



An exciting new initiative for sailing

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what is it & why is it necessary?

- A Sail Pass is a means by which a non-member can go sailing at your Club – it's a form of introductory or short term membership (for a day)
- It offers safe, quick, easy and affordable access to sailing
- It's a massive safety improvement
- It's compliance friendly
- It has potential to target new markets
- It's increasingly popular and successful in some clubs
- Mostly it is a simple way to get more people, having fun in boats at your club
- And it breaks down lots of barriers to sailing



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what's going on in other sports?

To play organised sport in Australia, where facilities, officials, scores, rules, insurances, maintenance and administrators are required – you need to register and pay a fee to participate.

Increasingly sports also allow single play or day pass access....

Sport	Membership required	Non registered players allowed?	Single Play or Day Pass?
AFL		×	×
Cricket	\checkmark	×	×
Soccer	\checkmark	×	×
Golf	\checkmark	×	Green Fees
Swimming		×	Casual entry fees
NRL	\checkmark	×	×
Gym		×	Casual entry fees
Lawn Bowls		×	Casual entry fees
Basketball		×	×
Netball		×	×
Sailing	×	\checkmark	Sail Pass

The Sail Pass will register all competitors / participants, which will bring us into line with other sports - it's normal to do so.





The challenges

- The non-member culture in sailing clubs
- Lack of buy-in & understanding from club stakeholders
 - boat owners & skippers who argue they can't find crew
 - key decision makers at your club who don't want to "rock the boat"
 - existing non-member crew won't be happy about the Sail Pass
- Lack of community awareness & the current perception of sailing
- Resistance to any form of change and technology





the major benefits & why you should consider it?

- It's an attractive proposition
 - flexible intro to sailing at clubs
 - it's accessible, welcoming, quick, easy & affordable
- It gets a big safety tick
 - you know who is on the water
 - improves your risk management
 - you have info including 'next of kin' details
- It ticks compliance boxes
 - use of your clubs by non-members
 - Australian Sailing racing rules & personal insurance
- Communicate creation of a marketing database
- Technology it's mobile friendly & integrated
- Breaks down perceived barriers
 - sailing is expensive, inaccessible, unsafe
- Mostly it is a simple way to get more people, having fun in boats at your club
 - why not give it a go!





A case study-Sandringham YC

- SYC has on average 800 Sail Pass users annually
- 12 Sail Passes are offered to each non-member
 1st 6 cost \$15 each / 2nd 6 cost \$35 each = \$300
 - The \$300 is credited against crew joining fees
- Most existing members feel really good about it
- Most Sail Pass members love it they view it as an 'incredible opportunity'
- The Sail Pass offer has evolved over time
- It is now available via an app called 'Member Point' so it's a mobile friendly offer
- Skippers use the same app and sign each crew member on before each race
- Membership status is mandatory if sailing & if nonmembers ignore the Sail Pass offer, non-compliance is now a boat / skipper / crew issue and there are penalty provisions for non-compliance.....
- SYC view the Sail Pass as super important (it accounts for 40% of their new members per annum) but its been a lot of hard work!





A case study-Elwood SC

- The Sail Pass has been a highly successful initiative at ESC
- It is used as an introductory tool to attract new members
- Participants get 4 free passes a year / then offered membership and/or learn to sail course at a reduced rate
- Membership has grown from 175 to 373 over the last two seasons
- Boats actively sailing have grown from 24 to 54 over the last two seasons
- Female membership has trebled (combined with a paddleboard membership category)
- Members gives Sail Passes to family & friends and proudly showcase ESC









What is Australian Sailing doing about it?

- Creation of a Working Group
 - To package up the Sail Pass & get Clubs on board
 - As a first step, we have surveyed 360 clubs re the Sail Pass and 240 responded – very positively!
 - Communicate the Sail Pass concept and its benefits to all Clubs
- Development of a "How to Kit"
 - Creation of marketing collateral for Clubs to present it to their stakeholders.
 - Develop a communications campaign
 - Pilot the Sail Pass with a cross section of Clubs
- Develop supporting technology
- Make the Sail Pass accessible for clubs to adapt and use as appropriate





Register your Club today sailingresources.org.au/sailpass



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