



ANSA NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 32

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ANSA Board
PO Box 328
Matrville
NSW 2036

2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2011 AGM and delegates meeting was held in Sydney on the last weekend in October. It was encouraging to see delegates and representatives from all State Branches other than the NT in attendance. Unfortunately the Qantas shutdown did cause some havoc leaving Alan Hall stranded in Melbourne enroute to Sydney and several of the interstate visitors compelled to an extended stay in Sydney until flight operations resumed. Special thanks is extended to all who gave up their time to travel to Sydney to participate in the meeting. A variety of significant issues were discussed and addressed at the meeting and these are detailed below.

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2011 was an election year for all officer bearing positions and both Alan Hall and Bob Avery decided it was time to call it a day in their respective roles as Finance Director and All Tackle- Length Only National Recorder. Both Alan and Bob are keen to do some extended travelling with their families so we wish them the a safe and joyous journey on their travels and offer our thanks for their contribution to ANSA over the years. Sue Malton from WA will be taking over the Finance Directors role and Ken Johnson from Vic will be the new All Tackle – Length Only Recorder. A formal date for handover of duties has not yet been finalised so in the interim any correspondence should be directed to Alan and Bob. All other positions remain unchanged and a current listing of office bearers is attached.

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Changes to the ANSA National Constitution were agreed upon to make its contents more aligned to the modern way of business and to remedy a few minor inconsistencies. The main changes are a requirement for the board to now meet at least every 4 months in lieu of 3 months and a capacity to conduct meetings electronically rather than face to face. The scope to conduct postal ballots has also been expanded to allow electronic voting. The rules for banking were also modified to cater for electronic banking rather than the restricted limitation of cheque use only. A section dealing with The ANSA Fisheries Research Foundation Trust Fund was also removed from the Constitution as the fund was closed down some years ago. An updated version of the ANSA constitution can be viewed on the ANSA website

www.ansa.com.au .

2011 AGM continued

The 2011 ANSA annual report was also tabled and each branch provided with a small number of copies. All members are encouraged to have a read over of the report to get a better and informed understanding of what is going on within ANSA at a national and branch level. The report can be viewed on the ANSA website.

There were a number of fantastic entries for the 2010/11 Meritorious Capture award but in the final wash up it was agreed that the award should go to Peter Oberg from the Australian Land Based Anglers Association (ALBAA) for his capture of a 30.2 Yellowtail Kingfish on 15 kg from the rocks at Currarong on the NSW south Coast. Congratulations to Peter on winning the award and thank you to all those who submitted entries for the award - keep on trying. You can read Peter's story on the ANSA website.

To promote the ANSA brand and encourage junior membership participation ANSA has produced a junior range of T shirts featuring the ANSA logo and the ANSA website address. These shirts were distributed to branch delegates at the AGM and there should be sufficient to provide every junior member with a Tshirt based on branch membership numbers as at 30 June 2011. A new bumper / tackle box sticker featuring the ANSA logo and website has also been produced and these have been distributed as well. You should be receiving these items via you branch shortly.

A sub-committee has been established to look at changes to the Rule Book which will be reprinted and distributed before commencement of the 2012 competition year. The sub-committee will comprise of John Burgess, Shane Jasprizza and Steve Wiseman. It is intended to have a draft version of the new rule book ready by the end of March 2012 so that branches can review and vote on proposed changes over May 2012. This timetable should allow for printing and distribution of the new Rule Books before 1 July 2012.

The current production run of brag mats has run out and ANSA will be releasing a new brag mat very shortly. Branches will be advised when the new brag mats are in stock so hold off on placing any orders in the interim.

One of the main ongoing concerns for ANSA and members over the coming year will be the roll out of the Commonwealth marine network. Members are rightfully disappointed with the draft bioregional plans released for the South West WA marine reserve which will impact negatively on recreational fishers at a number of iconic and popular recreational fishing locations. Hopefully we can, in conjunction with other peak bodies such as Recfish Australia and Recfishwest secure a better outcome for recreational fishers in the south west of WA.

Draft planning proposals for the North West and North marine reserve have also been released and the public consultation period will conclude on 28 November 2011. On the east coast the draft bioregional planning proposal for the Temperate East Marine region has been released and a 90 day consultation period will conclude on 21 Feb 2012. In addition to the Temperate East marine reserve, draft planning proposals for the Coral Sea reserve have also been released and the consultation period will conclude on 24 February 2012. From initial review of the documentation that has been publicly released, the proposed marine reserves will have minimal impact on recreational fishing. This does not warrant complacency by recreational fishers as there are many conservation groups that will be lobbying hard for the government

2011 AGM continued

to impose access constraints on recreational fishers. If you want to know more about the marine reserves proposed for your region visit www.environment.gov.au . All branches, clubs and members are encouraged to read over the planning proposals and lodge their own submissions.

There are also some positive developments with the long awaited release of the Murray Darling Basin plan. As expected there is much disagreement between the many stakeholders dependent on the Murray Darling for their livelihood who feel threatened economically and socially and the conservation groups who believe that the planned release of 2750 gegalitres of additional water to enhance river flows and flush the river system do not go far enough. Hopefully a sensible outcome can be negotiated which will deliver a healthy reinvigoration of the nation's major river system and freshwater fishing watercourses. A recent study has shown that some 430000 recreational fishers spend around \$1.3mill annually fishing the MDB.

There is growing speculation that the Commonwealth government is keen to see the establishment of a new peak recreational fishing body comprising of the tackle and boating industry and the major peak recreational bodies. Just where Recfish Australia and ANSA might fit into this possible grouping and how it might be funded have yet to be determined. ANSA continues to have a voice on the Commonwealth Recreational Fishing Roundtable and meets regularly with Mike Kelly MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries and other key bodies involved with recreational fishing politics and management. Until such time as a clearer picture of the possible new peak body emerges, ANSA continues to be a supportive full member of Recfish Australia , the current recognised national peak recfishing body.

It comes as some surprise that Frank Prokop the current CEO of Recfishwest has announced that he will be stepping down from that position in January 2012. Frank has been around the recreational fishing scene for as long as most of us can remember and has been a colourful and often controversial champion of recreational fishing issues and rights across the nation. Frank's health has not been the best of late and this has prompted his decision to stand down and spend more time on his passion of collecting lures. Franks presence, sharp wit and capacity for conversation will be missed by all who have come to know him over the years. Best wishes Frank - see you on the water.

The past year has been an absolute challenge for recreational fishers on every front and it seems that 2012 will not be any easier. On closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the National Executive for all their efforts over the year and on their behalf wish all members a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and safe new year.



John Burgess

Executive Officer / Director

New ANSA promotional items



Junior T-shirts



Bumper stickers



Introducing our new Office Bearers

Finance Director - Sue Malton



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