strikes	2	0	5	5	3	0
B Keel strikes	1	5	4	5	2	1
C Rudder strikes	0	0	1	4	2	0
D Increased turbidity	4	5	3	2	1	0
E Wake generation	2	3	4	5	1	0
F Bow pressure waves	0	1	2	4	3	2
G Cruising noise level	1	4	3	2	1	5
H Seagrass disturbance	5	5	4	3	2	1
I Anchoring damage	2	0	3	4	4	0
J Littoral interference	5	5	4	4	2	1
K Shore infrastructure requirements	0	4	5	5	4	0
L Pollution from underwater exhausts	4	5	5	5	2	0
M Bilge discharges	0	0	1	3	4	0
<b>RISK TOTALS</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10</b>
Very High =5						

Despite their higher average noise levels, it is clearly apparent that small recreational hovercraft are more than twice as environmentally-friendly compared to all other powered water craft. They are amphibious but don't have wheels, so don't require any shore infrastructure, & because they actually float on a low-pressure cushion of air, their hulls don't touch the ground when underway. Therefore there is virtually no sign of any surface degradation, even after multiple high or low-speed passes. Only light drag-marks from their soft fabric skirts which envelop the air between the hull & the surface. Recreational hovercraft are currently burdened by the obviously unjustified requirement for Qld Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS) permits to operate within Marine Parks, unlike all the other classes above. They are also forced to comply with the QPWS \$10M Public Liability Insurance requirements, unlike all the other vessels using the same waters.

**INTERSTATE NEWS**

As stated earlier, from November 1<sup>st</sup> QBE will no longer be providing hovercraft insurance. Steve has approached Oceanic Marine Risk brokers & Flemming Jensen (Victoria) is progressing enquiries on behalf of the AHF for all hovercraft owners in Australia. Please log on to the AHF website: [www.hovercraft.org.au](http://www.hovercraft.org.au) & follow the action, rather than sending e-mails everywhere.

**OVERSEAS NEWS**

Hovercraft Club of Great Britain Environmental Report - Previously discussed under general business

**MEETING CLOSED**

The President declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.



Smooth conditions on the Maroochy River  
on Sunday morning 14th October 2018

