



Presidents Report 2021-2022

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As President of the club, it has been my role to oversee the overall operations of the club, liaise with Adelaide University Sport as required, and redevelop the club now COVID restrictions have eased.

COVID-19 Updates

The impact of COVID-19 has reduced throughout the year and while there are still COVID controls in place membership numbers and membership engagement has mostly returned to pre COVID levels over summer. We continue to follow all directions issued from Adelaide University Sport and Fitness (AUSF) as required and hope there will be no future restrictions during the cooler months of 2022.

Capital Spending

AUSC has undertaken significant capital investments in the past year with approx. \$90,000 being committed from AUSC. This spending is in addition to the investment by AUSF in building our new shed and support through capital development loans which would place the total amount invested in AUSC more than \$200,000.

The new three bay club shed is the most significant capital project delivered by the committee of 2021 and it has been a significant technical and administrative undertaking. The shed will provide a home to AUSC for all future members of AUSC and it will make a significant contribution to community run SCUBA diving in Adelaide more broadly.

Other spending has been the purchasing of 25 new Faber 12L tanks for our club members to enjoy. Our old tanks were leaking and causing issues with club operations. The old tanks were written off and sold as scrapped assets.

The final major project executed under the 2021 committee is the instillation of our new compressor room in the new shed. This is a purpose-built insulated room with air conditioning to keep our compressor cool over summer months. We contracted Torque Industries to relocate our current compressor into the new room, install a new filtration system to the compressor, install new bank tanks, new fill panel and an auto selector (no more bank valves to worry about when filling tanks). The system is designed and engineered by Bauer Australia and all main components are Bauer for easy servicing, reliability, and longevity. This is fully funded, and install is expected to be completed in the last week of March 2022.

Membership Engagement

AUSC has been advised by AUSF to focus on increasing Adelaide University student engagement as engagement had dropped of when COVID restricted onsite study at university and the ability for international students to enter Australia. AUSC has risen to this challenge and through a promotion of \$0 student memberships has for the first time in some time seen student membership exceed 50% of the club membership with students and graduates now exceeding 75% of overall club membership!

This has been possible through the dedication of the committee refreshing online resources and improving our digital presence and a new easy to use membership system from AUSF. Since the new membership system was introduced, we have increased our confirmed memberships from 85 to 140 with more to come. Historic feedback that the old membership system was not catering for member needs and issues with the system flagging valid memberships as incomplete memberships is becoming more evident with the sudden surge in memberships. This will assist AUSC with the application of government grants that heavily rely on the overall number of club members and will help AUSF understand our true membership numbers.

Boating Updates (in lieu of boating officer)

Dealing with the premature departure of Stargazer from club operations continued throughout the first half of 2021 and is now finalised in full. AUSC took part in investigations by Department of Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and had to navigate the complexities of a high value insurance claim in closing out Stargazer. I am happy to advise this has all been completed with no negligence appointed to AUSC in the process. The boat was assessed by Adelaide University Sport's insurance brokers and a payout was made for total loss of the vessel in line with market conditions at the time of the event.

Through negotiations, AUSC was allowed to keep the written of vessel at no cost. This was entered into our books as a new 'scrap' asset and was sold with the still functional trailer. Between the insurance write of and sale the total amount recovered was just short of \$50,000.

Vitamin Sea continues to preform well and has had a new VHF + DSC + GPS Radio fitted along with anchor light and some fibreglass repairs. The vessel has also had a service where there was some electrical corrosion found and we fixed the false "water in fuel" error message and beeping along with a sticky thermostat. The boat is now beep free! In a separate unidentified incident, it is apparent there was some minor trailer impact from traveling that required a repair just before Christmas. This repair was completed without incident, and we cut the 'legs' of the rollers shorter so they are less likely to contact the road when traveling.

Dive Trips

Dive trips continue to be a major draw for new and existing club members. The marine research station at Coobowie continues to be a excellent base for away trips and AUSC continues to lobby relevant external parties as to the importance of this unique asset to AUSC club operations.