



## President's Report 24 July 2016

The last 12 months has seen yet another busy year of Blokarting at the Auckland Blokart Club. This has included;

- a full calendar of well-attended racing and social events
- on-going output of a weekly newsletter and other medium to communicate with members and a worldwide body of club followers;
- Development of written health and safety policies and procedures for the club
- High attendance and success at regional, national and international blokart event
- Testing and implementation of new race management software
- Key involvement from our members driving the national and world administration of the sport

The mission of our club is ***to provide a friendly, well organised and safe environment for all blokart activities***. We believe the club continues to meet this overall objective.

The committee has developed a strategic plan with objectives aligned with its mission ensuring the on-going success of the club. The following objectives are included in our strategic plan;

Objective	Have we Achieved?
To provide effective and positive management of the ABC	Yes
To provide effective financial management of the club and resources	Yes
To ensure stable membership which guarantees the long term viability of the club	Partly
To ensure that a range of safe venues are available within the Auckland region for blokart activities	Partly
To ensure that the health safety and well-being of both club members and members of the public is being considered at all times	Yes
To run a variety of fun and competitive events that suit all club members	Yes
To build resources necessary to run an effective club	Yes
To effectively communicate with club members at least once a month	Yes

## Events

We endeavour to tailor the mix of social and serious racing to suit the wants and needs of our members. We request (but rarely receive) feedback from members after each event. We are therefore assuming that members are largely happy with the range and style of racing being offered?

Our social calendar is pretty full with dinners, fun days, and barbecues held throughout the year, as well as the ever popular 90 Mile Beach trips which are run twice a year. On top of that we also have time for our regular season of blokart racing including winter series, club champs, twilight racing, team racing and a couple of sprints days.

Thanks must go to my fellow committee members – Russell, Wayne and Graham who along with myself make up Events Management team. We work hard behind the scenes to ensure ABC events run like clock-work.

The ABC club has continued to provide strong support to external blokart events. We had strong representation at the SIO, Nationals, and NIO held in NZ in the last year, as well as 17 members attending the World Blokart Champs in Ivanpah, USA in April. We now have 7 club members who have now won a total of 10 world championships between them. Congratulations this year go to Wayne O and Dave H who were crowned Superheavyweight and Lightweight world champions at Ivanpah, with a further 4 club members on the podium

## Membership

Retention of members has been one of the challenges facing ABC and all blokart clubs in New Zealand for some years as we see more and more activities competing for people's limited leisure time. While we are able to attract in new members, we also lose a significant number of members each year. During last year we have added 5 new members, while 11 members have not yet renewed their membership resulting in an overall drop in our official membership from 60 to 54.

	Status 14/15	Status 15/16	Status 16/17
Not renewed	2	18	11
Renewed	56	53	49
New	15	7	5
Total	71	60	54

It is expected however that some of the currently uncommitted members will eventually renew their membership which will result in similar overall membership numbers to last year.

In the last year an online membership form has been developed to make it easier for new members to sign up, and to allow better tracking of our membership. This has recently attracted several new members. Thanks to Nick, John and Neil for the work done on this.

Non-race weekend days are open for the public to trial the sport in the club's six blokarts. This is a very successful strategy and is a key source of new members. But it does require considerable input from members and it is a credit to the club that so many members step up to assist with kart setup and supervision of beginners.

If you are interested in assisting as part of our duty roster with casual weekend sailing then let me know today. Currently this means opening up and managing visitors for 1 day every couple of months.

We continue to offer a Cruiser division at ABC, and this is a base for encouraging members during their initial development and for those who are less competitive.

## Health & Safety

The ABC has again led the way for blokart clubs around the world by this year developing and implementing a comprehensive health and safety policy for use during general sailing and events. This policy is now being used as a template by other clubs.

The implementation of this policy has shown that some simple steps can be taken to minimise risk of injury and damage without detracting from the thrill of racing. We had one reported injury during blokart events during the last 12 months.

Thanks go to Wayne O for the considerable time and effort he has put into developing and maintaining this system.

## Communication

The club uses a number of ways to try and keep members fully updated;

- Website is used for posting of upcoming events, results and general club information
- Facebook for updates and messages to members and other “friends”
- Txt system for quick and important updates to members – a new system to be developed this year.
- A Weekly newsletter for regular updates on club news and events with ever increasing circulation. We have almost 90 subscribers reading our newsletter each week.

A big thanks to Nick for keeping the website updated and operating through the year, and to Peter for taking responsibility for ensuring a newsletter is compiled and sent out on time each week.

## Facilities

While we believe we have the best permanent blokart sailing facility in the country, there is a cost in rent and continual maintenance to keep the track in good condition. Our Licence to Occupy Ardmore has one more year to run. We are seeing increased use of “our” track by car clubs and driver training, which is leading to increased track wear and damage.

Regular maintenance is required to keep the track in good condition, and I thank the large contingent of members who roll up a great “let’s do it” attitude whenever we have a working bee. We have learnt that road maintenance is very expensive. The club relies completely on all members helping to keep the track in great condition.

Ardmore Airport are applying for an upgrade to their Airport Certification. Under these requirements airport security will become a lot tighter including plans for a security fence around the whole airport.

ABC will now be required to pay for airport security and sweeping during use of the extended track during special events.

Ardmore have plans to subdivide part of their land close to our track.

We cannot rely on Ardmore remaining available forever, and we must continue to keep our eyes open for opportunities to develop blokarting facilities beyond Ardmore.

## Resources

The club remains well resourced with six blokarts, a timing system, a timing trailer, a storage trailer and access to the world-class facility at Ardmore.

Unfortunately we are prevented by the Ardmore Management from building a larger more permanent storage shed at Ardmore.

Payment for the use of our timing system at other Blokart events both within NZ and overseas has been a major source of income for the club, but now less likely as other clubs develop their own timing systems.

Our current raceday software has served us remarkably well over the last 7 or 8 years.

Special thanks to Julie and John for the smooth processing of race results in all our events.

Lack of accuracy from the software during starting has forced us into using manual starts in recent years. A small group have spent considerable time evaluating and testing new race management software to find the best possible system for blokart racing. Overall Mylaps has found to be the best, and will allow a return to fully automatic race management.

Based on recommendations from ABC and other clubs the NZBAI has agreed to fund the cost of Mylaps licences for all clubs in NZ.

We are planning to have our new race software running in time for the next Winter series race in August. Thanks to John, Wayne and Nick for the considerable time and effort spent on this.

## Committee

The tremendous co-operative spirit and dedication of past and present ABC committees is one of the main reasons the club is the success it is today.

Unfortunately we are losing three key members of our committee this year.

Nick Murray has plans for travel in the coming year, but has agreed to continue with technical support of our website.

Graham Ingall has moved down to the BOP, and is now President of both the Bay Blokart Club and the NZBAI. Graham has agreed to continue to provide John with assistance and support with our financial reporting.

Rowena resigned from the committee and club earlier in the year to spend more time with their motorhome and travelling.

I would like to thank all 3 for their considerable involvement in the development of our club over the last 10years.

One resource you won't see in the balance sheet is the asset the club has in its members, families, and the committee. Whenever something needs to be done, our members step up. There are so many tasks to make the club a success, and our members are always there, both behind the scenes making things happen and mucking in doing the work. So special thanks to you all for making our club the best blokart club in the world.

Best Regards

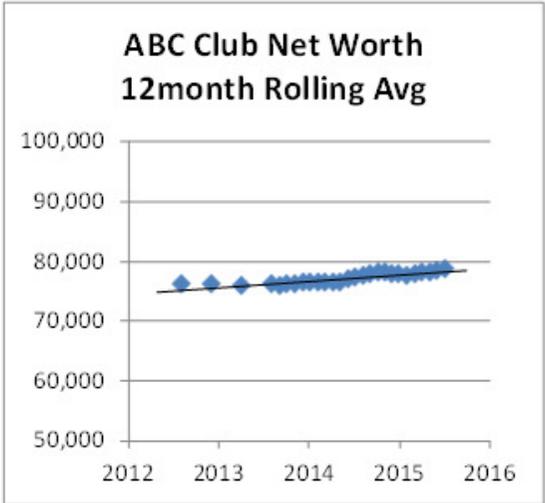
Barry Cole  
President

**Auckland Blokart Club**

# AUCKLAND BLOKART CLUB - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



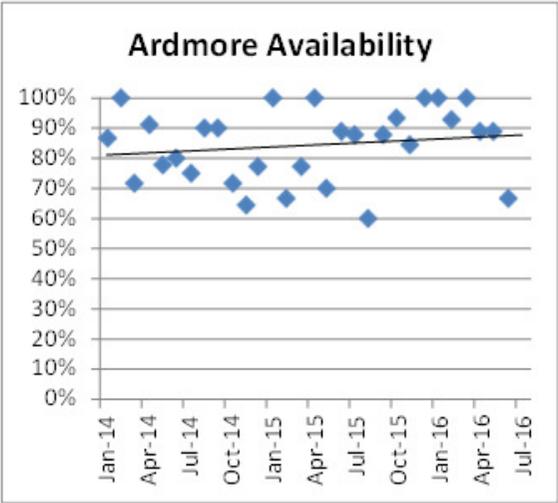
## FINANCIAL



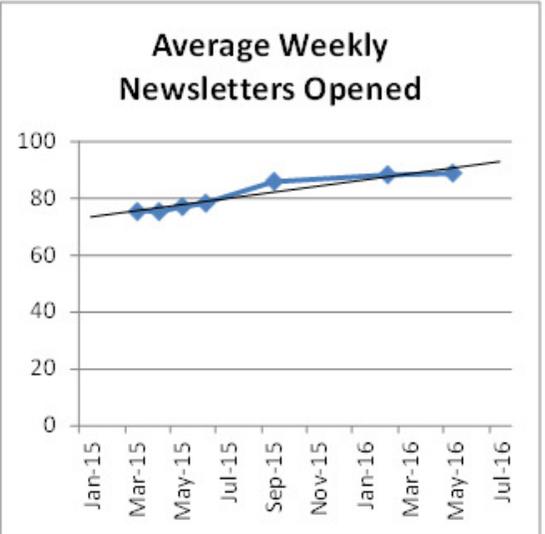
## MEMBERSHIP



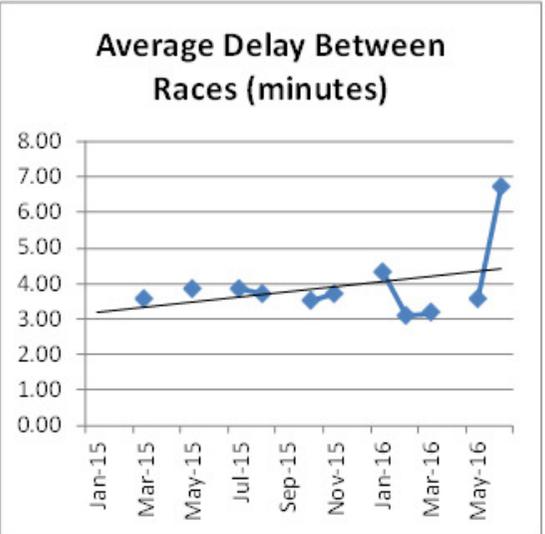
## FACILITIES



## COMMUNICATION



## RACE MANAGEMENT



## SAFETY

