

A CHANCE IN A LIFETIME

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| Meeting: | Friday 11th August 2023 |
| Time: | 7.30pm – 8.30pm (Meals available from 6.00pm – please book 8341 8600) |
| Where: | RSAYS Dining room |
| Guest Speaker: | Mr Spiros Dimas - Department of Infrastructure and Transport |
| Topic: | Grant Application for a pilot project of courtesy moorings at KI |

The South Australian cruising lobby group, the **South Australian Marine Mooring Network (SAMMN)**, and the **Department of Infrastructure and Transport** will submit a grant application in September to the South Australian Boating Facilities Advisory Committee (SABFAC) for a pilot project to install nine(9) state of the art public courtesy moorings at Kangaroo Island and West Cape Bay.

The grant application is to access the over \$9.5 million paid into the “Marine facilities Levy” by boats like ours. In the past 26 years this facilities levy paid by us into this fund has been used essentially for boat ramps up and down the coast. Your SAMMN lobby group have pointed out the inequity to our boating sector as we have very little to see for the \$9.5 million, we have compulsorily contributed into this Marine Facilities Levy fund which is always attached to our annual boat registration.

Our disadvantage has been recognised by The Department of Industry and Transport (DIT), hence their grant submission for the pilot project. We are now in a position where we can accept a one off \$180,000 pilot project grant for our contribution of over \$9.5 million as a one-off project or indicate our support at this meeting for a master plan to establish 100 moorings around our coastline with an annual maintenance program. Every other state already has such a mooring network. SAMMN estimates that the 100 mooring program would cost around \$1.2 million over 10 years, with an annual maintenance program for the full network estimated to be around \$120,000. Australian Sailing fully support the full 100 moorings project.

Considering that our current compulsory contribution into the registration fee marine facilities levy fund is around \$400,000 a year, we are requesting that around 32.6% of our levy is used to increase facilities for our sector of the boating community for the next 10 years. The fact that most of us also pay a second registration fee for our yacht tenders further increases the strength of our argument.

Hence the “**Chance in a lifetime**” meeting. If we have standing room only attendance at an information meeting, kindly attended by **Mr Spiros Dimas (Senior on Water Assets Manager at DIT)**, we will be highlighting the determination of our group to get a percentage of the facilities levy we pay annually come back to us in terms of some blue water cruising facilities. If we get 20 at the meeting, then it will unfortunately be assumed that we are happy with our \$400,000 a year paid into this facilities levy being used essentially for boat ramps. If we get 100, we will establish a strong position for our “blue water” cruising sector.

We have a chance in our lifetime to dramatically improve the amenities for our sport and join the other states in Australia with a state-of-the-art safe mooring network. We are encouraged that the South Australian Boating Facilities Advisory Committee (SABFAC) have already identified such a need for this network in their current [State Strategic Plan](#). We need to show our enthusiastic support for this plan’s implementation.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Regards David Eldridge
SAMMN

1. [Two \(2\) minute video tape of one mooring system option from New Zealand](#)
2. [South Australian Marine Mooring Network \(SAMMN\) Internal discussion paper](#)
3. [\(SAMMN\) Proposal to South Australian Boating Facilities Advisory Committee SABFAC](#)