



Message from the ASBA Committee

We would like to thank and acknowledge the sportsboat community for participating in our recent survey and providing valuable input into a number of key decisions facing the Association.

Like any membership group there will always be competing views on the best outcome in any particular area. As a management committee it is our role to provide the opportunity for members to have their say on important issues and provide a forum that enables them to make change.

Off the back of the survey responses received, and detailed below, the Committee has made the decision to call a Special General Meeting of members to provide the opportunity to vote on two Constitutional changes to reflect the majority sentiment received in the survey.

As both the method and timing of the AGM, and the primary handicapping system, is enshrined in the ASBA Constitution any changes to these two issues will need to be voted on by the members. Any amendments to the ASBA Constitution can only be approved with a 2/3rds majority of the full members.

Specifically we will place motions to the meeting to allow members to decide to change:

- Clause 7.1 to provide the opportunity for all members to participate in the AGM via online attendance.
- Clause 15.1 and 15.2 to change the primary handicap system from SMS to CBH.

It is our intent to provide members with the required 42 days notice of the Special General Meeting on the 13th October, with the SGM to be held on online on the 24th November 2022. Should any members wish to place any additional special resolutions on the meeting agenda please submit them to the ASBA President @ brierley68@gmail.com prior to the 13th October.

Please note that only current financial members of the ASBA will be issued the Notice of Special General Meeting and be eligible to vote on the motions presented.

2022 ASBA Survey Summary – Responses

Membership

- 64 responses received of which 16 (25%) were current financial members
- 47% of respondents (30 of 64) had been a financial member in the last 5 years.
- 42% of respondents (27 of 64) intended to renew their ASBA membership in 22/23

Participation in Events

The following percentage of respondents had sailed in ASBA events in the past 5 years

- ASBA National Championships – 62%
- ASBA State Championships – 53%
- Other events with sanctioned sportsboat fleets (e.g Sail Port Stephens, ABRW) – 83%

ASBA National Titles

- 58% (31 of 53) indicated their preference that the 2023 ASBA Nationals, to be held in Manly, Brisbane in February 2023, should be a 3 day regatta.
- 56% (30 of 54) indicated their intention to participate in the 2023 ASBA National Titles.

Handicap System

- 70% (33 of 47) indicated the ASBA should move away from SMS to a different handicapping system for ASBA events.
- Commentary on handicapping system:
 - Transparency and responsiveness in whatever system is used is vital.
 - LTP still supported
- The following were identified as options that would be best for our Association and members to encourage larger fleets:
 - CBH – 51% (19 of 37)
 - PHS – 21% (8 of 37)
 - Other – 43% (16 of 37) - options suggested – modified PHS, IRC, ORCI, LTP

Hosting of the ASBA Annual General Meeting

- 33% preferred continuing with in person only at National Championships (16 of 48)
- 67% preferred a move to online via zoom outside of National Championships (32 of 48)

What other actions can we take to encourage more boats back to our regattas?

Repeated themes:

- Use divisions within fleets to accommodate more boats
- Ensure integrity and trust in system – checking boat compliance, no self measurement
- Rebuild our online community and stop negatively on social media
- Rebuild confidence in committee

Please feel free to make any other comments to help us improve the ASBA.

Repeated themes:

- Make regattas fun and family friendly
- Reduce public conflict between members and committee
- Grow membership and interest with all States/Territories
- Rebuild comradery among sailors