

~~4th~~ Last Season we had a few up's & Downs made a few

mistakes but also showed I feel we have listened to our members and resolved issues and I hope have started down the road to working together to the most out our sport for everyone.

A lot of work was done to try and bring the rule book up to date and get it out on time for the beginning of the 2015/2016 season. This for some years has not happened and we have gone through past seasons trying to catch up, so it will be great to start the season with an updated set of rules. This gives us 12 months now to do more revision and further improve things.

There were changes made to accommodate removal of helmets when brokendown or not finishing during a race so long as you are well off course and not in any danger from teams that are still racing.

We have applied for exemptions for Bow riding to the start, Race life jackets and wetsuits.

It was discussed at a meeting with TSV some of these items do not have an Australian safety standard they are still the best equipment for the job. This however does not make you compliant if skiing socially or training.

You are also reminded that if your boat is capable of carrying more than 115 litres of fuel you must carry a 2kg extinguisher. So please check you have all the right equipment to be compliant.

The most common rule breaches were not holding poles in corners causing people to be cut off.

It is of concern that we have not raced to the flags at times especially Red flags, this will have to improve this season.

We are still getting some competitors missing out on racing due to breatho failures we get the the usual abuse and the back in my day stories, however this is not negotiable as if you are involved in an incident you will probably be tested with serious.s ramifications if it came back as positive.

Guidelines have been written up and placed on bouy boats and the rescue boat. They outline who can go out on these boats and what there duties are on these boats. This was something that was up for discussion at the TSV meeting. We are now required to wear life jackets on all course boats all the time we did try to get an exemption but it was not negotiable as far as TSV were concerned. To comply we have purchased 20 horseshoe style inflatable jackets for this purpose..

The role of Race director and Safety officer have become important to the running of the event/race now covering incident management, communications, rescue boat, etc leaving the chief judge to more of a judicial role.

I believe all up it has been a succesfull year with a lot of change.

We have I believe shown that we are prepared to change, some things will work some maynot but we have to try. I would like to think that this season will be a season of communication and development for Judges and competitors in which we can get the most out our fantastic sport.