



## ASRL Newsletter

ASRL Newsletter N0: 51 Sept 2014

### ***Exciting new Events:***

The ASRL will this season be introducing two new events:

**The first is the ASRL Short Course Championship event.** This will be conducted over three Saturdays in Nov/Dec. Round 1 & 2 will be held in Qld and SA where crews can qualify for a berth in the championship semi-final. Round 3 is at North Cronulla on Sat 20 Dec and a further 4 semi-final crews will be added from this point score event to contest the semi and final to crown the National Short Course Champion crews.

**The second event is the National Team Selection Event.** This will be conducted over three Sundays in Nov/Dec. Round 1 & 2 will be held in Qld and SA where crews can qualify for a berth in the Round 3 actual final. Round 3 is at North Cronulla on Sunday 21 Dec and a further batch of crews will be added from the Saturday event at Nth Cronulla to contest the actual selection event final. The countries best male and female crew will be selected at this R3 final to travel to New Zealand on the weekend of the 14th Feb and represent Australia in a 3 test match series event.

*Check the website for full details on both new events*

### ***Travel Subsidies Available:***

Crews interested in travelling to the **National Short Course & National Selection Events** should be making contact with each of your State based rowing bodies in the first instance to see what travel subsidy may be available. Each State rowing body has received cash assistance from the ASRL to make some travel subsidies available. For the R1 event in Qld we will also be drawing crews from the hat to refund the accommodation cost. This is made possible by the sponsorship in place with Surfers Paradise Alliance. To be eligible for this draw crews will need to have booked within a set of street boundaries in the Surfers precinct and be able to present a copy of the paid invoice. More details on this one will be published on the website in the near future.

### ***Website:***

Your new media contact for news and video/photo contact is a rower from Torquay called Pat Spinazzola. You can now reach Pat on [media@asrl.com.au](mailto:media@asrl.com.au)

As the season starts to unfold we will be using the website to create opportunity and interest with a video and photographic section as new features. On top of this we are looking at introducing an Australia wide tipping competition on each weekends racing. Of course all this will be supported by some wonderful prizes to keep the attention level up.

### ***Facebook:***

Again you will now notice we have fired up the ASRL/Navy Facebook page. Aaron Tannahill is one of our drivers on the Facebook page so keep this one in the favourites.

### ***Work of the ASRL/SBC:***

The ASRL has been busy over the last couple of months with a range of issues that we see as important to us all as rowers. Right at this time a few key issues that are on the table in discussion with SLSA:

1. Policy 1.2 is the controlling policy around when a new rower can use club equipment. Even though we have previously visited this policy and ensured that the come and try principle is allowed we still find some clubs misinterpreting the policy and not allowing non bronze members into the surfboat. Hopefully we are now very close to having this Policy reworded in very plain text so the intent is completely clear
2. Policy 5.4 to free up the rules on requalification plus new bronze and the ability to have coaches that can train crews but not need to requalify. Another policy that can be very restrictive in the event of someone joining or returning to the sport after Christmas. We are currently working closely with SLS on this one to achieve a better outcome
3. The Surfs Sport Manual is currently under review and we have been invited and will continue to be involved in developing new and changed rules for competition to be included in the next edition
4. We currently have a sub-committee working with SLS on the new coaching/accreditation process. We are excited that when the new course is rolled out it will be a lot more targeted and designed around the surf boat
5. We continue to work closely with SLSA and the developers on the introduction of the Bond SHR system and all that entails for the introduction of helmets in the next few months

Without the SBC and the working relationship built on trust we have developed with SLSA at all levels we wouldn't have been at the table with any of these issues. We don't always agree with everything SLS want to do and at times we take a stance on issues if we feel strongly enough but to work on the issues jointly is reaping many more rewards for our sport and the SBC is an important agreement.

### ***Big News for all U19 Rowers:***

The ASRL Committee are delighted to be able to announce that for this season we will be making membership to the ASRL and entry into the ASRL Open free to all rowers aged in the U19 category. This will include females rowing in the U23 division based on the date of birth. This has never been done before and it is a sign of our commitment to assist in developing the young in our sport.

### ***Membership & ASRL Open Entry:***

Another first this season is a trial where we are splitting the Membership and Open entry into two separate items.

#### **Membership:**

With the pressure the sport is under from within as well as outside it is important that our member's database captures every single rower in the country. To this end we have worked with each State rowing body and structured a membership fee that will vary from State to State dependant on how that State runs its events. Basically every member including the no fee U19 rowers will receive as part of the membership package membership into both your State rowing body and the ASRL. You will also receive a new Navy racing singlet (non-floatation) but in the same design so if you want to still wear the Navy SurfVest product you may. As well you will receive a Navy/ASRL Tee Shirt and Cap. How it works and the actual final cost will be advised by your State body but basically in most cases we will post the event on the ASRL section of SLSA Carnival Management System and when you enter invoices as appropriate will be raised. IMPORTANT:- note that from this season the Carnival Entry System will pick up and reject any non-qualified sweep.

#### **ASRL Open Entry:**

For the Open the entry fee will be \$30 per crew member. Again crews will enter the event and the invoice raised. If at the time of entry you haven't yet joined the ASRL that fee will be included.