



2013 – 2014 Presidents Report

On behalf of the Australian National Sabot Council I would like to welcome you all to Drummoyne for the 50th Gladesville Bridge Marina Australian Sabot Championship and the Sandor Tornai Sabot Week Regattas. We have another great showing of 144 competitors in 126 boats competing on the beautiful Sydney Harbour, which will provide the picturesque backdrop for excellent, competitive and fair sailing at all levels.

I would like to thank the organising committee of the Southern NSW Sabot Sailing Association and the Drummoyne Sailing Club for their continual commitment and dedication to arrange such a well organised event. I would also like to thank our host club the Drummoyne Sailing Club for the use of their facilities for the regatta and the financial support offered by all of the regatta partners such as Gladesville Bridge Marina for their support of the class and the sport.

I would also like to thank the members of the ANSC Council and the zone delegates who have worked extremely well together adopting a common sense approach to develop the ANSC into the vehicle to bring the zones together as a united collusive group. The evidence of this can be seen through the implementation of:

- The successful introduction of monthly teleconferences which has seen many productive discussions and resolutions on the issues that were presented
- A combined National website via
 - The adoption of the SNSWSSA Sabot.com.au web address as the National website address – thanks to SNSW for facilitating this
 - The rebuild of the ANSC website that not only looks great but provides a portal to much information – thanks to Nigel Markey Tom Johns for making it happen
- Combined insurance coverage for all zones which has resulted in great cost savings for the zones with existing insurance and has provided a cheap solution for the zones that did not carry insurance. Thank you to Lesley Fasala for undertaking the leg work to arrange the coverage
- Constitution amendments
 - Introduction of the Open Championship for the Sydney 50th Nationals regatta as a trial for one year only
 - Amendments to the age limits to clarify previous amendments
 - Update of the Racing Rules clauses to reflect the current rules
 - The inclusion of carbon fibre as an approved material for proprietary tiller extensions and deck fittings
 - The inclusion of composite materials for spars
 - An increase in the National Boat registration fee to \$20

Thank you to John Hillcoat for undertaking the document update your effort is appreciated. The constitution document is quite a complex document which still requires a great deal of work and discussion to simplify and make more relevant to the current circumstances we find the Sabot Class in. I expect that this task will be a work in progress for the ANSC and the zones for a number of years to come.

- The progression of the offshore production of boats in order to reduce capital costs of new boats, thank you to Michael Bartley and Simon Barrington for your work in this regard

I see the above achievements as a stepping stone on the journey of the Sabot Class, there exists many tasks that need attention to continue the Class as the one of the country's premier training class well into the future. These tasks include:

- Investigate opportunities to work with the sailing governing bodies such as Yachting Australia, I am encouraged by comments made by the YA President Matt Allen in an article I read recently referring to opening the pathways to all classes. The full article can be found <http://www.mysailing.com.au/news/sailing-clubs-need-to-rip-down-the-barbed-wire-fences-says-new-ya-president>



- Marketing/increased exposure of Class
- Simplify the governance of the Class to allow greater flexibility for the Class to react to new developments as they present themselves
- Continue the collaborative common sense approach for the zones to work together productively using the ANSC as the vehicle.

This report will be my last as the National President, after two years and much consideration, I have decided to step down as President to focus on rebuilding the class at a local/zone level ready for the 2015 Nationals that will be hosted by NSW. I will be continuing my association with the class for many years to come and offer the incoming ANSC Committee my support and assistance should the need arise.

I believe that the Sabot Class is in quite good shape due to the continued dedication and support from our sailors, their families, zones and the local clubs for which I am proud to be part of. I expect that the 50th Gladesville Bridge Marina Australian Sabot Championship and the Sandor Tornai Sabot Week Regattas will be one filled with fun and excitement that we will all remember well into the future.

I wish you all the best for the regatta and look forward to watching the events of the regatta unfold together with the prosperity of the ANSC and the Sabot Class going forward.

Yours in safe, fun sailing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P Stivano", written in a cursive style.

Paul Stivano
ANSC President