IFAA PRESIDENT'S REPORT
August 16, 2026

The start of the season 2025-26 was a bit slow as a lot of crews were still waiting on boats coming back from the Worlds at Lake Garda. Which meant we couldn't schedule any championships until after Christmas.

- The National Championships were held at Adelaide Sailing club, in Feb 2026, in a mix of light and shifty conditions as well as 1 day of 15-20 knots which certainly tested some lighter and less experienced crews. The winners were Chris Dance & Chris Payne with Heather having to sit out due to hip surgery. Now Chris has 1 more title than Heather! With second going to John Heywood & Daniel George with the boat going surprisingly well with little preparation. 3rd going to Brendan Garner & Ben O'Brien with consistency in the light to moderate stuff and pure domination in the heavy breeze with 2 bullets for the day.

South Australian State Titles were sailed across 2 weekends at Adelaide Sailing Club in March 2026 and Largs Bay Sailing Club in May 2026. Small fleets and tight racing kept it interesting with mixed results across the fleet in mainly light and fluky conditions. It was great to see some youth joining in with the first weekend of states with Carter Baker & Will Gaylard sailing the association boat and the overall lead after the initial leaders were scored an OCS in the final race of the day. Unfortunately, they were unable to attend the second round due to a clash with teams racing championships. The second round was sailed in very light conditions. With the first race led from start to finish by John & Brett after a starting tangle at the boat between Ben & Matilda Schulz gifted them a handy lead up the first beat. The second race was won by Ben and Nathan with John & Brett close second. The final results were 1st John Heywood and Daniel George + Brett Littledike, 2nd Jake and Dan Miller and 3rd Ben Schulz and Chris Went + Nathan Stockley.

We also had 3 boats representing Australia at the World championships in Torbay, England in July 2026. Heather Macfarlane & Chris Payne, Ben Schulz and Nathan Stockley and Kevin & Nicolas Luff. With Ben & Kevin in brand new boats out of the new mold configuration. Congratulations to Heather and Chris with 8th in the Pre Worlds (losing 1st place to gear failure on the final day) and 5th in the Worlds after a super strong finish on the last day with 2 bullets.

In conclusion, 2025-26 was a successful season, in respect to quite a few boats changing hands and quite a few boats being built out of the new configuration mold internationally. We hope you can continue to support the class by attending as many events as possible, engaging with new members at your club, at events and on social media.

I hope to see you all at the Nationals in Gipsland Lakes Yacht Club from 28th January – 1st Feb in 2027!

John Heywood
President
IFAA